

Transactional Politics in Election of Regional Heads in Gorontalo Province

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Abstract: This study aims to determine the effect of Transactional Politics in the Election of Regional Heads in Gorontalo Province. The purpose of this study is to see political transactions occurring among party elites or political actors, their influence on party administrators in making choices for regional head candidates and the sociological impact of political transactions on voters. The method used in this research is descriptive method with a qualitative approach and with correlation analysis techniques. Data collection uses questionnaires, interviews, and observations. Based on the results of the research that has been done, it can be seen that there is a significant influence between the effect of transactional politics on voter behavior in the Election of Regional Heads. This political scenario has an impact on the voting community in determining candidates for regional heads, this is because party sympathizers sometimes have party emotional ties, sometimes also have emotional ties figure. Regional head candidates who have been determined by party elites have a strategy to influence voters to also practice political transactions with voter citizens or party sympathizers. The sociological impact on society from this transactional political practice, especially for voters who have low knowledge about political situations and conditions, is dilemmatic in determining candidates for regional head because it is influenced by psychological pressure both party and material doctrine.

Keywords: Transactional Politics, Regional Head Election, Voter Behavior.

INTRODUCTION

The current political and democratic system creates transactional politics with high costs. Transactional politics is very broad in scope, can touch all political activities. Transactional politics can give birth to leaders and politicians who are synonymous with styles that are guided by economic values and transactions that lead to personal gain [1]. This reality develops in the community especially those in contact with the political world is full of exchanges of services, both in the presidential election, governors, mayors / regents and even at the village head level need political transactions.

Costs incurred during the election of politicians become a burden that must be returned when someone wants to be in power. Competition transactions between political parties make each potential ruler try his best to spread influence to the public to gain Party support [2, 3]. This action according to researchers fertilizes many politics in the party elite and can influence the democratization of regional head elections. Transactional politics means trade politics. There are those who sell, others buy of course all of them need a mutually agreed payment instrument. If in buying and selling, the payment

instruments are usually in the form of cash or with offers of political positions [4].

Effects of political dominoes transactional in elections or local elections is hostage democracy, party life is currently more sheltered by an opportunism approach, a transactional approach is found in normative regulations and pragmatic regulations [5]. Normative rules are outlining general guidelines for the behavior of community members, forming general rules on the behavior of members of the community, forming formal and superior general regulations in society while what is meant by pragmatic regulations is the regulation of the game or not violating the norm [6, 7].

In transactional politics, some give money and some receive money in these political transactions. However, it is not always money used in political transactions. Transactional politics also relates to positions or certain benefits outside of money. Transactional politics is a form of transaction or agreement between two parties that have mutual needs, especially in political practices where there is a process that gives and receives something both material and non-material in accordance with an agreed agreement [8]. This politics is related to the increasing bargaining

data of voters to vote for one of the legislative candidates with a political background with candidates who strive to seduce voters [9].

In practical political practice, there is almost certainly transactional politics because basically politics is a compromise, sharing power. This is not only in Indonesia, but also throughout the world. Politics is a process of sharing power. Where someone or a group of people who gain power, will share power with others. Usually, the division of power is related to the political coalition that was previously built. Without a coalition, the possibility of transactional politics is minimal [10]. Usually, before a coalition is built, the political transactions must be agreed upon. If there is betrayal in the implementation, then the political agreement or transaction can be evaluated or not done at all.

The interesting thing that is of concern in this research is political transactions among party elites who do not consider political ethics in determining candidates for regional heads. What happened in Gorontalo was that the Chairperson of political party sold his party to candidates for regional heads who did not have parties, and party owners nominated themselves with other parties that met the requirements in nominating regional heads. This study aims to determine the effect of the transaction process, the influence of administrators of political parties, and the impact of sociology in determining candidates for regional heads in Gorontalo Province.

RESEARCH METHODS

Descriptive method with qualitative approach is the main view of this research method. This study intends to analyze the Transactions of Political Parties in the sociology politics study in Gorontalo Province. Determination of the location of the study is based on the consideration that in Gorontalo Province there was a practice of transactions between political parties in determining regional head candidates related to political sociological aspects and taking into account the risk aspects of the region and its environment. In data collection techniques the author collects data through documentation, interviews, and observation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Transactional politics

Transactional political discourse in regional head elections gets a serious response and is responded to by the ruling element in carrying out a democratic party display labeled with regional head elections. The large number of violations carried out in the form of transactional politics often use their power to pass one of their superiorities in regional head elections.

Based on the findings in the research interview that in the stages of the candidates for regional head determination, negotiations were carried out between

the supporting parties and the party elite by utilizing the power of the party elite to carry out transactional politics. To influence party elites in supporting regional head candidates, various ways are directly or indirectly aware or unconsciously competing by using any means to attract the support of party elites while at the same time attracting sympathy for voters.

In transactional politics it does not always apply in the form of cash, but also in the form of goods and projects if the prospective regional head is nominated. voters become more influential with the latest political issues in aspirating their voices to prospective politicians, rather than just choosing based on loyalty or loyalty to certain political candidates. Competition for transactions between political parties makes each candidate ruler try his best to spread influence to the public to get Party support.

