

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Language is an inextricable element of human society and all its activities. Its widespread use is evident in various settings, be it at home, in schools, or even public spaces, where it serves as a mediator. The primary function of language is to facilitate communication between individuals.

The term "language" encompasses a broad range of concepts and dimensions.. In everyday usage, it refers to speech or conversation. However, in linguistic discussions, it is defined as a collection of significant and distinct sound symbols that are produced by speech organs. Language is also arbitrary and conventional, serving as a communication medium for individuals to convey their emotions and ideas to others. There are two main categories of language: verbal (spoken) and nonverbal.

Language is a means of communication utilized among individuals, comprising structured sounds with significance and meaning. Its distinguishing characteristic is its routine application as a communication tool. Communication involves the transmission of information, which can take various forms, including song lyrics.

The word semantics comes from the Greek word sema which means sign or sign. "Semantics" was first used by a French philologist named Michel Breal in 1883. The word semantics was later agreed upon as a term

used for the field of linguistics which studies linguistic signs with the things they signify. Therefore, the word semantics can be interpreted as the science of meaning or about meaning, which is one of the three levels of language analysis: phonology, grammar, and semantics (Chaer, 1994: 2). Semantics (from the Greek: *semantikos*, giving a sign, important, from the word *sema*, sign) is a branch of linguistics that studies the meanings contained in a language, code, or other types of representation. In other words, semantics is the study of meaning. Semantics is usually associated with two other aspects: syntax, the formation of complex symbols from simpler symbols, and pragmatics, the practical use of symbols by communities in specific contexts.

Every language possesses a distinct and intricate system of meaning, characterized by variations in the types of meanings expressed and the ways in which they are conveyed. For instance, Indonesian has two different words for "not," while English only uses one. Moreover, languages may differ in the categories of meaning they employ, such as the concepts of honor and politeness in Japanese or the grammatical system of gender in Spanish and French. Additionally, there are divergences in the usage of words and phrases depending on social and cultural contexts.

In semantic analysis, it is important to acknowledge that language is closely intertwined with cultural aspects. Therefore, analyzing a language is specific to that language alone and cannot be generalized to other

languages. Linguistic semantics is a field of study that explores the meaning conveyed through language as a means to comprehend human expression.

Dance is an art form that blends movement and sound to create a cultural expression that can be appreciated by all. As an artistic pursuit, dance is a representation of the human spirit in society, with each dance often conveying a distinct significance or message. Due to its historical roots, dance is often regarded as an ancient form of artistic expression.

Yusa dance is a musical-free dance that employs the dancers' synchronized foot stomping as its rhythm. The song lyrics sung during the dance are based on the occasion, such as for consolation, the lyrics "*anudele ke susa diaku tolong dafa tanolong dunia,*" and for welcoming, the lyrics "*jagane sagong sura sapomoko.*" Although the lyrics have different meanings, their ultimate aim is the same. is to entertain the audience so that they are always happy and don't get lost in sadness.

The reason why the researcher chose this title is to show readers that the traditional songs of Taliabu Island, such as the lyrics in the Yusa dance song, are valuable cultural assets that must be preserved and appreciated in the era of globalization. The lyrics of the Yusa dance song contain high values that are relevant to our lives such as goodness, obedience, loyalty, and others.

Despite the short and simple lyrics, the Yusa dance song upholds high moral values as a significant message for the people of Taliabu Island.

The Yusa dance song has a unique way of captivating both the researcher and the listeners with its distinctive lyrics and the typical way of singing by Taliabu natives.

