

Political Socialisation and Political Communication in Delivering Political Education and Being Community Aspiration Absorber in Indonesia

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The objective of this article is to analyse and describe political socialisation and political communication in legislative in delivering political education and in being community aspiration absorber within Indonesia context. Approach with theoretical analysis and review of literature. The contents of political socialisation are influenced by socialisation mechanism and process. The most important functions of legislative include: (1) Making policy and legislation. The legislative agency is given a right of taking the initiative to suggest an amendment to the existing laws and preparing a budget for this initiative. (2) Controlling executive agency. It means that legislative watches over any actions of an executive based on predetermined policy. Therefore, legislative is given specific control right to perform this function. (3) The representative function of DPR may vary with demography (gender, age, and location), sociology (social status), economy, employment (ownership or wealth), culture (custom, belief, and religion), and politic in community.

Key words: *Political, Socialization, Communication, Education and Aspiration.*



Introduction

Recent public election brings all citizens of Indonesian to recall a fact that human has rights to vote to ensure that their vote is represented democratically. The public election is a structure allowing people to allocate their political rights in the context of freedom of expression and also to cast their vote in a governance cycle. A strictly clean governance cycle must bridge political rights and representativeness of people in the Unitary State of Indonesia Republic. The election of people representatives becomes not only a formal arena for political competition but also the highest award to the rights of civilian political freedom.

In 2014, legislative election (to elect members of DPR, DPD and DPRD) had been run in manners of direct, free and confidential. Precisely on 9 April 2014, before such democratic even, some political parties and its political figures have shown massively organised behavior to communicate their existence. They attempt to send political messages and also to expose their vision and mission in building a track to achieve mutual resolution. This political communication is filled with aggressive posture among political parties, and this posture is called a political campaign.

Various mass media are used for the introduction channel to keep these parties close to the people as eligible constituents. Visual, audio, printed or non-printed media are subjected to calibration and speculation to be used as the takeoff anvil of parties' political communication.

The reconstruction of political communication done by political parties and legislative candidates have involved academicians concept of political socialisation and political education to either political parties, legislative candidates who are receiving support from political parties, and people as a constituent. This activity is reasonable because it always makes sense to collect votes as many as possible for legislative election. Such massively constructed political communication results in a dynamic change in the social environment of people.

The side-choosing activity must balance with freedom of choosing a side in public election. The balance is then measured by an assessment tool called Indonesia Democracy Index (IDI). Three important aspects are considered at this index, such as civil freedom, political rights and free democratic agencies. Each aspect has some indicators measured in maths. Among them include freedom and prohibition of gathering and associating; freedom of expression; discrimination and gender bias; rights of voting and being voted; complete facility for voting rights, permanent electoral list; voters turnout; percentage of female legislative members; public election bias; vote count deception; recommendation from legislative members; cadre-forming activity in political party; the use of government facility for political party's interest; and the involvement of civil servants with political party as one participant in public election.

The assessment on IDI had been performed in the last few years by examining three aspects with some perspectives. Indonesia democracy has become a centre of literacy and practice in international academics.

Democratic activity in the national context of Indonesia has influenced the same activity in its provinces, including East Java. As shown by the IDI Report for East Java, democratic activity in this province was rated as 70.36 % in 2014. It climbs higher from the previous election, and this increase is shown in three aspects of democracy measurement, respectively civil freedom, political rights and free democratic agency. Each aspect has been rated as follows. Civil freedom is rated as 81.62 on IDI, while political rights and democratic agency are given with a score of 56.29 and 78.54 (IDI Report for East Java Province, 2014).

3,639,423 voters attended the public election in Malang Raya. This democratic event was held in Malang Raya (including Malang Regency, Malang City, and Batu City) with a reflection of a complete democratic cycle. The population of Malang City is 883,810 individuals, while Batu City is 211,298 individuals and Malang Regency has been occupied with 2,544,315 individuals (BPS Nasional, 2016). These numbers are stated in the electoral list for the democratic event of a public election in Malang Raya. Each political party struggles for chairs in the Legislative Board. The number of chairs contested in Legislative Board is arranged as follows:

Table 1: Chair Occupancy in Legislative Board During the 2009-2014 Legislative Election in Malang Raya

Political Party	Malang Raya		
	Malang Regency	Malang City	Batu City
NASDEM	4	1	1
PKB	8	6	4
PKS	-	3	1
PDIP	13	11	5
GOLKAR	12	5	3
GERINDRA	7	4	4
DEMOKRAT	3	5	3
PAN	-	4	3
PPP	2	3	-
HANURA	1	3	1
PBB	-	-	-
PKPI	-	-	-

Source: Puskapol.ui.ac.id and datapolitik.org (Processed by Author, 2014)



The above table shows the plotting result of Malang Raya legislative members. The political campaign was used as a tool to disseminate the political message to the people and also allowed a political party to create a new social group in the local, which is called a political community. Political communication involves political socialisation and political education. After the campaign, a legislative candidate would be elected as the peoples representative in the Legislative Board. This position carries a great consequence, precisely a political role that must be then played by legislatures in the Legislative Board. It was said previously that political communication was an effort to capture constituent votes. To capture these votes, Legislative Board must act as the mediator of people aspiration.

