

Forecast of the Social Revolution Post 2024 Election

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Abstract

The competition created during the election period brings the impact of change for the government and the potential for social revolution. The state can survive if it successfully faces its problems. If it fails, then great destruction and changes will occur. Revolutions that are interpreted as people power occur in several countries due to failing to solve the problems that occur. This study uses a descriptive method of analysis to describe the phenomena. The results of this research showed that the impact of technology brings both positive and negative situations in elections. Elections became a legal medium that is realized from the existence of democracy. The success of the electoral process is a benchmark for the successful implementation of the democratic system in Indonesia. Elections can turn into arenas of conflict. In the context of conducting elections that are supposed to take place honestly, fairly and openly, it is not uncommon to still cause disputes that lead to conflict and violence. These changes often trigger social tensions and conflicts early in the process. Conflicts that cannot be managed and resolved properly will trigger a revolution.

Keywords: Elections, Social Conflicts, Social Revolution, People Power, and Democracy.

1. Introduction

Indonesia will face a democratic party as well as a political constellation in 2024. The rapidly evolving world is leading to very significant changes to Indonesia's condition in the future. Not only is it a momentum for leadership change, elections are also often a sign of major changes in various aspects. Elections in various countries also led to social revolutions, both in positive connotations and in negative meanings. Through elections, there will be at least a change or transfer of power based on the results of elections in accordance with the principles established by the constitution (Asshidiqie, 2013).

The social revolution according to Skockpol is the rapid and fundamental change of society and the class structure of a country. The revolution coincided with the uprising of the

lower society. Its roots are certainly authoritarian regimes and the despair of the people. The social revolution became the culmination of a wave of criticism that was not heard or acted upon.

Revolutions interpreted as *people power* occurred in Germany, Georgia, Czechoslovakia, the Philippines, and some countries in the Middle East. The social revolution that took place in the Philippines was quite interesting. Ferdinand Marcos' authoritarian regime that silenced the opposition suffered an economic crisis, high foreign debt figures, killed senator Benigno Aquino Jr, and fraudulent the 1986 elections. Popular resistance alongside [Juan Ponce Enrile](#) and Fidel Ramos was supported by religious leaders led by Cardinal Jaime Sin.

Speaking of the social revolution in Iran, the name ayatollah Khomeini is an important figure who will always be mentioned. Khomeini's strong influence in the revolutionary movement in Iran made the country contain the concept of *the al faqih al khomeini* region, which is a concept that puts a faqih in a privileged position as the leader of the country. Khomeini succeeded in leading the Islamic revolution that turned the monarchical system into an actual theocracy that became a consequence for Iran because it was unable to deal with the problems of the country it led.

Similar to Iran, Myanmar has also experienced a social revolution that suppressed the ruler at that time, namely the military leader who carried out the coup. Tens of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets to protest. Promises to hold early elections have failed to satisfy the demonstrators, who are also seeking the release of elected leader Aung San Suu Kyi and other members of the National League for Democracy (NLD). The initial cause was that the military leader overthrew the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi and placed her under house arrest, accusing her of illegal *walkie-talkie* possession and violating the Disaster Act. The nature of the country. The social revolution that took place in Myanmar did not refer to any specific figures, because communication with Aung San Suu Kyi did not happen because she was being detained. These conditions show that the state and the movement to defend the state are not only about one person but about common interests that are fought for properly.

In Kazakhstan, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev must now face the challenges of the crisis in his country. The riots occurred when demonstrators took to the streets because it was triggered by rising LPG fuel prices. The demonstrations also illustrated popular discontent with a corrupt authoritarian government that benefits only a handful of ruling elites. The roots of this anger are much deeper, including socioeconomic inequality in society. The demands of the demonstrators are expanding from lowering fuel prices to freer political conditions. Among the things they want is a general election system for regional heads who have been appointed by the president.

The state can survive if it successfully faces its problems. If it fails, it may be that great destruction and changes will occur. We can see the Byzantines with their period of rule reaching 5000 years destroyed because they could not stem the onslaught of the Ottoman Turks and the Soviet Union a superpower of its time was destroyed by the mistakes of the policies of the Gorbachev, as well as any other country if it could not face problems means that there was a new power that would change the country.

