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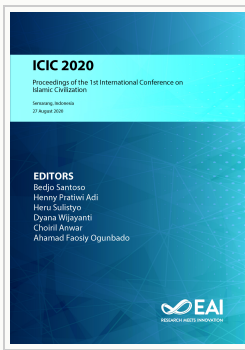Bedjo Santoso
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Research Article

The Substance of Islamic Public Policy in the Era of Decentralization

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Abstract
Implementing the Decentralization System in the reformation era in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia provided an opportunity to change various systems and institutions. The Decentralized System brings the consequences of more open and well-managed government changes, community participation, and sustainable market potential. Islamic public power policy cannot be separated from the reflection of leadership, regional government organizational behavior, and ethics in managing the local government's organizational structure. This research was conducted by library research method and using secondary data. This paper compares factual phenomena and theories so that solutions and recommendations can be obtained relating to problems in the era of decentralization. The author's approach is to identify through formulating and implementing public policies nuanced in Islam how the regional head can provide solutions to problems that arise in the community. On the other hand, local leaders must develop territories based on Islamic management, both sharia-based and non-sharia-based. However, it will raise a debate about whether Islamic public policies can be implemented entirely in Indonesia, which is not an Islamic state.

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The Substance of Islamic Public Policy in the Era of Decentralization

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Abstarct. Implementing the Decentralization System in the reformation era in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia provided an opportunity to change various systems and institutions. The Decentralized System brings the consequences of more open and well-managed government changes, community participation, and sustainable market potential. The critical point to the success of decentralization lies in local government management based on excellent public policies and services. The public policy breakthrough made by the regional head gave rise to many innovations, including Islamic-inspired systems. Advances and innovations made produce honest, mandate, and trustworthy behavior for implementers and policy targets. Change and local wisdom will make it easier for regional heads to implement their nuanced Islamic policies to the community. The majority of people in Indonesia who are Muslims need policies that have Islamic authority both directly and indirectly in people's lives. Islamic public power policy cannot be separated from the reflection of leadership, regional government organizational behavior, and ethics in managing the local government's organizational structure. This research was conducted by library research method and using secondary data. This paper compares factual phenomena and theories so that solutions and recommendations can be obtained relating to problems in the era of decentralization. The author's approach is to identify through formulating and implementing public policies nuanced in Islam how the regional head can provide solutions to problems that arise in the community. On the other hand, local leaders must develop territories based on Islamic management, both sharia-based and non-sharia-based. However, it will raise a debate about whether Islamic public policies can be implemented entirely in Indonesia, which is not an Islamic state.

Keywords: Public Policy, Islamic nuances, Decentralization

1 Introduction

Indonesia, with a Muslim majority population, made changes after the New Order with the reform movement. There have been several system changes in the reform era, namely a shift from a centralized government to decentralization. The shift in authority and management of the bureaucracy from the central government to regional governments was accompanied by

broad autonomy. The autonomous leader in decision-making and budget management given to local governments will create more autonomous and accountable regional governments. It is marked by the granting of broad authority and governance from the central government to local governments. This autonomy gives local governments the opportunity to make excellent policies and services that focus on the community. An indication of an accountable and transparent local government's performance can be shown by the community who are satisfied with the public services provided.

Decentralization provides opportunities for local governments to manage bureaucratic resources and budgets to make dynamic and responsible policy breakthroughs. According to Grindle [1], local governments with their responsibilities can improvise and break new ground with the support of resources such as public officials and state institutions under them [1]. The role of the community is also needed to support public policies that are in accordance with community problems such as education services, health, and improvement of the economic sector. Indonesia is a post-reform unitary state in line with the passing of the General Election Law, which provides opportunities for the election of regional leaders through direct local elections. This makes it easier for Indonesia to change towards the era of decentralization. If a unitary state uses decentralization as the principle of regional governance, it will have implications for distributing power/authority from the Central Government to the Regions.

Dunn [2] explains that a government public policy's success is the ability to identify problems that arise in society. In addition, it is also necessary to formulate, implement, and evaluate policies on an ongoing basis to minimize policy errors. Dunn's explanation is reinforced by [3] explanation that the relevance of regional autonomy is related to three main issues in the process of decentralization and local autonomy, namely the distribution of power and authority, distribution of income, and the independence of regional government administrators. Significant changes are related to the transfer of control both politically and administratively in maritime administration from the central government to the regions. Starting with the Regional Government Law No. 22 of 1999, regional governments at the district and city levels have the autonomy to make budgetary authority and management dependent on the situation and conditions at the local level [4]. Regional Autonomy in Indonesia is new hope for the community to get a leader who is trustworthy and responsible. However, the field's reality shows that there are still many practices of corruption, collusion, and nepotism. It is strengthened by [5] explanation that corruption does not only occur in the era of centralization but also in the era of decentralization that has emerged at the local level.

