

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, and definitions of key terms.

1.1 Background of the study

Language is very important in everyday live. People use language as a tool to communicate and interact with others. Kasbullah (1993, p.10) states: "... language is created as simple as possible to make communication easy and to avoid misunderstanding." Next, Yule (1985, p.20) states:

"Language is used by people to express their thought, feeling, emotion, and idea. By using language, one will understand what the other people mean. It is a social aspect of human life because language is the important means of social communication among the member of society."

It can be said that language is a tool used by people to communicate with others in a society. Language can help people to avoid misunderstanding in their communication.

In the light of the link between language and society, Indonesia is an archipelago area where almost every island has its own language. This geographical condition makes the growth of regional languages possible, for examples: Madurese, Javanese, Sumatranese, Ambonese, and Sundanese. These regional languages are used in everyday conversation. Every regional language has a different dialect such as

Malang dialect, Tengger dialect, Tulungagung dialect, Pasuruan dialect, Banyumas dialect, Yogyakarta dialect, etc. It can be concluded that dialect is a part of language used by a particular society to communicate with each other. People can understand the message if the language used can be understood by other people. There are three components of dialect: pronunciation (phonological), word usage (lexical), and syntax (syntactical). Speaking human's habit, when humans being speak, it implies their dialect within their language. In this study, the writer tries to limit the research on phonological description because their speech includes pronunciation. That idea is supported by (Chaika as cited in Suratmi 1996, p.94) who states:

“Dialect is all differences between varieties of language; those are pronunciation word usage and syntax. So dialect can be important maker of social divisions within a community. A dialect is a subordinate variety of language. Then it can be described as a local language.”

Moreover, Indonesia has many societies that have different cultures and they have different languages also. In this study, the writer wants to do a research about one local language that is Javanese for the preservation and development of language and culture in Indonesia. The writer chooses Javanese as her research because Javanese has a deep root in literary tradition. Javanese language speakers are still quite a lot and still care with their own language. Javanese language has a lot of speakers among all mother tongues in Indonesia (Poedjosoedarma, 1979, p.2). The writer is interested in observing the language use of *krama* level of Javanese in Keraton Yogyakarta. *Krama* is a level of speech to produce the full sense of manners.

Krama is included in the typical range of beautiful language of Javanese forms *kawi* or *arkais* (Poedjosoedarma, 1979, p.3). The writer wants to know this language well as *krama* level of Javanese is rarely used anymore in the community of Javanese, especially in East and Central Java, *krama* level of Javanese is used to show respect to a designated person.

The writer choose Keraton Yogyakarta as the place of observation where the writer took the data, since Keraton Yogyakarta people still use *krama* level of Javanese in their conversation and Javanese language in Keraton Yogyakarta is not much influenced by other dialects. It is one part of sociolinguistic studies. The focus of this study is to find out the Javanese dialect used in Keraton Yogyakarta.

Realizing the importance of knowing about dialect, the writer tries to find out more concise description about *krama* level of Javanese in Keraton Yogyakarta dialect. Based on the idea that Keraton Yogyakarta people still use *krama* level of Javanese, Poedjosoedarma (1979, p.3) defines that these *arkais* forms are uniform on the elements of phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexicon. The writer is interested in analyzing phonological description due to know the appropriateness in pronouncing *krama* level of Javanese. The writer only analyzes the vowels, because vowels are more unique than consonant, in term of syllabicity and way of production.

Thus, the writer conducts a research entitled **“Phonological Description of Krama Level of Javanese in Keraton Yogyakarta”**.

1.2 Problem of the study

Based on the background of the study, the witter states the research problem which is what the phonological descriptions of *krama* level of Javanese in Keraton Yogyakarta are.