If you look at history, Indonesia once felt *people power* during the reigns of Soekarno

and Soeharto. The overthrow of power in the two governments occurred outside the political process or elections that were supposed to take place. The power of the masses at that time succeeded in bringing down the official government that was in power.

The competition created during the election period brings the impact of change for the government and the potential for social revolution. Revolution according to Selo Soemardjan is any change that occurs in social institutions in society that affect the social system, including in its values, attitudes and patterns of behavior among groups in society.

Elections are an implementation of the realization of popular sovereignty. There are many benefits of holding general elections for the people, especially in Indonesia. Among other things, as a suitable tool or means to participate in politics. As a solution to the change of leadership as well as legitimize elected leaders. Making room for the people to be involved in the formulation of public policy. It became a place where the people expressed their aspirations. As a facility to educate the public about the political process. Making the people more sensitive to various social issues. In the end, elections can be a place for people to learn to know good leaders while socializing and establishing wider relationships.

Issues regarding postponed elections, extension of the term of office of the president, the imposition of a presidential threshold and others are issues that continue to grow. The truth of the issue has an impact on the public's response to the conduct of elections. The ability of the state to solve problems that arise during the electoral process determines the changes planned to get the leaders that the people expect.

2. Research Methods

In this study, researchers used qualitative research methods with an analytical descriptive approach. According to Moleong (2007), qualitative methodology is a method based on written or oral words from actions that can be seen. In line with that, Sugiyono (2015) emphasized that qualitative research methods occur due to a paradigm shift in a reality that arises in society. Kountur (2004) explained that what is meant by descriptive is a type of research that provides an overview or description of a state as clearly as possible without any treatment of the object under study. In the data analysis process, qualitative data analysis techniques formulated by *Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014)* data analysis is used, the data analysis consists of data collection, data display, data condensation and conclusion.

This research collects phenomena as research data, words found in the news and the results of literature studies show a change in the reality of facts in society. Several theories such as change management theory and conflict theory are collected to support the concepts proposed in the study. Meanwhile, the concept framework created also refers to the facts in the field that were constructed by the researcher and adapted to the limitations of the research.

3. Results And Discussion

A. Literature Review

1. Theory of Change Management

According to Kurt Lewin, there are three steps in managing change, namely: *unfreezing, changing, and refreezing*. *Unfreezing* is a process of awareness of the need, or the

need to change. *Changing* is a step in the form of action, both strengthening (driving forces) and weakening (resistances). *Refreezing* is bringing the organization back to a new equilibrium (a new dynamic equilibrium).

What distinguishes planned changes from routine changes is their scope and breadth. Planned changes are aimed at preparing the entire organization, or for the most part, to adjust to significant changes in the goals and direction of the organization (Collin, 2002). The program of change is needed today because of the shift in time and the relationship between people as a result of the loss of boundaries between each country and converging in a complex network relationship, full of threats and business opportunities (McKeen & Smith, 2009).

2. Conflict Theory

Conflict is an inevitability of social phenomena that are firmly inherent in human life. A conflict usually arises both in an individual and a group context. Conflict in an individual context is described as a conflict of conscience that arises in every human being. Meanwhile, conflict in the context of a group is a conflict that arises between individuals and individuals, individuals with groups, or groups with other groups in a face-to-face manner in maintaining the identity and interests of their respective groups.

The nature of conflict is seen as a natural phenomenon as long as it can be managed and directed at achieving the goal of social integration. Conflict etymologically comes from the Latin "con" which means together and "fligere" which means collision or collision (Elly, 2011). Generally, the term social conflict implies as a series of events of conflict and conflict between individuals or groups through class conflict to the stage of international conflict and war.

Conflicts that come to the fore become violent do not occur casually, conflict is a series of processes that change a person's behavior to the point of choosing violence as an alternative action in solving problems. Galtung (2012) formulated that conflict is a triadic building composed of three elements, namely C (*conflict*) = A (*attitudes*) + B (*behavior*) + C (*contradiction*). Galtung formulated it as the Abc Triangle Model of Conflict. As quoted by Simon Fisher (2001), Galtung mentioned that there are three categories of violence in conflict, namely 1) *direct violence* (behavior), 2) cultural violence (attitudes), and 3) structural violence (context).

