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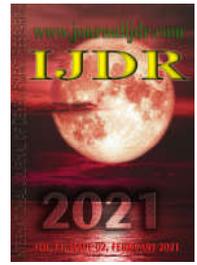
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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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TRANSFORMATION AND POLITICAL TRANSITION SYSTEM IN TIMOR-LESTE

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ABSTRACT

The process of transformation and the political transition system in East Timor could be influenced by the development of the colonial state's political system, which included external and internal factors accompanied by the development of the capacity of the political elites from Timor-Leste, who were brave and able to accept and reject the political principles of the colonial state. Political developments that caused unrest and suffering for the community, such as the civil war between armed forces from political parties in 1975, because there was no guarantee of political security, there was the evacuation of the population to Indonesia in 1975 and 1999 to ask for security protection assistance until the restoration of the proclamation of independence the year 2002. The theory used in this research is the theory of transformation, transition and the political system. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative method with data collection techniques of observation, interviews, documentation and qualitative data analysis techniques. The results showed that with the process of political transformation in Timor-Leste, the people experienced rapid development in the political field so that they were able and courageous to declare independence in front of the colonizers, even though they were tortured, in prison, killed, but the people still wanted to be independent. The process of the political transition system in Timor-Leste can provide opportunities for future generations to fill the political void with the ability and intelligence to keep up with the country's political developments in the process of forming a government system in order to build the state and society and defend sovereignty. Conclusion The process of transformation and the political transition system in Timor-Leste provided a good and right opportunity for the people to be courageous and able to determine independence according to their own shortcomings and be able to form a government and formulate a development plan to build the country and society to progress together with other nations in the world.

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INTRODUCTION

The process of transforming the political system in Timor-Leste, began with the arrival of the Portuguese in the early 15th century and began to colonize in the middle of that century too. However, in the colonial process there were several clashes with the Dutch, so an agreement was made in 1859 in which Portugal gave the western part of the island to Japan to rule it from 1942 to 1945, but after Japan lost in World War II Portugal returned to control the island of Timor until 1975. However, in 1975, the Flower Revolution occurred in Portugal and the last Governor of Portugal in Timor-Leste, Lemos Pires, did not get an answer from the Central Government in Portugal to send aid to Timor-Leste, which was currently in civil war, so Lemos Pires ordered to withdraw the Portuguese troops who was holding out in Timor-Leste to evacuate to Atauro Island. After that FRETILIN lowered the Portuguese flag and declared the independence of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste on November 28, 1975 with the

First President, Francisco Xavier Do Amaral. However, there were some elites from political parties who did not want the declaration of independence, so they asked for help from Indonesia to carry out attacks to seize power so that Fretilin was unable to defend against a counter attack from Indonesia, so there was dissolution and fled to build defense in the forest until 1999. During the civil war in Timor-Leste for a period of 3 months (September-November 1975) and during the 24 years of Indonesian occupation (1975-1999), more than 200,000 people were declared dead (60,000 people officially died at the hands of FRETILN according to the official UN report). The rest died in the hands of Indonesia during and after the invasion and some died of starvation or disease. The CAVR results stated 183,000 died at the hands of Indonesian soldiers due to chemical poisoning from bombs and mortars. Timor-Leste has been part of Indonesia since 1976 as the 27th province after the last governor general of Portuguese Timor Mario Lemos Pires fled Dili after being unable to control the situation during the civil war. Portugal also failed in the

decolonization process in Portuguese Timor and always claimed Portuguese Timor as its territory even though it had left it. Furthermore, the UN with its mission UNAMET to help carry out a referendum was held on August 30, 1999, with an agreement as sponsorship by the United Nations between Indonesia and Portugal, the majority of the population of Timor-Leste chose independence. Between the time of the referendum and the arrival of UN peacekeepers in late September 1999, anti-independence groups supposedly supported by Indonesia staged a massive counter-slaughter, in which some 1,400 people died and 300,000 were forced to flee to West Timor. Most of the infrastructure such as houses, irrigation systems, water, schools and electricity were destroyed. On 20 September 1999 the International Force for East Timor (INTERFET) peacekeeping troops arrived and secured the ground. The UNAMET mission ended and went to UNTAET to prepare for the proclamation of independence on 20 May 2002, East Timor was recognized internationally as an independent state under the name Timor-Leste and at that time the UNTAET mission ended and moved to the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET) to help organize Timor-Leste's government system until it is able to build its own state. As a result of the transformation and political transition system, it can increase the ability of the political elite to form the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste and adopt a Semi-Presidential Government System using the US dollar currency until now. The Timor-Leste government has started to hold general elections to form a democratic government based on the results of the victories over the parties participating in the elections which have been held democratically every five years until now. The transformation of the political system has developed the capacity of political leaders to build and defend the sovereignty of the Timor-Leste state until the end of time.

