

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

Novel is one of communication media that is verbal communication. According to Wood (2004), communication is “a systemic process in which individuals interact with and through symbols to create and interpret meanings.” It is light reading that commonly people have it in their leisure time. These books are favored at all ages. Indirectly, many times there are moral messages inserted by author to reader as life lessons.

Novel conveys their message by their selected words and the characters which construct by author. The message of the novel is definitely accepted by reader whose language same to author but the message of a novel will not be understood if the language use of reader and author is different. Interlingual communication, that is communication between people speaking different languages, is impossible unless the linguistic barrier is overcome by some way (Komissarov, 1991). Fortunately, the linguistic barrier can be coped by a translator

A translator means someone who transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language to another, whether the language is in written or oral form, whether the languages have established orthographies or not; or whether one or both languages is based on signs, as with signs of the deaf (Brislin, 1976). In short, translator is someone who responsible to transfer meaning from source language to target language. However, translating is not something easy. There will be obstacles faced by a translator. One of obstacles or difficulties in translation is cultural terms. It cannot be translated freely. It has own meaning. Cultural terms is specific word belongs to certain community (Newmark, 1998). They are local animal, local food, transportation, organization system or habit.

Supporting the statement above “cultural term has own meaning”, Widhi (2010) on her research mentioned that *gamelan*, traditional music instrument translated to less precise English word. It was translated into *a set of Javanese orchestra*. The absence of concept, culture or belief in certain language is challenge and responsibility of translator to provide better result to target reader. Moreover Newmark conclude based on Vermeer’s opinion that it is impossible to translate cultural elements. A translator are demanded to understand both language and culture deeply. Durdureanu (2011) adds that translator is a mediator between cultures. Besides that, translator needs some certain techniques to break those problems.

There are many researchers that conducted a research about cultural terms. One of researcher who had ever analyzed cultural terms is Aziz (2014). He analyzed novel entitled *Negeri Lima Menara*. He described how a translator translates Indonesian cultural terms which are absolutely different with English. His findings show the techniques in translating *Negeri Lima Menara* or in English version called *The Land of Five Towers*.

Based on those explanations, the researcher is intrigued to do a research about cultural terms. The research subject is novel entitled *Child of All Nations* or Indonesian version known as *Anak Semua Bangsa*. The researcher wants to investigate cultural terms and technique used by translator in translating Indonesian cultural terms. Furthermore, the researcher wants to investigate its translation shift.

*Child of All Nations* is well known novel from Indonesia. It is second book of tetralogy that was written by Pramoedya Ananta Toer. Cataloging book site, GoodReads rated best list of Indonesian novels. It mentioned on its Publication that Pramoedya’s novels be the main choice of reader.

This novel represents a lot of Indonesian cultural terms include Javanese culture. Pramoedya’s Tetralogy were translated to English by Max Lane. They are Bumi Manusia

"*This Earth of Mankind*", Anak Semua Bangsa "*Child of All Nations*, Jejak langkah "*Foot steps*", and Rumah kaca "*House of glass*". The fact about Max lane who is not Indonesian be pride thing and important for researcher's research. The way he view cultural terms is different with Indonesian native. Pramoedya's novels are not just translated to English but many languages. His novels have translated in 36 languages. He is less appreciated by his government. Government regards his works against the ideology of nation. He was jailed on that accusation. Conversely, Pramoedya Ananta Toer got a title "Asian Heroes" by Time Asia Magazine

By those statements, researcher is interested in conducting research with title *An Analysis of Translating Cultural Terms In Novel Child of All Nations By Pramoedya Ananta Toer*.

## **1.2 Research question**

1. What are cultural terms contained in novel *Child of All Nations by Pramoedya Ananta Toer*?
2. How does translator translate the cultural terms in Novel *Child Of All Nations By Pramoedya Ananta Toer*?
3. What are translation shifts in cultural terms contained In Novel *Child of All Nations By Pramoedya Ananta Toer*?

## **1.3 Objective of the study**

The goal of this study is to investigate cultural terms In Novel Child of all nations By Pramoedya Ananta Toer, to find techniques used by translator and to seek its translation shifts.

#### **1.4 Significance of the study**

The finding of this study is expected to give description how to translate Indonesian cultural terms based book. It can be used to translate literary works, tourism books, or cultural based texts. This study gives guideline for next researcher to do the same topic. The results of this study can be used as comparison English and Indonesian cultural terms in academic study. Indirectly, this study appreciates literature works.

#### **1.5 Limitation of the study**

This study is limited to cultural terms and translation technique contained in the novel *Child of All Nations by Pramoedya Ananta Toer*. The researcher uses cultural terms and translation technique based on Newmark's theory while translation shift based on Catford's theory.

#### **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

- Cultural terms is distinctive word of certain culture which reflected their expressions of way of life and manifestation in that community. It is normally the referent unfamiliar in another culture.
- Translation shift is departure from formal correspondence in the process of going from the source language to the target language.