Being a mediator of people aspiration, Legislative Board must embrace the aspirations of its constituents. Functionally, this activity is performed throughout the incumbency term of Legislative Board members. However, structural perspective declares that aspiration-capturing activity during Legislative Board Recess is then defined as:

“..... a period when Legislative Board members must work out of Parliament Building and concentrate to their own electoral region (Dapil). They work for capturing and embracing aspirations of their constituents and also conduct a supervisory function, which is called work visit (kunjungan kerja). Legislative members can do this visit in person or in a group. (Official Site of DPR-RI)

The reason behind recess is Law No.32/2004 about Local Government. It is subjected to some revisions. One is Law No.12/2008 about Second Amendment to Law No.32/2004 about Local Government, which then it is renewed into Law No.23/2014 about Local Government. Another legal standing for recess includes Regulation No.15/2006 about Financial Examination Agency and Regulation No.27/2009 about People Deliberation Assembly, People Representative House, and Local People Representative House.

Recess period and Legislative Board's role implicitly are associated with political communication pattern which involves political socialisation and political education. It was reiterated by Aminulloh dan Diahloka (2015: 26) who examined the effect of political communication on legislative behaviour in their work entitled with “The Influence of Political Communication Toward Legislative Member Behaviour” that was enclosed within International Journal of Humanities Social and Education (IJHSSE) as follows:

“As social representatives, these legislative members are expected to absorb and strife many society aspirations. To accommodate many aspirations from public than a member of legislative needs a good and effective communication ability...An aspirative communication and ethical politics from the member of legislative will bring a harmonious relationship between legislative and public, so this relationship will make every policy from the regional



government have a solid basis from public aspiration, and public will participate on every policy that made by regional government because they feel involved”.

Aspiration-capturing activity from Legislative Board has put political communication in the frame of political socialisation to deliver political education as the tip of the spear to empower Indonesia democracy. Following up this activity, the academic review is conducted to examine the role of Legislative Board in Malang Raya as the sample of the electoral region. Legislative Board during recess period attempts to absorb people aspirations. The preview will discuss how far is the implementation of political communication of the Legislative Board when it is measured by the thematic method (quantitative).

Political Role

Members of legislative have essential roles not only as a representative of people but also as a member of a political party. These roles emanate from the perspective of creating an organisation to unite individuals with the same mindset and then managing them into a joint consolidation. Legislative were quite influential in the making and implementation of public decision.

The influence of the legislative is related to their accountability to people. There are two accountabilities considered. First is the accountability in performing important activities at public election context, including examining the quality of candidates, preparing campaign finance, and enforcing electoral maintenance rules. Second is the accountability to avoid from committing manipulation and deviation. In fact, the political roles of a political party and legislative member always involve both accountabilities (Kholmi et al, 2015:736).

Contextually, it can be said that legislative member or political party is an individual or a group of individuals with a willingness to organisation collective values. Such insistence will shape the personal character of the individual and also control the accountability that the individual should have before acting as the representative of people. The benefits of political parties and also their legislative candidate can be communicated in the polling of opinions. It must be conducted because after the election, candidates may take control over the executive at a certain level of government. Therefore, attributing policy-making to an individual must be accurate although it is hardly measured (Madariaga and Ozen, 2015; 68). Another benefit is shown by the possibility of participation because educational and political interests are always higher in a proportional distributive system (Prados-Prado et al, 2014; 261-262).

In term of social normative perspective, the role of legislative and political parties is quite obvious in political mobilisation. This mobilisation indeed involves political socialisation or political education but it emphasize merely not on power issue. Public interest concerning

with humanity, community and morality values must be attended. Ediraras et al (2013:587) asserted that: "...Apparently, the problem of power is not the problem but rather the party or nonparty systems require the humanitarian problems, values, and a strong moral and this must be built over time".

