

# Indigenous Elite & Modern Democracy (Case Study of Legislator at Gowa Regency)

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## Abstract

*This paper aim storeveal 'lunge' indigenous elite that took place in a modern democratic society in Gowa, especially when the on going process of organizing elections out 2009. Some legislator selected 2009-2014 Gowa who had a background in traditional elite became evident how important power political bargaining in Gowa. Three of the members of parliament of the indigenous elite serve as the primary data source through in-depth interviews. The findings obtained are: indigenous elites who hav ea sound base large masses have strong political bargaining for gaining seats in parliament Gowa. Most of the indigenous elite who involved as a candidate does not have the capacity of education and political experience. Interestingly, they still dorationality political status attached to him.*

*Keywords: traditional elite, parliament, legislators, modern democracy.*

## Introduction

One strong indicator of the on going politicalpatronage inI ndonesian political democracy is int he process of legislative elections take place. As we know that political symbols inherent in a politician in this case the legislator is the mass base or community strength. A political party is recognized as the winner of the election when the percentage of reserved seats in the legislaturemet by most cadres. Cadres who won the 'seat' politics means having the

most votes in the constituency. That is, the party winning the election is certain to have a 'voice' most masses. (Shah, 2012).

Interesting phenomenon then is to what or how the mechanism performed by political parties along its cadres (read: candidates) in collecting the 'voice' of the community. Instantly became the best alternative approach under taken by all political parties, namely recruiting individuals who have a mass base. This condition can be easily detected many in rural areas such as community leaders or spiritual figure or called by Fata has a segment selector primordial (Kompas, December 4, 1998).

Additionally, persona is too much inherent in the family 'nobility' which are here ditary very believable. The royal family has asocial investment in the surrounding community that put him as 'patron'.

For political parties, the nobility or traditional elite that has a mass of 'capital' main. Political parties are only concerned with 'mass' of the indigenous elite despite the 'quality' of indigenous elite proposed to be a candidate for legislators still need to be adapted in order to meet the standards of a very rational election. This condition is confirmed by the findings Nurhasim (2001:13-14) that the recruitment of members of parliament will affect the quality anyway, whether it's integrity, independence, loyalty, level of autonomy, responsibility and accountability.

There are always interesting things put forward regarding the recruitment of party members. As awakened in Indonesian political culture, most recruiting instant party a head of elections to meet the quota of the party vote. There are recruiting employers, traditional leaders, village heads, village priests, and so on where these people have mass and influence in the community.

Legislative reality in Gowa year of 2009-2014, there are a number of party members who become legislators based recruitment 'interests'. There are 82,22% of members of parliament who truly ideal through the recruitment process. Ideal in the sense that the selected individuals indeed the party cadres are well known by constituents, moving from the grass roots and fight for the party platform and understand the expectations and interests of the people they represent. (Anonim, 2009).

Conversely, there are 17,78% legislators who were recruited through instant way, they are not the party cadres who build and raise the party but was taken by the need to meet the quota of party representation, in an impromptu fight at the party (Anonim, 2009). Them through the legislative recruitment process instantly and full of bargaining, means that the majority of members of Parliament who was elected representative of the people is that when they entered the legislative nomination process because they have the capital, power, mass, and influence.

Reality that can not be denied that in Gowa still thick with local value highly respect and uphold the nobility. When the political process occurs as networking cadre, then those who have a good influence because of nobility or because the material is going to be a priority recruitment. In fact, some political parties (including the largest political parties have members in parliament) take, recruiting, became a candidate member of Parliament and later became a member of parliament was not through the recruitment process and procedural standards. Most political parties that recruit indigenous elites often do not meet the standards such as: the level of education that does not reach a bachelor and has not been involved at all in the political party that does not have the experience and political insight.

Nevertheless, the indigenous elites who become legislators also perform a variety of adaptation actions to be ensuring representation of their political status. Although they are not educated and lack the experience and the organization of the party, but the passage of time makes them turn into actual legislators. Walinono (1979) defines the indigenous elite as elite gain influence, prestige and its role based on the values and norms of customary or a person or group of

persons classified as a minority whose existence is respected, honored, exemplary, dipanuti in the community and have the allure, power drag and instinct high impact on indigenous elite society obtained from generation to generation.

### **CASE STUDY OF 3 INDIGENOUS ELITE**

Here is outlined 3 legislators who were recruited by the party just before the election of 2009. They are recruited without cadrerization process, but considerations of political strategy, as noted above.

Case 1, a candidate instant recruited for reasons known and has become a role model for the people around him even though he has no political experience at all. In fact, higher education or undergraduate level as well as the non-fulfillment of the main conditions to be candidates.

Case 2, where the persona in the political community into selling points. A female legislators elected because his parents are known both as employers and as a respected person in the community in the region.

