

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Humanity is built from the legacy of our ancestors, making the study of the past essential for understanding the present. History and archaeology serve as a collective memory for humans, they are a living evolution proof of social structures and cultural beliefs (Prasetyo, 2015). Among all the eras of evolution, the megalithic period represents a major stage where early societies expressed their spiritual, social, and cultural complexities through stone structures. For that reason, learning history is essential for humans to understand the origins of life and how history deeply affects their daily lives. Mauizah et al. (2021) mentioned that history can be defined as knowledge of the past relating to events in human life as its object, using scientific methods and based on real facts. Through the rediscovery of the wisdom and culture of the past, these values can be actualised to encourage the progress of a nation (Prasetyo, 2015, p. 175). In fact, social practices such as mutual cooperation, which have developed since the megalithic tradition, still survive today and form harmonious social relationships within the community (Prasetyo, 2015, p. 180). Thus, learning history is important for humans to build a better future.

Indonesia, which is often referred to as Nusantara, has a vast geographical area as the largest archipelagic country in the world, and is also home to many historical sites. Among all the vast historical heritage, Bondowoso holds many prehistoric legacies stored in Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso, where ancient stone monuments like sarcophagi and dolmens are preserved. Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso, which was previously known as Pusat Informasi Megalitikum (PIM) Bondowoso focused on preservation, education, and exhibition of megalithic relics. As a centre of study, this museum showcases collections such as *kenong* stones, dolmens, sarcophagi, and menhirs scattered throughout Bondowoso. After conducting an interview with the curator, the writer found out that the museum's main focus includes research, conservation of archaeological heritage, and the development of cultural tourism.

After conducting the preliminary study twice by conducting observation and interviews, the writer learned that Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso has a vital role in keeping this history alive. Unlike traditional museums, where items are kept in closed spaces, this museum allows visitors to see relics in their natural environment. This concept provides a unique and authentic experience for visitors to connect emotionally with the past. To support the objectives of promoting Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso as a historical and educational tourism destination, the management has published a catalogue entitled *Katalog Koleksi Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso*. The catalogue is written in Indonesian, allowing local visitors to learn about the collection. Unfortunately, the catalogue is inaccessible for international audiences due to language barriers.

After conducting the second preliminary study, the writer learned that international visitors often had a hard time communicating with the management team due to a language barrier. For that reason, the writer decided to translate *Katalog Koleksi Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso* into an English version that is urgently needed as a medium to reach and fill the gap. An English translation will help the museum to communicate and conduct international collaboration conveniently.

Translation experts view translation as an activity that produces a new text which readers can rely on to access information from another language, rather than simply a process of changing words (Robinson, 2003, pp. 6-7). This means that translation serves as a bridge, transferring knowledge, culture, and meaning across different languages. In that case, a translation must be clear, accurate, and on point to fulfil the needs of its audience. In museums, information such as a catalogue collection serves not only as information but also as an academic reference for foreign visitors, researchers, and international students. Therefore, translating a catalogue collection for Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso into English is necessary in order to reach wider global academic audiences and tourists.

Based on the reasons from the preliminary study, providing an English translation of the museum catalogue is a necessary step for the museum's development. By removing the language barrier, the museum can successfully

position itself as a significant site for global archaeological study. The writer, therefore, selected the translation of the museum catalogue collection into English as the focus of this final project. This final project aims to make the information from the Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso accessible to non-Indonesian audiences.

Based on the preliminary study, creating an English version of the catalogue is a crucial step for the museum's development. Additionally, by removing the language barrier, the museum can position itself as a significant site for global archaeological study. This final project specifically aims to make information from Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso accessible to an international audience.

1.2 Objective

The objective of this final project is to translate the catalogue of the collection from Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso from Indonesian to English in order to solve the language barrier problem.

1.3 Significances

Based on the objective, this final project is expected to provide benefits for some parties, including:

1.3.1 For Museum Terbuka Megalitikum Bondowoso

The product allows access to a wider range of visitors by increasing its global accessibility through a bilingual catalogue of collection.

1.3.2 For foreign visitors/parties

The translated catalogue provides convenient access for non-Indonesian parties, ultimately leading to many collaboration opportunities.

1.3.3 For the writer

The writer can apply their knowledge from the English Study Program, including writing and translation skills.

1.3.4 For the English Study Program

The final project marks the success of the English Study Program and hopefully serves as a reference for students who are planning to make similar product