ABSTRACT

Purpose: The aim of the research is to photograph political dynasties that occur in democratic countries by taking the examples of Indonesia and America.

Methods: The issue in this article is Political Dynasty in democratic countries. Political dynasties are built into a country's constitutional system. Its existence often triggers debate in societies that are studying ideal democracy. Political dynasties are considered to be the product of a political strategy to achieve victory.

Results and Conclusion: The research results show that the emergence of political dynasties is influenced by the actions of political elites who tend to pass on their positions of political power to the next generation or below. This happens because of the tendency to maintain power. Another reason is to continue the program that was initiated previously.

Research implications: Comparing political dynasties in Indonesia with the United States, the Indonesian state has a tendency to emerge randomly top down while in the United States it appears gradually bottom up.

Originality/value: In the above context, it is hoped that political elites will prioritize political processes and ethics in cadre formation.

Keywords: Tendency, Political Dynasty, Comparison, Democratic, Political Power.

COMPARAÇÃO DA DINASTIA POLÍTICA NA INDONÉSIA E NOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

RESUMO

Objetivo: O objetivo da pesquisa é fotografar dinastias políticas que ocorrem em países democráticos tomando como exemplo a Indonésia e a América.

Métodos: O tema deste artigo é Dinastia Política em países democráticos. As dinastias políticas estão integradas no sistema constitucional de um país. A sua existência desencadeia frequentemente debates em sociedades que estudam a democracia ideal. As dinastias políticas são consideradas o produto de uma estratégia política para alcançar a vitória.

Resultados e Conclusões: Os resultados da investigação mostram que o surgimento de dinastias políticas é influenciado pelas ações das elites políticas que tendem a transmitir as suas posições de poder político à geração seguinte ou abaixo. Isso acontece por causa da tendência de manter o poder. Outro motivo é dar continuidade ao programa iniciado anteriormente.

1Ph.D. Faculty of Law, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia, E-mail: andinaelok@staff.uns.ac.id
Orcid: https://orcid.org/0009-0008-6472-9462
2 Doctoral, Faculty of Law, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, Indonesia, E-mail: arga.baskara25@gmail.com
Orcid: https://orcid.org/0009-0008-7402-2284
3Scholar, Faculty of Law, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia, E-mail: pujifhuns@staff.uns.ac.id
Orcid: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5971-2446
INTRODUCTION

Political dynasty is an issue that adorns every democratic regime. Public attention to this issue is still large because in reality this phenomenon is often a winning strategy to gain power. There are concerns that the political class could become hereditary, if not regulated by law. The difficulty in studying hereditary politics lies in determining what part of the dynastic balance can be attributed to voters’ preferences for this type of politician, and what part can be attributed to political strategies that will of course depend on the electoral environment (Van Coppenolle, 2014).

Political dynasties are generally a form of monopoly of political power and the holding of public office by politicians is largely based on family relationships and political mechanisms that allow subnational dynasty politicians to maintain and expand power. The existence of political dynasties in democratic societies, especially in democracies that are consolidating, has sparked debate among pro-democracy activists, scholars and policy makers. In many cases, activists, political experts, politicians and intellectuals accuse political dynasties of being a stumbling block to the consolidation of democracy, an erosion of the quality of democracy, a source of corruption, a root cause of underdeveloped development, and an obstacle to reformist movements in their ability to hold office (Dedi, 2022). The existence of political dynasties in the public sphere has given rise to anti-dynasty laws to minimize the occurrence of political dynasties. However, this action actually reaped controversy because it conflicted with democratic values and ultimately was not realized. Developed and developing countries also often practice this dynastic politics with their own variants. A comparative study is needed to find out what practices occur in other countries. This discussion will discuss why political dynasties occur, as well as review how dynastic politics compare in Indonesia and America?

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

2.1 Factors that encourage the emergence of political dynasties

Democracy provides opportunities for everyone to gain equal access to resources to improve their standard of living. Democracy encourages the government to be responsive to people's preferences (Ahan, 2010). However, democracy when it is mixed with a dynastic political system has become something that deserves to be monitored in practice. The reason is, according to Marcus Mietzner, the practice of a government that focuses on dynastic politics is a deviation from the democratic system so that it can be interpreted as an unhealthy moderate democracy (Alim, 2011). In a political context, dynastic actors carry out what is called “institutional operation”, namely regulating the rules or regulations within the institution in
such a way. This means that they are able to influence and change the way democratic institutions work to support the continuity of their political dynasty (Kenawas, 2023).

