

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Java as the island with most population density has one of the most widely-used dialect in Indonesia. Rahayu (2012) stated that the wide-use of Javanese makes the language varies in many parts of Java. Javanese varieties differ in many parts of the island. The varieties are spoken over whole Central Java and over most of East Java (Quinn, 2011). Osing is one the varieties spoken in eastern part of Java, specifically in Banyuwangi Regency (Badan Bahasa, 2009).

There are six provinces in Java, in which each province has its own varieties of Javanese. Badan Bahasa (2009) claimed there are four different dialects in East Java province, which are East Java dialect, Osing variety, Tengger dialect, and Solo-Yogya dialect. Osing variety as one of the regional dialects spoken in East Java is considered as a dialect since it acts a subpart of a bigger language, which is Javanese, and yields some criteria for distinguishing one language to another (Chambers and Trudgill, 2004). It has many distinctive features such as phonological system and lexical items compare to other Javanese dialects.

This variety is spoken by people in Banyuwangi Regency, East Java. According to the official website of the regency (banyuwangikab.go.id) Banyuwangi is located in the eastern part of East Java, closest to the border

between Java and Bali Island. Many people assume that the society in Banyuwangi speak Madurese for the regency is located between Madurese societies surrounding the city. The three regencies surrounding Banyuwangi are Situbondo, Bondowoso, and Jember Regency. Even though some part of Banyuwangi Regency's people speak Madurese, the central part of it still maintains the original language. Banyuwangi Regency is dominated with three ethnics which are Madurese, Javanese, and Osing. This is the reason why the majority of people in Banyuwangi speak these three different languages.

Sariono and Maslikatin (2002) stated that the word "Osing" itself is taken from the word [sɪŋ] which means "no". This phenomenon happened back in the history of Puputan Bayu War when people of Banyuwangi, or also known as Blambangan at that time often said "sing" when new comers and VOC asked them question because they had tendency to isolate themselves from outsiders. They wanted to refuse and confront The Dutch (VOC) who came to occupy their place by isolating themselves from the outsiders as their way of protesting. This is the reason why the imigrants and people from VOC called them The Osing people. This variety was believed to be originated from *Jawa Kuna* and it did not change or develop rapidly for the reason of the isolated character of the people. This is one of the reasons Osing is a kind of authentic variety.

Kusnadi (as cited in Sariono and Maslikatin, 2002) explained when Banyuwangi Regency was occupied by The Dutch represented by VOC, they brought a lot of people from Madura and other parts of Java Island to be the plantation workers. The Javanese new comers inhabited the southern area of the

regency, while the northern part was occupied by the Madurese society. Other than that, Madurese society also stayed in the western part of Banyuwangi. He also stated other smaller societies such as Bugis, Balinese, and Malay also inhabited Banyuwangi. This phenomenon is quite possible considering the location of the regency is surrounded by sea and strait which enables contact with outsiders, even for those who come from different islands.

The existence of other societies as the new inhabitants in Banyuwangi, or also known as Blambangan at that time has caused the language to come into contact. A change would be possible to happen to a language which came into contact with other languages. In this case, the variety used in Banyuwangi also got influences from other languages with which it came into contact. The term “elbow” for instance, has two variations which are *sikut* and *cengkol*, pronounced as [sikot] and [ceŋkɔl]. The first term is influenced by Javanese, while the second is the same as Madurese term for naming “elbow”. Even the origin of the word Osing which is *sing*, pronounced as [sɪŋ] is a Balinese borrowing. In Balinese, [sɪŋ] also means “no”.

Besides language contact that is caused by migration in the history of the regency, modernization could also bring another influence to the language. As the regency develops better infrastructure, the inhabitants become more mobile. This also enables the change in the variety. However, in some areas which are still rural the originality of the variety is still being maintained. The areas in the west and north-central Banyuwangi are still considered as the areas maintaining Osing variety (Sariono and Maslikatin, 2002).

There have been some pros and contras about the status and the origin of Osing variety in dialectology research. A research from The Geography of Dialect of Banyuwangi by Soetoko et al (cited Laksono, 2004) mentioned a lot of vocabulary of dialect of Banyuwangi comes from *Jawa Kawi*. Other than that, the research found that some other vocabulary come from *Jawa Lugu*, or Standard Javanese. The differences between dialect of Banyuwangi and Javanese are more likely to be in a form of pronunciation.

Herusantossa (1987 as cited in Sariono & Maslikatin, 2002) stated the origin of the word Using or Osing itself is fom Balinese borrowing. He mentioned that the Osing people used this term as a defense and refusal towards the new comers fom Central Java, or also known as *wong kulonan*. He, on the one hand, also mentioned that the status of Osing variety is a language as Osing is one of 561 minor languages in Indonesia (Susanti, 2011). Kusnadi (2002, in Sariono & Maslikatin, 2002) on the other hand stated that Osing is a regional dialect in East Java.

This variety is one of the variety that emerges in Javanese. Osing is actually what is called as *Jowo wetanan*. The center of Javanese is in Central Java and the further we go from the center, the more different the language will be. As Chambers & Trudgill (2004) mentioned that the more distance we take from the starting point, the more differences we can find. This phenomena happens with Osing variety which is spoken by people in the most eastern part of Java Island. The further we go to the east, the Javanese used will be getting more distinctive

from what the people in Central Javanese use. Therefore, Osing as one of Javanese variety has differences with the Javanese used in Central part of Java.