This is part of the lyrics of the Yusa dance song (Suling Bunga):

» Taliabu Language:

*Suling bungae... ngangaje biane pomai..*

*suling bungae... habari biane pomai...*

*saidadi dadi anungkemo hila byaga dele dinene*

*sonene karaya...*

*wainotu nepali 2x*

*didunia terah 2x*

» Indonesian:

*Suling & bunga nyanyian kebahagiaan*

*suling & bunga kabar kemenangan*

*snugerahilah semua saudara saudari yang ada*

*para leluhur, berpamitan dari dunia yang gelap ke dunia yang terang  
(baik).*

» English:

Flute & flower song of happiness

flute & flower singing of victory

bless all existing brothers and sisters

ancestors, saying goodbye from the dark world to a brighter world

(a better world)

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

Based on the background above, the researcher found several problems that were drawn into the study, namely:

1. How is the use of yusa dance in particular events?
2. How is the meaning of song lyrics in the Yusa dance song?

## **1.3 Scope of the research**

The purpose of defining the scope of research is to assist researchers in narrowing their focus, as research necessitates concentration. Therefore, this study's discourse will be limited to its subject matter to ensure that it does not stray too far from the topic.

This study is constrained to examining the significance of the lyrics in the Yusa dance song. In addition, the researcher will categorize the meaning conveyed in the lyrics according to the relevant theory and explain how to describe the lyrics of the song. The objective is to enable readers to comprehend the lyrics' meaning and introduce them to the previously unexplored content of the song lyrics.

## **1.4 Objectives Research**

To answer some of the problems that exist in the background above, the purpose of this research are follows:

1. To explain how is the use of yusa dance in particular events.

2. To describe what meanings are found in the lyrics of yusa dance song.

### **1.5 Significance**

The researcher has a strong interest in studying this topic and hopes that their research will be useful for future studies. There are two types of expectations that the researcher has for their research:

a. Theoretical outcomes that could be obtained from this research are:

1. The research could provide valuable material for the development and preservation of the culture and language of Taliabu Island, particularly for the local government.
2. The study could serve as a theoretical reference for art enthusiasts who wish to learn more about Taliabu traditional dance.
3. The findings of this research could also be used as teaching materials in schools.

b. Practical outcomes that could be achieved from this research are:

1. The research could contribute to the local library's collection of materials for people to read and learn from.
2. The findings of this research could also be used as reference materials for language teaching and research, aiding in the development and preservation of Taliabu Island's language.

## 1.6. Literature review

Referring to prior research enables researcher to understand what has been previously conducted in the same or related fields, and also to evaluate relevant research methods and findings for their own study. The selection of appropriate and relevant previous research is crucial in ensuring the validity and reliability of the resulting research findings. Here are some possible paraphrases own research.

First, Chiquita Clarenca conducted a study on *“Jenis-Jenis Makna dari Lirik Lagu Terlaris Boyband VIXX”* According to the study, meaning can be viewed as a linguistic phenomenon, rather than something external to language. The researcher identified seven types of meaning, which include conceptual, connotative, stylistic, affective, reflective, collocative, and thematic meanings. The study employed a descriptive analysis method and identified only six meanings in the song lyrics. For example, the lyrics of the song "Eternity" contain conceptual meaning in the phrase "from a beginning", which means the start of something. In the context of the song, it refers to the start of a relationship between the singer and the listener. Additionally, the connotative meaning of the phrase "into an eternal dream that I won't ever wake from world of dreams" suggests that the poet chooses to remain in the dream world, never wanting to wake up to reality. The lyrics convey how the poet becomes entangled and convinces themselves to stay in the dream world forever.

Second, two students from Muhammadiyah Metro Lampung University, Lilia Sholihah, and Tabitha Yuni Pratiwi, conducted a qualitative study titled "*The Meaning of Semantic Analysis within Song's Lyrics: A Head Full of Dreams Album by Coldplay*". The objective of the research was to interpret the semantic meaning and moral message conveyed in the song lyrics on Coldplay's album. The researchers identified six denotative meanings, five connotative meanings, one ambiguity, ten antonyms, and eleven synonyms in the implicit meanings present in Coldplay's songs. Additionally, the lyrics of "*A Head Full of Dreams*" album portray human social life's different facets, including love, sadness, happiness, passion, and struggle. The selected song lyrics contain lexical meanings and figurative language that aid in understanding the song's meaning. Therefore, the study concludes that the researcher not only analyzed the song lyrics but also identified the lexical meaning, figurative language, and moral message conveyed through the lyrics.

