

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Tourism is a sector which is growth year by year. It is an activity that is often done by someone or a group in purposes to leisure and recreation. Tourism nowadays is needed by the man in his life. According to Muljadi (2009, p.5) travel is one of human needs that must be met, especially for the countries that have been developed. Based on the needs, many tourism destinations are developed in a city or country. Palembang as the capital city of South Sumatera which also develop the tourism destinations.

Palembang is one of cities that has several historical tourism destinations. Once in Palembang there was a maritime Kingdom and the center of Buddhism, namely The Kingdom of Sriwijaya. Palembang also has the history of Sultanate Darussalam, and historical event namely the War of Five days. These of course could be supporting factors to the advancement of historical tourism in Palembang.

Furthermore, historical tourism destinations in Palembang are Bukit Siguntang, Balaputra Dewa Museum, Sultan Mahmud Baddarudin II museum, and *Monpera (Monumen Perjuangan Rakyat)*. Monpera is well known as historical tourism destination. The monument has 8 floors, 2nd floor to 7th floor used as a museum which is called museum of *Monpera Sumbagsel*. Its location is very strategic. It is located in the center of Palembang city, exactly on the right side of Agung Mosque, near Ampera, and 16 Ilir market. Both of the monument and the museum was built on 17th August 1975 and officially opened on 23rd February 1988 by Alamsyah Ratu Prawiranegara as Minister of Economy at that time. The museum collects historical heritage.

Although the museum is located in the strategic place, it has few visitors. Based on the writer's mini survey with 50 respondents (students of Sriwijaya

State Polytechnic), 47 of 50 students have visited museum of Monpera Sumbagsel; however 29 of them have a lack of interest to revisit the museum because it is an unattractive tourism destination. They stated that outside the building was interesting, but the museum does not provide several facilities for visitors such as parking area, toilets and seats and the collections were not maintained well. In addition, the condition inside is neither bright nor fresh.

Visitors usually rely on the facilities of museum, which are tangible cues to judge the quality of the tourism destination. They consider about the facilities which provided by the museum before visiting or revisiting a tourism destination. A good tourism destination should provide good facilities to attract more visitors.

Related to the result of mini survey above, the facilities of museum can affect the visitors' decision to visit the museum of *Monpera Sumbagsel*. That is why the writer is interested in doing a research with the title **The Facilities of Museum of *Monpera Sumbagsel***.

1.2 Research Question

The problem of this research is “What are the facilities of museum of *Monpera Sumbagsel*?”

1.3 Research Purpose

The purpose of this research is to find out the facilities of museum of *Monpera Sumbagsel*.

1.4 Research Benefit

The research result is intended to give information about facilities of Museum of *Monpera Sumbagsel* as one of tourism destination in Palembang. Hopefully the young generation especially Student English Department State Polytechnic of Sriwijaya know the detailed information about the facilities which are provided by the Monpera museum and the collection of Museum of *Monpera Sumbagsel* as one of historical tourism destination in Palembang.