# CHAPTER II

# THE GENERAL DESCRIPTION

# OF BANDUNG MUSEUM OF GEOLOGY

For many years, geologists were doing geological investigations in some area of Indonesia. Since 1922 the activities were increasing rapidly and the geologist found many samples of minerals, rocks and fossils. As a result, a place to keep the entire samples was required to investigate all the materials to the society. Finally, in 1928 the building for Laboratory was established. Because the building not only used for laboratory but also to publish all materials to the society, on May 16$^{th}$, 1928 Museum of Geology was declared after name "Geologisce Museum". After renovation and development of exhibition room on August 22$^{nd}$ 2000, it was re-declared by the former President of Indonesia, Megawati Soekarno Putri.

Related to its function, the museum has some important functions for the scientist and society. The scientists are using the building not only as a laboratory or a place for the documentation and exhibition of geological survey activities but also as information of earth and geological data center. For the society the museum becomes

the one of the interesting tourism objects which visits by tourist who came to Bandung.

The museum-under "*Pusat Penelitian dan Pengembangan Geologi"* (Puslitbang Geologi), center of mineral source and energy research- have vision and mission. The museum vision are become professional source of information (Collection and geo heritage) for community as one of the biggest museums in Indonesia. Then the museum missions are following:

1. Exhibit and Communicate Museum collection
2. Provide information and geological education material
3. Document and conserve museum collection
4. Research on collection and museum development
5. Museum exhibition on Geology
6. Geological socialization

To explore the museum, there are some rooms that will be visited. The rooms were designed same as kind and function of Geological museum information as a data junction and geological information which connected one and each other. Every corner of exhibition room was setting based on hand on clockwise. There are four main rooms in the museumwhich are consisting of one orientation room and three room of exhibition. To make everything in a good order a certain classification was made and it was shown by the name of exhibition rooms. "Geology of Indonesia","

History of Life", and "Geology for Human Life" are the three main of exhibition rooms which should be visited.

The first room is Orientation room which is occupying in 1st floor has function for registration of the visitors and in this room we can find information in panel and audiovisual form. At the north wall we can see audiovisual about information of exhibition rooms.At the west wall, there are information panel about history shaping of earth 4,6 billions years ago. The last information panel is about history of life on earth star with plants, *vertebrata*, until *invertebrata*.

The first exhibition room is History of life which is still occupying in 1st floor .This room exhibits the development of life on Earth beginning with the earth formation around 4,6 billion years ago. *Stromatolite* is the oldest primitive life on earth. *Mesozoikum* is considered as the golden period of gigantic creature so called Dinosaur. The most interesting collection is a fossil replica of *Tyrannosaurus rex* exhibited in this room. During this period, most of Indonesia is still submerged under the sea as indicated by abundant of ammonite and other invertebrate fossils.

The second room is geology of Indonesia which is occupying in 1st floor. Exhibition start with earth formation processes, followed by the development of Indonesian Archipelago using plate tectonic theory generated by the interaction three major plates including Eurasian, Pacific, and Indo-Australia plates. The room is divided into five prominent islands and Mollusca Island. Each island shows specific

geological as well as tectonic phenomena, such as volcanic belt, active faults, and earthquakes. The oldest rock found in Papua is Cambrian (604-790 ma) age.

The last exhibition room is Geology for human life which is occupying in 2nd floor. This part of exhibition shows mineral and oil gas exploitation and processing as country source of incomes, and also utilization of water resource to support human civilization. Besides its benefit, geological condition in one area can also become source of geological disasters, such as earthquake, tsunami, landslide, and volcanic eruption.

Beside three exhibition rooms, there are also some interesting rooms such as auditorium and souvenir shop. Auditorium has functions as audiovisual theater; visitors who come will watch some movie about Museum of Geology history and earth formation process. The last room which should be visited is souvenir shop. In this room we can get some interesting souvenirs which are connected with this museum.

During the job training the writer was allowed to choice exhibition room. There were some reasons why the writer chose History of life room. First, this room was the most interesting room because it keeps many important materials about history of human life. Then this room keeps the most interesting materials collection such as *Tyrannosaurus rex* fossil and *stomatolite.* Working in this room made the

writer fun because there were many extraordinary materials that you cannot see everyday.

Finally, there are many benefits if we visit Museum of Geology. Visiting this museum would give new experience and increase our knowledge about geological and history of human life. From this place we would learn how the earth process and human life begin.