

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

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1.1 Background of the Study

Most Indonesian families have kinship terms in addressing one's relatives. They use the terms in accordance with whom they speak to. Certain social factors may influence the kinship terms like: the participants, who is speaking and who they are speaking to. Therefore, it is not surprising that there is a lot of literature on kinship terminology, describing how people in various parts of the world refer to brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, cousins, and so on (Wardaugh, 1986:219).

However, the kinship terms are different from one language to another. The concepts of kinship terms vary from one language to another language (Wardaugh, 1986:262). This statement is supported by Chaika, who says that each language or dialect usually has several greetings, forms of address, including kinship terms (Chaika, 1982:29).

As an example, East Javanese dialects have several terms to address parent's brothers and sisters like pakde, paklik, bulik, budhe, etc. (Supriyanto, 1986:187). Not far from the example above, in Bahasa Lerek, there

are 9 terms in addressing uncles and aunts. One has 4 choices in addressing 'aunts', and 5 choices in addressing 'uncles' (Tukan, 1987:4).

Those examples are similar to the Chinese and its dialects. There are many terms used to address one's uncles and aunts. In addition, the terms reveal power. According to Chang (1979:222), older siblings exercise power over younger ones, and authority in the Chinese society operates on the basis of seniority and superiority.

It is considered impolite to address uncles and aunts in Chinese by calling their first names or addressing them by their nicknames. Using the appropriate kinship terms shows respect. One way to show respect to somebody is not to mention his/her name. Thus, superiors, seniors, have to be addressed according to their proper kin terms, while juniors are often addressed by their given names (Chang, 1979:233).

As the writer comes from Hinghwa Chinese Indonesian families, and her husband comes from Hokkien and Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya, they use both kinship terms to address their relatives. In addition, around the writer, she has many friends using kinship terms in addressing their relatives including uncles and aunts, though not all of them come from Hokkien nor Hinghwa Chinese families. In fact, she finds

some differences as well as similarities between Hinghwa and Hokkien dialects in addressing uncles and aunts. Furthermore, Hinghwa and Hokkien dialects are parts of the Chinese dialects which are still used by the Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya. Therefore, the writer is interested in observing the difference and the similarities of kinship terms in addressing uncles and aunts in Hinghwa and Hokkien dialects used by both Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya.

1.2 Statement Of The Problem

Closely related to the background of the study, the question investigated is formulated as follows: How is Hinghwa dialect compared to Hokkien dialect to address uncles and aunts as used by Hinghwa and Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya ? This major problem is broken down into the following minor problems:

1. What are the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts in Hinghwa dialect used by Hinghwa Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya ?
2. What are the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts in Hokkien dialect used by Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya ?

3. How are the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts used by Hinghwa Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya compared to the original Hinghwa terms ?
4. How are the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts used by Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya compared to the original Hokkien terms ?
5. What are the differences and the similarities of the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts in Hinghwa dialect used by Hinghwa Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya and those in Hokkien dialect used by Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya ?

1.3 Objectives Of The Study

This study is intended to describe the kinship terms in Hinghwa and Hokkien dialects in addressing uncles and aunts as used by Hinghwa and Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya. Before answering the major problem, the writer should find the answer of the following minor problems:

1. The kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts in Hinghwa dialect used by Hinghwa Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya.
2. The kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts in Hokkien dialect used by Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya.

3. The comparison between the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts used by Hinghwa Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya and the original Hinghwa terms.
4. The comparison between the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts used by Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya and the original Hokkien terms.
5. The differences and the similarities of the kinship terms for addressing uncles and aunts in Hinghwa dialect and those in Hokkien dialect used by Hinghwa and Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya.

1.4 Significance of The Study

This study is expected to give contribution to Sociolinguistics field, since the kinship terms of address are involved here. Moreover, she hopes the result of these findings can give more information to the reader about kinship terms used in addressing uncles and aunts in Hinghwa and Hokkien dialects.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

Considering the limited time and width of the terms of address, the writer focuses on the terms of address for uncles and aunts in Hinghwa and Hokkien

dialects. Moreover, there are many Hinghwa and Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families, then she decides to take Hinghwa and Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya. Since this study only includes six families from the six subjects, in this case three of them come from Hinghwa Chinese Indonesian families and the others three come from Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya, the findings of this study will not be generalized to the all Hinghwa and Hokkien Chinese Indonesian families in Surabaya.

1.6 Theoretical Framework

This section is devoted to reviewing the theories that the writer is going to apply in this study. She includes the theories of Language and Society, Language and Dialects, Chinese Language and Its Dialects, Kinship Terms and The Hokkien and Hinghwa Kinship Terms of Address for Uncles and Aunts.

Sociolinguistics, as it is defined by Hudson (1980:4), is a study of language in relation to society. Furthermore, using language appropriately involves knowing the sociolinguistics rules for speaking in a community. In other word, sociolinguistics is a study which has something to do with language and society.

Many speakers find difficulty in deciding whether what they speak should be called a 'language' or a 'dialect' of a language. According to Hudson (1980:37), there is no real distinction to be drawn between 'language' and 'dialect'. However, Chaika points out that dialects of Chinese, which are spoken in one country, are not considered separate language (Chaika, 1982:132). Since the writer takes Hinghwa and Hokkien dialects as part of Chinese dialects to be analyzed, the theory of language and dialect can be used to support the writer's study.

The various forms of spoken Chinese, which are designated as dialects, constitute as independent branch of Sino Tibetan. Within the Chinese branch, there are hundreds of dialects (International Encyclopedia of Linguistics, 1982:257).

Kinship terms of address, in this case, are the terms used to address one's relatives. All languages distinguish at least three characteristics in relatives: generation, blood relationship and sex (Clark, 1977:541). Put simply, languages will develop kin terms useful for everyday purposes and favor ancestor, near relatives and blood relatives (Clark, 1977:543). The writer takes this theory as the input since she analyzes the terms of address for uncles and aunts.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation, the writer would like to clarify the terms used in this study, so that there will be no unexpected misinterpretation. The terms to be defined are as follows:

Kinship

Personal relationship by blood and sometimes by marriage (Webster's Third New International Dictionary, 1986:1245).

Terms of Address

One of the linguistic means by which speakers mark their psycho-social orientation to their addressees (International Encyclopedia of Linguistics, 1982: vol. 1, p. 23).

Dialect

Refers to a geographical variety of language. As an example: (the) Lancashire dialect (of English). (Linguistics Encyclopedia, 1991:33).

Hinghwa Dialect

Hinghwa dialect is a dialect which is spoken in the province of Fu-Kien near the Min river (Encyclopedia Britannica, 1947: vol. 9, p. 454).

Hokkien Dialect

Hokkien dialect is a dialect which is spoken mostly in the province of Fu-Kien in China and Taiwan (Encyclopedia

Britannica, 1947: vol. 9, p. 907).

1.8 Organization Of The Thesis

This thesis consists of five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction, which consists of eight sub topics: Background of the study, Statement of the problem, Objectives of the study, Significance of the study, Scope and limitation, Theoretical framework, Definition of key terms, and Organization of the thesis. Chapter II is Review of Related Literature. Chapter III is Research Methodology, while chapter IV presents Data Analysis and Interpretation of The Findings, and the last, chapter V is Conclusion.