B. Election Predictions 2024

1. Election Competition in the Industrial Revolution 4.0

Information technology in the election arena is placed as a set of instruments used to carry out elections. The use of technology is not only in the process of conducting voting, it is wider than that the technology used in the electoral process also changes the competition space used from conventional to virtual.

Election contestants take advantage of virtual public spaces to campaign for the most votes. Although campaign props such as banners, billboards, and posters are still used, campaign content is widely distributed on social media which is able to reach voters on a large scale.

The impact of technology brings both positive and negative situations in elections.

The positive impact is that it can improve deliberative democracy by placing information technology as a bridge connecting two-way communication between candidates for representatives of the people and their people. For example, the application of an open list proportional electoral system in legislative elections that encourages the closeness of voters with their candidates, ideally can be easier and strengthen their relationship with the presence of social media that is not limited to space and time.

The negative dimension arises when virtual public spaces are utilized for short-term interests by irresponsible people. *Hoaxes, fake news, black campaigns*, disinformation, and hate speech are widely circulated compared to the politics of ideas that open up space for positive deliberation between voters and election participants on social media. This situation is further aggravated when internet penetration is used as a means of presenting identity politics content that leads to the polarization of society.

Fake news as news stories that have no factual basis but are presented as facts (Hunt Allcott and Matthew Gentzkow: 2017) while a *hoax* is interpreted as a hoax deliberately created for a particular purpose. In the online dictionary *dictionary.cambridge.org* *hoax* is define as a [plan](#) to [deceive](#) someone or a [trick](#), such as [telling the police](#) there is a [bomb somewhere](#) when there is not one. The circulation of information such as *hoaxes* and *fake news* will certainly harm the public.

2. The Urgency of the 2024 Elections

Democracy is considered to be the most appropriate political system with the diverse character of the Indonesian nation. Every society through the election process gets the same voting rights to determine its leader or representative in government. Elections become a legal media that is realized from the existence of democracy, the success of the electoral process is a benchmark for the successful implementation of the democratic system in Indonesia. Unfortunately, there are many loopholes in the electoral process that actually reduce people's confidence in the political system.

Elections are a way of giving power and authority to elected representatives and leaders to run the government in order to realize legal certainty in a fair and honest manner (Anshori, 2014). All citizens who already have the right to vote can elect their representatives in parliament or leaders in the administration of the state. Through elections there will be at least a change or transfer of power based on the results of elections in accordance with the principles established by the constitution (Asshidiqie, 2013).

The implementation of elections in Indonesia is not so good and even far from perfect (Badoh & Dahlan, 2010). Election success is the duty and hope of every element of the nation without exception. With the success of the election, the benefits can also be felt by all parties. Starting from the people who sit in the seat of government to the ordinary people.

Elections are an implementation of the realization of popular sovereignty. There are many benefits of holding general elections for the people, especially in Indonesia. Among other things, as a suitable tool or means to participate in politics. As a solution to the change of leadership as well as legitimize elected leaders. Making room for the people to be involved in the formulation of public policy. It became a place where the people expressed their aspirations.

The implementation of elections is often responded to by the public as an event that

can trigger conflicts. However, Indonesia's history has not recorded any conflicts or riots caused by the election of the president and vice president. However, in some records of the implementation of regional elections there has been violence and casualties triggered by the implementation of elections. Such as at the end of 2017 in the regional elections in Papua which cost one life killed and dozens injured in riots between two supporters. Likewise, with the DKI Jakarta Regional Election in the same year, there were several riots that arose due to fanaticism from supporters of the prospective leader who was carried. Several times there have been recorded actions on the streets involving a large number of mobs in the capital. This condition certainly triggers anxiety for the community.

The public responds differently to a competition created in the election. There were those who responded positively, namely considering differences as normal, and fanaticism is something that does not need to be enlarged, let alone become a motivation to create violence between different supporting camps. However, there are also those who respond negatively to election competition which then forms fanaticism of support groups and violence in every difference they face.

Elections can turn into an arena of conflict for several reasons, one of which is the spread of *hoaxes* and *fake news* in the community. It is this condition that pits bigotry between the supporters of the future leader he carries. Through news that is untrue or twisted, support groups become provoked and ultimately act anarchically.