Case 3, a female legislator who has a strong background persona. Persona and his extended family is strengthened by the power of their materials through the family business.

#### **1. HSN-LJ**

HSN-LJ is 55 years old and was a local businessman who is respected. Education is not to finish at primary school because he had to help their parents work. Persistence was then that makes it a very skilled in cratiing red brick. For Gowa district, he is well known as a successful entrepreneur for more than 30 years. He also has opened a number of places red brick making in the region.

In addition to successfully develop his business network, HSN-LJ also employ residents in the area. The condition has taken place for generations of his father. In fact, a number of families have 'served' on HSN-LJ to two generations of off spring.

A number of social achievement of HSN-LJ has long been a 'target' or 'game' political parties in Gowa. 'Branding' social inherent in her very tempting the political party officials. Various approaches are used by them to apply and 'engaging' HSN-LJ. Starting from a 'family', 'community', to 'transactional' is used to demolish the 'defense' principle HSN-LJ. In the end, it came out as the winner is the United Development Party (PPP)

HSN-LJ then officially became a member of the PPP in a short time and even directly promoted as one of the candidates for his electoral district is Bontonompo and South Bontonompo. At that moment, HSN-LJ start a new chapter of his life in politics. Although this time she frequently interact with the community, but this time the political context of interaction that is built into a differentitor. Interaction that takes place already laden with political interests. There is a bit of a 'split' socially conditioned by HSN action-LJ.

After the implementation of the legislative elections of 2009 is over, it can bet as the initial prediction that the 'branding' social HSN-LJ will give him political authority. To the overall sound of his election area, he gained a seat No. sequence 2 of 6 seats contested in his election area.

In carrying out its status as a legislator, HSN-LJ work hard to give an account of the political status. He began to study political terms, political culture, and the actions and political strategies. Often appearing in the community became the main capital to communicate with constituents. He just needs to improve political insight, such as legislation, local regulations, government regulation, as well as more sensitive to social and political issues in the region. He does not just want to 'nebeng' in the party as a complement. He did anything to show decent quality should girded by a legislator.

## 2. IRM-HRD

IRM-HR is one of the youngest legislators in Gowa Regency Period 2009-2014, which is about 37 years old. He was born in one of the rural areas as well as a place Gowa extended family originated. Irmawati itself more to stay in the capital of Gowa is Sungguminasa when entering Secondary School. He has a family and married to a businessman in the city Sungguminasa.

IRM-HRD including intelligent people in building social relationships. Its scholarly capital used to be involved in various social activities. Moreover, the status of her husband who is quite well known in the town Sungguminasa also conditioned reputation. Although IRM-HRD Sungguminasa residence in the city, but it remains to establish communication with his extended family in the village. More than that, he also continued the tradition that has been built by parents and grandmother to provide many benefits to the people in the village.

Therefore, IRM-HR also brought success to the village. He helped a number of public infrastructure development. In addition, a number of estates that had also managed by the local community. Measures like that are further strengthened IRM name-HRD and his family in the village, although he did not live there. In the village it is certain that almost no one who does not know the family IRM-HRD.

Social potential possessed by IRM-HR has been the target of a political party. Of the various parties involved such contestation, PDK eventually emerged as the winner through IRM-HRD official to accept the proposal PDK to run as candidates to represent the area that is Bontomarannu Manuju, Tompobulu and Botolempangan.

In the ongoing process of legislative elections in 2009, IRM-HRD unstoppable voice acquisition when compared with the other candidates in the region. Interestingly, get voice-HRD-IRM far superior to the equivalent of 3 seats in the legislature. In essence, IRM-HRD absolute win.

In undergoing its status as a legislator, IRM-HR is not too much technical difficulty. His experience in the organization during a student and his involvement in a number of social organizations including political parties makes it very flexible in the political arena. Prototype of an IRM-HRD including the category that combines the capabilities of mass base into selling points that have strong social bargaining. Gait political will become easier with the proverbial both the capital.

## 3. HSM-LN

HSM-LN currently aged 52 years and is one of a legislator who represents the National Democratic Party and of the electoral district and subdistrict Pallangga Barombong. She is the wife of an officer in one of the government agencies in Gowa. Her husband's family is respected and revered for generations-down at the Pallangga area.

HSM-LN was originally an ordinary housewife. It includes character quiet, calm. Her marriage to her husband caused her education process stopped only until the high school level. However, her social status in the public eye make-LN HSM had no choice but to accompany her husband should have appeared in various local government official events.

HSM-LN involvement in political parties came from the lack of candidates from among women. Application PDK party well parried by HSM-LN who have the intention to advance women through formal involvement. Confidence is also reinforced by their large family reputation to win a lot of 'noise' in the electoral district and Barombong Pallangga. In the end, HSM-LN securing a seat in the legislature.

In the initial period underwent job as legislators, HSM-LN-educated high school and did not have enough organizational experience difficulty adapting behavior to the new environment.

