CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This first chapter introduces the background of the study, the research problems, the aims of the study, limitation of the study, and the definition of the key terms.

1.1 The Background of the Study

Today, translation has become an important part of life. This process of transferring message and information from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) has developed in many parts of the world. The main purpose of translating is to make the readers to understand the message of the source language.

Translation has important role for individual, group, or even a country to get much beneficial information from the other parts of world. In other words translation is one of tool to communicate in written from. The translation activity is clearly seen from the existence of the translated books of various fields, they are: education, technology, economics, and literary works (novel, poetry, and short story).

Translation is not just the transfer of texts from one language into another, it is a process of negotiating between texts and between cultures (Bassnett, 2005: 6). Meanwhile, Ni (2009:1) says that translation is the process of transferring the messages between two different language systems and cultures. Based on those
explanations, it means that when a text is translated from the source language (SL) into target language (TL), the form of the text might be different but the meaning of the text must be same. So, in translating a text the translators have to transfer or deliver the message from the source language (SL) to target language (TL) as clear as possible.

In facilitating people or readers to attain a satisfying translation service, a translator holds a very essential factor. Furthermore, the translator must have good knowledge of both the source language (SL) and target language (TL). As Robinson (2003: 53) says that, the translators has to consider 3 things in translating a text, they are: context in which they are exposed to, how relevant it, and the sensory channels. The capability of translator will affect the quality of translation. To be a good translator should not only master both the source language (SL) and target language (TL) but also the social and culture background of the source language (SL) that must be translated into target language. So, the translator has to be aware of politic, linguistic, social, and cultural background of source language (SL) and target language (TL).

In addition, there are lots of texts that have been translated from Indonesian into English or vice versa for example science text, history text, literary text and so forth. One of kind of literary works is novel. The term novel is derived from novella, Italian for a compact, realistic, often ribald prose tale popular. The novel can, therefore, be considered a work of imagination that is grounded in reality. In modern literary usage, novel as a sustained work of prose fiction has more in length. It is distinguished from the short story and the fictional sketch, which are
necessarily brief. Although novel has a place in the literatures of all nations. Novel is an extended work of written usually in story form; at least 150 to 200 pages long; it can cover a period of years, following the characters through a number of major changes (Spurgin, 2006:4).

One of the novels is *Negeri 5 Menara*. It was first published on July, 2009. An immediate success, it won Khatulistiwa Literary Award (2010), Favorite fiction writer and Book (2010), and National best award. This novel is inspired by Fuad’s own story at Pondok Modern Gontor (Gontor Modern Pesantren). This novel consists of various figurative languages to make the story more real. Probably, the Indonesian readers can understand easily the figurative languages contained in the novel. However, how if this novel is translated into another language, like English language.

In 2011, *Negeri 5 Menara* is translated into English with titled *The Land of Five Towers* by Angie Kilbane. Translating literary work means changing, reducing or adding anything based on the original novel (SL), this opinion is actually true. It was proven by the amount of the translation work pages (TL) compared with the amount of the original work pages (SL). If the original novel consists of 420 pages and Kilbane translated it with 387 pages shorter, it means that there is reducing made to translate the original work *Negeri 5 Menara*. As a literary work, novel is used by the author to deliver his messages to the reader and to invite them to communicate with figurative language.

The figurative language is found in some literary works such as poem and novel. An author mostly uses figurative language in writing a novel. Frost defines
figurative language as “a way of saying something other than the literal meaning of the words”. The goal of the author is to hold the attention of the reader. By using figurative language, the author tries to create an image in the reader’s mind.

The translator has to transfer or deliver the message from source language (SL) to target language (TL) as clear as possible. In this case, in translating figurative language becomes one of challenges that have to be faced by a translator because it has to be translated carefully in order to avoid misunderstanding.

The translator of novel “Negeri 5 Menara” was Kilbane. She is an American. The writer and the translator have in common is that they are both Fulbright alumni. Kilbane’s Fulbright brought her to East Java to teach. The local dialects and the use of Arabic at the pesantren proved tricky in translation. Gratefully, the local people (her students and friends) helped her so much in translating this novel into English.

Based on the explanations above, it is interesting to investigate one of the most famous novels entitled “Negeri 5 Menara” and translated by Angie Kilbane. That novel has chosen because the novel has potential issues to be investigated how the figurative language of pesantren student is translated and the procedures used by the translator in translating it based on Newmark’s theory.
1.2 The Statement of the Problems

To guide the research, the researcher formulates the research problems as follows:

1. What are Ahmad’s figurative languages as a pesantren student are found on novel “Negeri 5 Menara” and translated by Angie Kilbane?
2. What are the procedures used in translating Ahmad’s figurative language as a pesantren student in the novel “Negeri 5 Menara” into the English?

1.3 The Aims of the Study

The aims of the study are:

1. To discover Ahmad’s figurative language as a pesantren student in novel “Negeri 5 Menara” and translated by Angie Kilbane.
2. To reveal the procedures used by the translator in translating Ahmad’s figurative language as a pesantren student in the translation novel of “Negeri 5 Menara”.

1.4 The Limitation of the Study

The translator must be more careful in translating figurative language. Besides deliver the meaning of source language (SL) to target language (TL), the translator also considers the other aspects, such as culture, social, and politic of source language. Furthermore, there are many sentences by different characters that contain figurative language in the novel. However, this research focuses in Ahmad’s figurative language as a pesantren student to be analyzed and in order to be more manageable.
To make the discussion in this study more focuses on the problem, the research is limited to identifying, finding out and explaining how Ahmad’s figurative language as a pesantren student of is translated in the novels. The reason of the researcher conducts this study is that is expected to reveal kinds of procedures used by the translator in translating figurative language especially pesantren student’s figurative language.

1.5 The significance of the Study

Hopefully, the result of this research can be useful both in theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

Theoretically, this research is expected to give describe about figurative language, explanation of each figurative language, key words to identify figurative language in novel, and know about figurative language especially pesantren student’s figurative language.

2. Practically

Practically, this research will give some knowledge about figurative language like:

a. It will add knowledge about figurative language analyzing innovel *Negeri 5 Menara*.

b. It will make people who like novel *Negeri 5 Menara* understand figurative language in this novel.
1.6 The Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation, it is necessary to define the key terms as follows:

1. “Translation is transferring the messages between two different language systems and cultures”. (Ni, 2009)

2. Translation procedures are the technical devices used to transfer the meaning of a text in one language into a text in another language, its are used for sentences and the smaller units of language (Newmark in Ordudari, 2007)

3. Novel is an extended work of written usually in story form; at least 150 to 200 pages long; it can cover a period of years, following the characters through a number of major changes (Spurgin, 2006:4)

4. *Negeri 5 Menara* is a novel by A. Fuadi which is inspired by his true story as a pesantren student in Madani Pesantren (MP)

5. Ahmad is one of the main character in “*Negeri 5 Menara*” novel.

6. Pesantren is an islamic boarding school.

7. “Figurative language is a way of saying something other than the literal meaning of the words (Frost, 2006)