The problems that have arisen with the enactment of the Regional Government Law are evident from this phenomenon. First, whether the implementation of Regional Autonomy has led to a clean and trustworthy government. Second, whether broad authority and independent financial management can benefit citizens and solutions that can be carried out by the government. Referring to Sutiyo and Maharjan [6] opinion, the reality that occurs in the reform era demands a democratic process that provides an opportunity for someone to become a leader through the General Election. The benchmarks for the success of a democratic government include separation of powers, elections, representation, public participation, transparency and accountability. In addition, there is a synergy between local government and society politically and administratively to achieve satisfactory policies and services.

The need for an Islamic-based regional autonomy process to overcome problems that arise in local governance. The primary key of regional autonomy lies in the creation of leaders who are able to make professional, effective and efficient public policies and services. Quoting from QS. An-Nisa 'verse 58; which can be translated as: "Verily, Allah instructs you to convey

the message to those who are entitled to receive it, and (order you) when establishing laws among humans so that you will determine it fairly. Verily, Allah gave the best teaching to you [7]. Allah is All-hearing, All-seeing. " Also supported by QS. Al-Baqarah, verse 283: can be translated: "If some of you believe some of the others, then let those who are believed to fulfill their mandate (debt) and let him fear Allah his God" [8]. Quoting from the Al-Quran from Surah An-nisa verse 58 and Surat Al-Baqarah verse 283, it can be analyzed that there is a need for governance that is just, trustworthy, trustworthy and responsible for the benefit of the people. Besides, the main key in government is to work hard for excellent service to the community. Decentralization provides a way out for the election of amanah leaders who can make excellent policies and services for the sake of community satisfaction.

2 Research methods

This research is descriptive and uses a policy approach based on literature study based research. This research was conducted by comparing literature such as books, journals, and mass media data. According to [9], this literature research is concerned with extracting text-based data dealing with literature sources. Besides, the data were not divided into the space and time of the researcher. This research was conducted by comparing several literature-based theories to determine policy problems in the Islamic-nuanced era of decentralization how policies are formulated and implemented responsibly and on target.

3 Results and Discussions

3.1 Decentralization Issues in the Regional Autonomy Era

Regional autonomy that is enforced in a region is influenced by the political system and power intervention. The policy of decentralization and local autonomy is a series of units from a network of state organizations. Where the key to regional autonomy lies in the regional government with its bureaucratic structure. According to [10], Changes in the concept and practice of decentralization from a centralized government to autonomous government at the regional level with the support of political, economic, social, and technological forces. Local governments with broad authority and financial balance are able to make quality public policies and services. The need for quality public policies to support local government performance in realizing excellent service to the public as a policy target. Quoting from QS. An-nisa 'verse 58, which can be translated as: "Verily, Allah commands you to convey the message to those who have the right to receive it, and (orders you) when establishing laws among humans so that you determine it reasonably. Verily, Allah gave the best teaching to you [7]. The collaboration between the western concept of decentralization and the Islamic concept correlates with the rules or policies that leaders must make based on the needs and problems that arise in society. An Islamic nuance will appear when it is known that government performance at the regional level can be carried out accountably and responsibly.

The substance according to [1] regarding the rolling of decentralization provides an opportunity for regional heads to compete to be more responsive by providing quality services and the accountability of local officials. Do not forget to give rewards and punishments for negligent employees and forget their duties in providing services. Quoting Dunn's [2] statement that policy can be measured from the policy process carried out even though it is

often not in accordance with planning and consequences that are not anticipated by policymakers and implementers, evaluation as a medium to resolve. It is essential to realize that the implications of the policy process cannot be resolved entirely, requiring knowledge of the results of the policies that have been carried out.

In the public context, according to [11] the focus of the public policy is on seeing the impact of social, economic, and political forces on the public. In addition, regulating institutional and political processes in government institutions. Thomas Dye [11] also discusses the consequences of the policy, namely the impact of the procedure itself. Local governments, with so much authority in the policy-making process are vulnerable to the interests of many parties. The importance of local governments through regional heads to identify problems in their area and provide appropriate policy solutions. Policymaking is carried out so that conditions that give rise to people's needs can be fulfilled [12]. This is reinforced by the arguments of [13], Decentralization in Indonesia can be implemented with political responsibility, freedom of policymaking, the community participating in policymaking, and the game rules in policy accountability.

QS. Al-Baqarah, verse 283: can be translated: "If some of you believe some of the others, then let those who are believed to fulfill their mandate (debt) and let them fear Allah their Lord" [8]. The solution in the era of decentralization lies in the sensitivity of local governments to problems that arise in society and immediately resolve them. An Islamic nuance will emerge when the policy process is made in a trustworthy, professional manner, does not commit performance violations, is dedicated, and sincere in work. The nature of policy is a type of action that leads to the achievement of the desired goals with several stages, namely policy demands, policy decisions, policy statements, policy outputs, and policy outcomes [14].

