CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

English becomes the international language which is used by many people in the world to communicate, transfer knowledge and also information. Talking about English, it is related to four English language skills which are reading, speaking, listening, and writing. According to Chomsky (2002), “Language is point of view of the human mind that is significantly represented in the brain and part of the biological contribution of the species” (p.1).

Language is object of translation. Without language, translation cannot be applied. Translation is an attempt to restate idea from one language into another language. It is also known that there are a lot of texts and books written in English. For those who do not understand English, both oral and written communication can be done by the helps of translation. According to Cowie (2007), “translation is the production of a functional target text maintaining a relationship with a given source text that is specified according to the intended or demanded function of the target text”. The use of the the correct translation procedure is needed in translating the source text for maintaining an original purpose.
Translation procedure is different from translation method. Translation methods are related to the complete texts, whereas translation procedures are applied for word, phrase, clause, and sentence (Newmark (1988, p.81). According to Cowie (2007) the types of translation procedures are: (1) Transliteration: rendering the letters on alphabet into the letters of another with a different alphabetical system; (2) Borrowing: procedure often used when the TL has no equivalent for the source text; (3) Literal: it presupposes a kind of interlingual synonym; (4) Transposition: it involves replacing a grammatical structure in the source text with one of a different type in the target text; (5) Modulation: it entails a change in lexical elements, a shift in the point of view; and (6) Adaptation: it involves modifying the concept, or using a situation analogous to the source text situation though not identical to it. However, translators must study the whole text at first to understand the whole text.

There are many translation procedures, one of them is modulation which emphasizes on changing point of view to express the same phenomenon in a different way (Hardin and Picot 1990, p.81). Modulation is as a procedure of translation occurs when there is a change of perspective accompanied with a lexical change in the target text (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1997: 11). It will be clarified with an example as follows:

Source text : Jariku terpotong.
Target text : I cut my finger.

From that sentence if there is no modulation, the meaning will be “aku memotong jariku sendiri”. If it is translated literally, it seems that the speaker cuts his finger intentionally while the purpose of the speaker is just informing that his finger is
not in a good condition. Modulation usually occurs in translating book, novel, journal, essay, folklore, etc. In this study, the focus was directed to Holy Quran as object of study because of the fact that most people in Indonesia are Muslim. For every Muslim, the importance of Quran cannot be denied. The Holy Quran guides the Muslims how to pray and please Allah. None of the Muslims can lead his life without the Holy book. As stated by Allah “We have revealed to you the book which clarifies every matter.” The Muslims need to translate the Holy Quran of the desire to resist missionary effort. This is obvious as the need for translating the Holy Quran arose in those historic circumstances when a large number of non-Arabic speaking people had embraced Islam. That is why translated version of Holy Quran is important to be researched.

Holy Quran is the Arabic speech of Allah that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم) both in word and in meaning. It was truly believed by the believers and they acknowledged the words of Allah as the truth (Qadhi, 2008).

There are some studies related to modulation. One of them was conducted by Prasetyo (2011) from Institute of Art Indonesia which is entitled “An Analysis on Transposition and Modulation in the Culture Theory Book Translated into Buku Teori Budaya”. Actually, modulation is one of the translation procedures. It entails a change in lexical elements and a shift in the point of view. In addition, the sentence “Time is money” is translated into “Waktu itu sangat berharga” (time is priceless), not “Waktu adalah uang” (time is money).
Another previous study was conducted by Susilawati (2010) which is entitled “An Analysis on Transposition and Modulation in Translation of Guidance in Using Oriflame Products”. This research focuses on the forms of transposition and modulation. The result shows that the forms of transposition and modulation used by the translators impact on translation quality. The transposition techniques are applied around 64% and modulation is 62.8%. However, there are some errors that make the message cannot be delivered. It causes misunderstanding for some readers to use the products. A translator is better to conceive the products and how to use it first, so the readers are able to use Oriflame products appropriately.

Based on several previous studies above, modulation is truly important in translating some data in terms of book, journal, essay, etc. Realizing that, the researcher conducted a research which is entitled “A Study on Modulation in Translating Surah An-Anfal in Quran Virtual of University of Muhammadiyah Malang Website from Bahasa into English.”. The meaning of Surah Al-Anfal is spoils of war. There will be some difficult terms about war. Here, the role of modulation is needed to use a phrase that is different in the source and target language to convey the same idea. The reason of choosing Quran Virtual of University of Muhammadiyah Malang’s website is because it is easily accessed. In addition, this study is different from others since it focuses on modulation with its types in detailed. This research is unique because it figures out modulation in Holy Quran which has religious values.
1.2 Statement of the problem

Based on the background of the study, the research problem is what are modulations applied the translation version of Surah Al-Anfal in Quran Virtual of University of Muhammadiyah Malang’s website in Bahasa and English?

1.3 Purpose of the study

Related to the statement of the problem stated previously, the purpose of the study is to investigate the modulation applied the translation version of Surah Al-Anfal in Quran Virtual of University of Muhammadiyah Malang’s website in Bahasa and English.

1.4 Significance of the study

The researcher hopes that the result of this study will give the advantages for the lecturer. For the lecturer, teaching translation deals with the methods, strategies, and procedures. This research has a deeper analysis about one of the kinds of translation strategy which is modulation. This research also focused on modulation with its types in detailed. Therefore, it will give some references since this study is supported by some supporting theories about modulation. Furthermore, this study is equipped with some examples of modulation with detailed explanation.

For the students, they will know the translation theories and one of translation procedures which has a big role in translation. Therefore, students are able to enlarge and enrich their knowledge about translation procedure particularly modulation.
1.5 Scope and limitation

Without limitation, the study will be too wide and difficult to write the thesis about translation procedures. Therefore, it needs to be set in order to avoid misunderstanding. Considering the identification of problem, the research focuses on the one point discussion toward two types of modulation.

The limitation of this study focusses only on Surah Al-Anfal in Quran Virtual of University of Muhammadiyah Malang because the meaning of Surah Al-Anfal is spoils of war. There will be some difficult terms about war. Here, the role of modulation is needed to use a phrase that is different in the source and target language to convey the same idea.

1.6 Definition of the key terms

The researcher finds some key terms to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation.

Translation is “the production of a functional target text maintaining a relationship with a given source text that is specified according to the intended or demanded function of the target text” (Cowie, 2007:10).

“Translation methods related to the complete texts, whereas translation procedures are applied for word, phrase, clause, and sentence” (Newmark (1988, p.81)

Modulation “as a procedure of translation occurs when there is a change of perspective accompanied with a lexical change in the target text” (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1997: 11).
Holy Quran “is the Arabic speech of Allah that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad صلی الله علیه و صلی (both in word and in meaning. It was truly believed by the believers and they acknowledged the words of Allah as the truth” (Qadhi, 2008).