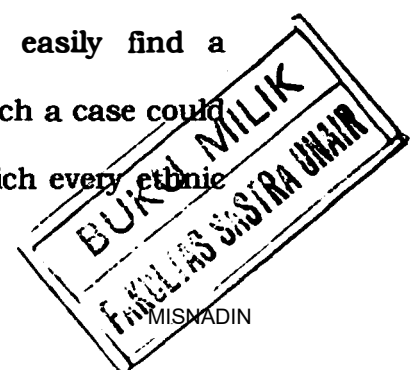# CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

I.1. Background of the Study

Language shift and the other side of the coin, language maintenance are really the long term, collective results of language choice. Language shift simply means that a community gives up a language completely in favour of another. The members of the community, when the shift has taken place have collectively decided not to continue using the language they have traditionally used (Fasold, 1984 : 213). One sign of whether language shift is in progress or not is whether or not a speech community begins to choose a language in domains formerly reserved for the old one (Fasold, 1984). It signifies that if the speech community proceeds to speak the new language in its communication with other members in the group and this practice is done intensively so that the new language replaces the old one, the shift is in progress or even it has occurred. On the contrary, even though the community under discussion has learned the language yet the function of the old one is still preserved, it provides an indication that the community maintains the language it has traditionally spoken and there is no significant sign that the old language will be shifted.

Indeed, the great possibility of language maintenance occurs in monolingual communities. However, one would not easily find a community using only one certain kind of language. Such a case could be found among the ethnic groups in Indonesia, in which every ethnic

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group in this country possesses at least two languages; one is its local or first language and the other is its national or second language, namely the Indonesian language. Such a condition may provide it with the possibility whether it will maintain its local or first language or it will shift to another language.

Language maintenance and shift are also influenced by a speech community's attitudes towards its own language and the attitudes of other language speakers. It means that if the speech community thinks that its language is beautiful, prestigious, highly classed, etc. and the speakers of different languages consider in the same way (as it does), the tendency to maintain or preserve the old language is much stronger. In this case, the loyalty of the speech community towards its own language plays a very important and dominant role in language maintenance and shift. In short, the more loyal a speech community towards its own language the more it maintains and preserves its language.

As stated above, language attitudes play an important role in language maintenance and language shift. Language attitudes are distinguished from other attitudes due to the fact that they are precisely about language (Fasold, 1984). Such attitudes include attitudes towards a language and attitudes towards speakers of different languages or different varieties.

Speakers of a certain language may tend to feel reluctant to use their vernacular language if other language speakers regard their language inferior, particularly when the "inferior" language is spoken by

a minority group, for instance, immigrants (Fishman, 1966). Perception of this kind would lead the speakers whose language is considered inferior not to use their own language even if they speak to people of the same language. The condition may also extend to an attitude in which they feel reluctant to pass the language to the younger generation. If this is true to a certain community, there seems to be difficult for the language to be maintained or preserved.

Bilingualism is likely to be an important factor in language maintenance and shift. It is due to the fact that the existence of a bilingual community implies that the community has the ability to speak two languages. Accordingly, it has to select and decide which languages to use for its communication. Choosing one language instead of the other signifies that the shift is in progress in the community.

Besides bilingualism, there are also many other factors that result in language shift. Migration (Tabouret-Keller, 1968, 1972; Gal, 1979; Dorian, 1980; Tim in Fasold, 1984) is one of the factors, either by members of small groups migrating to an area or territory where their language no longer serves them or by a large number of people who "swamps" the local population with a new language. Such factors as industrialization, school language, higher prestige, and smaller population are also the most general factors considered to be the triggers of language shift (Fasold, 1984).

Considering the facts on language maintenance and shift set forth above, the writer is interested to carry out research on language maintenance and language shift of Madurese people in Surabaya. The

research aims at identifying and understanding the phenomena of language maintenance and language shift taking place in the Madurese community in Surabaya.

It has been noted above that such factors as migration, industrialization, school language and other government pressures, higher prestige, and smaller population are considered as causing language shift. Taking a view at Madurese people in Surabaya, it is perfectly right that they are a small community, living in an industrial region. Due to the fact that they are a community and are small in number, they become the minority group.

In order to be able to interact with the local community, they have to know the language most of the community members use. Hence, Madurese people need to learn the new language. As a result, they are able to speak at least two languages, that is, their first language they usually speak in everyday life in their native land and their new language, namely Javanese language of Surabaya dialect they have learned and spoken during their interaction with the new community. Now that they have been able to communicate using the new language, they begin to speak the language to anybody they meet on certain social occasions within their daily life activities.

The study is also intended to find out to what extent Madurese people living in Surabaya maintain or shift their first language in the face of the majority group whose language is Javanese. Theoretically, the minority group language would be "swallowed" by the language of the majority group and logically the minority one would go extinct.