Therefore, the position of legislatives is built by representing the political interest of people who submit their aspirations to legislative or executive agencies. This political interest contains some perspectives, including religion, ideology, group, locality and ethnic. Roles played by legislatives can also be understood as the delegation of roles from people to legislatives or to political parties that considered as representative to people interest. As said by Kholmi et al (2015: 732), "...the agency relationship is the principal has given a contract in the form of a delegation of authority in decision-making to the company (agent)". This statement is useful for conceptual or practical guidance in this research.

Legislative as a structure of mobilisation would drive the mass in certain political environment. The mobilisation of mass must be organised to help transmitting knowledge, attitude, value, and norm of certain collective interest. Mass mobilisation is a usual event during election, appointment, and the inauguration of political standing in the government (Damsar, 2010: 254).

In the context of political party organisation, the officers of the party are given mandates by their constituent because these officers would represent constituent vote. Moe in Kholmi et al (2015; 732) had stated that political organisations in the government professed a principal-agent relationship. Officers who occupy chairs in legislative, upper executive, middle executive, and lower executive, will always serve people. Roles played by legislatives or political parties would open contextual screen of government because it allows them to deliver civil service to people and also to represent mandates the people give to them. The political resource may come from personal or political parties, and this resource is very important to be a supporting structure.

For mobilising the mass, political parties will utilise their political resource (Ediraras, et al, 2013: 586). This resource can be used for political socialisation (Ediraras, et al, 2013: 586). Such a resource is also managed for political education to communicate political contents. O'Cass (2010) concedes that "... utilising..... mobilising voters for political support to maintain the image during the interval of an election."

Political scientists describe four functions of legislative although it is similar to those of political parties. As noted by Miriam Budiardjo, these functions include (i) political communication, (ii) political socialisation, (iii) political recruitment, and (iv) conflict

management (Budiardjo, 1992; 163-164). The perspective of role-biased seems to influence legislatives in performing their structural task and function.

In term of function, Yves Meny and Andrew Knapp declare that legislative have some functions, including (i) mobilisation and integration; (ii) management of effect on voting behaviour (voting pattern); (iii) political recruitment structure; and (iv) elaboration of policy options (Asshiddiqie, 2006; 8). In substantive term, structural and functional roles of legislative, either being people representative or political party member, may determine their interaction with other individuals or groups. Some characteristics have marked this interaction as follows:

- (1) Political behaviour of legislative is described as the behaviour of the citizen with various relations. This relation may between government and people, or between a government agency and a community group. This relation is usually made in the making, implementing, and enforcing the political decision.
- (2) Legislatives represent the orientation of citizens on the political system and also on their participation in this system. Citizens would always identify themselves with national symbols and government agencies which match with their orientation.
- (3) Legislatives constitute a group with interest. It is a group or organisation that influences government policy without the intention to acquire a public position. An interest group can accumulate or expense funds and efforts to perform political actions for legislating public interest.
- (4) Legislatives can act as a pressure group that influences or establishes government policy. The method may involve persuasion, propaganda or more effective ways.

Aligned with this perspective, Kholmi et al (2015; 732) asserted that “As an organisation where its existence depends on public (constituents), then the management of political parties promoting the values of accountability is a necessity”. Legislative members or political parties refer to an organisation that relies on public/constituent votes for its existence. The management of political parties, thus, must promote accountability values. A political party has a strong linkage with these values, especially when its existence is validated with a constituent vote.

Morality is an indicator of the quality of a political party. This indicator is measured from the behaviour of the politician. Common sense expects a leader who is “clean”, meaning that the leader does not morally defect. A leader must be a good role-making model. Any candidates should understand this perception before their candidacy is accepted or validated hierarchically by a politician or political party.



Political Communication

Michael Rush and Philip Althoff (1997: 24) has defined political communication as a process where relevant political information must be delivered from a part of the political system to other parties, and be managed across social and political systems. This process is sustainable which covered an information exchange between individuals and groups in all grades.

It is also stated that political communication is a dynamic element which determines the degree of political socialisation and political participation. In this case, political communication determines the behavioral pattern of political humans. Political communication done by legislatives influence the diversity in this political behaviour pattern. Political communication than can be defined as a relationship involving political messages and political actors. Political communication can also be understood as communication between “the governing” and “the governed” (Rush and Althoff, 1997; 22).

This perception considers political party aspect as a people mandate. Therefore, accountability to people will prevent political actors from acting beyond messages assigned to them. Indeed, the quality of political candidates must reflect information or content in political communication. This perception is supported by Kholmi et al (2015; 736) with the statement “...In addition, the results provide an input... the quality of politician candidates has to abide to be good governance”.