Despite the controversies of the status and the origin, the uniqueness of this variety is there is no *krama* or stratification of language as it is in Javanese. In term of pronunciation, Osing variety has words which are the same as Javanese but pronounced differently. For instance the word “flower” in Javanese is called *kembang* while in Osing variety it is called [kəmb^vʌŋ], and *Banyuwangi* is pronounced [b^vanyuwaŋai]. The different pronunciation makes Osing considered distinctive and unique compared to Javanese.

Meanwhile, some researches have been conducted in several regions in Indonesia focusing on the lexical, morphological, and the phonological differences among local languages. The most common one is usually finding out the lexical differences to determine the status of a variety and describe the differences found. The phonological differences, usually along with lexical differences are also common to be used to determine the status of a variety. Other than that, the studies are about deep analysis about a system in a language, dialect or variety.

In comparison to Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Airlangga itself, research on dialectology have not been conducted very often. Recently, there are three studies of dialectology in English Department. The first one is a reseach conducted by Biantoro (2008). He compared the varieties of dialect in Tuban Regency focusing on the phonology, morphology and semantic aspect. His study found that the percentage of the differences can be assumed as dialect differences.

The second study was conducted by Cahyaningsih (2014). Lexical differences in Javanese varieties in western and eastern part of Blitar Regency were identified. The result also shows that the Javanese varieties spoken by people in western and eastern parts of Blitar Regency assumed as different dialects. The most recent dialectology research in English Department was done by Putri (2015) about the lexical differences in Madurese variety spoken by people in Kangean Island, Sumenep Regency. The research show the emergence of different dialects in Kangean Island. In Indonesian Department, there is a study of Osing variety conducted by Susanti (2011) which focuses on the phonological analysis of Osing variety in Kemiren village, Glagah district.

Researches about Javanese varieties in Banyuwangi Regency have also been conducted several times before. Surani, Suparmin, Sudjarwi, & Hadiri (1987) wrote about the phonological system of Javanese varieties in Banyuwangi's dialect, or also known by the language users as Osing variety. There is also a reaserch about a language mapping in Banyuwangi Regency carried out by Angga Priandi Pasma (2008) which focuses on the mapping and description of lexical and phonological variation of language varieties in Banyuwangi. The sample of this research are taken from five different areas or observation points in Banyuwangi Regency. Subtyaningsih, Sariono, and Suyanto (1999) conducted a research about the function and status of Osing in Banyuwangi. It examines how the status of Osing variety is considered by the users, whether Osing variety is considered as high variety of language by the

users, how they represent Osing variety as their cultural identity, and how the language users actualize Osing variety in their daily life.

The focus of this study is to find out the lexical differences of Javanese varieties between four different areas in Banyuwangi Regency. However, the writer only uses the the areas in which the people speak Osing variety. The four areas used in this research are Glagah district, Giri district, Singojuruh district, and Kabat district. The four OPs mentioned are the areas in which the number of Osing speakers are 90% or more (Surani et al., 1987). The villages representing each OP are Badean village in Kabat district, Gumirih village in Singojuruh district, Kenjo village in Glagah district, and Grogol village in Giri district. The writer started the research based on the assumption that within this one variety, there are differences in terms of pronunciation, and even more lexical items in naming things. For instance people in Gumirih call the word “save” as [nyimpən] while in Badean village it is called as [marɔti]. In terms of pronunciation, Badean people say “what” as [paran] while Gumirih people tend to pronounce it as [parən]. These kind of differences is what makes the naming of things in Osing variety varies in some areas.

The writer also tries to discover the status of the variety by comparing and contrasting lexical differences between the areas. The formula of lexical dialectometry will be used to measured the observation points' lexical differences to determine whether the status of the variation can be categorized as dialectical differences or not.

1.2 Statement of Problems

Based on the background written above, two problems proposed in this study are:

1. What are the lexical differences in Osing variety spoken by people in four different areas in Banyuwangi?
2. What is the status of the lexical differences in Osing variety spoken by people in four different areas in Banyuwangi?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

The purposes of this study based on the statement of problem are:

1. To find the lexical differences in Osing variety spoken by people in four different areas in Banyuwangi
2. To reveal the status of the lexical differences in Osing variety spoken by three different areas in Banyuwangi.

1.4 Significance of The Study

This study is expected to contribute to the theory and the reference for the study of dialectology. The result can be helpful for students and other research who are interested in taking dialectology course or doing more research in dialectology of Osing variety. It is hoped to show people in general about the varieties and the characteristics of Osing variety in Banyuwangi Regency as a part of introducing and preserving regional culture.

Other than that, the findings of this research are also aimed to help students in Banyuwangi regency to learn about their own variety because it is also taught as a subject in school. As the students learn the structure and the usage of Osing variety, the writer hopes the students will know Osing better and get broader knowledge about this variety.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

- Lexical differences : lexical difference refers to variation in the words used by different speakers to characterize the same object or action (Chamber and Trudgill, 2004)
- Osing variety : a variety which is used by people who live in some subdistricts in Banyuwangi.
- Regional dialect : various linguistics differences that accumulate in a particular geographic region (Fromkin, Rodman & Hyams, 2011).