

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

In his book, A History of The English Language, Albert C. Bough (1959) states that educated man should know something about his language, including its structure, its position in the world and its relation to other tongues, the wealth of its vocabulary together with the sources from which the vocabulary has been and is being enrich, and in general the great political, social, and cultural influences which have combined to make his language what it is (Bough, 1959:1). The statement, however, has encouraged the writer, as an Indonesian, to carry out a study based on Indonesian vocabulary building, namely the Indonesian lexical inventory coming from Arabic together with some problems arising in the adoption and adaptation of the loan words.

There are enormous Indonesian vocabulary coming from Arabic which are used among Indonesian people in daily communication, as if they were Indonesian native words, for instance: alam 'world', abdi 'servant', alamat 'address', fajar 'dawn', pikir 'think', paham 'understand', kabar 'news', khusus 'particular, special', darurat

'emergency', selamat 'safe', sejarah 'history', sedekah 'alm', masyarakat 'society', and many others. It is not a surprising phenomenon since the majority of Indonesian people are moslems which are, inevitably, conditioned to recognize some Arabic words used for religious purposes. As the influence of Islam is very dominant, the influence and the borrowing of Arabic words on Indonesian vocabulary is also very wide, not only for religious purposes, but also for some daily terms.

The interesting thing of borrowing or adopting words from other languages is how the loan words are adapted according to the nature of the borrower. The borrowing or adoption of words from other languages is not merely a process of taking and inserting the borrowed elements into the borrower's lexical inventory, but also needs and undergoes some processes of adaptation. Extended borrowing can effect the phonological system of a language as well as the lexicons (Fromkin and Rodman, 1984: 319). For instance, Indonesian borrowed some Arabic phonemes to represent Arabic loan words, such as: /z/ in zakat 'alm', /f/ in fajar 'dawn', /kh/ in khusus 'special'. Besides, some Arabic phonemes are adapted according to Indonesian phonological system, particularly those which cannot be represented exactly by a single Indonesian phoneme, for instance: the phoneme /d/ in darurat 'emergency' is adap-

ted from Arabic letter /ض/, which is commonly represented by consonant-clusters dl or dh.

From the above examples, it is recognized that one Arabic alphabet may split into more than one phoneme representation in the loan words. In comparison to the word darurat, and for further examples, there are some words consisting of the same Arabic alphabet /ض/, such as: Ramadlan or Ramadhan (a name of Islamic month) and rela 'willing'. Dl in Ramadlan or dh in Ramadhan and l in rela are the representations of a single Arabic alphabet /ض/. Such examples show some inconsistency of spelling.

Besides some inconsistency of spelling, it is also recognized that there are some inconsistency of pronunciation, in which a single phoneme or sound may be pronounced differently, for instance: the word haram may be pronounced [ haram ] or [ harom ]. The similar case may occur to some loan words which consist of Arabic alphabets which sound [ ڨ ], such as: /خ/, /ر/, /ظ/.

## 1.2. STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS

As the study deals with language intercourse between Indonesian and Arabic in which the two languages may have different characteristics, the writer presents the following problems:

- what factors do cause the great influence of Arabic on Indonesian vocabulary ?
- what are the significant values of Arabic for the Indonesian people ?
- what factors do cause the inconsistency of spelling and pronunciation ?
- how far is the role of language cultivation and language development in regarding and treating the problems of inconsistency ?

### 1.3. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

By carrying out the study, the writer insists to reveal the effects of relation or intercourse among languages as means of communication and some other particular functions. The writer hopes to be able to recognize some factors which determine the domination of one language on others, and to provide the significance of a particular language on a particular society.

The study leads to the research of the processes of adaptation which are undergone by the loan words, and how people use them for particular purposes or functions. The study also examines how the Language Cultivation and Language Development Institution (Lembaga Pembinaan dan Pengembangan Bahasa) treats the language problems, that is the problems of spellings and pronunciation.

#### 1.4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study is dedicated as a part of treatments of language problems, and is hoped to give useful contribution to the cultivation of bahasa Indonesia, particularly to the language standardization. The writer hopes the study will, partly, enrich the study of linguistics in general. Furthermore, the study may support the forming of a well-defined subsystem within the whole of the linguistic study.

#### 1.5. LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The subject matter of the study may lead to a very broad and wide understanding. For the reason, the study has to be limited on its appropriate field. The subject matter of the study is limited to some Indonesian lexical inventory which are originated or borrowed from Arabic and are still used at present time, both written and spoken.

#### 1.6. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

It is obviously very important to apply the appropriate theories dealing with the problems to be solved in the study.

Dealing with the relationship or intercourse among languages and the significant values of a language or

languages on a particular society cannot be separated from the function of the language or languages in socio-cultural affairs. The function of the language itself is determined by the role or the significance of the users. In other words, it can be said that the significance and the importance of a particular language is determined by its users or speakers.

