

COMMUNITY RESPONSE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPACT OF ELECTIONS IN JAMBI

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ABSTRACT

Democracy in the state system that opens wide space for their aspirations differences, ideology, or ideology (as far as aspirations, ideology, or ideology is not a criminal nature). The beauty of democracy is the creation of a mosaic aspirations in the life of the nation. The function of a democratic constitution is translated in the system how and with what the battle to win the aspirations channeled to stay within the corridor of democracy. Each aspiration should have an equal opportunity to be able to peddle his idea in public. Place to fight is in the general election (election) and the referendum. Through elections and referendums every aspiration has to fight and compete fairly because their constituency voters freely and confidentially settled on the best option according to the discretion of each. It became clear, in a democracy, it is a contest of some sort at the level under the constitution. However, the reality in the public election since Election held straight years since 2004, it still responded to a wide range of opinions, both positive and negative or indifferent attitude.

Key Words: Election, people participation, democracy.

Introduction

Sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia is in the hands of the people. Embodiments of sovereignty is exercised through Election (Election) direct, public, free, confidential, honest and fair. Election as a means for Indonesian citizens to choose their representatives who sit on the seat Legislature. People's representatives elected through these elections is a member of the House of Representatives, Regional Representatives Council, and the Regional Representatives Council. Moreover, the elections to directly elect the President and Vice President as well as choosing the Regional Head and Deputy Regional Head (elections). The series of these activities is to achieve democracy, according Aidul Fitriadi Azhari (2005: 1) democracy is derived from the word demos meaning people and cratin which means the government. So, democracy is "government of the people". While the opinion I Gede Pantja Astawa (2008: 3), Country where the supreme power is in the people called the Democratic State which symbolically is often described as a government of the people by the people and for the people (government from the people, by the people, for the people).

In political science, there are two kinds of understanding of democracy; understanding of normative and empirical understanding. In a normative understanding, democracy is something that is idiil going to be done or organized by a country, such as we are familiar with the phrase "government of the people, by the people and for the people". (Affan Gaffar; 2003: 3).

The principle of democracy is described as a principle of government of, by and for the people. In the nineteenth century, came the idea of democracy with representation system with greatest number of voice decisive consequences. Thus, the common definition of democracy is "government of the people" that is based on social control and political equality.

Of the indicators of democracy, Affan Gaffar (2003: 131-132) concluded that a prerequisite to observe whether a political order is a democratic system or not is:

1. Accountability,
2. Rotation of Power,
3. Recruitment of open political,
4. Election,
5. Enjoy basic rights.

From proposed by Affan Gaffar above, it can be concluded that the election is an important instrument in a democracy. The legal basis for the administration of elections refers to the Constitution (UUD 1945), Law Number 15 Year 2015 on the Implementation of Electoral Act No. 2 of 2011 on Political Parties, Law No. 8 of 2012 on General Election of Members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council, and the Regional Representatives Council. Law No. 1 of 2014 On the Election of governors, regents and mayors, as amended into Law No. 8 of 2015 as well as a variety of other related laws.

Expected in every organization of these elections can produce good governance (good government) and the passage of democracy and the maintenance of order and security as well as comfort for the people with the role and participation of the community. However, the reality in the community since the election held Direct elections since 2004, it still responded to a wide range of opinions, both positive and negative or indifferent attitude.

Based on data from the Commission Jambi that the level of public participation in the implementation of the general election the longer tends to decrease as people's participation in elections as follows:

Legislative Election 2014: 87.64%

Vice President Presidential Election 2014: 76.17%
Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor 2014: 78.05%
Governor and Vice Governor Election 2015: 74.41%

The size of the level of public participation in the electoral operations are legally no effect on the validity of the election results. Nevertheless, the better and ideal if the level of community participation in providing choice in the TPS (Tempat Pemungutan Suara) higher, meaning that in real terms and politically levels of legitimacy has become strong in the field.

Participation in the implementation of the general election only a moral obligation but not the obligation juridical, therefore in the legislation status to choose is a right, not an obligation.