In this matter, communication means transforming information to obtain replies and also coordinating meanings across people. This activity involves sharing information, ideas, behavioural elements, or lifestyles through a set of rules in order to produce a similar understanding on political symbols (Wahid, 2012: 74).

Aligning with these elements of political communication, therefore, political communication is always related to the social interaction between the political party, political party member, and constituent.

Jensen & Meckling (1976: 308) said that:

“...mention the agency relationship with the following definition: An agency relationship is a contract under which one or more persons (the principal(s)) engage another person (the agent) to perform some services on their behalf which involves delegating some decision making authority to the agent...”

Relation or interaction developed in political communication that involves political socialisation and political education is a relation based on a contract between principal and agent to do some services on behalf of a political party or a certain senior member of the



political party. It involves decision-making on how much authority is to delegate to the appointed agent. Such relation also involves different information or cognition. Pardos-Prado et al (2014:255) have given an opinion about different information and cognition as follows: "...individual differences in information and cognitive resources are the first likely source of heterogeneity to consider".

Smets and van Ham (2013) indicate that "Education is considered one of the strongest predictors of voter turnout and has been used ubiquitously as an indicator of the resource model of political participation". Therefore, political education always influences political communication in sides of sender or receiver.

Political communication is also seen as political participation which becomes a yardstick in understanding the quality of citizen and legislative member at certain responsibility for the progress and feasibility of the nation, and also in understanding what political system that underscores political participation consistent to political nature or orientation of citizens. Political participation (involving political communication) contains several aspects:

- (1) Political participation can be explained as organised efforts to elect leaders. It influences the shape and road of policy-making.
- (2) Political participation also means as engagement, involvement, and/or making a contribution to activities related with power, authority, public life, government, state, conflict and also distribution or allocation (Damsar, 1979).
- (3) Participation can be individual or collective, organised or spontaneous, established or sporadic, peaceful or anarchic, legal or illegal, and also effective or ineffective (Damsar, 1980).
- (4) Political participation may be given voluntarily (without perforce), with directly emotional attachment, and also with the expectation to obtain direct or indirect benefits from the participation (Gatara and Said, 2007; 90).

The political system is a manifestation of generalised interaction across social behaviours from which authoritative values (values of the authority) are embedded to the people. Interaction between the political structure in the political system can be viewed as an element in a political communication system.

Two types of political communication are given. First, political communication may take a horizontal position. In this communication, the position of communicator and communicant (people) is relatively balancing (sending and receiving properly), and thus, a process called sharing happens. This communication reflects the values of democracy. Second, political communication can take a linear pattern. The direction (information flow) of this



communication is one-way and it tends to be vertical (top-down). This communication reflects the values of feudalistic and authoritarian leadership.

Political Socialization

The understanding of political communication should be linked with political socialization. Interaction with political communication between the legislative member and people in the political system will create deeper speech rooms. Direct contacts between the legislative member and political agencies can influence political attitudes and behaviours of individual and group either to stay loyal or to support government political system or political party or even to do the reverse.

Ediraras et al (2013; 585) take Nursal's quote on political socialisation that equalises political socialisation with political marketing. Political marketing is "...defined as a series of activities planned, strategic but also tactical, dimensionless term and short term, to spread the political meaning to the voters". This political socialisation perspective indicates that the experience of socialisation may influence political behaviour in the next day. James W. Vander Zanden (in Damsar: 2010: 152) defined socialisation as a process of social interaction. This interaction was then a source for obtaining knowledge, attitude, value, and behaviour that was essential for active participation in the community.

Other view about political socialisation is shown in the following statement:

"Political socialisation is not, however, sufficient to explain how all people view electoral integrity at a particular point in time. Although socialisation may well provide a reservoir or benchmark of support, it is not plausible to suggest that the level of support remains unchanged through a life cycle of perhaps a dozen or more national elections" (Bowler, 2015: 2).

To socialize information to constituent must be difficult unless a good communication channel is available. The smart constituent can escape from the constraint and take participation in consensus system within the election. In other words, cognitive resources and political motivation are truly needed but its importance still depends on the organisational arrangement that can be made in proportional or distributional ways, and that take into account the decision of voting (Pardos-Prado et al, 2014; 263). Constituents may consider giving their political vote to the agency that represents their interest and demand.

