# CHAPTER 1

# INTRODUCTION

## A. Background of the Study

Humans are social creatures. They need communication with the other people to get information in their life. People share information, they hope their experiences, feelings and thoughts can be conveyed to other. To get clear information, people also have good interact with other. For example, people use good language in every situation. So, language is very important in life. Dinneen (1967:3) states that "language is that the sounds produced in speech are connected with almost every facet of human life and communication". While, according to Pei (in Hossein 2011:1), "language as a system of communication by sound, operating through the organs of speech and hearing, among members of a given community, and using vocal symbols possessing arbitrary conventional meanings". Then, As Hall (in Hossein 2011:1) states that "language is the institution whereby humans communicate and interact with each other by means of habitually used oral-arbitrary systems". All people use language to express inner thoughts and emotions, learn to communicate with others, to fulfill the wants and needs.

People use the language and share information. It means that any something will be delivered to other. Then, people also hope their message can be understood by other. Every people use the language, it has full meaning.

The use of good language will also affect a person's relationship. The relationship may consider the use of appropriate language to people who talk to. Moreover, people also consider the place where they communicate. People use language in variety of activities, for example in community, school, office, and market. So, people could adapt on each of these places. When in the office,

employees talk with a boss using the language that is more formal and polite. As a good speaker and listener, they know the context.

As in Java, younger people talk polite to older people. Understanding the context, that is to avoid misunderstanding in communication. Thus, the use of language is not only to find out the meaning of what the speaker tell, but also how to know to communicate better to the listener.

Sociolinguistics is the study of language is concerned with language as a social and cultural phenomenon. Holmes (1992:1) states that "sociolinguists study the relationship between language and society. They are interested in explaining why we speak differently in different social context, and they are concerned with identifying the social function of language and the ways it is used to convey social meaning".

Every community and other community will be different in their used of language. The differences of language are influenced by ethnic, social role and social class. Social class is divided into three, namely high social class, middle social class and lower social class. High social class are usually respected by lower social class, it is caused of some advantages, such as social status or wealth. Every class has a different lifestyle. Example, high social class has been habits to buy something in the Mall. Lower class must be buying at stalls nearby. Lifestyle has given their awareness of their social class, even though they do not want to occupy the lower social class, but they are aware of their social class. This social class will bring consequences behavioral patterns that differ between one of social class to another social classes.

In the developed era, certainly the community has had extensive knowledge of the language. Especially is about denotative language and connotative language. Denotative language is only used in daily communication. Denotative is a language which has direct meaning. Meanwhile, the connotation is a language that has secondary meaning. Connotation is used in literature. One of them is poetry.

Poetry is a form of literary works based on the expression and feelings of the poet with language that tied rhythm, dimension, and rhyme, the preparation

of the lyrics and stanzas, as well as full of meaning. The precedence of poetry is namely sound, form and meaning to be conveyed. Poetry is the art of written language as a quality of beauty. According to Lewis (1966:4), "poetry is differs from some kinds of prose in usually being more concrete and specific. That is, it communicates experiences, emotions, attitudes, and proposition by dealing with a particular situation or event that implicitly embodies abstract generalization". Klarer (1999:27) states that "poetry is one of the oldest genres in literary history. Its earliest examples go back to ancient Greek literature. In spite of this long tradition, it is harder to define than any other genre".

There are several types of poetry. One of them is a Sufi poetry. Sufi poetry is poetry written using the approach of tassawuf. According to Bachtiar (2008: 13), "tassawuf is a path of knowledge (gnosis), but brought it to highest form of knowledge is enlightening. The road to enlightenment contains three achievement which is convincing knowledge, vision convincing and convincing the truth". Jalaluddin Rumi is one of the famous writers of Sufi poetry in the world. Examples of Sufi poetry are like When I Die, My Burning Heart, Love and Imagination, etc.

Here, the writer focuses the dominant figurative language used in Jalaluddin Rumi. Figurative language uses figures of speech to be more effective, persuasive and impactful. Figures of speech such as metaphors, personification, simile, hyperbole, irony, litotes, metonymy and oxymoron give the readers new insights in poetries. The readers can more understand the meaning of every sentence in poetries. Then, readers are also more religious after learning these poetries. It means that readers know how to love their God. Figurative language can appear in multiple forms with the use of different literary and rhetorical devices. Below the example of poetry by Jalaluddin Rumi that occur with the figurative language. Concern with the title, there are some researchers who ever studied about figurative language. They are Akinbode (2013), Yeibo (2012), Pirnajmuddin and Medhat (2011), Aghagolzade & Dehghan (2012), Pambudi (2011), Saputri (2014) and Nisa (2016).

Below the example of figurative languages that occur in poetries by Jalaluddin Rumi. These are in bold.

**When I Die**

don't shed any tears
don't lament or
feel sorry
*i'm not falling*
*into a monster's abyss*

1.  Hyperbola type

    Data1/ St2/ Ln4&5/ WID/ H

    don't shed any tears
    don't lament or
    feel sorry
    *i'm not falling*
    *into a monster's abyss*

a.  Type of figurative language

    The above bold sentence "*i'm not falling into a monster's abyss",* is clear that it is hyperbola. This is due to the fact that it uses the declaring an exaggeration of reality. It can be seen with the word "monster's abyss". It means that it is terrible place. It is bad, ugly and extreme.

b.  Meaning

    Monster is a big, large, ugly, and frightening imaginary creature. Abyss is an immeasurably deep gulf or extreme place.

    | | |
    |---|---|
    | Setting | : in the grave. It can be seen from the previous word "when I die". |
    | Participant | : speaker is Jalaluddin Rumi and reader is all of people. |
    | Ends | : People should do well in life. People should help others and also have good attitude. Obey the God's commands and avoid His prohibitions. |
    | Act sequence | : people are supposed a good deed. |
    | Keys | : written. |

Instrumentalities : poetry.

Norm : using language that is easily understood.

Genre : find the types and meaning of figurative language.

In this stanza, Jalaluddin Rumi is showing the utterance "*i'm not fallinginto a monster's abyss*". This stanza explains that people should do well in life. People should help others and also have good attitude. Obey the God's commands and avoid His prohibitions.

So, from the above analysis, it is clear that the meaning of this data is the suggestion.

Based on the phenomenon, the researcher decides to carry out the research entitled **"FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE POEMS OF JALALUDDIN RUMI : A SOCIOLINGUISTIC PERSPECTIVE".**

## B. Problem Statement

Based on the background of study, this research concern with the problem statement below:

1. What are the types of figurative language used in the poems of Jalaluddin Rumi?
2. What are the meanings of figurative language used in the poems of Jalaluddin Rumi?

## C. Objective of the Study

Based on the research questions stated above, the objectives of study are:

1. To identify the types of figurative language used in the poems of Jalaluddin Rumi.
2. To explain to the meanings of figurative language used in the poems of Jalaluddin Rumi.

## D. Benefit of the Study

The study has some benefits that can be defined into:

1. **Theoretical Benefit**

   It is expected that study can improve the student or the reader's knowledge particularly in figurative language in Jalaluddin Rumi.

2. **Practical Significance**

   a. For the English teacher, this study can improve the teacher knowledge and to enrich teaching material.

   b. For other researchers, this study can enhance their references if they want to carry out a research for the same and related topic