

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Semantics is one of the branch in Linguistics and semantics is a systematic study of meanings. Semantics is not learned by students, but also teachers and language learners because it contains benefit that may help them understanding the meaning of each single thing around them which relates to their need in schools and daily communication (oxford language)

Semantic has been used by people to interpret the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences so that people will be able to understand the sentences more easily and better in determining the meaning. Yule (2010:112) states that “semantic is the study of meaning of word, phrase, or sentence”. It means that word, phrase, or sentence have meaning. Moreover, semantics lead people to understand more about language because the study of meaning that is used for understanding human expressions through language. Semantic has many aspects of meaning. According to Leech (in Pardede, 2016), mentioned that meaning can be divided into seven types. Namely; conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, co-locative meaning, and thematic meaning.

Semantics, the study of meaning, stands at the very center of the linguistic quest to understand the nature of language and human language abilities. *“Much of the vocabulary of any language and even parts of the grammar, will reflect the culture of*

its speakers. Indeed, the culture-specific concepts and ways of understanding embedded in a language are important part of what constitutes a culture” (Goddard, 1997:1). It is believed that the core feature of language is to express meaning. Words, grammatical constructions, intonation patterns, are all in language functioning to reach the goal.

Semantics is also concerned with shedding light on the relationship between language and cultures. It is obvious that meaning plays a very important role in any situation of speech acts. Without meaning, all the utterances of a language are useless or without meaning there will be no language, or if a language is not intended to communicate meaning, there will be no interaction of thought as we do in daily life. Meaning is concerned with the relation between words and objects to which they refer.

Analysis and research can also be done in the environment closest to us and something we rarely realize or pay attention to. Like songs, today people’s life and environment are familiar to art, including music. In music there are songs in which there are also languages that are attention written by the author himself. Actually, people mostly listen to music as a way to bring them in relaxing, refreshing and entertaining. Music is media that can inspire, give hope, create a dream, or let people escape for a moment. Song is a piece of music with words that are sung having a function to express the thoughts and feeling, Kennedy (2007:74) states that song has to elements, lyric and music.

In the lyric of the song there are many meanings that can be seen by studying semantic theory in the form of types of meaning. The meaning contain in the song lyrics of the data is analyzed based on the types of meaning and classify. Verhaar (1996:13) states that “semantic is a linguistic branch that will discuss meaning”. Chaer said (1994:284) states that “semantic is language study which the object research is the language meaning”. In this study, the author focus on the types of meanings and the dominant types in traditional songs lyrics in Letti language. And in this research, the author used the theory Leech (in Pardede, 2016), mention that meaning can be divided into seven types. Namely; conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, co-locative meaning, and thematic meaning.

The writer is interest in writing this because the writer wants to know the types of meanings and the function of meanings used in the traditional songs of Letti. And the author also hope that traditional songs in Indonesia, especially the traditional songs of Letti will never become extinct.

From many traditional songs of Letti, the writer will have three traditional songs to be analyzed. Those lyrics such as: *Nara Awake Ampun Tiow* song sung by *Maku Jacob*, *Inku Amku* song sung by *Maku Jacob*, and *Ina Ama* song sung by *Pemuda Pelajar Batumiau*. Also that songs have the strength to advise, motivate, strengthen, entertain, and have a very useful moral message. As in the song *Nara Awake Ampun Tiow* song. It contains moral messages for as listeners and poets of feelings, such as when separating from a partner, do not forget that you have a responsibility as a

father. *Inku Amku* song. It contains an expression of a child's longing for his parents and siblings. And in *Ina Ama* song. It is a expression of in this song the poet invites all people who are in all directions to gather and ask God to thank for His protection, inclusion and help to all of their. After the writer listen to the songs, it turns out that the songs have advantageous and uniqueness relate to the meaning that contain in each song lyrics and it is very important to be research.

Based on the description above the writer conducted this research under the title "Semantic Analysis on Traditional Songs Lyrics in Letti Language"

1.2. Research Problems

The problems in this research are :

1. What are the types of meaning in traditional songs lyrics in Letti Language?
2. What are the dominant types of meaning in traditional songs lyrics in Letti language?

1.3. Aims of Study

The aims in this research are :

1. To find out the types of meaning in traditional songs lyrics in Letti Language

2. To find out the dominant types of meaning in traditional songs lyrics in Letti language

1.4. Significance of Study

Theoretically, this research can contribute in the semantic field. So that it can be a reference for learning about the types of meanings at work literature, especially literary works in the form of lyrics songs in Letti language. Practically, this research is expected to help readers who want to learn and understand the types of meaning used in the traditional lyrics songs and the dominant types of meaning used the traditional songs lyrics in Letti Language.

1.4.1. Implication

This study expected to support theories of semantic about seven types of meaning purposeby Leech (in Pardede, 2016), mention that meaning can be divided into seven types. Namely; conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, co-locative meaning, and thematic meaning.

1.4.2. Application

This study provides contribution to the reader that they can reach deep comprehension on the songs. Not only enjoying the music but also understand the lyrics that is being the way the reader can catch the message of the song writer. Practically, the result of this study is hoped to give a contribution to

the learners who are interested in this study and to know the dominant types of meaning in traditional songs lyrics in Letti Language.