Efriza (2012:17) discloses that political socialisation is a part of the social process. This social process can be teaching and educating individuals. The location where the social process occurs is considered as a form of agency. There are some agents in political



socialisation, such as family, school friend, same age friend, workgroup, religious group, squat group, and mass media. Indeed, the political socialisation process starts from generative, as the lowest stage, and proceeds to the maturity. It was a sustainable process in life. It is stated by Norris and also by Elklit and Reynolds in Bowler (2015:2), “Beyond any socialised acceptance of election results then, citizens' views of electoral legitimacy are conditioned by their perceptions of electoral and political performance”.

If political socialisation is made equal with marketing activity, then it will need a political organisation that can manage information also and adequately pursue strategic behaviour to fulfil the demand and interest of people. It is consistent with Giasson et al (2012) that “If it is applied to politics, marketing entails a political organisation using business techniques to inform and shape its strategic behaviour that is designed to satisfy citizens' needs and wants”. Suppose that this statement is true, then many aspects would be influential. These include:

- (1) Place that is assumed containing work programs, ideologies, hopes, and leadership figures, that give people security in dealing with the future. This fact is supported by “the presence of candidates who are willing to be together with voters to actualize plans”.
- (2) Price or value, as measured in terms of belief, religion, economic standard, and ethnic background.
- (3) Promotion, which is understood from intensity or frequency when political party members introduce themselves to a constituent.
- (4) Election target, which is divided into two major groups, respectively voter and potential voter. In this case, the homogenous group is mapped and selected as a target for a campaign program and also being exploited to achieve the goals of a political party (Arofah and Nugrahajati, 2014; 156).

Indeed, socialisation involves some phases.

- (1) Learning process. This first phase will establish the main trend that roots in the hardly changing personality.
- (2) To understand how political orientation is generalised after the learning matures and is ready to deal with external groups. This second phase introduces and affords wider contacts which may shock individuals.
- (3) Maturity. In this phase, grown-up individuals can discard their political creed, national identity and ethnicity.

Ediraras et al (2013: 585) describe political socialisation (marketing) as “...aims to establish and instil hope, attitudes, beliefs, orientations and voting behaviour... Voter behaviour is generally expected to support a variety of dimensions, especially settled on a particular party

or candidate”. It can be said that political socialisation has the goal of establishing hopes, attitudes, beliefs, orientations and voting behaviour.

Efriza (2012;54) exposes that the content of political socialisation by an individual or a socialisation agent to other individual or community group can be explained as follows:

- (1) Political information is the content of socialisation that illuminates a political event that ever happens.
- (2) It is about political belief or political trust. Socialisation agents may behave in perforce to pursue their own aspiration, hunch, or political ideology. Usually, it involves one-way indoctrination.
- (3) Political knowledge is related to academician understanding about political phenomenon. This political phenomenon is structurally given in the form of education.
- (4) Political provocation or propaganda. In this case, provocation, agitation and propaganda is the abuse of political ethic. The content of political socialisation tends to manipulate facts for unilateral benefit.

Another thing to consider is that in political socialisation, the question is about the consequence of the use of socialisation media on socialisation structure. Socialisation media can cause a horizontal conflict as described by Arofah and Nugrahajati (2014: 154) who state that “Moreover, this campaign method brings consequences such as public ignorance, discomfort, and horizontal conflict”. Socialisation media helps the political party to increase the number of cadres, sympathisers, and constituents despite its possibility of causing conflict. Conflict prevalence rate and its effective rate will depend on provocative nature in the contents of political socialisation information.

Anticipating such adverse condition, Ediraras et al (2013; 586) suggest that particular political party and candidate, at least for their political image, can take the following measures, such as communicating messages and ideas; developing self-identity, credibility and transparency; building good interaction and response with internal and external shares of community; conducting study of image management; performing training, data processing, and data analysis for the campaign.

Other things considered to socialise political contents include: “(1) policy, or the link between citizen preferences and legislators’ voting behaviour, (2) service, which involves individual assistance to constituents who need help with government agencies, (3) allocation, or the securing of funding for the district, and (4) descriptive, which denotes a connection based on identity traits like gender or race” (Harden, 2013: 1). Specifically, these four concepts underscore political socialisation contents relevant to the voting network and voting behaviour of legislative. Political socialisation can use relationship description which

illustrates identities such as gender or race. Ediraras et al (2013; 585) quote Firmansah's opinion, which indirectly stating that political party may assign its voters to several categories, and therefore, the socialisation by the political party will be done based on the image of a political party or its candidate.

