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Submission title: Locality-Critical Review
File name: 2nd_Paper-Locality_Values-ICMIR.p...
File size: 523.52K
Page count: 14
Word count: 5,803
Character count: 32,278
Submission date: 05-Feb-2020 10:25AM (UTC+0700)
Submission ID: 1251743104

Locality Values within Determination of Regional Head Selection in Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle

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Abstract: This study aims to obtain a picture of how locality values are crucial in the selection of regional elections in Indonesia. In Indonesia, the mechanism for determining Regional Head Candidates (Governors, Regents and Mayors) is done in two ways. Political parties select first candidates for regional heads. Second, candidates for independent regional heads, namely candidates for regional heads who volunteered individually. Specifically for regional heads selected by political parties, the Regional Leadership Council is only entitled to propose the names of candidates to the Central Board of Governors (DPP) of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle. The final decision is in the hands of the DPP. However, the Central Executive Board always observes the aspirations that develop in the regions and the values of locality in the area's people. The research method uses the case study method in a single setting. The paradigm used is constructive/interpretive with a qualitative approach. Data analysis was carried out thematically. The findings of this study is that the mechanism of selection for candidates of regional head has to meet the basic criteria and follow some designated steps in each hierarchy of the organizational structure management. In accordance with the organizational procedures, selection and nomination of candidates for regional heads must follow the processes of negotiation and coordination on each hierarchical level, be them on branch level (Branch Board), Regional level (Regional Board) and central level (Central Board in Jakarta). The final decision for nominating candidate rests fully on the authority of the Central Board. The Branch Board and the Regional Board only have the duty to recruit prospective candidates, but final decision for nomination was made by the Central Board. The top-level decision was final and binding for all members of the organization.

Keywords : Local values, political party's role, decision making, democratic values, constituent votes

INTRODUCTION

The third simultaneous Elections of Regional Head (known as *Pilada*) carried out in 2018 were followed by eighteen regents/cities all over East Java Province. The eighteen local governments include such regents as Probolinggo, Sampang, Bangkalan, Bojonegoro, Nganjuk, Pamekasan, Tulungagung, Pasuruan, Magetan, Madiun, Lumajang, Bondowoso, Jombang, and municipalities such as Malang, Mojokerto, Kediri, Madiun, and Probolinggo.

This research closely examines the selection processes within the *PDI-Perjuangan* in the Election of Regional Head in 2018. The Election in Kediri City, East Java, in 2018 was officially followed by 3 pairs of candidates, i.e. Abdulllah Abu Bakar-Lilik Muhibbah-incumbent candidates—who were nominated by *Partai PAN* (National Message Party) and