3.2 Local Government Policy Implementation Model

Indonesia, as a unitary state, adheres to a democratic system based on elections. So the political process is carried out openly and fairly for all people in Indonesia. The author sees that Islamic nuances can be seen not in the democratic side of elections in general but in the results of the general elections. How are the policies made by the results of general elections, especially at the local government level, based on problem identification in the community? In addition, local governments can immediately make solutions to problems with effective and efficient public policies. Policies in the era of decentralization can be carried out trustfully and professionally if the principles in the implementation process are carried out accountably. Islam teaches that a sound government system can be carried out with trustworthy leadership and targeted policies. According to [15] leadership is an essential key in changes in public policy. By understanding that quality public policies cannot be separated from the sensitivity and ability of regional heads to identify and find solutions to problems that arise in society. It is emphasized by the opinion of [16] that an accountable and professional regional head can be elected with the role of citizens in expressing opinions through predetermined channels such as the General Election of Regional Heads so that there is hope that public officials can be elected according to choice.

The implementation of public policy is an essential stage in the public policy process. In Webster's Dictionary formulates that implementing the policy by providing a means to carry out something to have an impact on something [14]. Referring to the definition of implementation, according to Webster's Dictionary, it can explain that implementation is a process of implementing policy decisions in the form of laws, government regulations, judicial

decisions, executive orders, regional regulations, and so on. This argument is further strengthened by the opinion of Wahab [14] that implementation capacity is needed so that the ability of an organization to carry out policy decisions according to the goals or objectives set out in the approved formal policy document. Public policy is created as a representation of the problems in an organization. According to Dunn [2] knowledge is needed to formulate policy solutions to minimize fatal errors in the policy process.

In examining policy implementation, the author sees the phenomenon of Islamic Public Policy in Indonesia, which can be analyzed using the concepts and theories of [17] on Policy Implementation. It begins with investigating the phenomenon with the question of what conditions are needed for successful policy implementation? In addition, there are also questions about the problems that cause a performance to fail. Edwards III answered these two questions with four factors in the implementation of public policy. According to Edwards III, there are four factors or variables that influence the success or failure of policy implementation. The four factors include factors of communication, resources, disposition, and bureaucratic structure. The description of Edward III [17] theory is reinforced by the opinion of [18,19] regarding the implementation of policies that are right on target and successful.

First, the variable used is communication. According to Edwards III in [18], policy implementation communication consists of three crucial indicators in the policy communication process, namely the transmission dimension, the dimension of clarity, and the dimension of consistency. An essential requirement for effective policy implementation is that those implementing decisions must know what they have to do. *Second*, in the implementation model of Edwards III [17], communication variables are interrelated with resource variables. Implementers of policies carefully, clearly, and consistently carry out their assigned tasks, so their implementation tends to be effective. Regarding the importance of resource factors, Edwards III (in Widodo) describes that policies are communicated clearly and consistently, but if the implementor lacks the resources to implement it, the implementation will not be sufficient. Resources include staff resources, information resources, equipment resources, and authority [19].

Third, Edwards III (in Widodo) explains that the success of policy implementation is not only determined by the extent to which the policy actors (implementors) know what to do and are able to do it but also determined by the willingness of those policy actors to have a strong disposition towards policies that are being implemented [19]. *Fourth*, according to Edwards III (in Widodo), policy implementation is still not sufficient because there is no efficiency of the bureaucratic structure [19]. The structure of an organization is an organizational map that provides an overview of all activities and processes that occur in an organization. The bureaucratic system can run well with the application of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in all levers of local government structures.

Indonesia is the largest Muslim country in the world that adopts a democratic system in its government. There are opportunities for policymakers to implement policies with Islamic rulers, even though the system adopted is not a model of Islamic governance. This can be done with policies in the terms trustworthy, accountable, and right on target. These rules reflect the Islamic rulings, which refer to QS. An-Nisa 'verse 58, which explains that the state and government must be fair to their people [7]. The government's decision-making process can reflect a public product or service that will be provided to society. The analysis of this paper also refers to QS. Al-Baqarah, verse 283, can be interpreted as the ability of local governments with communication skills, accountable human resources, dispositions in delegating authority, and their bureaucratic structures can provide solutions to problems in society [8]. An Islamic

nuance will emerge when the policy process is made in a trustworthy, professional manner, does not commit performance violations, is dedicated, and sincere in work.

4 Conclusion

The achievement of regional government with Islamic nuances in the era of decentralization can be achieved if public policy making is carried out based on problems in society. I am referring from QS. An-nisa 'verse 58 and QS. Al-Baqarah, verse 283, requires strong efforts on local governments in order to create excellent policies and services that focus on the community. The performance of an accountable and professional local government is shown by the public, who are satisfied with the public services provided. Reference points for the creation of public policies with the implementation process that is right on target with comprehensive evaluations in order to form continuous consolidation and coordination so as to build effective communication, proven resources, minimize conflicts within the team and the local government bureaucratic structure that is effective in making decisions and is coordinated. Alignment of interests and activities is actually interrelated in policy implementation, and synergistic and collaborative teamwork is formed so that the implementation of policies carried out by policy implementers is effective and efficient.

Acknowledgments

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