Socialisation contents are influenced by the mechanism and process of socialisation. The transition of values, knowledge, beliefs, political attitude and political hope from certain individual or group to others may proceed through several ways (Damsar, 2010; 166):

- (1) Imitating; it is the most familiar mechanism of socialisation known by a human. Anythings human knew and understood at the first time of life were coming from imitating. Imitating process is then considered as the early transmission of values, knowledge, beliefs, attitude and hope, in the political aspect of the family.
- (2) Instructing; it means delivering something, especially decisions, from a person with authority to person with subordination or whom standing is affected by the authority holder. Political instruction is usually given across interrelated institutions or agencies with similar political interests. For example, political relation between nation and political party always exists.
- (3) Disseminating; political dissemination is done by legislative and bureaucratic officers to distribute information concerning with political agenda. Bureaucratic officers, for instance, do many activities, such as disseminating information about legislative candidates, arrange an interfacial meeting, spread pamphlets, and use billboard and mass media. In the other hand, people are easily informed with dissemination.
- (4) Motivating; political motivation is a mechanism of political socialisation to create attitudes, either straightforward or gradual, into individual or group of individuals concerning with values, knowledge, beliefs, political postures, and political hopes. The motivated agent will be a person with a certain degree of trust to certain individual or group of individuals.
- (5) Upgrading (penataran). This term sounds familiar in the era of the New Order. Upgrading session is a mechanism of political socialisation to internalise values, knowledge, beliefs, attitude and behaviour. All these substances should be applied to daily life unless these were proved wrong. The main problem faced by upgrading trainer is that political agents or political actors assumed that they have understood these substances and prefer to use others.

Political Education

Political education is self-educated activity (by intention) in a sustainable process to produce more understandings about environmental situation and condition. As said by Kantaprawira (2004:55), political education was aimed to improve people knowledge which then allows

them to participate maximally in the political system. Political education can be seen also as the intentional action to change political socialisation in the community in order to keep them understood with values contained within an ideal political system.

Although education is considered as a structure of social class for capacity building, but its effect on voters is varying depending on the complexity of the voting procedure. More specific, Gallego (2010) cites that the relationship between education and voter is lacking when the constituency is small. It is proved that education allows cognitive skill to interact with systemic characteristic during the election. However, research has mentioned that explicitly, education cannot be considered as a mediator in the proportional discussion, and it remains unknown whether the proportionality and the division of government can increase political participation regardless the gap in education (Pardos-Pardo et al, 2014; 255).

Another view has stated that the overlap of political accountabilities and roles may increase the gap between political actors and persons who are not involved within the political process (Pardos-Prado, et al, 2014; 255). It is linked strongly with political socialisation (campaign). Arofah and Nugrahajati (2014:157) assert that “Political campaign is one of the easiest ways for voters or constituents to educate themselves about the political condition in their country and their region”. Political socialisation must be consistent with the contents of political education. This consistency would facilitate political education and keep politician to close with constituents in their electoral region.

As noted by common sense, the effect of this strategic behaviour, through political socialization, may influence political education attained by a politician or political party. The concept of strategic people representatives is then understood by examining how far they use their resource to increase their representativeness in front of people, such as by taking aspiration of constituents and attaining their representation priority (Harden, 2013;8).

Political education is given orientation to develop and improve the awareness of nationality life. It is expected that this awareness will increase active political participation to develop the nation on people aspiration. Political education is then implemented in the following ways:

- (1) The procurement and delivery of readable and legible materials including newspaper, magazine, and other mass publication that can establish general opinions.
- (2) The use of audible materials, such as radio, and audio-visual materials, including television and movie.
- (3) The use of organisations, associations, and communities such as mosque and church, where preaching can be done to broad audiences, or where formal or informal educations are possibly held.

Above characteristics may also be linked with features of constituents, such as social-demography, age, gender, race, education and income (Madariaga & Ozen, 2015: 69). Arofah and Nugrahajati (2014:157) perceived that the delivery of political education in mass media context with non-verbal channels or with symbols, in one hand, is not educating people, and in the other hand, is also ineffective and wasting monies. Theoretical discussion about political education is useful for internalising values, attitudes, and behaviours that underscore base substances of political education:

(1) Political value is explained as follows:

- a. Political value is a set of assessments or calculations made for political policy;
- b. Political policy is that understood based on political reality which then leads to the questions of what political action must be done;
- c. Political action is done as a political mandate. It involves determining what is good and bad before settling on a decision that political mandate should be done properly.
- d. That should be done properly means that it has a nature of progressive.
- e. The characteristic of progressive is related to behaviour which corresponds with the development of national culture.
- f. Such behaviour will produce useful change.
- g. The useful change includes anythings useful from the interest of political possibilities.

(2) Political knowledge has three variables. It includes knowledge about government, about the rule of the political game, and about environment and community.