I.2. Statements of the Problem

Based on the background of the study set forth above, there are two problems that the writer considers crucial to solve in this study. They are stated as follows:

(1) Do Madurese people in Surabaya have the tendency to maintain the "old" language they have traditionally used, or conversely, do they tend to shift to the "new" language they acquire from interacting with the members of the new community?

(2) How do they maintain their old language, otherwise, how do they shift to the new language?

I.3. Objectives of the Study

The study is carried out to find out whether Madurese people who have been residing in Surabaya have the tendency to maintain their Madurese language or whether they are reluctant to maintain it by shifting to the new language they acquire from interacting with the new community. In addition, the writer wants to know the way they maintain their first language or the way they shift to the new one.

I.4. Significance of the Study

For academic purposes, the study is significant for the development of sociolinguistics in Indonesia. The results of the research will enrich the available collections of sociolinguistic studies specifically those concerning language maintenance and language shift that have been carried out by other previous researchers. Hence, it will give

theoretical contributions to the development and studies of sociolinguistics in the forthcoming future. Furthermore, it is expected that it will encourage other researchers to carry out research in the same field with different topics or in different communities.

In addition to the academic significance stated above, the study is also expected to arouse and encourage mutual understanding among the ethnic groups existing in Indonesia, by respecting each other cultures, not to mention, their languages. Hence, the diversity of the ethnic groups and especially the languages themselves is wishfully hoped to become the pillars of the unity of our country.

I.5. Scope and Limitation

The present study is concerned with language maintenance and language shift of Madurese community in Surabaya. Thus, the scope of the study is within sociolinguistics. In order to facilitate the research, it is limited only to the problems stated above, namely by carrying out the study, the writer wants to know whether Madurese people residing in Surabaya have the tendency to maintain their first language, or conversely, they tend to shift to the newly acquired one. The writer also wishes to know the way they maintain the language, or else, the way they shift to the newly acquired one.

I.6. Theoretical Framework

The present research concerns language maintenance and language shift of Madurese people in Surabaya. Due to the fact that it is

within the field of sociolinguistics, the writer needs to employ sociolinguistic theories which are related and are relevant to the study.

The sociolinguistic theories that are going to be used as tools for analyzing the phenomena found in the study are the theories of language attitude, language choice, and language maintenance and language shift. The assignment and employment of the theories are predicted and expected to be able to analyze the phenomena of language maintenance and language shift of Madurese people in Surabaya.

Language attitude theory is assumed to be important in the study because it will be able to explain the attitudes of Madurese people towards their own language and towards other languages, namely Javanese and Indonesian languages. The theory of language choice is also considered significant in the study because its adoption will contribute to the explanation and elaboration of the phenomena of language maintenance and shift among Madurese people viewed from three approaches in social sciences, namely sociological, psychological and anthropological approaches. It can explain why Madurese people tend to choose a certain sort of language in favour of another under specific circumstances and situations and some factors that influence them in the assignment of the language choice. Another reason why the writer applies language choice theory in the present research is due to the fact that language maintenance and shift are closely related to language choice, as Fasold (1984) suggests that language maintenance and the other side of the coin, language shift are really the long term, collective results of language choice. It implies that language

maintenance and language shift exist because there are choices in language in the community.

The last theory which is the main and focal theory employed in the study is the theory of language maintenance and language shift. The theory is used to explain and analyze the occurence of language maintenance and language shift, that is, factors and reasons that make people maintain their first language or factors and reasons that encourage them to shift to other languages.

I.7. Method of the Study

The type of the present study is descriptive-qualitative. It is called descriptive-qualitative research as it seeks to describe and interprete the phenomena of language maintenance and language shift of Madurese people residing in Surabaya.

Research of this kind does not aim at revising and supporting theories or lawlike statements of social and behavioural phenomena based on the results of hypothesis testing (Ary, Jacobs, and Razavieh, 1990). Thus, it does not rely on a hypothetico-deductive model of explanation. Instead, it focuses on an inductive explanation.

Such a study is also not generally directed towards hypothesis testing because the writer does not attempt to test a hypothesis but is only seeking information to assist in the making of decision and/or conclusions. Therefore, the use of statistical analysis in the present study is intended only as an instrument to help in interpreting data.

I.7.1. Definitions of Key Terms

To facilitate the study especially for those who are not familiar with the terms used in sociolinguistics, brief and concise explanations of the terms are provided in the following section.

(1) **Interlocutor** is a person who is taking part in a conversation or a dicussion either in an active manner or in a passive one.

(2) **Language attitude** is attitude towards the language itself, attitude towards speakers of a certain language or dialect and attitudes towards language maintenance and planning efforts.

(3) **Language choice** is a choice between two or more languages according to the situation and condition, the interlocutors, etc.

(4) **Language loyalty** is a situation in which people tend to be loyal to their own language by always using it even though they are able to speak other languages, especially when they talk to speakers of the same language.