The third journal is titled "*Semantic Analysis in English High School Handbooks*" by Salmia Syarifuddin and Irmawaty Hasyim. The aim of this study is to identify the semantic meaning present in English literature used in high school handbooks, using a semantic approach. The research method used in this study is descriptive qualitative. The study found various types of meaning and analysis commonly used in English teaching materials. However, it should be noted that not all types of meaning were present in the analyzed songs, fables, short stories, or poems. Among the



semantic meanings found in literary works in English teaching materials used by high school students was metaphor, which is a figurative meaning. For example, the line "But you've built your own paradise" in the song "Oh My Sleeping Child" is a metaphor that represents something through a direct comparison based on similar or nearly identical characteristics.

Comparing the current research with previous studies reveals notable distinctions, encompassing both the scope of investigation and the methodologies employed. The earlier research concentrated on songs belonging to specific genres, whereas the present study exclusively delves into songs intricately linked with regional dances. This shift in emphasis introduces a fresh perspective, enhancing our comprehension of music's role within the realms of regional culture and the performing arts.

Concentrating on folk dance songs, this study has the capacity to offer a unique and valuable addition to scholarly literature, augmenting the existing understanding of the function of music in diverse cultural and artistic settings. The shift in emphasis raises optimism that the ongoing research will bring a distinctive and profound contribution to our comprehension of how music and dance interconnect in local and regional settings.

### **1.7 Theoretical Base**

A theory is necessary in research to ensure that the study is focused and aligned with the researcher's expectations. The theory used should provide

an understanding of the object being studied. The theoretical foundation that will be used as a reference for this research is the theory of Semantics.

#### 1.7.1. Semantic

Geoffrey Leech, a renowned linguist, has defined semantics as the study of the meaning of words, phrases, sentences, and texts in a language. According to Leech, semantics delves into various aspects of language such as how meaning is constructed in language, how it is perceived and interpreted by speakers and listeners, how words can have multiple meanings in different contexts, and how semantic concepts are connected to the reality of the world. Understanding semantics helps us to comprehend how language is used to communicate and make sense of the world around us.

According to Leech's theory, meaning can be categorized into seven distinct types, each of which will be elaborated upon below.

##### 1.7.1.1 Conceptual Meaning

Geoffrey Leech's theory of meaning (1981: p.22) identifies conceptual meaning, also known as cognitive meaning, as referring to the logical aspect of meaning. The function of conceptual meaning is to provide a precise semantic representation for a statement. For instance, the word "glass" or "cup" has the conceptual meaning of a vessel used for drinking water. In summary, conceptual meaning concerns the logical dimension of meaning.

### 1.7.1.2 Conotative Meaning

According to Geoffrey Leech's theory of meaning (1981: p. 25), connotative meaning refers to the communicative value of an assumption based on the thing being referred to, which includes additional characteristics beyond the explicit meaning of the word. An example of connotative meaning can be found in the following excerpt from a poem by Shakespeare:

“Coral is far more red than her lips' red”

In this sentence, Shakespeare is comparing the beauty of a girl to the color of coral. The connotative meaning of the sentence is that the woman's beauty is not only comparable to coral's color but is also admirable and attractive, as suggested by the poet. The additional characteristic referred to is the beauty of the woman described by Shakespeare in his poetry.

### 1.7.1.3 Social Meaning

Social meaning, as defined by Leech (1981: p. 27), refers to how language is used to indicate a person's social status or position. It involves the use of dialects, accents, and other language features that can convey information about the speaker's origin and social background, as well as their relationship with the listener. For instance, the sentence "I ain't done nothing" indicates that the speaker is likely an uneducated African American from the United States. In summary, social meaning is concerned with how language use reflects and reinforces social hierarchies and relationships.