(3) Political attitude concerns with a readiness to react to particular political objects as a result of understanding them. Attitude is not an action, but it is only a preference and it is also predictable. The preference for certain condition may lead a person to choose whether to reside or to take action. Persons with the courage to change their environment from democratic to more democratic one would reflect their political attitude and behaviour. Both these are determined by idealism, intelligence, biological factor, and internal preference, or also external factors such as environment, culture, national life, political, social, economic values and others.

The bases underscoring political education are set as follows:

- (1) It must be cultural education, which fosters cultural values attended by the immediate community.
- (2) It is conducted in a democratic way.
- (3) It must be made integral with other programs in other sectors.
- (4) It gives benefits to welfare.
- (5) It is performed gradually, in stages, and sustainable.

(6) It does not disturb security and political stability.

House of People Representatives

House of People Representatives (DPR) is a national agency in the governance system with clearly defined tasks and functions. The works must not overlap with those of other agencies. Pursuant to Article 1 Letter 1 Law No.27/2009, DPR is a representative agency as what is stated in the National Constitution.

In relation to this definition, B.N. Marbun (1982:55) quoted Mh. Isnaeni who said that DPR is functioned as the carrier of people aspiration about governance. It can be inferred that DPR is designed to accommodate and disseminate aspiration and interest of people based on the comprehensive frame of democratic standard and Pancasila. Therefore, legislative members had an obligation to take responsibility for moral and political participation of voters in the electoral region.

Legislative members have the task and function of absorbing, compiling, accommodating, and following up the aspiration of people. It is already stated within Law No.27/2009 Article 25. Based on this Law, DPR must act consistently to the opinion of people, and this action requires integrity, capacity, and self-dependency of DPR members in carrying on people aspiration. These characters are needed because some individuals or interest groups have different goals which can affect local policies.

Within the political representative system, legislative agency (DPR) has a central position and function because it is a representative of people. It has the discretion of making local regulation to implement local governance. The most essential functions of legislative include:

- (1) Making policy and legislation. The legislative agency is given a right of taking the initiative to suggest an amendment to the existing laws and preparing a budget for this initiative.
- (2) Controlling executive agency. It means that legislative watches over any actions of an executive based on predetermined policy. Therefore, legislative is given specific control right to perform this function.
- (3) Sarundajang (2001: 123) declared that representative function of DPR may vary with demography (gender, age, and location), sociology (social status), economy, employment (ownership or wealth), culture (custom, belief, and religion), and politic in community.

Accommodating aspiration is an activity or process to accept aspiration submitted to DPR. Compiling aspiration means activity or process to collect, sort and select aspiration that must be submitted to DPR. Accommodating and compiling aspiration always involve absorbing

aspiration. Absorbing aspiration is understood as an activity of listening, attending, learning, and reviewing aspiration, either that developed in the community and that submitted to DPR. When aspiration has been set into a compilation, DPR is required to do a follow-up. Such follow-up means that legislative members will do absorbing aspiration based on task, function, and discretion.

In absorbing, compiling and accommodating aspiration, House of People Representatives (DPR) manages this aspiration with several principles:

- (1) Objectivity; following-up aspiration would require giving attention to identity, data, fact, and evidence for validity and accuracy.
- (2) Coordination; processing aspiration involves collaboration with relevant working units with relevant discretion and responsibility.
- (3) Effectiveness and efficiency; the aspiration is managed through fast and accurate moves, on-plan (on-target), and achieving economic goals in the effort, time, and cost.
- (4) Accountability; it is a process of managing aspiration and community complaint, and then giving them a follow-up, and all of these are considered as a supporting system to DPR.
- (5) Transparency; it means that aspiration is managed based on clear and standard procedures and mechanisms, with information about data and problem-solving that must be easily known by the community from electronic media.
- (6) Justice; aspiration is followed-up by setting out the principle of justice which is delivered by attending the report made by people to DPR.
- (7) Confidentiality; it concerns with secrecy of the submitted issue. Relevant documents are then prohibited from being known by irrelevant parties.

Democracy

Democracy is governance where the power of the nation remains on the hand of few peoples and this power is used for the interest of people. If compared to parliamentary representation, democracy is understood as a close relationship between the executive and legislative but legislative is an agency with greater accountability to people. In this power division system, democracy is a division of power between the executive, legislative and judicative.

Etymologically, democracy comes from the word demosi, means people, and kratein, means governance. Then, literally, democracy means the governance of people. Abraham Lincoln reiterates this word into “Democracy is a government of the people by the people and for the people”. It is understood as that the people is the owner of the power, while the government holds power only because it receives delegation of power from the people. Therefore, the government must attend the preference of people and attempt to serve the interest of people. In a democracy system, thus, people have a very important position.

