CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Teacher is a person who teaches, also a person who gives students knowledge about many things based on science. Through the teachers, the students get many kind of experiences that the students never experienced it, such as the experience of dissecting animal organs, chemical experiences, trying to speak with native speaker (English or Arabic - for language major students) with those ways the teachers share their knowledge to the students. The teachers take important part in educate the students in order to make the students in the future life would be successful and skillful people, so that the students could get a life which they want – worthy life due to the knowledge that the students possess during school life. In following Surah Al-Alaq ayah 1-5 will explain some of the importance of education.

ٱقْرَأْ بِٱسْمِ رَبِّكَ ٱلَّذِى خَلَقَ ۞ خَلَقَ ٱلْإِنسَنَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ۞ ٱقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ ٱلْأَكْرَمُ ۞ ٱلَّذِى عَلَّمَ بِٱلْقَلَمِ ۞ عَلَّمَ ٱلْإِنسَنَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمُ ۞

Surah Al-Alaq could be considered as a declaration of jihad against illiteracy and initiated encouragement to people, especially Muslims to seek knowledge. It is the fundamental principle of education in Islamic practices (Salleh : 2009, p.3). It means that the teachers as middlemen in teaching and learning the students also in convey the knowledge to them. Therefore, the teachers' role is very substantial to educated many children in order to make them be noble mind people, soft spoken, critical thinking, could compete with other people – in good terms, creative, innovative and be a clever person who are able to make their parents proud of. Then the teachers themselves are required to be professional and carry out their duties with a good performance.

Talk about skills which have possess, some of us perhaps come up with ideas like English, Arabic, art, sport, etc. In this era, all of us can not be denied that English is one of the most influential languages in the world, even many companies require employees to be able to speak English. Some of university demand college students to take TOEFL test in order that to apply in postgraduate (S2/S3), also as requirement for taking a diploma. It proves that English needs to be mastered by everyone for any reasons. Therefore, English as a subject is very necessary to be learned in any level of education say in early childhood education, primary, secondary, high school, university as well. Because of that, English teachers are needed to guiding, mentoring, and teaching English to the students so as the students have good English language skills in the future.

Based on previous explanation, English teachers should be somebody who professional. Means an occupation or activity which carried out by someone also requires proficiency, mastery, or capable which is fulfilling certain quality standards or norms along with professional education. Then, a professional have to indicating to degree or performance level as a professional in doing their job which is named professionalism (Syamsudin, 1999). Tanang and Abu (2014, p.27) also state when teachers in carrying out professionalism duties, teacher obliges to meet certain quality standards or norms and require professional education. They require to have academic qualification of a bachelor or four-years-diploma level of academic education to be possessed by the teachers in accordance with the type, level, and formal education units in where the assignment.

In Indonesia, there is held certification program for teachers in any subjects. After get certificate, the teacher would be titled as certified teacher who approved by the state as professional, because certified teachers receive training at PLPG for 10 days. They are taught various skills in curriculum creation, lesson planning, peer-teaching, and subject field enrichment. Teachers are determined to write lesson plans, to do peer-teaching, and to listen to lectures to make them more qualified later on after completing the

training. In order to pass, they must be successful in the competency test. Unlike the case with teachers who have not been certified, they may have met the S1/D4 educational qualifications but have not fully met the criteria for them to be said to be qualified because they may not have mastered several things as mentioned above. Afterwards, the teacher professionalism itself is also take by researcher because, this thing could relate with numerous aspects such as the teacher' attendance in the class, innate in the way of teaching, comprehension toward teaching/lesson materials, even their indicated manners also appreciation that give to their students and also the teachers are considered as a figure who are kind or perfect on all sides. These all are related to the performance of the teachers displayed by them when they are on duty.

