



Cultured Democracy: An Effort to Build a Civilized Political Life

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Abstract. Humans are cultural creatures. Human culture develops from simple culture to complex culture in a very diverse life. As cultural creatures, all areas of human life cannot be separated from cultural issues. Nowadays, the political sector is very important and has a strong influence on the lives of people and nations throughout the world. Democracy is a central theme in political discourse. The problem in this research is: What is the image of a cultured democracy. The aim of this research is to obtain a democratic building that can create a civilized human life. This is a qualitative research. The method used is phenomenological hermeneutics including: observation, heuristics, interpretation and analysis. Democracy is the political system most widely adopted by countries in the world. Democracy provides broad opportunities for people's participation in state administration. As a system that regulates common interests, democracy is not only seen as a political system that only involves power transactions. Culture must be the basis for implementing democracy. A good and responsible democratic culture will produce civilized political life. Civilized life will benefit human life and human quality Introduction.

Keywords: Democracy, Cultured, Politic, Civilized

1 Introduction

This article is a brief research report on democracy. This is interdisciplinary research involving political science, cultural science and philosophy. Democracy as a material object of research is the area of political science. Cultural Studies is used as a formal object or approach point of view. Philosophy as the mother of the sciences unites two aspects of science on a theme to create an in-depth analysis of the results of the synthesis of collaboration between the two fields of science. This research is basically philosophical research. Philosophical research is not tied to data, facts and special cases, but is based on general phenomena as material to be dissected in depth. Democracy is examined in relation to human nature with its personal potential and social life.

1.1 Problem Formulations

This research seeks to answer two fundamental questions about democracy:

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1.1.1. What is the urgency of cultural democracy?

1.1.2. What is the image of a cultured democracy?

1.2 Benefits of Research

1.2.1 For the scientific environment, this research could be material for further research on democracy studied from various aspects.

1.2.2 This research is expected to provide a more in-depth and comprehensive understanding of democracy so that the essence of democracy is obtained which is beneficial for humans.

1.3 Theoretical framework

Humans are creatures created by God. According to Aristotle, humans are rational animals, namely rational animals. With the ability of reason, humans develop their lives in the form of culture. All aspects of human life cannot be separated from culture. Humans are also animal sociale, meaning animals that live together. Democracy is a system for managing common interests. Culture is needed in democracy in order to create a civilized political life.

2 Methods

This research used the phenomenological hermeneutic method, namely a study of an issue to gain understanding by examining the phenomena that occur. Phenomena are opened and researched in order to obtain the basic essence of an object of study. The methodical elements in this research are description, analysis, synthesis, interpretation and idealization.

3 Result and Discussion

3.1 A Brief Overview of Man and Culture

The study of culture cannot be separated from the study of humans. Man is the center of culture. Questions about the nature of culture are basically the same as questions about the nature of humans [1]. The concept of humans is the basis for discussions about culture. Humans are one of God's creations. According to Mircea Eliade, humans are a small nature or micro cosmos which is in the large nature of the macro cosmos [2]. Humans are different from other creatures, they have reason. According to Aristotle, humans are rational animals, namely rational animals, and social animals, namely animals that live together in a community [3]. Humans are also Zoon Politicon, animals who engage in politics, namely socializing to meet their needs and interests.

The human side as zoon politicon gives birth to a system or way of organizing and managing human interests in living together. Some systems that live in society have been growing for a long time.

Human life runs dynamically. Development and change always occur, so that the system that regulates human life develops from a simple system to a complex system. In its development, due to the demands of the times, a new system emerged which was deliberately designed to run life and regulate common interests.

Humans in their sociality and with their minds try to maintain and develop their lives. They must also always adapt to nature. Human movement in the development of life based on the power of animal rationale gives birth to culture. Humans, who consist of natural elements, natural characteristics and natural position, are cultural creatures. Humans live in nature trying to understand nature. Activities give birth to culture. Nature as a materialist cause and the creative power of human reason as a formalist cause of culture [4].

In Immanuel Kant's thought *Vernunft* is used. Mind is higher than reason. In this article the concept of culture is not presented, because there is not enough space, besides that culture concerns many complex aspects of human life.

In short, culture is the dynamics of human cultural movement in an effort to survive and develop life in relationship with the Creator and His creation. Culture is not only a noun but also a verb. It is not a static thing, but dynamic as the human mind is always developing [5]. The human mind's processing of cultural material gives birth to values. There are basic human values that are integrated in culture. Culture summarizes various elements in a harmonious, orderly, harmonious manner and contains ideals. In human culture there is a spirit in the form of values, norms, ethics and aesthetics [6].