At the countries with constitutional democracy, the national constitution has a distinctive function, which is to limit the power of government that prevents it from doing arbitrary governance. By this limit, rights of citizen would be protected. This idea is the origin of constitutionalism (Budiardjo, 1993; 96).

Henry B. Mayo in Mahfud MD (2000:19) has said, “A democratic political system is one in which public policies are made on a majority basis, by representatives subject to effective popular control at periodic elections which are conducted on the principle of political equality and under conditions of political freedom.”

The form of democracy may differ across the countries but it does not mean that there are no parameters to make certain whether a country could apply democracy or not. Political scientists, after observing democracy in various countries, have empirically formulated democracy using indicators. These include Juan Linz, G. Bingham Powell Jr, and Robert Dahl. Of these indicators, five are considered as important to see whether a nation is really democratic or not (Gaffar, 2002:7). These five indicators are:

- a. Accountability. In a democracy, every rank holder must be subjected to accountability for any policies been made, any words been spoken, and any behaviours been shown.
- b. Power rotation. In a democracy, rotation of power is a usual occurrence. It was done peacefully and regularly. One person may not dominate in holding the rank and others cannot be shut from occupying it.
- c. Open political recruitment. To make power rotation becoming possible, therefore, open political recruitment system is needed. It means that the person with eligibility to occupy political rank would have a similar chance in the competition of this rank occupancy.
- d. General election. In a democratic system, the general election is run periodically. Every citizen with eligibility may have the right to cast vote or to be voted, and have the freedom to use the right based on the conscience.
- e. Fundamental rights. In a democratic country, every citizen can enjoy freedom of using their fundamental rights, including the right of making an expression, the right of gathering and founding association, and the right of free press.

Democracy of Pancasila as stated within the National Constitution is enforcing principles of the State of Law where law certainty is provided to any citizens. Human rights, in the context of individuality and collectivity, would be set into the warranty. Democracy of Pancasila is a democracy based on the kinship and mutual-work aimed for people welfare. The implementation of Democracy of Pancasila is highly attentive to the following principles:

- a. The recognition and protection of human rights with equality before aspects such as politic, law, social, economic, culture and education.



- b. Free and non-discriminative court, which should not be influenced by an entity with power.
- c. The warranty of law certainty for all problems. Law certainty is a warranty that law can be understood and implemented in secure way.

Democracy of Pancasila contains several aspects as follows:

- a. Formal aspect; it is an aspect concerning with how people can appoint their representatives into legislative and government agencies, and also one relating with how the deliberation of people representatives can be conducted in free, open and honest ways to produce favourable consensus.
- b. Material aspect; it is an aspect that describes humanity and the related esteem and dignity, and also that helps to establish Indonesia human power pursuant to its description, esteem and dignity.
- c. Normative aspect; it is an aspect that reveals norms regulating steps to achieve national goals.

Conclusion

Structural and functional roles of legislatives, either being people representative or political party member, may determine their interaction with other individuals or groups. This interaction is marked with characteristics as follows political behaviour of legislatives is described as the behaviour of citizen with various relations, legislatives represent the orientation of citizens on political system and also on their participation in this system, legislatives constitute a group with interest, and legislatives can act as pressure group that influences or establishes government policy.

Political communication is comprised of elements of communication as follows:

- (1) Political communicator is individuals or group of individuals from which information is provided about political meanings or political weights of legislative member or political party functionary.
- (2) Political message is a statement made in oral or written forms, verbally or non-verbally, implicitly or explicitly, and intentionally or accidentally, which contains political load.
- (3) Political channel or media is a structure used by political communicator to deliver a political message.
- (4) Political target is the people who are expected to give their vote to a political party or political candidate in public election.
- (5) The expected political communication effect is to create political understanding or political awareness where people always link their political participation with a national



political constellation. This participation is greatly determinant to the position of political communication at the decision-making environment.

Socialisation involves some phases. Those are the learning process, to understand how political orientation is generalized after the learning matures and is ready to deal with external groups, and maturity. While political education is useful for internalising values, attitudes, and behaviours that underscore base substances of political education.

Legislatives absorb people aspiration based on task, function, and discretion they hold. In absorbing, compiling and accommodating aspiration, indeed House of People Representatives (DPR) uses several principles, which are objectivity, coordination, effectiveness and efficiency, accountability, transparency, justice, and confidentiality.



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