Moreover, many issues used in making *hoaxes* and *fake news*, for example issues regarding religion, culture and customs also color the spread of these hoaxes. Interested parties use this road to attract the sympathy of their opponents' supporters, the media used in the spread of *hoaxes* and *fake news* has emerged from social media. Unfortunately, until now, social media is indeed difficult to control, because its personal nature is different from other mainstream media that have clarity regarding their ownership and operational systems.

In addition to the above factors, the problem that triggers conflict in elections is the assumption that violence is an effective and efficient way of collecting votes in solving problems. Others are also due to the assumption that the winner will "rule everything" and the loser will be eliminated. If this is the case, then realizing a peaceful election is not only the responsibility of the organizing committee, but also involves all parties.

3. Conflicts in Elections

Johan Galtung (1999) provides a definition of conflict as anything that prevents people from actualizing their potential naturally. The barrier in question is something that can actually be avoided or the barrier can be removed. While Schermerhon, Hunt and Osbron stated that conflict occurs when disagreements arise in social settings which can be characterized by emotional friction between individuals or groups.

Meanwhile, Nasrullah (2015) considers conflict as the main element in social life so that it cannot be avoided. In short, conflict is an unavoidable condition in the process of life. Thus, conflict refers to a conflict dynamic which consists of factors that accelerate or slow down conflict and the overall trend of conflict. The dynamics of conflict begins with the emergence of the conflict itself, until it reaches its peak, namely violence, then subsides and even disappears, but it is still possible to reappear.

In the context of conducting elections that are supposed to take place honestly, fairly

and openly, it is not uncommon to still cause disputes that lead to conflict and violence. For example, in the elections held in Kenya in 2007, as many as 1300 people died as a result of attacks on tribes considered opposites in the elections. Even so, with the implementation of elections in Indonesia which occurred in 2018 and 2019, warnings about potential conflicts in the implementation of these elections have been expressed in advance. The KPU chairman explained the potential conflicts that might occur during the elections.

Several things that make elections vulnerable to turning into conflict are the implementation of elections that are not credible (followed by the assumption of weak law enforcement), lack of transparency (this triggers prejudice against various parties, especially opposing opponents), and finally the spread of hoaxes and fake news in Indonesia. in the midst of society that is forming polarization due to the existence of different political party groups.

The existence of *hoaxes* and other fake news is unfortunately used by certain groups to reap abundant votes. The Research Director of Polmark Indonesia explained that the rise of hoaxes will threaten public harmony, especially if they occur ahead of the election "Hoaxes do not stand alone, hoaxes must have a certain purpose, whether the purpose is divisive or the interest is for one political or social contestation, So that if hoaxes are not anticipated from the beginning, it will be one of the sources of rifts"

Polmark Research Center has conducted a survey, according to data obtained by 4.3 percent of the Indonesian population, claiming that their friendship relationships were damaged due to the implementation of the 2014 elections, while in the 2017 elections people said that their relationships were socially affected by the election with a presentation of 5.7 percent. This number will increase if awareness to overcome potential conflicts is not carried out as early as possible. Especially if *hoaxes* are still allowed to develop along with the unstoppable spread of hate speech.

The potential conflict that may occur during the election period requires proper management so that the social changes that occur do not lead to violence. Social change is a change in the social system, structure, and functioning of society. Socio-cultural changes can occur due to internal and external factors in society. Internal factors such as social conflicts that lead to rebellion by society or revolution. Revolutionary changes took place quickly without being planned beforehand. These changes often trigger social tensions and conflicts early in the process. Conflicts that cannot be managed and resolved properly will trigger a revolution.

4. Conclusion

Indonesia will hold elections. In many countries, elections have led to a social revolution. The rapid development of technology and the power of the media make the competition that is deliberately created during the election period have a negative impact and are used by some parties for their benefit. Elections can turn into an arena of conflict for several reasons, one of which is the spread of *hoaxes* and *fake news* in the community. Elections are a way of giving power and authority to elected representatives and leaders to run the government in order to realize legal certainty in a fair and honest manner. What will happen after the upcoming elections can be seen from the signs that have emerged along with the preparation process even since the completion of the elections three years ago.

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