Framework

Indonesia as a country of law and democracy for granted that any political policy that is packed with legal products should reflect the values of democracy, meaning that factor is the people who should be the barometer of any discretion, by adopting the spirit / jargon of the people, by the people and for the people of the existence of the State / government in any acts and activities or policies must always cater to the masses, not for personal, certain groups.

The principle of democracy in various parts of the world is realized in the activities of the General Election. In order for a general election is accepted and public trust and be able to produce figures that actually elected by the people, then the general election using the principle of direct, public, free, confidential, honest and fair.

Elections are a democratic means thereof can be determined who is entitled to occupy a seat in the country's political institutions, legislative and / or executive. Through the election people vote figure is believed to be filling a legislative and / or executive positions. In the elections, the people, who have met the requirements to vote, freely and confidentially, settled on a figure that is rated in accordance with their aspirations. Elections are a public test arena for the vision and programs offered by anyone either party or individual. With such a system it cannot be recognized that democracy is the only system that opens space for birth and growth of a variety of visions and ideologies, all of which have the same possibilities to develop freely as far as ideology is not an ideology that aspires to silencing and eliminating others understand (understand totalitarian). (Hendarmin Ranadireksa, 2007: 173).

General elections take a long time for preparation and conduct phases involving personnel were very much cause consequences spend very big. Meanwhile on the other side of the socio-economic condition of Indonesian society in general is still in the recovery phase even if you can call being dropped then in the electoral operation is expected to be effective and efficient with a form capable of generating figures were actually able to meet the expectations of many people.

Formulation Problems

From the above description may specify the author of several problems as follows:

- 1). What are the perceptions and the public response about the Elections at city of Jambi ?
- 2). How do people's expectations of the electoral impact, especially in the city of Jambi?

Research Design

1. Location Research

In this study conducted by interview the people in Jambi which happen to be found in public places such as terminals, malls, markets, and others.

2. Research Object:

- a. To find out the views or perceptions of people in Jambi on Election and implementation.
- b. To determine the impact of the election and expectations of society against the election activities.

3. Technique:

The author conducted interviews with respondents as many as 50 people with the same question in which the list of questions prepared in advance, just by asking done freely, in order to avoid the formal impression will eventually result in a potentially biased data. Interviews were conducted incidental means to people who voluntarily want to answer the question submitted by researchers. Respondents come from various professions, gender, education and age who had had the vote.

In this research tool used is a recording device, which is hidden in order to support the intention that the answers given freely without specific psychological burden.

4. Analysis:

Qualitative with deductive and inductive methods.

5. Time Frame

12 mei until August 12, 2016

Discussion

1. *The response from the public on Election*

Various problems that arise in implementation of direct elections since 2004, both the legislative elections, the election of President and election of Regional Head get different responses of each individual in society of Jambi.

Some of the findings in the research conducted by the author in the city of Jambi to 50 respondents who spread good level of education and profession, can be classified in several opinions or statements, as follows:

- a. Indonesia as a democracy, the election absolutely must be implemented as a form of implementation of democracy itself.
- b. Elections were held for this is still more pronounced as the routine activities of the activities of the screening process to fill positions in the legislative or executive functions
- c. No need to hold elections, because the state of the small community remains the same (difficult search for life).
- d. Although I do not understand the usefulness of the election, but I always use my right to vote.
- e. I never participated in the elections because menyoblos not registered as voters.
- f. Elections in more and more nice and orderly.
- g. I always come ballot, but always disappointed with elected officials for less think about the little people.
- h. I do not know what'll come pick or not, because I was disappointed with those elected who does not keep his promises in the campaign.
- i. Elections are too often simply squander the money, what can not be done efficiently?
- j. The number of political parties that so many let alone the number of their candidates to make people confused the choice, the result can not choose.

From the findings it was understandable that the perception / understanding of the Jambi community to the existence of the elections and the elections are still very diverse, for those who understand the relationship between the state of democracy and elections and he argued that the election is a fixed price and can not be negotiable. However, also not one of those who believe pessimistic and tend to not care about the democratization process is running, because we realize the positive impact of the program's political development, especially the strengthening of the democratization process through legislative elections, presidential and local elections have not produced official who is willing and able create policies that are fundamental and populist (in favor of the little people).

