

## **Chapter 1**

### **Introduction**

#### **Basic Consideration**

Many linguists say that language is fundamentally metaphorical in nature, such as Lakoff and Johnson (1980, p.3) who said that “metaphor is in everyday life”. The reason that language is metaphorical is because the way we think is metaphorical. As humans, we constantly encounter new things and experiences in the world around us and it is in our nature to try to interpret and understand them. A natural starting point in comprehending what we do not understand is to make easy in what we already know. So we always try to interpret the new phenomena in terms of the familiar. This is what we mean by saying that human thought is metaphorical. Since language is a tool of thought, when we use our knowledge to explain new phenomena it is natural for us to borrow terms from the existing language and apply them to the new things or situations. As a result, language is metaphorical.

However, not just in language. Metaphor also can found in our thought and act. Lakoff & Johnson (2003, p.3) stated it is like our ordinary conceptual system, in term of which we think and act is fundamentally metaphorical. The concepts that govern our thought are not just matters of the intellect. They also govern our daily activity, down to the most mundane details. Our concepts structure what we perceive, how we get in around and how we relate to other people. Our conceptual system thus plays a central role in defining our everyday realities.

Study in term of metaphor may help us to understand how people think, how they interpret their sense and how they communicate. Imagine that when people express piqued feeling or angry, they usually choice the words are relate to the animal, such “*you are dog!*”, “*he is an animal!*” Those expressions are spontaneously happen. It is because the emotion comes automatically in mind and it is out of control. Also, while young men ridicule their friend as coward, they say *come on, don't be a chicken*. The word of *chicken* (cock) used to compare between somebody is coward as a cock or chicken. Another example is the expression of someone experience of daily life such “*my life is dirty*”, “*my heart is broken*”. The words of dirty and broken are defining of someone situation that unwanted. Those examples indicated that unaware, the words used to express something is metaphorical in nature.

Furthermore, metaphor and song are related. Metaphor pervades our language and our thought, express and idea are essentially metaphorical in nature. Whereas song is communication tools of human interaction to communicate the idea, thought and expression. In this sense, the songwriter delivery mind, idea and feeling through songs lyric as a media to convey the message to the listener or hearer. Besides as tools of entertainment, song may use for give information and opinion of social problem was happened in surrounding. Covecses (2002, p.20) stated that metaphor is not only language use by speaker to appear the emotional, but also important for understanding aspect of conceptualization of emotion. Refer to these, metaphor in songs is an emotional expression of songwriter or speaker to notify something may

happened in daily reality and hope that who listen or hearer understand it. Lakoff and Johnson (1980) also argued “metaphor may create realities for us, especially social realities” (p.156). Metaphor in songs construct realities around us connect to social movement, policy, human right and each other. As result, metaphor in particular song contain any function, such metaphor use for make beauty the songs, metaphor as expression of someone idea about something happened around, and also the speaker use metaphor in order to deliver the aim or messages of songs to the hearer.

As we know, in order to comprehend metaphor in particular songs is not easy task and it could be difficult. Sometimes we only enjoy or happy to hear the song indeed memories the lyric song but we do not understand the message or aim and the meaning deliver in it song. When listening song we could receive messages. Its messages should be interpret to our preferred. Otherwise, metaphor in song may surprises us as the reader or listener because thought and idea expressed in song does not make sense on the surface level, and since literal meaning is denied, our imagination is required so that the meaning becomes clear. In this sense, the study of metaphor in song may help anyone in order to make easy to understanding the message of song and the meaning of metaphor.

Based on explanation above, the researcher in this study interested to reveal the metaphor in songs of Bob Marley. It is because several reasons. The first reason is most of his lyric songs contains metaphor. As examples, “I was a prisoner” (Burnin’ & Lootin’, 1973c), “Music are the key” (Chant Down Babylon, 1978b) and “We are the survivor” (Survival, 1979).

The second, the perspective of the researcher here is studying the metaphor in Bob Marley songs present social reality and culture of Jamaica. Clearly Jamaican people has been live in slavery and injustice. So, his songs become source of data that help to understand the real situation around Jamaica. Some example of metaphor which refer to social reality are “*Concrete jungle*” (1973) is not mean the real jungle, but the mean here is urban development plan did by Jamaican government. The plan resulted in the demolition of vast tracts of the west Kingston in minority, which were replaced by concrete-bunker-style housing projects (Moskowitz, 2007, 32). Whereas *Buffalo Soldier* refer to the black man soldier who are struggling in the United States cavalry during the Indian wars.

The third, Bob Marley created lyric songs as a power communication and expression of a social critics and present a safe haven for many such freedom, justice, hope, and unity in Africa as we known as black people country. Uniquely, as the militant political activist and the spokesperson, he appeared the idea or critics by used politeness and distinctive language in his song which it show the high-level mastery of language. As result, the messages of his song that contain metaphor should be clear up. So, in this study, the researcher will interpret element of metaphorical in Bob Marley songs which hope worthy to the reader or listener. The notion of this research mostly concern to studying metaphor in order to understanding the concept and meaning of metaphor that found in his lyric songs.

## **Problem Statement**

Based on the consideration above, the researcher formulate the problem statement through the following question: “How is the metaphor in the lyric of Bob Marley Songs?”

## **Objective of Study**

Based on the problem statement above, the point of objective of this study is in order to appear the concept and meaning of metaphor in the lyric of Bob Marley Songs.

## **Scope of Study**

This study concern to examine the concept and meaning of metaphor. In this sense, the researcher will focus to find out the concept of metaphor based on conceptual metaphorical theory proposed by Lakoff and Johnson (2003) that refer to three types of metaphor namely structural metaphor, orientational metaphor and ontological metaphor. Then, in order to appear the meaning of metaphor, this study will concern to the literal meaning and context of Bob Marley songs. Meanwhile, the lyric of songs will be use in this study is from album of Bob Marley released during 1973-1980. In this sense, the researcher decide to select 91 lyric songs that may contain metaphor.

## **Significances of Study**

The result of this research is expected to be useful as follow as:

1. The study give some positive contributions to the study of figurative language as part of semantic and studying of poetry.
2. This study useful for learning in order to understanding the concept and meaning of metaphor specifically in lyric of song
3. This study expect will help the student of English Department to understanding the study of metaphor in Bob Marley songs.

## **Definition of Term**

There are various terms relate to this research as follow:

Babylon. It is a term in Rastafarian ideology in order to criticize the corrupt society, government and institutions or empire that made oppressive force to the people.

Diaspora. It is the term often used today to describe the spread of any population which has originated in other land from currently resides. The nation or ethnic population force and compelled to leave their homeland, deployment and create new social, economic and political networks cross the borders of nation-states.

Dread. It is a Jamaican person wearing dreadlocks and also could be a serious concept or idea.

Dreadlock. It is the tangled, uncut or uncombed hair of a Rastafarian.

Ghetto. It is a part of a city in which members of a minority group live, especially because of social, legal, or economic pressure

Jah. It is a short name for "Jah Ras Tafari," common way to refer to the divinity or God. Also refers to Haile Selassie King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Conquering Lion of Judah

Rastafari. It is a short name of "ras" (duke or head) and "tafari" (trinity or power of three in Amharic as the most widely used language of Ethiopia) which referring to

people practicing Rastafarianism that belief Haile Selassie was a second coming after Christ.

Rastafaman. It is referring to any person having dreadlocks

Reggae. It is Jamaican form of music whose origins are found in the African Kumina drums, ska and rock. Reggae is most easily identified by its driving bass rhythms and culturally and/or politically relevant lyrics.