3.2 Culture and Democracy

The existence of humans as cultural creatures cannot be denied. Culture with its intrinsic values is the foundation and direction for all aspects of human life. This foundation and direction guides an activity or system. With this cultural foundation, something will be beneficial for humans and reduce tension and conflict. One of the important systems in human life is the political system. A political system built within a cultural framework will create a cultural, dignified and beneficial political system. Democracy is a political system that is currently developing. Democracy is not a perfect system, but it is a system that is widely implemented in the world. Democracy is a system that regulates the interests of the nation, humans and various communities. According to UNESCO Director Frederico Mayor there is no single model of democracy that can be applied to all nations [7]. Every nation is different in all aspects.

The democratic ethos must reflect the unique values and cultural elements of society without abandoning the universal essence and values of democracy.

3.3 Cultured Democracy

According to Koentjaraningrat there are eight cultural institutions: domestic institutions, economic institutions, educational institutions, scientific institutions, aesthetic and recreational institutions, religious institutions, political institutions, and somatic institutions. Democracy is included in the area of political institutions [8]. Democracy as a political system is part of culture. This must be understood within a cultural framework. Building a democratic system is basically building a political culture. A good democracy is based on culture.

From a political perspective, democracy only concerns procedures and formal aspects relating to the validity and invalidity of a process. In this case, power transactions often occur, power struggles that create conflict and chaos. From a cultural perspective, democracy is more meaningful. Democracy as a process is the initial stage towards substantial democracy based on values and norms. A healthy democracy contains cultural ideals [9]. This ideal is to create a civilized life where humans are respected as equals. The essence of democracy is respect for equal degrees of freedom. Democracy as a system is a tool to achieve the broader goals of civilized society. Democracy will not be useful if it is only understood as a competition for legitimate power where victory is the ultimate goal.

Not all countries in the world choose democracy as a political system. Some monarchical countries are indeed able to create prosperity for the people, but democracy is a political system that is widely implemented in the world. Whatever model of democracy is applied, cultured democracy is needed to build a civilized life without exploitation and oppression. Cultured democracy is a condition for building a civilized life without exploitation and oppression. A brief description of a cultured democracy is a democracy where culture is the starting point and basis for its implementation, values and norms are its guide and humanity is its ideal. Democracy must guarantee people's empowerment and create a responsible system [10].

In this regard, ethics becomes very important for system controllers and the attitudes of system implementers. The implementation of democracy without ethical control reduces the meaning of democracy to a mere procedure. Civilized political life is impossible if procedural democracy is implemented, not substantial democracy. A sophisticated political system and a strong legal system are not enough to create a cultured democracy. Without ethics, both systems will be exploited for the interests of political actors. Ethics ideally serves as a guide and ethos for political actors. An ethic is needed where humans are respected as humans not as a vote, and a consciousness that the people is the owner of sovereignty. Democracy based on ethical values will provide broad benefits for humans and the progress of civilization.

Some attitudes that need to be developed are: respect for human dignity, shame, responsibility, honesty, sportsmanship, admitting defeat and not being arbitrary when winning, accepting pluralism, respecting differences of opinion, fighting for the interests of the people as owners of sovereignty, avoiding violence, being open to cooperation without collusion, using good methods to gain power, and the most important thing is the attitude of prioritizing the interests of the people rather than personal, group and dynasty interests. This is the moral capital to build a cultured democracy, a democracy that benefits the people as holders of power. Democracy as a culture is a process of humanizing humans [11].

3.4 Realized cultured Democracy

In implementing democracy, an adequate political system and legal instruments are not only needed but also a good democratic cultural climate. Building a democratic culture is a difficult problem because it relates to human consciousness and conscience. This problem requires hard work and good will from all elements of the nation. It is necessary to realize that moral capital is the most important capital for improving the quality of national civilization. The following are suggestions that can be made: develop a political system based on national culture. The core value of Indonesia's culture is Pancasila. The five principles is a basic in implementing of democracation to develop clear and firm regulations, provide education to citizens regarding their rights and obligations, establish independent institutions as supervisors of the authorities, describe political ethics into regulations so that they have strength, state administrators and the government set a good example for citizens

4 Conclusion

Humans are naturally cultural creatures. Culture with its intrinsic values is the foundation and direction for all aspects of human life which guide an activity or system. Culture contains values, norms and ideals of harmony and order. Democracy as a political system must be run within a cultural framework guided by ethics. Culture humanizes humans. A civilized political system will provide benefits to humans in accordance with their dignity and worth. This cultural system is the starting point for civilized life that respects humans as God's creatures who are free and equal.

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