CHAPTER II

MUSEUM GEOLOGI BANDUNG, INDONESIA

Museum Geologi Bandung

Museum Geologi Bandung is one of many famous and complete museums in Indonesia, which exhibits a collection of natural history artifacts and fossils discovered in Indonesia. The collection are archives that had been documented by system of computerization, noted around 250.000 rock samples and mineral and also 60.000 fossils from various age and type. Previously, Museum Geologi Bandung was a Geologist Laboratory. The location is on Rembrandt Street (now Diponegoro Street). Museum Geologi Bandung was established formally in May 16th, 1929. All important data and collection of other geology have to be carried over to a safer place that is to the building in Braga Street.

At a period of Japan occupying, the activity of Geologische Dienst (Museum Geologi) started to be recognized by society and the name was altered to become Kagyoo Zimusho. Then it was changed again became Chisitsu Chosajo in 1943. After Indonesia proclaimed its independence, Museum Geologi Bandung was managed by Indonesian, Arie Frederick Lasut and Sunu Sumosusastro.

The renovation of Museum Geologi Bandung had been done in 1980 without changing its original looks architecture form of deco art. The building of Museum Geologi Bandung is included into one of the cultural pledge buildings which has been taken care continually.

In 1999 the government of Indonesia was helped by government of Japan as

much as 754, 5 Million Yens to renovate Museum Geologi Bandung. After being closed for a year Museum Geologi Bandung was reopened by Megawati Soekarnoputri in August, 22nd 2000, related with International Symposium of Museum Geology entitled “To the Future: Museum Geology in Change of World” followed by expert of geologists from Japan, English, Dutch, Australian, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, and others.

The functions of Museum Geologi Bandung are as a media of research, education, documentation, information about geology as well as an object of tourism. At the moment, Museum Geologi Bandung looks attractive and communicative with modern technology touch.

It is without a doubt, an impressive structure that immediately reminds a colonial splendor, transporting back in the past time. Dutch architect, Menalda Van Schowenburg, designed the museum using an elegant "art deco" architectural style.

The Museum Geologi Bandung has two floors, including three main exhibition rooms, an Auditorium, a Library, and Souvenir shop. The ground floor has two exhibition rooms, namely the West Wing and the East Wing. The West Wing exhibits the Room of Geology of Indonesia, and the East Wing exhibits the Room of History of Life. Next, the first floor is the place in which historical artifacts related to the geology of human life is exhibited. Besides that, there is also an office of Museum Geologi Bandung. It is the place for every employee of the Museum Geologi Bandung works except tour guides.

During the job training, the rooms that were frequently used as the place of the job taken by the writer were the front office, souvenir room, the room of history of life, and office room.

The Souvenir room is the place where we can buy a souvenir from the museum like t-shirt, many kinds of stone like minerals and ores, story books about the Museum Geologi Bandung, geology, and dinosaurs. It also provides many kinds of soft drink and snack.

Room of history of life is the room that provides information about history of life in the earth. All the information is explained both in Indonesia and English, with colorful posters. There is also showed some very nice collections of real size dinosaur replicas intermingled with some real fossils of giant land turtles, and other creatures.

Finally, the office room is the room where the museum officers normally work. It is the place where the writer could find the coordinator of the job training that was Mr. Tetep.