For those that remain to support and berpartisipasi actively in the elections even though they do not really understand the function and purpose of these elections we should be pleased, because this group already have enough capital that is a willingness to support the democratization process, just need enlightenment and little understanding of the usefulness of elections. Another group that is likely to not care do not even want to get involved in the electoral process is a daunting challenge for the election administration and the government, to raise awareness of political participation in society is relatively heavy, because it must begin political education essential to provide knowledge, understanding and encouraged to be pro-active in the process of political participation (elections).

The toughest challenge for us all is to meet the expectations of critical groups are reflected in some of the above opinion, because not enough is done by the government and the organizers of the election alone, but rather the policies of the political parties and the level of professionalism of each candidate elected legislative, presidential and the head of the region to side with the majority of these people (pro-populist) and be consistent with the program as a form of campaign promises.

2. *Impact and expectations in election*

From some of the issues raised by the respondents, they have a view on the impact of the elections and hope into the future for elections run better.

Most of the respondents hoped that the elections:

- a. runs quiet and orderly.
- b. candidate when elected as people's representatives / leaders to fulfill their promises.
- c. political understanding of the community should be enhanced by political education by the parties to the people who have the right to vote.
- d. election participants did political money.
- e. the elections are carried out effectively and efficiently as possible, because it is too big funds expended while the lives of the people we have difficulties.
- f. every election results have no direct impact to the small communities to improve their living standards, as well as the expected implementation of democracy can bring about a change in the various sectors.
- g. the candidate must be prepared to lose.
- h. the election is expected to be implemented in a fair and honest, so it is better than previous elections.
- i. recruitment of candidates should be free from corruption.

Expressions of respondents above can be divided into several groups, namely; the group considers that the implementation and impact of the election has been running pretty well, but still needs to be improved for the better, this is in line with sustainable development principles have always wanted to be better than ever.

The opinions above were challenged by other groups who see that the general elections are still far from ideal, that is still a lot of violations in the elections, whether it is done by the participants and organizers, for this to be addressed jointly by the organizers and participants of the next election (2009) to carry out the elections properly so that it can be held legally accountable and accepted by the public.

The next group argues that the impact of the election can not be perceived simultaneously, meaning that the performance of the individual elected in the elections have not run *tupoksinya* well, in which case they should be working hard to put the interests of the community, then the interests of groups and individuals in order to accelerate the process of the embodiment of wellbeing people as aspired by the founders of this country in the preamble of the 1945 Constitution.

The behavior of certain groups of people who are often violent and destructive as a form of disappointment with the defeat of its candidate is less commendable behavior that it received a response from the public Jambi, in order for them other than to work hard to win, but also to be prepared to lose, and lose elegantly.

The latter group insists that the socio-economic impact of the election is still far from complete, meaning the implementation of the new election produces ripples that are incidental in the form of ordering means and props campaign financially value is indeed very large, but only have an impact on certain business actors only and *kausistis* nature, while the simultaneous impact of continuous (continuous) as the fruit of policies in the social economy has not been felt by the people of Jambi in general, although the product electoral reform has been conducted four times that of 1999 and 2004, 2009, and 2014

Conclusion

1. The City of Jambi has not fully conscious of the importance of the election (the use of the right to vote) this is due to the uneven knowledge and understanding of the election, while another group was reluctant to participate because a lot of campaign promises are not realized well.
2. Impact of Elections and societal expectations
 - a. Elected officials and leading people of the election results have not resulted in populist policies (pro) and therefore has not felt directly by the community of its positive impact (the impact of the election program)
 - b. The economic impact of the implementation of the new electoral felt by most small business group and a small group of people who participate in the campaign election.

Suggestion

1. a. KPU and the government is expected to implement more intensive socialization to the whole society, so that they gain an understanding of usability election as well.
 - b. Officers / Members elected in the legislative elections in order to strive to realize its promises in the campaign.
2. a. Officials or legislators elected in the election resulted in policies that are pro-people, thus increasing confidence in the electoral operation in the form of optimum levels of participation.
 - b. In order for immediate economic impact is not only felt by the community in uproar *bingarnya* election, but more emphasis on the impact of the election program.

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