CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Translation implies the rendering from one language into another or to put into the words of a different language of writing or speech (Webster, 3rd ed.). Translation is necessary, as it makes no sense for somebody to master a language just in order to read, understand or get the idea of a text or speech of a certain language. Bell (1991) proposes, "Languages are different from each other; they are different in form having distinct codes and rules regulating the construction of grammatical stretches of language and these forms have different meaning" (p.6).

Translation assists people to comprehend texts or speeches of another language. The craft of speech translation is better known as interpretation would be a different subject which has its own interests, characteristics, style, rules, laws, types, etc. focusing more on spoken words; hence this thesis will not discuss this issue, but will focus on text translation only. Furthermore, the practice of translation aids to expand the distribution and publication of texts and assists in communication, which also helps to gain many more advantages.

Translation itself had already been existed for years. Nida in Hatim and Mason (1990) states that the oldest translation that was found and could be put into record was discovered in 1799. The text was predicted to be written in a century BC in a form of sculpting hieroglyph and the Greek translation on a Rosetta stone along the Nile River.

The first European literary work to be translated was the one that Savory in Hatim and Mason (1990) believes to be done by Livius Androcinus. The translation was on Homer's Odyssey which was translated from Greek to Latin in more or less 240 BC. Later, many other translation works followed on. Yet, the exact time of the first translation practice that was done could not be precisely predicted. In addition, McGuire (1991) proposes that translation also plays a great role in the wide spreading of Christianity in the form of Bible translation. Hence, translation throughout history can be said to have affected human life immensely. Translation has assisted people to diffuse knowledge, news, information, data, materials, reports, facts, and many more. In other words, translation can be said to be a bridge between languages' barriers.

However, language differences become obstacles in translation. Larson (1984) points out those languages differ as the number and selection of meaning component combined in a word and the semantic interrelationships that may exist between words. Whilst in translation it is important to maintain the meaning similarity between source language and target language. McGuire (1991:2) asserts,

> Translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) so as to ensure that:
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> (1) the surface meaning of the two will approximately similar, and
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> (2) the structures of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the TL structures will be seriously distorted.

Moreover Bell (1991) states that translation is the expression in the target language of that from the source language without losing the semantic and stylistic equivalencies. He also adds that the fundamental problem to be faced by a translator is that the

correlation of similarity and difference between concepts and the words to express the concepts do not correspond in the languages involved in the translation.

In conclusion, though the differences in languages may distinct concept of words' perception, translation should be able to refer the source language to the target language at the same time of conserving similar idea, meaning, and structure, also preserving the semantic and stylistic equivalencies, so the source language and the target language will receive similar understanding.

1.2 Statement of Problem

In translation, language differences can be a problem as it means the differing of concepts, especially in translating term as it is a word or a phrase to name something connected with a particular subject or used in a particular type of language (Oxford, 1995).

Hence, this thesis would like to analyze the relations between methods and practice of translating terms in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series by showing the readers the relation between theory and practice and proving the methods of term translation in the translation of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter. This thesis, therefore, will analyze term translation in a descriptive way while maintaining its analytical aspects.

1.3 Scope and Limitation

This thesis will analyze the practicing of translating terms and its relevance with the methods of term translation in J.K Rowling's Harry Potter of so far series. This covers Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone (published in Great Britain in 1997, with 332 pages), Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (published in Great Britain in 1998, with 366 pages), Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (published in Great Britain in 1999, with 468 pages), and Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (published in Great Britain in 2000, with 796 pages). Along with these, the materials will also cover the Indonesian editions (the target language) which include Harry Potter dan Batu Bertuah (published in Jakarta in 2000, with382 pages), Harry Potter dan Kamar Rahasia (published in Jakarta in 2000, with 424 pages), Harry Potter dan Tawanan Azkaban (published in Jakarta in 2001, with 534 pages), and Harry Potter dan Piala Api (published in Jakarta in 2001, with 882 pages).

The data will cover all of so far issues considering that it will not be sufficient if the data were only taken from one issue of the series.

The books of the source language which are going to be discussed are those of Bloomsbury's publishing (London, Great Britain) considering the nativity of the novels' author.

1.4 Goal and Function

This thesis aims to analyze how the translator translates terms in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter. It will focus more on the relationship between the methods and practice of terms translation whilst preserving the function of translation that is to maintain the similar meaning, idea, and perception of the source language to the target language, including the semantic and stylistic factors.

It is hoped that through this thesis, translators, practitioners of translation and specifically English Department students of Bina Nusantara University could be assisted in raising their awareness of methods for translating terms.

1.5 Research Methodology

The method which is used in writing this thesis is a library study; that includes several steps of reading the materials - J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter books of four issues, both in the source language text (in English) and in the target language text (in Indonesian), comparing both text, then by using index cards data of terms are collected, classified and categorized. The next step is comparing the data (of term translation) and analyzing it by referring to the theory.

Meanwhile, reading books of translation theories, other supporting books and materials were also done. Having acknowledged with methods, this thesis then went through the process of cross checking between the data and methods.