There are many factors which influence the importance of language: political, economical, commercial, social, and cultural factors. The importance of a language is, inevitably, associated with the role of the users in international affairs, and with the contribution to the material and spiritual progress of the world (Bough, 1959: 3-5). In this sense, it is found some influential languages in Indonesia, such as: Arabic is significant in religious field, Dutch is significant in law, English is also significant in trade and commercial fields.

The significance of Arabic for Indonesian society can be associated with the fact that most Indonesian people are moslems, and it is known that Arabic is the language of Qur'an, the Holy Book of Islam. Related to this phenomenon, Troike (1982) found that the spread of religions has also resulted in the spread of language. This phenomenon is particularly true for Arabic with the rapid spread of Islam because of the firmly rooted belief

that it is impossible to translate the Qur'an into another language (Troike, 1982: 195). Thus, the outstanding factor which causes the great influence of Arabic on Indonesian vocabulary is religious factor, that is Islam. The use of some Arabic words which formerly restricted to religious field, then developed and spread widely into broader usage in daily life.

Since the study discusses about loan words, it is appropriate to apply some theories of borrowing. Uhlenbeck (1982) states that every language has elements coming from other sources through various ways, such as borrowing or new forming (Uhlenbeck, 1982: 47). Indonesian, or bahasa Indonesia, is enriched by both native Indonesian elements and foreign elements which profoundly influence the language variety in Indonesia (Ibid: 51).

Fromkin and Rodman (1984) define borrowing as a process by which one language or dialect takes and incorporates some linguistic elements from another. Most languages are borrowers. The loans from other languages are important sources of new words (Fromkin and Rodman, 1984: 309).

Weinreich (1953) states that there may be linguistic interference and linguistic borrowing in a bilingual society. Borrowing is a characteristic of the language as a system, and linguistic borrowing is nothing less

than elements borrowed from outside the native stock of structural and lexical elements that constitutes the system (Weinreich, 1953 in Adji, 1992: 11).

According to Troike, borrowing is a case in which the interference of lexical items from one language are phonologically adapted to the sound system of the other and are subjected to its morphological inflection. Thus, words or lexical items from other language which are not adapted to the system of particular language are not borrowing, but it is considered to be code-switching (Troike, 1982: 66-67). For examples, related to borrowing from Arabic, the words rejeki and rizqi and also berkah and barokah. The words rejeki and berkah are considered to be borrowed words because they have undergone a process of adaptation, while rizqi and barokah are in the case of code-switching because they are not adapted.

Arabic and Indonesian are two languages which have different script or alphabetical system and different phonological systems which leads to some problems of spellings and pronunciation. Arabic uses the Arabic script while Indonesian uses Latin or Roman script, and phonologically Arabic has some phonemes which do not exist in Indonesian phonological system, and vice versa. Related to this condition, it is appropriate to refer to Fromkin and Rodman's approach. Fromkin and Rodman (1984) state



that the borrowing or adoption of words from other language is not merely a process taking and inserting borrowed elements into the borrower's lexical inventory, but it needs and undergoes the process of adaptation (Fromkin and Rodman, 1984: 319). The adaptation of some Arabic alphabets into Indonesian alphabetical system raises some problems of inconsistency, especially for those which are usually represented by consonant clusters, such as: dl, dh, dz, kh, ts, gh, sy, sh.

Besides the different phonological system, the use of loan words in Indonesia maybe various according to its context or situation. The use of words coming from Arabic is influenced by religious factor. In this case, for instance, the spelling and pronunciation of a certain word within religious context or situation maybe different from that within non religious context or situation. For example, the word rela 'willing' which is used in daily or non religious situation may shift to be ridla in religious situation.

## 1.7. METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

### 1.7.1. Working Concepts

#### - Influence

The term influence in the study refers to the intervention and contribution of Arabic lexical items into

Indonesian vocabulary and the borrowed lexical items are still used at present time.

- Arabic

Arabic is a member of the Semitic language family. It is spoken in, mostly, the Middle East and some parts of Africa. Arabic is also the language of Qur'an, the Holy Book of Islam.

- Arabic alphabet

Arabic alphabet consists of 28 characters and all of them are consonantal. In Arabic alphabetical system, vowel sounds are created or generated by inserting certain diacritical marks above or below the letters.

- Indonesian

Indonesian, or as it is frequently called bahasa Indonesia, is a language spoken by people of Indonesia and Malaysia. It stems from 'Market Malay' (bahasa Melayu Pasar), that was the trading language during the colonial periods. It belongs to the Malayo-Polynesian language family. At present, Indonesian is the national and the official state language of the Republic of Indonesia as it is stated in the 1945 Constitution.

- Indonesian vocabulary

Indonesian vocabulary is the inventory of Indonesian lexical properties. It consists of both native and non native or borrowed words. It is enriched by many bor-

rowed words, especially those which are related to particular purposes which cannot be represented or expressed by Indonesian native words.