HSM-LN is still dominated by a feeling of 'shy' when it should appear in public to promote his political vision. But, as time went on HSM-LN which has a strong spirit to advance women, gradually have the courage to stand before citizens during a working visit in dapilnya. Although it has not been smooth, but the HSM-LN changes have occurred to him that had the courage and had not hesitate.

**Table 1. Characteristic of 3 legislator of indigenous elite**

No	Indegenous Elite/ Legislator	Sex	Education	Pekerjaan	Organisation/ Party Experience	Family Background
1	HSN-LJ	M	Elementary	Bussiness	No	Local persona
2	IRM-HRD	F	Graduate	Bussiness	Social organization	Indigenous elite
3	HSM-LN	F	High School	Housewife	No	Indigenous

*Source: researcher compilations.*

The table above illustrates that the three indigenous elite won the 'seat' in the local legislative caused by background factors known family descendants respected in their electoral area respectively. Although the main requirements for someone to become candidates are educated to degree level and have experience of the organization and the party, but that does not preclude the three to continue to participate in the elections.

Analyzing the above description, it can be explained that in the administration of elections and breath modern democracy rational determination of educational background and background experience and the party organization as a prerequisite to participate as candidates indispensable. With the background of the second prediction that the legislator candidate will have knowledge and experience in enforcing the idea of political and social development in the future. But the reality of the above explain the opposite. Electoral system that relies on a sound base of society as a key element to make the pursuit of traditional leaders of political parties that most of the local nobility who already has mass.

In another aspect, the local nobility in addition to having a strong mass base, they also have a base of 'capital' that qualifi ed. Aspects of this capital makes 'bargaining' nobility prioritized in political parties. Aspects of 'capital' is used to amplify sound base they already have and can even be used to increase the amount of noise.

## ANALYSIS

In the present democratic system, political parties are more likely to prioritize quantity of seats in the legislature. Speaking about the number of seats in the legislature meant to talk about the power of the masses and the infl uence or power. Naturally, then when all the political par□ es to compete for an individual who has a strong mass base as the head of the village, the village priest, religious leaders, traditional leaders, and so on. Nurhasim (2001:14) argues that transparency becomes urgent factor in the recruitment process as to whether the ways that can be accountable, open, rational or using dirty tricks.

Patterns of recruitment and regeneration mechanisms covering all activities of the party began a major recruitment, coaching quality of cadres to the placement/assignment of party

cadres in strategic positions (recruitment). In a political market, cadres is one of the “product” that determine the selling party in public. The better the pattern of recruitment and regeneration in the body of a party, then the better the quality of the “product” that will be produced and offered to the public. The better the quality of the proposed product, the higher also the marketability of the party in the elections because of the higher confidence that the figures would have been the best party cadres to be able to represent the interests of the people and changing circumstances. So the performance of a political party, is largely determined by the quality and lunge cadres.

In the context of the recruitment process by political parties when a person becomes a member of Parliament was sufficient to have a role on the political behavior in certain respects. Similarly, the meaning of the process of recruitment of members of Parliament itself and how it presents itself through their own views as a legislator. Is the path to the process that he deserved and deserve to have that role, whether recruitment affect their behavior in Parliament, including the behavior when communicating their political messages.

How to recruitment also shows who has the most influence in the selection process of candidates for members of Parliament and the motive or interest in it. What political party or outside elements, such as, community organizations, government and other interest groups. The description above into sync with the political ability legislators who appears in the capacity and capability political action. Parliament members who suddenly appeared in an instant were likely to have difficulty adapting to politics especially when not matched with individual capacity in the form of organizational experience including previous experience of practical politics. However some members of Parliament also considered that the adaptation process can be carried out simultaneously.

The motivation of 3 indigenous elite above to account for their political status, gradually began to appear. In a variety of programs that they hold, they have taken the role of such HSM-LN and HSN-LJ was able to stand in front of the village meeting meeting / sub formulated the idea though briefly. The most important for them is emerging courage to do something more.

In this context, the indigenous elite position in the middle of a rational modern democracy was evolved in the form of the emergence of awareness of the demands and responsibility for its political role. Bets family background also makes them eager for change.

## CONCLUSIONS

Indigenous elite who managed to become a member of the legislature is generally not due to meet the prerequisite of political capacity and the capacity of education, but they are chosen because they have a mass base and capital base. Both mass base and capital base, both are ‘co-of existence’ and even tend to have become a symbol of modern democratic politics.

With ‘simple’ capabilities, the existence of indigenous elites in the legislature is quite dynamic. They still have to account for the individual consciousness of their political status in the form of full involvement in all legislative work program. At the same time, they gradually take on an important role in the events that took place. This indicates that within the indigenous elite has emerged awareness of individuals to account for their social role entailed.

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