

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Indonesian literary works have already attracted worldwide attention. Nowadays, many people translated them into other languages. Gus TF Sakai short stories are among them, it is translated into English. There of course are some obstacles in translating literary works especially in translating cultural words.

Cultural word is one of the problems in translating literary works from source language text into target language. The problem is also found in translating books from Indonesian into other languages. For this reason to produce a good translation, it is vital to understand Indonesian language. It is important to remember that understanding the meaning of a word is not enough. Not all of the meaning of Indonesian words is similar to the concept in English. In addition, some Indonesian expressions may have different interpretation in English. Indonesian sentence is different from English. It is not easy to discover the meaning in target language that can represent the intention of source language. Such as *tambo*, *peci*, *rendang* and *nagari* in Indonesian are cultural words. According to (Newmark 1988, p.283) cultural word is defined as word referring to objects, processes, institutions, customs and ideas peculiar to one group of people.

In addition to the above, still there are other things to be considered by a translator when translating from one language to another. They are the use of

language, grammatical rule, idiomatic expression, and translation technique. This is caused by the fact that every language has its own character and every country has different set of cultures, beliefs, social values, geographies, arts, and etc.

As the equivalence of one culture to another is hard to find, translating cultural word is difficult to execute. According to (Newmark, 1988, p.95) in conducting translation which contains cultural words, we cannot just apply literal way. There are eighteen procedures that are proposed by Newmark such as cultural equivalent, descriptive equivalent, transference, naturalization and so on to use it in translating cultural word. Cultural words can be detected since they are associated with a particular language, for example, musical instrument from Indonesian *saluang*, *rabab* and *sasando* while *Flute* and *Violin* from English. To define the intended meaning, every translator does not need to tell clearly where the location is, because it has already been translated using cultural word that was contained in the text.

Based on the above explanation, the writer only focuses on analyzing of the categories of cultural words and their translation procedures as found in the three selected short stories by Gus TF Sakai.

## 1.2 Research Questions

There are two problems in this research:

1. What are the categories of cultural words found in the three selected short stories by Gus Tf Sakai?

2. What are the procedures applied by the translator in translating the cultural word in three selected short stories by Gus Tf Sakai into English?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Research**

The writer has two primary purposes in conducting this research:

- a. To find out the categories of cultural words found in the three selected short stories by Gus TF Sakai
- b. To determine the procedures of translation applied by the translator in translating the cultural word in three selected short stories by Gus TF Sakai into English

### **1.4 Scope of the Research**


Translation studies are categorized as applied linguistics which have fairly extensive fields such as the problem of equivalence, techniques of translation, subtitle, and many others as the topic of study. According to the research question, the writer limited the study to examine the Minang cultural words as found in the short stories and their English translation. The setting of three short stories are in West Sumatera. Thus some cultural words found are related to Minang culture.

Cultural words are divided into five divisions, the writer identifies the category such as; ecology, material culture, social culture, organization, gesture and habit based on the theory proposed that are by Newmark (1988). Then, the writer analyzes the procedure of translation based on the Newmark's theory (1988).

## 1.5 Methods of the Research

There are three stages in conducting this research, they are, collecting data, analyzing the data and presenting the result of analysis.

### 1.5.1 Source of Data



Data of the research are taken from four short stories written by Gus TF Sakai there are *Nagari* was translated into *Nagari* by Ian Campbell, *Gambar Bertuliskan "Kereta Lebaran"* was translated into *The drawing of the Lebaran Train* and *Kupu-Kupu* was translated into *Butterflies* by Toni Pollard, *Meminta kepada Tempat yang Terkabul, Berkaul kepada Tempat yang Keramat* was translated into *Eyes of The Dog* by Pam Allen. All four short stories are taken from book *Laba-Laba* was published in 2003 by Gramedia. The last short story is "*Pakiah*" dari *Pariangan* was translated into *The Pakiah from Pariangan* by Tony Pollard. This short story is taken from book *Kaki yang Terhormat* was published in 2012 by Gramedia. The translation taken from book *Night's Disappearance* was published in 2015. The three translators also translated other Indonesian literary works, Ian Campbell also translated poem from book "*Maskumambang untuk Ibu*", Toni Pollard also translated short story the title "*Batu Bujang*", Pam Allen also translated the third paragraph in Lampuki's book. Indonesian version will be used as the Source Text. The settings of the three short stories are located in West Sumatera. Thus, the author uses some Minangkabau words/phrases in short story. The meaning of Indonesian cultural words can be

translated differently in target language based on the knowledge of the translator in both languages. Hence, this short story is interesting to be analyzed.

### **1.5.2 Collecting the Data**

There are some steps taken in collecting data. First, the writer reads thirteen short stories in Indonesian version, chooses five short stories that relate to Minangkabau term, they have the same setting that is West Sumatera and also from the same book entitle *Laba-Laba* and *Kaki yang Terhormat*, and read five selected short stories in English version for several times. Second, the writer identifies every Indonesian cultural word and then highlight each of them by underlining using red color marking pen in the source language and their translations in the target language text. Third, the writer categorizes those cultural words based on Newmark (1988), and also the writer used Minangkabau dictionaries to determine cultural words as found in short stories. Finally, the data which have the same forms and the same categories are taken one as representative. For instance, the word *ulama* is representation of a religious leader. The word *ulama* is categorized as religious term. After reducing data, only 16 are left. The writer only analyzed 16 data because some data probably have the word and same meaning.

### **1.5.3 Analyzing the Data**

After collecting and reducing the data, the writer will pair Indonesian version and English version.

Table 1. The example of the Minang cultural word and its English translation

Source Language (SL)	Target Language (TL)
<p>Sayup-sayup , kudengar nyanyian itu:  <i>dalailil-khairat</i>, do'a shalawat bagi                      Nabi dengan memukul <i>talam</i>. (Laba-                      Laba, p.54)</p>	<p>I could hear the faint sound of the  <i>dalailil-khairat</i>, the sung prayer of                      invocation for the Prophet,                      accompanied by the <i>tambourine</i>.                      (Night's Disapperance, p.8)</p>

The left side is Indonesian language as the ST and the right side is English as the TL. In analyzing the data, the writer will determine the Minang cultural words into some cultural categories and also analyze the procedures used by translator in translating the cultural words based on Newmark's Theory (1988).

#### 1.5.4 Presenting the Result of Analysis

The result of analysis of the finding is presented in two ways, verbally and descriptively. Verbal is when it is explained or presented in front of the examiners and descriptive is in form of thesis.