#### 1.7.1.4 Affective Meaning

Affective meaning refers to the personal emotions and attitudes of the speaker towards something being discussed or towards the listener. It is often conveyed through the choice of words used, whether it is conceptual or connotative. Leech (1981: p. 28) emphasizes that affective meaning is felt more than it is explicitly stated. For instance, the word 'home' may carry different affective meanings for sailors who have been away from their loved ones for a long time, or for a patriot fighting on the battlefield with the permission to return only every few years. Similarly, the word 'mother' may have different affective meanings for children who have never experienced a mother's love, or for women who are married but unable to have children.

#### 1.7.1.5 Reflective Meaning

Reflective meaning is a type of meaning that arises as a result of the interplay between two or more concepts in a statement. This meaning is derived from the relationship between the concepts, rather than from their individual definitions (Leech, 1981: p. 29). For instance, in a T-shirt with the phrase "the comforter and the Holy Ghost" used during mass, the words "comforter" and "Holy Ghost" have a dual meaning that interacts with each other to create a reflective meaning. Although "comforter" suggests warmth and comfort, "Ghost" can also evoke a sense of mystery or even fear, creating a unique and interesting meaning in the context of the religious setting.

#### 1.7.1.6 Collocative Meaning

Collocative meaning refers to the associations that a word has with other words in its typical usage context. This meaning is influenced by the words that commonly appear alongside the target word (Leech, 1981: p. 30). For instance, the words 'pretty' and 'handsome' both convey the idea of good looks, but 'pretty' is often associated with women and girls, while 'handsome' is more commonly associated with men and boys. This distinction is largely due to the different nouns that typically collocate with these adjectives in sentences.

#### 1.7.1.7 Thematic Meaning

Thematic meaning refers to the way a message is arranged by the speaker or writer to emphasize a particular point (Leech, 1981: p. 23). This can be achieved by using different grammatical structures or lexical elements, as well as emphasis and intonation. For example, a sentence can be structured in different ways to emphasize a particular element:

- i. I like Danish cheese the best
- ii. Danish cheese I like best
- iii. It's Danish cheese that I like best

Although these sentences have the same conceptual meaning, they serve different communicative purposes. Thematic meaning is determined by the choice of grammatical arrangement and emphasis used.

### 1.7.2 Yusa Dance

Yusa dance is a customary dance originating from Taliabu Island, often performed to entertain families who have suffered from the loss of loved ones. Moreover, it is typically presented as a gesture of respect when welcoming esteemed guests. The Yusa dance, also referred to as *yundu* in the Taliabu language, is a grand performance accompanied by singing, with the lyrics known as *pangarame*. The dance is led by a leader called *leli manulu*, who sings a hymn to the troop before commencing the dance, followed by the other members in unison. Besides *pangarame*, there are also *panadoso* lyrics, differing from *pangarame* in the lyrical content.

According to traditional elders in Taliabu known as *ndalayong*, the Yusa dance has its origins in the *Dalayong* dance, which was considered sacred and not accessible to everyone. The Yusa dance emerged from the *Dalayong* dance, and its song lyrics were said to be obtained through dreams and interactions with spirits from the unseen world. These lyrics were then taught to special individuals, such as family members, and were eventually developed and passed down to the present day.

The Yusa dance is accompanied by songs that are specifically chosen depending on the purpose of the dance. These songs can take anywhere from 5 to 10 hours to sing, and include lyrics such as "*sai dadi dadi jadi jaga nesagong*," and others. The difference between a pick-up song and a consolation song lies in the lyrics. For instance, the consolation

song might have lyrics like " *anu dele ke susa diaku tolong dafa tanolong dunia,*" while the pick-up song could have lyrics like " *jagane sagong sura sapomokoe gamba sapomokoe.*"

The yusa dance initially served as an expression of longing from the people of Taliabu towards their hometown and the individuals residing there. Originally, this dance was exclusively performed by local residents and took place when someone who had migrated returned to Taliabu, serving as an expression of their yearning. However, over time, the use of the yusa dance underwent a transformation. Initially confined to the people of Taliabu and functioning as an expression of longing, the dance has now been integrated into significant events and can be performed by anyone.