Problem Statement

1. The difference in ideology between the political parties which could not be united caused the civil war in 1975
2. Lack of communication between political leaders so that there is no dialogue to solve the problem of differences in political ideology.
3. Lack of knowledge about a sense of solidarity and unity among political leaders
4. There is no guarantee of security in the practice of administering the political system

Formulation of the Problem:

How was the Transformation process and the Political Transition System in Timor-Leste?

Research Objectives: The purpose of this study is to determine the process of transformation and political transition systems and to develop knowledge.

Research Benefits: The benefits of this research can find new things in the results of research so that it can increase the insight and ability of researchers about the transformation process and the political transition system in Timor-Leste from the colonial era to the era of independence and the era of nation and community development.

Theory Grounds

Definition of Transformation

Zaeny, (2005: 6) said that the word transformation from English is "Transform" which means changing from one form to another in terms of social aspects. According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, Transformation is a change from the previous condition to a new, better condition.

Handayani (2011) describes transformation as a change in shape, appearance, nature and so on). From the theoretical definition above, if it is related to the process of transformation and the political

transition system in Timor-Leste, it can be said that the process of political transformation occurred with changes in the structure and political system from colonialism to the struggle for independence periodically and de jure based on the transformation process itself.

Transition Definition

Anderson, (2001: 23-24). "During the transition to democracy, it is found that during the transition to democracy there is often a bargaining process between party elites and the ruling group which leads to mutual agreement or vice versa".

Meyer (2002: 9-12). "Transition is rearranging the existing order in response to fast-moving regional and global changes"

From the theoretical definition above, when it is related to the political transition system in Timor-Leste, it can be said that in order to restructure the system of government democratically in Timor-Leste in forming a government system based on the victory of political parties as winners in general elections held democratically for every five years, if the political situation and conditions are safe and controlled, because structuring requires a process.

Definition of the Political System

David Easton (2015: 78) "Political systems as part of a social system, namely a system that carries out the allocation of values (in the form of decisions or policies) that are authoritative (strengthened by legitimate power) and bind the entire society.

Gabriel A. Almond (2015), "The political system is a system of interaction that exists in all societies that carry out the functions of integration and adaptation (both within their own society and facing other societies through the application or threat of the application of legitimate force".

Miriam Budiardjo (2013: 58) "One important aspect of the Political System is the Political Culture itself (politic culture) which reflects subjective factors. Political culture itself is the whole of political views, such as norms, patterns of orientation towards politics, and political views and ways of life in general".

From the definition of the political system theory above, if it is related to the developing political system in Timor-Leste, it can be said that the political system is a political process that changes people's lives from colonialism to gaining independence. The process of transformation and the system of political transition develops from the process of forming political parties to participate in general elections to gaining victory to gain power in order to form a government cabinet to organize and build the country and society from unfavorable conditions to good conditions.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses the method Qualitative Descriptive because according to **Johnny Saldaña (2011:6)** Qualitative research is an umbrella term for a wide variety approaches to and methods for the study of natural social life. The information or data collected and analyzed is primarily (but not exclusively) non quantitative in character, consisting of textual materials such as interview transcript, field notes, and documents, and/or visual materials such as artifacts, photographs, video record and Internet sites, that document human experiences about others and/or one's self in social action and reflexive state. The reason is because the process of transformation and the system of political transition are social problems faced by the people of Timor-Leste.

Research sites: The location of this research is the FRETILIN Party Secretariat or the Fretilin Central Committee (CCF). Av. Presidential Street. Nicolao Lobato because the FRETILIN Party is the oldest party in Timor-Leste has a history in the process of transforming the

political system from the initial struggle to gaining independence in Timor-Leste. The source of information in this research is Dr. Mari Bin Amude Alkatiri. (As Secretary General of the FRETILIN Party), Dr. Jose Ramos Horta. (Independent Political Lider), Dr. Mariano Assanami Sabino Lopes. (Lider Political Democrat Party).

Data collection technique: In this study using data collection techniques according to Sugiyono (2018: 105), namely "Observation, Interview, and Documentation".

Observation

Catherine Marshall, and Gretvhen B. Rossman in Sugiyono's book (2018: 105) says "the fundamental methods relied on by qualitative researchers for gathering information are, participation in the setting, direct observation, in-depth interviewing, document review".