This action, according to researchers, fosters many politics in the party elite and can influence the democratization of regional elections. Transactional politics can give birth to leaders and politicians who are synonymous with styles that are guided by economic values and transactions that lead to personal gain. In practical political practice, there is almost certainly transactional politics because basically politics is a compromise and sharing of power.

This happens throughout the world because indeed politics is a process of sharing power. Transactional politics is very broad in scope, can touch all political activities. Transactional politics can give birth to leaders and politicians who are synonymous with styles that are guided by economic values and transactions that lead to personal gain. Based on the findings of transactional political practice, it is very influential in determining candidates for regional heads because besides being transacted with cash, it is also promised to be promised with the project and to share seats to fill the ranks of heads of agencies in the local government.

Transactional politics based on the typology moves in the context of the proximity of regional head candidates to elite party leaders (Political Actors) in determining candidates for special regional heads in Gorontalo Province. Political Transactions Prospective regional heads with administrators of political parties or party elites result in cooperation in terms of using their power as party elites to transactional in regional head elections both in cash and in-kind transactions and even promises of obtaining projects that are deposited through regional government agencies.

Elite Party (Political Actor)

Regional head candidates who have been determined by party elites have a strategy to influence voters to also practice political transactions with voter

citizens or party sympathizers. Prospective Regional Heads not only transact with party elites but also conduct political transactions with voters and sympathizers. The findings in the field of regional head candidates have their own burden on how they have to win this election because they have made political transactions with the party elite who nominated him. Interaction between actors also takes place in the arena of political competition where actors in society contest in seizing elected positions.

This strategy is very effective in winning the election of regional head candidates, because the voters are still affected by the value of the currency rather than seeing the candidate (figure) of the Regional Head. This is evident in the field that candidates for regional heads who have financial strength still often win the battle for regional head candidates. Linz and Stephan state that the political arena is characterized by the presence of four main actors: first, the state which in various literature is placed as a public agency. Second, political society, in which there are political parties. Third, economic society, which always moves in the logic of capital and market. Fourth, civil society, which has the characteristics of voluntarism and is independent of state influence [11].

Politics provides space for daily discourse that is increasingly popular thanks to media networks that have broad-casting real-time capabilities because politicians have an awareness of the power relations that surround and live those who are involved in the process of continuously formulating the vision and mission that are built on overlapping interests that are not always rational [12].

Sociological Impact

Sociologically, regional head elections have attracted the attention of voters. This is evident in the field that where the candidate for regional head who should have the support of his own party instead creates a political scenario to win votes in the eyes of prospective regional head voters. Candidates for regional heads who own party A give their parties to candidates for regional heads to be made as political vehicles to advance to become regional heads, while owners of party A, nominate party B.

This phenomenon occurs in regional head elections (Election of Governors and Deputy Governors) in Gorontalo province and in Bone Bolango regency (Election of Regents and Deputy Regents). At the election of the Governor "Deputy Governor (Idris Rahim) is the chairman of the Regional Mandate Council (PAN) to hand over his party to the Regional Head Candidates for political vehicles for the same Regional head elections, and" Idris Rahim "running for the Golkar party, . As a result, won by "Idris Rahim" as a candidate for the elected regional head, while his

political vehicle suffered defeat. Similarly, the election of Deputy Regency in Bone Bolango (Azan Piola Isa and Samsul) also suffered the same fate of giving his party to other regional head candidates, also experiencing the same defeat.

A citizen participates in regional head elections not only because his condition is better socio-economically, or because he is on a social network, but because he is interested in politics, has a feeling close to a particular party (party identity), has enough information to make choices, feels his voice is meaningful, and believes that his choice can help improve the situation. Even so this political scenario has a sociological impact on the voting community in determining candidates for regional heads, this is because party sympathizers sometimes have party emotional ties, sometimes also have emotional figure ties [13].

Socio-logically, between the figure and the party often contradicts the fact that there have been political transactions in regional head elections resulting in political pressure in the form of party doctrine and material doctrine. The implementation of a country's general elections, be it regional or central level political behavior is in the form of voter behavior in determining their attitudes and choices in carrying out general elections or post-conflict local elections. The voter behavior must be based on how the individual or the voter is. The sociological impact on society from this transactional political practice, especially for voters who have low knowledge about political situations and conditions, is dilemmatic in determining candidates for regional head because it is influenced by psychological pressure both party and material doctrine.

CONCLUSION

There is a transactional political influence on voter behavior in the Election of Regional Heads. This political scenario has a sociological impact on the voting community in determining candidates for regional heads, this is because party sympathizers sometimes have party emotional ties, sometimes also have emotional ties figure. Regional head candidates who have been determined by party elites have a strategy to influence voters to also practice political transactions with voter citizens or party sympathizers. Prospective Regional Heads not only transact with party elites but also conduct political transactions with voters and sympathizers. In transactional politics it does not always apply in the form of cash, but also in the form of goods and projects if the prospective regional head is nominated. The sociological impact on society from this transactional political practice, especially for voters who have low knowledge, gets a dilemmatic political situation and situation.

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