This change does not alter the original meaning of the yusa dance, which is an expression of longing, whether it be for someone's departure or the desire to welcome the return or arrival of guests from outside. Although it can now be enjoyed by a broader audience and used in a wider range of contexts, the yusa dance retains its essence and traditional values. This reflects the cultural flexibility that allows a traditional art form to evolve over time without losing its roots and cultural values.

The duration of the dance itself depends on when it is being performed. For a Welcoming dance, it usually takes about 10-30 minutes or up to 1 full hour. During a competition, the dancers will often shorten the

dance to 30 seconds to 5 minutes. However, for entertainment purposes, the dance can last up to 10 hours or a full night.

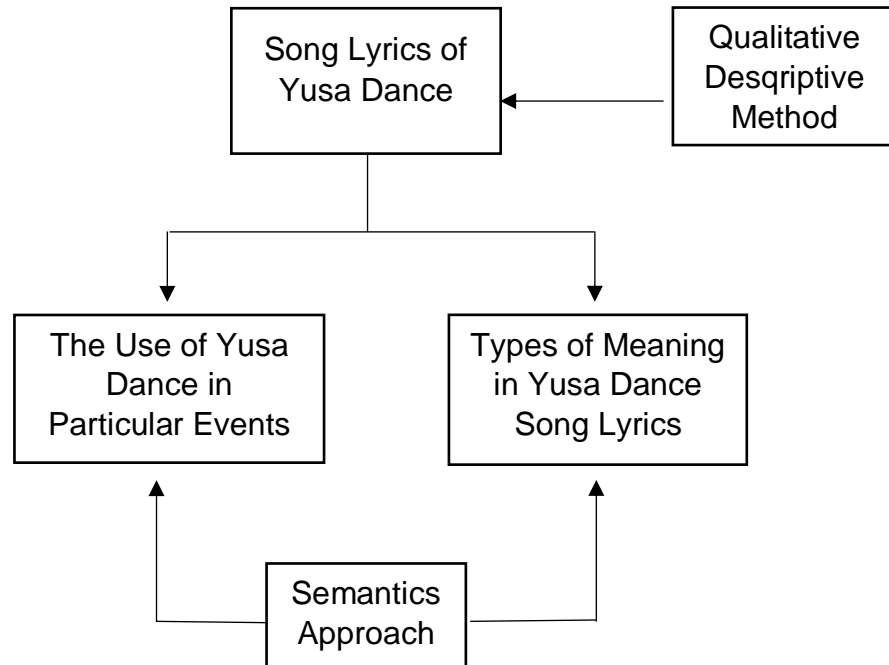
### 1.7.3 Song

A song is a form of artistic creation that combines both vocals and music. Its main purpose is to express emotions or convey messages to those who listen to it. Songs are generally created with the intention of conveying a particular sentiment or meaning, and can be enjoyed in a variety of contexts such as performances, concerts, or even in casual settings with friends and family.

Songs that have originated from specific regions or cultures are often utilized as a means to express the traditions and cultural values that are held dear by the people who belong to that particular area. These traditional songs are typically sung during events that hold significant value in the life of the local community, such as weddings, religious ceremonies, and other similar occasions. In Indonesia, some examples of traditional songs include "Apuse" from South Sulawesi, "Tari Pendet" from Bali, and many others. In Taliabu, there is a folk song called "Nado Kapita" which is commonly sung during the Yusa Dance or at other traditional events. Additionally, there are several other songs that are performed during pick-up times or other events.



## 1.8 Conceptual Scheme



## 1.9 Method of Research

This study will employ the Qualitative Descriptive research method with a semantic approach. The research design will involve various stages including data and literature review, selection of appropriate instruments, data collection, and data analysis.

