

## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of Research

Generally, the main objective of translation is to deliver the message from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL). Hence, translation is intended to make the readers to get the information easier when they read from different language, however, the process of translating is not as simple as common people think. “A translator must understand the lexicon and grammatical structure of a language and also should understand the situation and cultural context of source language and reconstruct the similar meaning using lexicon and grammatical structure of target language” (Larson, 1998: 3).

Nida and Taber (1982: 4) added that “change of meaning in some languages cannot be done or translated since a term or concept may not exist in the target language.” The thing that should be considered in that case is not only cultural divergence problem, but also linguistic system which every language is quite different one another, for example the word *holi* which refers to a Hindu spring festival that celebrated in February or March. The word *holi* cannot be translated into English since the event of *holi* is only celebrated in India. Hence, a translator might find that some shifts of forms must be conducted in doing translating process. The shifts process must be done in order to make the result of translation acceptable in the target language. Catford (1965: 73) also stated that “some shifts are also conducted

by a translator for the reason of aesthetic value of the text. Further this change or shift form from SL to TL is known as translation shift.”

According to Catford (1965: 73), “shifts are departures from formal correspondence in the process of going from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL).” Further, Catford (1965: 73) also explained that there are two major types of shifts are level shifts and category shifts. Level shifts mean a source language item at one linguistic level which has a target language translation equivalent at a different level, in this case, from grammar to lexis or vice versa (Catford, 1965: 73). Meanwhile category shifts include structure shifts, class shifts, unit shifts, and intra-system shifts (Catford, 1965: 76). In dealing with translation, category shift is one of the simplest methods in order to understand about the process of translating both phrases and sentences and that is why the writer is interested in discussing category shift in this research.

Technically, there are also so many objects that can be translated around society such as advertisements on internet, commercials, including religion books such as Holy Bible and Holy Qur’an. Holy Qur’an is a revelation from God, the wonderful revelation as guidance for the Moslems. Holy Qur’an is sentences which are revealed to Muhammad SAW (peace be upon him). The Holy Qur’an’s main purpose is “to give a lot of information as the source of law for Moslems, yet it is written in beautiful language” (Haleem, 2004: 297).

The writer further interested in *Surah Muhammad* since the name of Surah is also the name of the last prophet who sent for all of humanity, as stated in Surah Al – A’raf verse 158 “Say (O Muhammad): “People, I am the Messenger of God to you

all, from Him who has control over the heavens and the earth” (Haleem, 2004: 105). Thus, this Surah is not only special but unique in some ways because it refers to name of the last prophet in Islam. In addition, since Qur’an is a book of guidance for Muslims, it must be translated correctly so it can convey the meaning for others.

Also, after the writer reads *Surah Muhammad* for several times, the writer finds out that there are quite a lot of category shifts translation that can be analyzed in this Surah. In that case, the writer intends to analyze the category shift change of English – Indonesian translation of Holy Qur’an, especially in *Surah Muhammad*. Furthermore, the writer believed that the importance of analyzing category shift in Qur’an will helps the readers to understand more about the process of shifting from English to Indonesian version from each of verse in that Surah.

## **1.2 Research Question**

Based on the background of research above, the writer formulates the research question as follow:

1. What types of category shifts occur in the translation of English - Indonesian of *Surah Muhammad* in Al-Qur’an?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Regarding to the research question, the objective of this research is to identify and describe category shifts occur in the English - Indonesian translation of *Surah Muhammad* in Al-Qur’an.

## **1.4 Uses of Research**

### **1.4.1 Theoretical Use**

Theoretically, this research provides information about Catford Theory (1965) of translation shifts that is applied in Holy Qur'an. Also, the writer hopes that this research can be used as one of the references for the next researchers in doing the analysis of category shift in difference object of analysis.

### **1.4.2 Practical Use**

Hopefully, this research can be used to provide knowledge about translation shifts in Holy Qur'an, especially category shifts for students who study translation in English Department. Further, the writer hopes the result finding of this research can be used as comparison for the next researcher who interested in conducting the similar research of category shift translation of English – Indonesian version of Holy Qur'an in difference surah.

## **1.5 Research Scope**

There are many linguistics aspects that can be analyzed from the *Surah Muhammad* in Holy Qur'an (Al-Qur'an). However, the writer limits the research that only focuses in identifying and describing category shifts that occur in the English - Indonesian translation version of *Surah Muhammad* (38 verses) in Al-Qur'an using Catford's theory (1965).