

COMPLETION REPORT

Comparative Study on Election Management between Japan and Indonesia

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From the research, it should be reported that the electoral system that applied in Japan and electoral system applied in Indonesia will influence to the management system of election. The electoral system will touch upon big picture of the electoral system while the management of electoral system will be done by General Election Commission on managing secretariat, managing voter, candidate, campaigning and casting ballot.

From the research, it is found the fact that in Japan, the vice governor is chosen by the elected governor. Most probably, the vice governor is coming from local bureaucrat background. The elected governor is authorized to ask the central government's representative to be the vice governor. This is different from Indonesian local electoral system, where the candidacy of governor, Meyer or regent should come in pair: the candidate for governor/Meyer/regent with the candidate of the vice governor/Meyer/regent. Regarding with the candidacy, there is significant point affecting the process of making candidates. In Indonesia, pair of candidates can be endorsed by political parties or independent candidates that endorsed by certain number of people (from 6,5% to 10% of available voters) reside in the region. For the independent candidate, the General Election commission has to verify the id card of supporters who endorse the candidacy.

This research is found out that in Japan, candidate can withdraw from candidacy while in Indonesia is not allowed. Once candidate make themselves as candidates, they could not withdraw their candidacy. In Japan, as happened in Iwate, the election commission is directly announce the winning candidate while there is only one candidate left due to withdrawal of other candidates. As at the beginning, it is found that there are two candidates.

In Japan, the local election is for electing local legislative. This is something different to what applied in Indonesian system where local election is conducted separately from the legislative election. In Indonesia, the local election is only to elect local executive. Therefore, in the management side, the election commission administers the candidate differently. In Japan, when it is called local election therefore, the general election will administer candidate for both election candidates: for the Member of Parliament at local parliament and for executive for governor and Meyer. While in Indonesia, the election commissions for local election will only dealing with pair candidate for Governor-Vice governor, Meyer-Vice Meyer and Regent-Vice Regent. The administrative requirement of the candidates should be verified by the election commission. After the election commission see that all requirements are fulfilled, then electoral commission will announce the candidates formally.

The ways they conduct campaign are quite similar to what applied in Indonesian electoral system. The different is only the participants where in Japan, the participant are few and mostly be done by candidate himself/herself. While in Indonesia during campaigning, there are usually hundreds or thousands people gathered in public space especially at playing ground/boulevard and usually being entertained by artist, singer, and musicians to get wider attention of the people. The differences on campaigning process are in the following illustration. In Japan, campaigning is using the social media, flyers, meet and greet campaign in the street. While in Indonesia, campaigning is using social media, flyers, meet and greet/limited meeting, and campaign in public space with huge number of audiences. In this phase, the electoral commission according to electoral law is regulating the campaign and observe the implementation of the campaigning process.

From the above research, it is conclude that in order to nurture the democracy, both countries can learn from each electoral system and managerial aspect of election that applied in each country. In managing candidacy especially when there is only single candidate in Japan can be seen as learning point by Indonesia, and campaign model applied in Indonesia can be seen as good means to increase political participation in Japan.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

Date: 5 November 2015 at Grand Inna Muara Padang and 7 November 2015 at KPU Bukittinggi

Name of Conference: Focus Group Discussion on Comparative Local Election

Title of presentation: Preliminary Research Finding of Comparative Local Election: Iwate (Japan) and West Sumatera (Indonesia)

Presenter: Sri Nuryanti

Discussants: Dr. Aidinil Zetra, Ardyan, SH,MH and Drs. Mufti Syarfi (Padang) and Khairul Fahmi (Bukittinggi)

Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)

I will write article in Journal published in Japan soon.

Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)