Interview

Easter Berg in Sugiyono's book (2018: 114) Interview is a meeting between two people to exchange information or ideas through questions and answers.

Documentation

Borgan in Sugiyono's book (2018: 124) says that documentation as a result of research from observations or interviews is more credible and gets support from personal history, born since childhood, in schools, workplaces, in society, and autobiographies.

Data analysis technique: This research uses data analysis techniques from Milles & Huberman in Sugiyono (2018: 133) says that the activity of qualitative data analysis can be carried out with interactive and practical data to complete data analysis based on data collection, data reduction, display data, and data, conclusion drawing inverification.

RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Transformation Process of External Political System: The process of political transformation in Timor-Leste during the Portuguese colonial era, there was no external politics because Portugal colonized Timor-Leste, so there was no external politics for young politicians in Timor-Leste. The process of external political transformation from the invasion in 1975, the United Nations Security Council in the United States held a meeting and Portugal acknowledged that the Timor-Leste issue was on the world agenda in December 1975. Portugal as a member of the United Nations has administrative authority to hold meetings with the Council UN Security. The process of external political development in Timor-Leste because of Dr. Jose Ramos Horta received an invitation to speak at the Security Council meeting at the United Nations and received support from Portugal, this meeting was held on 22/12/75 to issue Resolution 723 "condemning the invasion and declaring the enforcement of the human rights of the people of Timor-Leste to self-determination and affirming the removal of Indonesian soldiers from Timor-Leste. Then in 1976, another revolution on the determination of the Timor-Leste problem in the United States was published, starting to get freedom for political campaigns until 1999. (interview with Dr. Jose Ramos Horta).

Process of Political Transformation from Portugal to Timor-Leste: The Flower Revolution occurred on 25 April 1974 in Portugal, politically Portugal was defeated so Portugal gave the right to the overseas colonies to self-determination, held a meeting with the UN Security Council regarding the process of determining the future of the Portuguese colony. The process of evacuating Portugal from Timor-Leste in 1975, started a war between the UDT and FRETILIN parties. UDT began to react with the armed military on 11 de August 1975.(say Dr. Jose Ramos Horta)

Process for the Formation of Political Parties In 1975 in Timor-Leste: ASDT was born as a political association to prepare as a Political Party, therefore this Association as a Transition, seeing the increasingly difficult political situation, ASDT applied for a coalition with UDT to establish a force to face attacks if any, this new force was named Frenti Revolusionariu Timór-Leste Independencia (FRETILIN). In January 1975, however, this coalition did not last long because there was influence from outside so UDT left this coalition. Starting with the process of political conflict, until the civil war between FRETILIN and other parties as well as with Indonesia in 1975 until the statement of integration into Indonesia by the group that lost the war with FRETILIN until 1999. (Interview with Dr. Mari'i Alkatari)

The UN Political Transformation Process in Timor-Leste: The UN Political Process through resolution 1246 received agreement between the United Nations, the governments of Indonesia and Portugal on 5 May 1999 regarding the procedure for implementing a referendum in East Timor for that the UN form UNAMET (United Nations Mission in East Timor) on 11 June 1999. Furthermore, the transitional process of the UNTAET era, namely the Transitional Government which is administratively managed by the United Nations through UNTAET to prepare sovereign independence for Timor-Leste. UNTAET mission until 2002. The process of the first transition from UNAMET to UNTAET, the second from UNTAET to the Government of Timor-Leste after proclaiming independence in 2002 with a system of semi-presidential government until now. (interview with Dr. Mariano Assanami Sabino Lopes)

CONCLUSION

The process of political transformation and the transitional system in Timor-Leste began from the arrival of the Portuguese to establishing a Portuguese government system in Timor-Leste and developing a political structure and administrative service system from national to rural areas until 1975. There was a flower revolution in Portugal, the Portuguese government did not able to control and regulate the colonies across the ocean, then they will be given political freedom to determine their own destiny. Young intellectuals forming political parties held elections to seek victory to form a government, but because there was no guarantee of political security and ideological differences that could not compromise, there was a civil war between political parties, some parties asked for help from Indonesia to come to colonize again, and only the FRETILIN Party fought to survive in the jungle with various political strategies and support from various organizations and the international community until it received UN assistance to hold a referendum until it gained independence in 1999 and restored independence in 2002 with a presidential system of government until now.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To the young generation, must have the courage to maintain independence and sovereignty nation for the sake of smooth national development which aims to welfare of society and progress of the nation.
2. To the readers, that the results of this discussion are still very far from perfect, because of the limitations of the researcher.

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