The occurrence of dynastic politics in a country's state administration will make it easier to gain power through previous family experience. Thus, the struggle for power is relatively easy because of the existence of hereditary positions (Rahma, 2022). In circumstances like this it is certainly contrary to democratic values. Because, having strategic political positions from generation to generation will have an impact on family and personal interests, not those based on the general public. Then, in terms of political recruitment, it will be carried out behind closed doors with the position being filled by family members.

Dynastic politics carries a reference based on descent and blood which gives rise to power, including the family, to maintain its power. For a ruler to create strong political stability, he must be able to maintain power as long as possible. Thus, to achieve these ideals, structured strategic practices are needed, namely by appointing family members from generation to generation to occupy positions of office so that they can easily be given instructions as desired by the previous ruler (Putra, 2023). In building dynastic politics, charisma cannot be separated from the first person who leads. This situation is an encouragement for public confidence to have more confidence in its derivatives because they are considered to have inherited this potential, even though the quality has not been proven.

For a political family whose position is weaker, it will be profitable for a political family that is stronger because it will guarantee the existence of the weak political family. Political dynasties are a negative access to the birth of regional autonomy which creates a democratic situation that is hijacked by the circulation of core genealogical and non-genealogical relationships, based on familial relations which have an interest in the continuity of family power. This had an impact on elite relatives, thereby creating political dynasties. Political dynasties act as ruling elites who have patronage relationships with various parties, especially informal figures who have sociocultural and socio-political influence in society, who have a contribution to the continuity of existing political dynasties.
Wisdom in the practice of family politics becomes a kind of mantra that can change formal relationships into personal ones. In politics, power is needed to support and ensure the progress of political decisions in public life. Dynasties in politics can survive because the people within the dynasty circle have great abilities and resources. There are several factors that make a dynasty survive, such as political party consolidation, project consolidation, political consolidation and consolidation, the basics of the organization are considered close to society.

The occurrence of dynastic politics reflects that leader from the results of general elections at both regional and central levels, who are currently in office position their family members and relatives to serve as replacements or as next successors, by placing family members and relatives in strategic positions in government. This condition shows that dynastic politics will have an unfavorable impact on the government system if its practice continues to be maintained because it prioritizes the regeneration of power in order to perpetuate power based on family, class and kinship relationships (Rajiv et al., 2017). Seeing this reality, political influence provides great strength in a democratic system (Dawood, 2015).

The emergence of political dynasties is influenced by the actions of political elites who tend to pass on their positions of political power to the next generation or below. This process of inheriting political power occurs through open political positions. In another context it is explained that political dynasties can continue to develop or stop depending on the actions of the next generation. These profits can be used to maintain and continue the family's political power (Saputra & Emovwodo, 2022).

Dynastic politics can also be seen flowing through positions, namely the occurrence of several strategic positions in government being held by a series of family members for generations. This condition certainly does not meet the party's ideal principles because political parties prioritize popularity as a bridge to victory so that their cadres are able to occupy government seats and the political party has a strong name (Melo & de Lima, 2023).

The main reason behind the success of dynastic politicians is their “brand name advantage”. The prominence of dynasty brand names is not only beneficial for attracting voters, but can also help political dynasties to occupy small positions in their party organizations, and their surnames provide wider access to financial contributors to their political campaigns. Dynastic politics also has a greater chance of gaining support from traditional informal groups that previously supported their predecessors (Stokes, 1999). In this case the effort to achieve an identification of the people with one part can be incarnated by a leader and his followers as the essence of representative democracy (Urbinati, 2019).
2.2 Comparison of Dynastic Politics in Indonesia and America

The main cause of the emergence of political dynasties, especially in young democracies like Indonesia, is the weak institutionalization of political parties (Saputra et al., 2023). Viewed from this perspective, local political parties appear to have failed because they were unable to rally the interests of their constituents and nominate alternative leaders. Therefore, it is possible for dynastic families to occupy political party structures and weaken public participation in the political process. It is not surprising that political dynasties can emerge, because political parties are the main vehicle in liberal democracy (Mariana & Husin, 2017).