Today in this pandemic era cause of COVID-19, Indonesian teachers are challenged to adapt the revolution of technology information in improving their professionalism, since every schools should do online class meeting through online apps. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) should be used in education to achieve the goal rather than as a barrier. The role of the teacher will not be the only source of learning because many learning resources and sources of information can facilitate a person to learn. Schools are no longer going to be the only center of learning because learning activities are no longer limited by space and time. However in reality some of the teachers who have their certification have not fully carry out their duties as professional teachers. The researcher means that the teachers who have graduated have not shown better performance, example some of the teachers do not know how to running an PC or out of date about technology advances so as the teaching and learning process stuck in discourse method and make the students bored, or they do not really develop learning material just do the same method on and on without any new breakthrough, even though they have learnt about using new medias, other method and etc., to make the learning and teaching process more lively. Moreover, the certified teachers who are English teachers should have many ways to teaching English which assumed

as a difficult subject for some people, the teacher have to change their students' mind through games, using apps or etc., which will take the students' interest because the certified teachers are set to provide the best that they have learned also in hope that they can maintain their quality and improve their competences in addition to improving their well-being.

Banjarmasin as capital city has many public schools such as junior high schools which spread of over there, the researcher and the teachers are convenient to make appointment, easy to go, and easy to meet up. The students at some Islamic junior high school in their previous education, namely elementary schools were not taught English before, so they might only know a few things about English so the challenge here is bigger because the teacher has problems with some students whose abilities are not the same to each other due to the condition of their schools which omitted learning English from the list. Meanwhile, the senior high school students in their previous school, namely junior high school, have been taught English because in junior high school English it is mandatory. Also because of that their abilities are better than junior high school students, it is easier for teachers to balance learning in class because the abilities of senior high school students are the same because they have studied English in school before. Those senior high school teachers may only polish a little and add to the skills and knowledge of their students, in contrast to junior high school teachers who have to start from basic/beginning to teach their students slowly and regularly. It is also a challenge that junior high school students are still in the world of play who are still happy to use games or media that will attract their interest in learning, also senior high school students as well, but they are more mature to respond to something they have started to be more logical and express their opinions a lot. Then, Islamic junior high schools English teachers who will take part in this study have to possess certificate of educator and have taught more than five years, also certain junior high schools are chosen based on consideration of certified English teachers who are there.

Thus based on explanation, the researcher wants to dig in about how Islamic junior high schools certified English teachers in teaching English and also how the Islamic junior high schools certified English teachers to develop their profession.

B. Research Question

Based on the background described above, the problem is going to discovered in this research. These are statements of problem as follows :

- 1. How are the characteristics of qualified English teachers at State Islamic Junior High Schools in Banjarmasin when teaching English?
- 2. How are certified English teachers of State Islamic Junior High Schools in Banjarmasin to develop their profession?

C. Objective of Study

These are objectives in the research. The objectives of this research are :

- 1. To explain the characteristics of qualified English teachers at State Islamic Junior High Schools in Banjarmasin when teaching English.
- 2. To identify how certified English teachers of State Islamic Junior High Schools in Banjarmasin to develop their profession.

D. Significance of Study

The result of this study are expected to provide significance for the certified English teachers who take part of this study that conducted by the researcher, so that they can find their performance during the teaching and learning process whether it appropriate with their title as a professional teacher or not. Also for the researcher and people who will read or make this research as references, that this research as a reading materials and enhance to treasury of science also consideration if a teacher has certified they should be professional no matter what and always do their best at teaching for molding superior humans.

E. Definition of Key Term

To clarify briefly in order to avoid misunderstanding about terms in the researcher's tittle, the writer will explain the term as follows :

- 1. Teacher Professionalism means certified English teachers whose expertise and capability and have been experienced in teaching English as well, in order to the certified English teachers are able to do their duty and function as English teachers withal maximum ability as well as having competencies that match the criteria for professional teacher. Here, the characteristic of qualified teachers are given by Sefereğlu (2004) in Yarratan and Müezzin (2016).
- 2. Certified English Teachers mean some of the Islamic Junior High Schools English teachers who already have their certification, the certificates whose by the teachers that given by government or authorized institutions which indicating that the teachers are professional in their areas. In this research, the English teachers are from Islamic Junior High Schools under Ministry of Religious Affairs which in Banjarmasin who teach there, the researcher limited the teachers as the participants that are they latest education is maximal master degree or minimal bachelor degree in English Education. After that at least they have been teaching around more than 5 years. Here, the certified English teachers develop their profession, which the theory is taken from Brown and Lee (2015).