1.3 Objective of the study

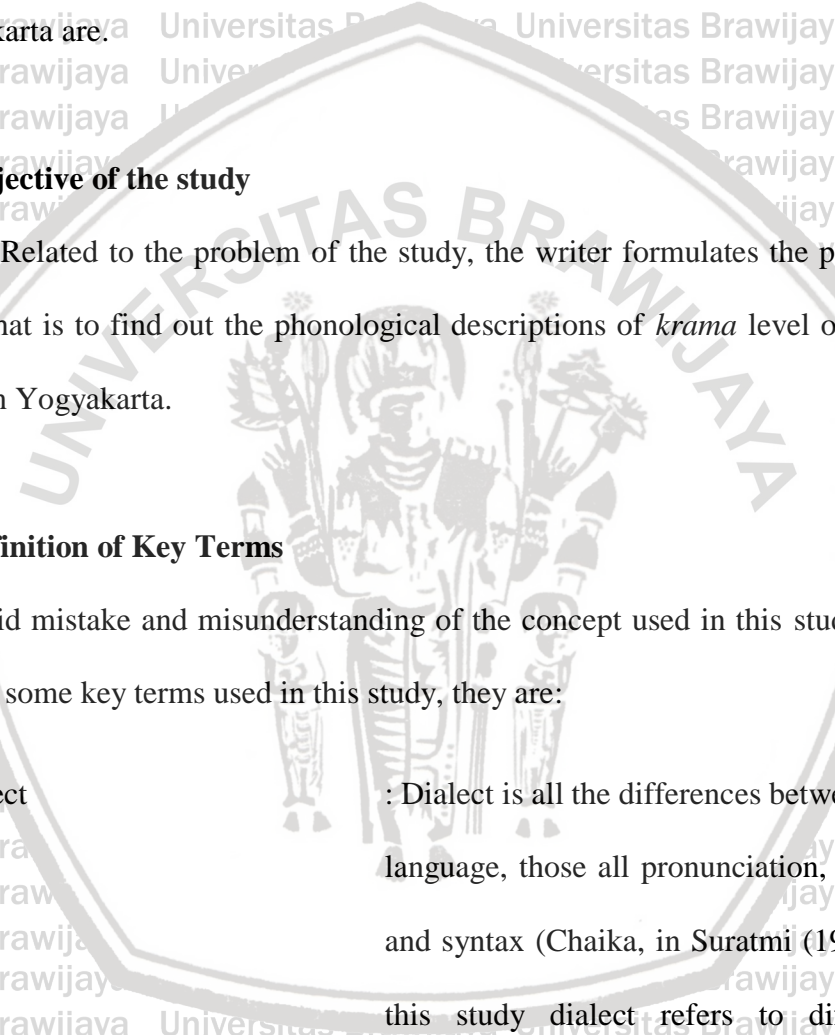
Related to the problem of the study, the writer formulates the purpose of the study that is to find out the phonological descriptions of *krama* level of Javanese in Keraton Yogyakarta.

1.4 Definition of Key Terms

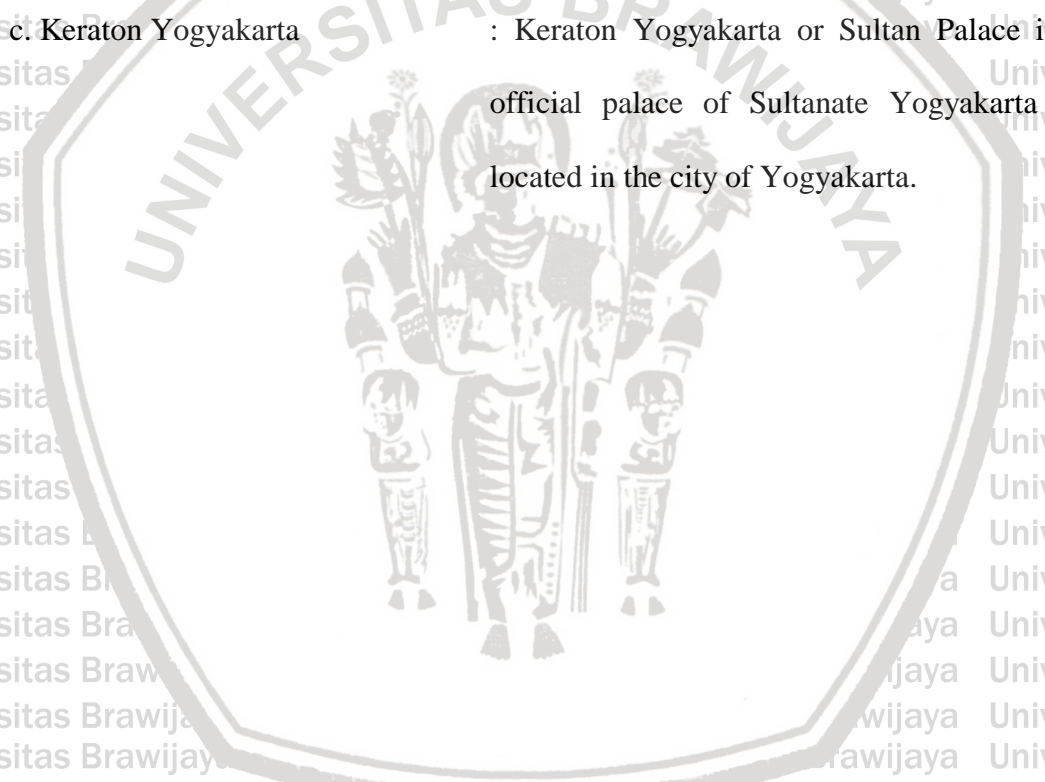
To avoid mistake and misunderstanding of the concept used in this study, the writer defines some key terms used in this study, they are:

a. Dialect : Dialect is all the differences between variety of language, those all pronunciation, words usage, and syntax (Chaika, in Suratmi (1996, p.10). In this study dialect refers to differences on phonological description.

b. Phonological Description : Phonological description is the study of speech sounds, while grammar is the study of the



meaningful units of sounds and their arrangement into longer utterances (Ramelan, 1985, p.3). In this study the writer observes the phonological description on Javanese dialect especially Keraton Yogyakarta and only focuses on krama level of Javanese.



c. Keraton Yogyakarta

: Keraton Yogyakarta or Sultan Palace is the official palace of Sultanate Yogyakarta now located in the city of Yogyakarta.