Johnny Saldana defines qualitative descriptive research methods as "an approach to research that emphasizes providing explanations, detailed descriptions, and in-depth comprehension of the phenomena being studied." The primary objective is to describe and understand phenomena without attempting to quantify them.

Qualitative descriptive research methods are commonly employed in social sciences, psychology, anthropology, and other research fields that necessitate a profound understanding of social phenomena or human behavior. In this methodology, data is collected through various techniques such as interviews, observations, text analysis, and focus groups, with the intention of offering a meticulous and in-depth portrayal of the phenomena or situations. Subsequently, qualitative analysis is employed to develop a more profound understanding of the research subject.

### **1.9.1 Research Location**

Sugiyono (2009), a research site refers to a designated place or region selected for the purpose of gathering pertinent data and information in line with the research goals. This research site may encompass one or multiple physical settings, including villages, urban areas, structures, or distinct geographical areas. The research activity will be conducted in the village of Ratahaya, located in the West Taliabu district. The choice of this research location is due to Ratahaya being one of the villages in the Taliabu Island district that strongly preserves its traditional customs and has continued the Yusa dance from generation to generation.

### **1.9.2 Data Source**

According to Moleong (2012), data encompasses all the information that researchers gather during data collection, reflecting what they have

observed, heard, experienced, and contemplated. Data is categorized into two main types: primary data and secondary data.

#### 1.9.2.1 Primary Data

Primary data pertains to data or information gathered directly by researchers from the source for specific research objectives, marking its initial collection. Primary data is typically original and hasn't been previously published.

#### 1.9.2.2 Secondary Data

Secondary data pertains to data or information that was previously gathered by external parties or past researchers for different objectives and is subsequently repurposed for new research.

### **1.9.3 Data Collection Method**

From the data provided, the researcher employed various methods during the process of collecting data, including:

#### 1.9.3.1 Observation

Observation is a deliberate effort aimed at acquiring research data. The techniques employed typically entail the thorough and systematic scrutiny of individuals, objects, or phenomena, often necessitating direct visual and sensory observation to record pertinent details, particularly within the framework of the research. Researchers observe sources in two ways:

first, by visiting the research location directly, and second, through communication via telephone or long-distance communication media.

#### 1.9.3.2 Interview

An interview is a direct interaction between two individuals, where one, the researcher or interviewer, poses a series of questions or discussion topics to the other, the respondent, with the objective of attaining a more profound comprehension of a particular subject or research topic. Interviews serve as a method of direct engagement, involving the exchange of questions and conversations with the respondents, all with the aim of obtaining more extensive information, more profound insights, or a deeper grasp of the subject matter.

#### 1.9.3.3 Documentation

Interviews are primary data sources that reveal informants' views and perceptions of social situations produced by society. During the interview process, the information is recorded and recorded with the help of tools such as voice recording and cameras, which can be used to support research. These documents function as a complement to the main data obtained through interviews.

#### **1.9.4 Data Analysis Tehnique**

Data analysis techniques are systematic approaches or methods applied to handle, comprehend, and interpret data acquired during research. The primary objective of these techniques is to discern patterns,

trends, and significance within the data to generate research outcomes that are both informative and pertinent. According to (Sugiyono: 2005). The steps of the analysis to be carried out are as follows:

#### 1.9.4.1 Data Selection

Data selection is the procedure of choosing and sifting particular data from a more extensive dataset for subsequent examination or integration into a research project. It entails the selection of data, variables, or entries that are deemed applicable to the research goals or inquiries.

#### 1.9.4.2 Data Classification

Data classification involves the process of arranging or categorizing data into groups or classes that share common characteristics or attributes. The aim is to simplify the organization, analysis, and comprehension of data.

#### 1.9.4.3 Formulating Research Results

The acquired data will be structured in accordance with the predefined data classification. The findings from this research, as per Yusuf (2023), will be presented in a methodical and focused report.

#### 1.9.4.4 Analyzing Research Results

During this phase, the researcher will assess multiple established theories or prior research to generate fresh concepts and insights, thereby reinforcing the research.