The practice of political dynasties that develop in Indonesia tends to occur in a top-down manner, that is, when a political figure comes to power, he becomes a way for his hereditary children to come to power. During the reform period in Indonesia, political dynasties continued to occur. It can be seen that the practice of political dynasties in Indonesia has existed before (Pujiyono et al., 2017). The embryos metamorphose, grow and develop in the reform era because democracy is unable to break the chain of past values which are a prerequisite for the growth and development of democratic values as a whole. Things that are currently in the public spotlight are the families of state officials who simultaneously served when their regime was in power (Pati et al., 2021). The characteristics of political dynasties in developing countries tend to be influenced by culture or traditions, inherited old values such as feudalism, patrimonialism, and/or patron-client relationships, resulting in a tree of power whose branches and twigs are controlled by certain parties (Kenawas, 2015).

Meanwhile, talking about political dynasties in the United States, there appears to be a bottom-up tendency. The emergence of a political dynasty through cadre formation that can be seen by the public. From below you can see the struggle of the candidates or candidates in the cadre to become leaders in the future (Pujiyono et al., 2017). In the United States there are two dynasties that are well known and have a strong influence in American politics, such as Kennedy, Bush and Clinton. In the United States, the phenomenon of dynastic politics in modern democratic politics is related to the electability of candidates based on their level of education and political experience. This condition in the United States became the ideal condition for kinship politics or family politics which was later termed political dynasty. This brings about special changes in public opinion and certain changes in the Laws, new principles for those who govern and certain habits for those who are governed (Saputra et al., 2021).

In the United States there is political kinship between Hillary Clinton and Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush, then the Kennedy family. The basic difference, apart from the political system, is also the personality of each candidate, generally they come from politically educated families. Their process in politics has gone through a very long process (Waluyo & Pujiyono, 2017).

Dynastic politics in the United States is encouraged by the children of old elite families to continue to hold power inherited “democratically” by their predecessors. In such a pattern, adjustments to modern democratic ethics are carried out by preparing the children concerned in the education system and political recruitment from an early age. So, if this is implemented, its emergence will not be due to blood and family factors, but rather due to reasonable and rational political factors (Suu & Tung, 2023).

When compared with Indonesia, the context of the American dynasty was born with a different mechanism. Especially regarding the role of political parties in determining nominations. We can call dynastic politics in the United States as political mentorship (Pujiyono et al., 2020). Meanwhile, political parties in Indonesia still need to learn to develop cadres that can produce the best figures. Indonesia adheres to a parochial political culture on the one hand and a participant political culture on the other. The attitude of primordialism is still deeply rooted in Indonesian society and paternalism is still strong in Indonesian political culture.
Meanwhile, political culture in the United States has a tendency to adopt participant political culture (Suwadi et al., 2022). The participant's political culture is a political culture at a higher level than the subject's political culture. In the United States, every individual understands that he is a citizen who has a number of rights and obligations. Apart from that, these elements can influence the course of state politics.

3 CONCLUSION

The trigger factors for political dynasties are the tendency to maintain power and the desire to continue unfinished government programs. Dynastic politics carries a reference based on descent and blood which gives rise to power, including the family, to maintain its power. This process of inheriting political power occurs through open political positions. If the dynastic political system continues to be perpetuated, it is feared that this will result in delays in the emergence of the best political cadres and no opportunity for others to also be able to dedicate themselves through their capacities and abilities. Dynastic politics also occurs because of the desire to prioritize popularity as a bridge to victory so that its cadres are able to occupy government seats and the political party has a strong name.

Political dynasties do not only occur in developing countries, but also in developed countries. Talking about the comparison of the practices of political dynasties in Indonesia and the United States, both have different political cultures. The characteristics of political dynasties in developing countries such as Indonesia tend to be influenced by the culture or traditions of old inherited values such as feudalism, patrimonialism, and/or patron-client relationships, resulting in a tree of power whose branches and twigs are controlled by certain parties. Political dynasties in Indonesia are still top down. Political parties in Indonesia still need to learn a lot about good cadre formation so as to produce superior political figures. Meanwhile, in the United States it appears more mature by implementing a bottom-up nature in its political dynasty with a stronger cadre system. In such a pattern, adjustments to modern democratic ethics are carried out by preparing the children concerned in the education system and political recruitment from an early age so that their emergence comes from politically educated families.

REFERENCES


Comparison of Political Dynasty in Indonesia and the United States