- Inconsistency

Inconsistency refers to the difference of spellings and pronunciation of phonemes or sounds adapted from Arabic. It is considered to be inconsistent when the same Arabic phonemes or alphabets and Arabic sounds in the same position (initial, medial, or final) are represented or adapted into different Latin/Roman alphabets.

- Spelling

Spelling refers to the representation of sounds by certain phonemes or alphabets, especially in script or writing. Indonesian uses the Latin or Roman alphabet for script and writing system, while Arabic uses the Arabic script system.

- Pronunciation

Pronunciation is how the speakers of a certain language pronounce certain phonemes of a certain language. In this sense, it refers to how the speakers of Indonesian pronounce some borrowed words consisting of Arabic sounds. In real cases, a single word or the same phoneme or sound may be pronounced differently by different people, or by one person in different contexts

and situation.

- Language cultivation and language development

The term refers to some efforts to control the use of Indonesian or bahasa Indonesia. The name of the term in Indonesian are 'pembinaan bahasa' and 'pengembangan bahasa'. The objects of language cultivation and language development are both the Indonesian language itself and the users of the Indonesian language.

One of the efforts is the standardization of language use, including the standardization of spelling and pronunciation as a part of language engineering.

### 1.7.2. Methods of Research

The study combines both library research and field research. Library research is focused on the study of phonological and etimological aspects of the borrowed words through dictionaries, newspapers, magazines, and some relevant books. The field research is carried out in order to gain data on how people or the speakers of Indonesian pronounce some borrowed words in various contexts or situation.

Besides focussing on how people pronounce words in daily communications, the field research also includes the use of some audio and audiovisual equipments, such as cassettes, radio and television broadcasting.

### 1.7.3. Location and Population of the Research

There is no strict limitation of the location since the occurrence of speaking events and the finding of written materials may take place everywhere. However, the writer regards some places and occasions in which people tend to use the borrowed words, such as mosques, and religious events (for instance: 'pengajian', 'majelis taklim', 'tabligh').

In dealing with spelling analysis, the population of the research are people who speak Indonesian. In dealing with pronunciation analysis, the population of the research are some written materials which possibly include borrowed words from Arabic, such as books, magazines, and newspapers.

### 1.7.4. Sampling

In the study the writer utilizes the random sampling. There are no specific qualifications and requirements of the samples which are involved in the study. The samples are both human resources and written materials resources.

The human resources are involved in order to gain data of pronunciation of some words which consist of Arabic sounds or phonemes.

The written materials resources are involved in order to gain data of spelling of words which consist of

adapted Arabic phonemes. Some of the samples are: daily newspapers (Jawa Pos, Surabaya Post, Surya), magazines (Almuslimun, Suara Hidayatullah, Sabili, Tempo, Intisari),

Besides the two groups of resources, television broadcasting can be considered to be important. Samples of the television broadcasting are : Televisi Republik Indonesia (TVRI), Televisi Pendidikan Indonesia (TPI), Surya Citra Televisi (SCTV), and Rajawali Citra Televisi Indonesia (RCTI), especially their programs which deal with religious situation.

#### 1.7.5. Techniques of Data Collection

In collecting data, the writer applies:

##### - Library observation:

This technique is used to gain sufficient data about the origin of some Indonesian words, by using appropriate dictionaries and some books dealing with etimological studies. The data of words are obtained by observing some books, magazines, and newspapers.

##### - Listening

This technique is used to gain data of pronunciation. It includes listening to radio and television broadcasting, cassettes, and actual conversations in daily communications. This technique provides data about how people pronounce certain phonemes or certain sounds.

### 1.7.6. Techniques of Data Analysis

The data obtained from the research are analysed according to the following techniques:

- the are selected and classified into two groups, namely the written data as the basic of spelling analysis, and the spoken data as the basic of pronunciation analysis. The data are provided in alphabetical order, that is the Arabic alphabet.
- analysis of spelling: the selected data, in tis case the written data, are identified by examining the phonemes constituting the words. The words which contain the same Arabic phonemes are, then, examined whether the representations of the same phonemes are the same or not, according to their phonological positions (initial, medial, or final). From this technique, it is recognized the occurrences or the appearances of the inconsistency of spellings.
- analysis of pronunciation: the analysis is focused on the pronunciation of vowel sounds since the inconsistency outstandingly happens to vowels. In this sense, the pronunciation of a particular word consisting of certain vowel sounds maybe different though the phonological conditions or positions are similar.

From this technique, it is recognized the adaptation of some Arabic vowel sounds into Indonesian and how the inconsistency of pronunciation takes place.

- since religious factor determines the occurrence of inconsistency, the data are also examined by comparing and observing the frequency of the usages of the borrowed elements within religious and non religious events. This technique is applied in order to get clear description of the inconsistency.

In the study the writer uses the descriptive-qualitative analysis method.