(5) **Language maintenance** is a condition in which a certain speech community tends to try preserving its native language.

(6) **Language shift** is a condition in which a certain community gives up a language completely in favour of another.

(7) **Lower class people** are Madurese people whose earnings are less than one million rupiahs per month, while middle class people are those whose monthly earnings are more than one million rupiahs. This definition refers to the definition suggested by Crouch (1984), when he mentioned "urban prosperous middle class", which is principally defined with reference to jobs and life

styles, namely ownerships of cars, motor cycles, televisions, and other material needs. For more simple way, the division of the social class in the study is focused only on the economic factor.

(8) **Madurese language** is a language used by the majority of Madurese people inhabiting the island of Madura and other regions in East Java.

(9) **Old language** is a language acquired by children during their early life stages of development. It is also called first language or mother tongue.

(10) **Speech community** is one all of whose members share at least a single speech variety and the norms for its appropriate use.

I.7.2. Location of the Study

The writer chose Surabaya as the location of the study. It was done in the city because it is the city in which Madurese people as the minority group have been living for such a long period of time and in the writer's observation most of them can speak Javanese. Thus, they can be categorized as bilinguals or even multilinguals. It is said so since they are able to speak Javanese and probably Indonesian in addition to their first language.

I.7.3. Population

Population is defined as all members of any well-defined class of people, events, or subjects (Ary, Jacobs, and Razavieh, 1990). It refers to the entire group of individuals to whom the findings of a

study apply. In this case, all Madurese people residing in Surabaya are considered as the population of the study.
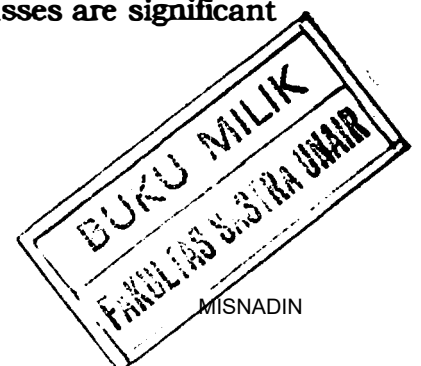
I.7.4. Sampling

Because the number of Madurese people considered as the population of the study is large and because it is often difficult or even impossible for the researcher to study very large population, a smaller portion functioning as a representative for them is to be chosen. This technique is called sampling. Sample means a small portion of population functioning as a representative of a large one. The size of the sample in the present study is 38 respondents.

In the present study, the writer utilizes purposive sampling. It is called purposive sampling since the writer selects the sample from the population in accordance with the criteria or categories that have been determined. The assumption underlying this type of sampling is that erroneous judgments in the selection of the elements from the population will counterbalance one another (Ary, Jacobs, and Razavieh, 1990).

The criteria or categories the writer means are as follows :

(1) The respondents can speak Javanese language.

(2) They are those who have been residing in Surabaya in families.

(3) They come from lower class and middle class groups because the writer wants to know whether or not social classes are significant in language maintenance and language shift.

I.7.5. Technique of Data Collection

In order to obtain data required for the present research, the writer held observations around the settlements of Madurese community living in the city of Surabaya. It was done as the preliminary step in order to assign the right places to which questionnaires would be distributed. Having performed the observations, the writer prepared some questionnaires to be distributed to the respondents decided from the previous observations.

After the questionnaires were ready, they were distributed to the respondents and it took more or less seven days to be collected from them. The final step of data collection was to collect the questionnaires from the respondents on the day when it had been determined.

In short, the technique of data collection could be summarized as follows:

(1) Holding observations

(2) Preparing questionnaires

(3) Distributing questionnaires

(4) Collecting questionnaires

I.7.6. Technique of Data Analysis

Having collected the required data for the research, the next task the writer has to undertake is to analyze the collected data.

The data that have been collected used in this reseach are categorized into four domains, that is, family, neighbourhood, transaction and workplace domains. The data are also classified according to the social classes of the respondents, that is, whether they are from lower class or middle class. Respondents will be categorized as lower class if their monthly earnings are less than one million rupiahs while if they are more than one million rupiahs, they will be classified into middle class. The data that have been classified according to the classification or the categorization are presented in the form of tables and statistical analysis will be conducted.

From the statistical analysis, the writer will compare one finding with another and will do interpretations of the results. The last step of data analysis the writer must do is to make conclusions of the results of the study and give suggestions in relation to some areas of studies in language maintenance and language shift that are not covered by the present writer and that could be conducted by other future researchers who may have the same interest in the field.

In short, the technique of data analysis could be summed up as follows:

(1) Categorizing the data into four domains, namely family, neighbourhood, transaction and workplace domains.

(2) Classifying the data according to the respondents' social classes.

(3) Performing tabulation and statistical analysis.

(4) Doing interpretations and making conclusions of the results of the study and providing suggestions for future studies.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE