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The Frenzy Post-Appointment of Anies Rasyid Baswedan As A Presidential Candidate

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ABSTRACT

Judging from the electoral political indicators, Indonesia's democratic achievements are impressive. There is not the slightest doubt about the achievements of electoral democracy in Indonesia. The world recognizes Indonesia as the largest democratic country after the United States and India. One indicator of democracy is the presence of political parties as a means for the public to convey their aspirations during general elections. Indonesia will hold general elections in 2024. This study aims to elaborate on Indonesia's political dynamics after the determination of Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate. The methods used in this study are topic determination, heuristics, criticism, interpretation, and historiography. The results of the research show that various political dynamics that occur in the face of the 2024 election, one of which is the appointment of Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate. Debate at the elite level as well as in the general public regarding the formation of a coalition for change fronted by the National Democratic Party, the Prosperous Justice Party and the Democratic Party.

Keywords: *Coalition for change, Democracy, Elections*

1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a democratic country [1]. In simple terms, democracy as introduced by Abraham Lincoln is a government formed from the people, by the people, and for the people [2]. The necessity of a democratic system is essentially marked by the operation of three basic principles. First, the upholding of political ethics and morality as the working basis of the political, economic and social systems [3]. Second, the upholding of the principle of constitutionalism, namely the upholding of the rule of law and the existence of obedience to the law in society. Third, the use of public accountability or responsibility mechanisms, namely mechanisms that position all public office holders as winners of the mandate or mandate from the people [4].

Democracy is not an easy and cheap system. One reason is that democracy is a system full of paradoxes [5]. The rhetoric of democracy that it is the embodiment of the principle of the people, by the people, and for the people actually creates a gaping hole as to how far democracy by the people can actually be realized. In reality, the people are involved in general elections, but not all of the people are involved in the governing and decision-making processes. At this point, populists will emphasize the gap in the process of public involvement

in a democratic system which is seen as a paradox of democracy itself. Policy in some or many ways is not a manifestation of the public interest, but is rather the result of interaction and compromise between actors or elites [6]. Populists see this process as a natural defect of democracy which simply makes the people the object of aggregating votes to pave the way for the legal exploitation of elite groups in the name of the public interest.

Democracy in the view of Joseph E. Schemer as an institutional plan to reach political decisions where everyone gets the power to decide how to compete competitively for the voice of citizens. This proves that democracy provides a distinctive feature compared to systems of feudalism and authoritarianism which tend to make decisions completely by the highest group [7]. Meanwhile, in order for democracy to run according to substantive norms, Nurcholis Madjid stated that there are several norms or democratic views of life which form the basis of democracy, namely: pluralism, deliberation, morals, honest consensus, economic sovereignty, cooperation between citizens, and democratic education [8].

In a democratic country, public participation (citizens) is needed. Although participation is one of the

important elements in democracy, especially in representative democracy, participation is more intended as citizen involvement in general elections [9]. Political participation is a process in which community members are able to share their views and become part of the decision-making process and various planning activities, activities carried out by the community to be able to influence government decisions [10]. Through this process, various interested parties try to influence the holders of authority and control when formulating development initiatives, when making decisions and determining the resources that can later influence them.

One of the instruments of democracy, particularly in Indonesia, is general elections [11]. Not long after, Indonesia will hold general elections, on 14 February 2024 to be precise. The 2024 general election will be the sixth election in the post-reformation era or the fifth election to be held directly with the people as direct voters. The 2024 election is expected to be projected as a momentum to complete the democratic transition in Indonesia towards democratic maturity in all layers of the national political structure. This projection is not absolute, but the direction of its success is believed by some Indonesian people. The holding of the 2019 and 2014 elections is used as lessons learned for election organizers to further strengthen their capacities, both in organizing and supervising.

Political parties as pillars of democracy [12] are also committed to presenting a more passionate contestation by offering many choices, especially in the presidential candidate market. One of the political parties that has shown its commitment to presenting general elections as the joy of the people is the Democratic National Party. The party led by Surya Paloh has taken the first steps towards elections by establishing Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate who will contest in the 2024 election [13]. The Nasdem Party's steps were then strengthened by the Democratic Party and the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) and agreed to create a coalition that is more familiar. the change coalition. The presence of this change coalition certainly warmed up the dynamics of Indonesian politics. The dynamics of Indonesian politics, as usual, are always colored by debates at the elite level as well as between supporters at the grassroots level [14]. This dynamic, which often

creates a commotion, is interesting to be elaborated on in depth, especially with regard to the determination of Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate.

2. METHOD

This study uses the historical method by taking five stages, namely topic determination, heuristics, criticism, interpretation and historiography [15]. In the heuristic stage or collecting sources/data, this is done by browsing various online media and reviewing books and journals that are relevant to the research topic. The next step is to criticize or verify the sources by comparing and juxtaposing one data with another. After the data is declared valid and there is no doubt about its truth, then the data is given meaning or interpretation so that there is data linkage. The results of the analysis are then narrated in writing (historiography) so that they can be useful for the development of the social and humanities sciences, particularly in the field of history.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1. *Determination of Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a Candidate for President*

At the closing ceremony of the National Democratic Party Working Meeting at the Senayan Convention Center Hall, Jakarta June 17 2022, Surya Paloh as General Chair of the Democratic National Party officially announced three potential presidential candidates to be carried out in the 2024 general election, namely Anies Rasyid Baswedan, Andika Perkasa, and Ganjar Pranowo [16]. The three names were proposed by the 34 Regional Executive Boards (DPW) of the Democratic National Party (Nasdem Party). The decisions of the 34 DPWs cannot be separated from Surya Paloh's policy which gives them the freedom to propose names of presidential candidates to be carried at the 2024 general election democratic party. This freedom was then used by the DPW Nasdem Party in capturing several figures who were considered worthy of becoming potential candidates. Presidents include: Anies Rasyid Baswedan proposed 32 DPW, Ganjar Pranowo 29 DPW, Erick Thohir 16 DPW, Rachmat Gobel 14 DPW, Andika Perkasa 13 DPW. Other figures who entered the stock exchange were: Ridwan Kamil, Khofifah Indar Parawansa, Sandianga Uno, Dudung

Abdurachman, Ahmad Sahroni, Syahrul Yasin Limpo, Rachmat Gobel, Lestari Moerdijat, Ahmad Ali, Prananda Surya Paloh.

In the process of selecting presidential candidates, the Nasdem Party certainly pays attention to the aspirations of the people, because the people really have a role in determining the direction of political development in Indonesia. For the Nasdem Party, politics has good and noble aims for society. For this reason, the active participation of the people in politics is highly expected so that all the aspirations of the people can be properly channeled and realized. With the awareness and activeness of the community in politics and democracy, the community will become familiar with existing political problems and can assist in solving them. Besides that, healthy political parties and an educated press can also influence the direction of politics and democracy. Based on data released by katadata.co.id, there are several requirements for a presidential figure desired by the public, namely:

1. Populist
2. Firm
3. Be honest
4. Smart
5. Anti-corruption
6. Fair
7. Trust
8. Be responsible
9. Authoritative
10. Simple

Anies Rasyid Baswedan, who will be nominated by the Nasdem Party, gave a good response to this decision. Anies considers that the Nasdem Party's decision is a new breakthrough and a step forward for democracy in Indonesia. In the course of democracy in Indonesia, this is the first time that a party has given opportunities to people who are not party cadres. However, this did not make Anies negligent in his duties. He remains focused on carrying out his duties as Governor of the Special Capital Region of Jakarta Province.

Somewhat different from Anies, Ganjar Pranowo, who is also listed as a presidential candidate from the Nasdem Party, responded in a normal way. He stressed

that he was still perpendicular to the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P). Ganjar stated that he would comply with all decisions and directives from the party and PDI-P chairman, even if he was not ready to be chosen as a presidential candidate. He did not comment much on his candidacy by the Nasdem Party, because he preferred to focus on completing his duties as Governor of Central Java. For Ganjar, the General Election is still far away and it is too early to discuss it. In politics everything can change in a short time.

The appointment of Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate at the National Working Meeting of the Nasdem Party has certainly received public attention, especially from observers and political observers. The Executive Director of the Indonesian Survey Scale, Abdul Hakim, considers that Anies Rasyid Baswedan's announcement is one of the efforts of the Nasdem Party to increase its electability before the people as voters in general elections as well as being the holder of the highest sovereignty in a democratic country like Indonesia. In addition, not long ago, Anies Rasyid Baswedan will end his tenure as Governor of DKI Jakarta, so his candidacy needs to be accelerated so that he remains popular in the community after he no longer holds public office. In the past, on 1 February 2010, Anies was one of 45 figures along with Surya Paloh who declared the Democratic National as a social organization which eventually morphed into the Democratic National Party which managed to cross the threshold of parliament [17].

The Nasdem Party's decision to designate Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate cannot be separated from his various achievements in leading the DKI Jakarta Province, including:

1. Jakarta International Stadium (JIS)

JIS is a football stadium located in the Papanggo area, Tanjung Priok, North Jakarta which was just inaugurated on Sunday 24 July 2022. JIS is the pride of Indonesia, especially the residents of DKI Jakarta, because it is a masterpiece whose entire work involves experts from Indonesia itself.

2. Formula E

The electric car racing event or Formula E was successfully held by the Provincial Government of DKI Jakarta on Saturday 4 June 2022. Anies said the success of the electric car racing event which was part of the 'Jakarta Celebration' series of events had succeeded in bringing the nation's capital to all corners of the world.

3. The Jakarta Now Application

Anies was proud of the Jakarta Kini digital application (JAKI) which is used by the DKI Provincial Government as an information center for handling Covid-19 in the Capital City. In a forum entitled Urban 20 Talks: Cities, Villages and Youth in the Digital Era, which was held on Thursday 24 February 2022, Anies shared the DKI Provincial Government's experience in managing the digitization of JAKI services, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. JAKI is a huge non-physical achievement. Super apps that include many public services, starting from complaints that residents can track the process of up to the need to vaccinate residents who have DKI ID cards, even residents who don't have DKI ID cards. And JAKI is recognized at the international level.

4. Transportation Integration

Anies exhibited the development of Jakarta as a Climate Resilient City to the United Nations (UN). This was conveyed in an international discussion forum for C40 member cities with the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres on Friday, April 16, 2021.

5. Free Land and Building Tax (PBB) for houses below IDR 2 billion

Anies eliminates the land and building tax (PBB) rate for residents of the capital city who have a tax object sale value (NJOP) below IDR 2 billion. He outlined this policy in Governor Regulation Number 23 of 2022 Policy on Stipulation and Payment of Rural and Urban Land and Building Taxes as an Effort for Economic Recovery in 2022. Anies said the policy was issued to encourage economic recovery in the capital city from the pressure of the pandemic.

6. WTP 5 times in a row

Anies said he was proud to have recorded the history of DKI Jakarta in obtaining an unqualified opinion (WTP) from the Supreme Audit Agency (BPK) for the fifth time in a row from 2017 to 2021.

3.2. Formation of the Repair and Change Coalition

That day, Monday 3 October 2022 at the Office of the Central Leadership Council of the Nasdem Party, Gondangdia, Central Jakarta, Surya Paloh appeared before party officials and sympathizers to officially declare Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate in the 2024 general election. On behalf of the party, Surya Paloh stated that Anies was an appropriate and suitable figure to lead the State of Indonesia after Joko Widodo in order to achieve a dignified country. Surya Paloh also admitted that it was possible that Anies was not as perfect as expected by society, but in the Indonesian democratic system based on Pancasila, the decision was taken on the basis of national unity without distinction of ethnicity, religion, race and intergroup to lead Indonesia as a big country multicultural.

Even though the Nasdem Party has officially declared Anies as a presidential candidate, the presidential nomination threshold is constrained. In the 2019 general election, the Nasdem Party only won 59 seats or around 9.05 percent of the total seats in the People's Representative Council of the Republic of Indonesia (DPR-RI). Meanwhile, election regulations require parties carrying presidential and vice presidential candidates to have at least 20 percent of the seats in the DPR or 25 percent of valid votes nationally in the previous election. To get around the presidential threshold rule, the NasDem Party plans to build a coalition with the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) and the Democratic Party.

The hope that the Nasdem Party could form a coalition with the PKS and the Democratic Party received a positive response from the two parties. On Thursday, 23 February 2023, PKS officially declared its support for Anies Baswedan as a presidential candidate to be supported in the 2024 General Election. The declaration took place at the office of the Prosperous Justice Party Central Leadership Council. The declaration was delivered directly by Ahmad Syaikhu as President of PKS accompanied by PKS officials

including Hidayat Nur Wahid, Sohibul Iman, and Salim Segaf al Jufri. The decision to support Anies Baswedan as a presidential candidate in 2024 was also the result of a decision by the PKS VIII Shura Council. Syaikh emphasized that this decision was born because a number of parties had gone through a deliberation process and discussed it carefully. At the same time, Ahmad Syaikh instructed the structure of PKS members and sympathizers throughout Indonesia to introduce and socialize Anies Rasyid Baswedan to all corners of the country as the presidential candidate endorsed by PKS.

PKS's support for Anies cannot be separated from his character. According to Ahmad Syaikh's assessment as a PKS representative, Anies has a religious nationalist character, a symbol of change and has a great chance of winning the 2024 presidential election. Anies has blue blood as the grandson of a national hero, Abdurrahman Baswedan. As the grandson of a national hero, of course Anies has the ability to combine religion and nationalism in advancing the State of Indonesia in the midst of increasingly high global competition. Anies, who received support from PKS, expressed his gratitude and expressed his gratitude for the support. PKS's support for him is used as proof that PKS is a loyal cooperation partner, because cooperation with PKS has been established for a long time, PKS provides full support and assistance in overseeing all of its work programs while serving as the Governor of DKI Jakarta Province.

The figure of Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a symbol of change and improvement in managing and managing the Republic of Indonesia has also received attention from the Democratic Party. The Upper House of the Democratic Party has taken a stand to support Anies Baswedan as a presidential candidate. The statement of support was delivered directly to Anies on March 2, 2023. This decision was not taken immediately but had gone through a long deliberation process. Previously, on January 26, 2023, Agus Harimurti Yudhoyono (AHY) as General Chair of the Democratic Party had established communication with Anies, the Nasdem Party and PKS. AHY said that there were similarities in the views of the Democratic Party, Nasdem Party, PKS and Anies in bringing Indonesia to a better direction.

The compatibility of views between the Nasdem Party, PKS, and the Democratic Party was then followed up with the signing of a charter declaring political cooperation. The three parties officially formed the Change Coalition for Unity on March 24, 2023. In the declaration charter, there are six points of agreement. The agreement in question is

1. Inauguration of the formation of a change coalition to face the 2024 general election.
2. Carrying Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate for 2024-2029.
3. The Nasdem Party, Democratic Party, and PKS gave Anies a mandate to choose his vice presidential candidate. Furthermore, giving freedom to presidential candidates to communicate with other political parties.
4. Establish a secretariat which is a continuation of the preparatory team or small team from the Nasdem Party, Democratic Party, and PKS.
5. In time to announce the pair of presidential and vice presidential candidates.

The coalition for change and improvement driven by the Nasdem Party, Democratic Party, and PKS received responses from various parties, both from the general public, parties supporting the government, and political observers. Responses from the general public, especially from followers of political Islam, can be seen on social media. They are so convinced that Anies Rasyid Baswedan who is personified as a representative of an Islamic group can bring Indonesia to prosperity. But on the other hand, there are also groups of people who are deep into the history of the election for the Governor of DKI Jakarta, how at that time Anies's supporters used identity politics to win [18]. This is certainly dangerous for the life of the nation and state if this kind of political style is echoed again.

From supporters of Joko Widodo's government, the idea of change echoed by Anies' shaman party actually raises the question, what things will be changed? Those in the ranks of the government stated that Indonesia's current condition was at a good level. The public is satisfied with the performance of Joko Widodo's

government [19]. This satisfaction is evident from the results of a survey conducted by the Lembaga Survey Indonesia (LSI) that 82% stated that the Indonesian people were satisfied with the government's performance. On that basis, it is something that is not right when the party supporting Anies Rasyid Baswedan calls for change, because Indonesia's condition today is precisely geared towards sustainability. In fact, Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno, who served as Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy in the Advanced Indonesia Cabinet, firmly stated that he did not share the same opinion as the coalition for change .

Sandiaga Uno stated that the axis he was carrying was the axis of accelerating development. The current implementation of the development is correct, in accordance with the direction of development that has been implemented since the reign of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. If the direction of development is changed in the name of change, then Indonesia will experience a setback for several years. Precisely what should be considered at this time is steps to speed up the development process and make corrections to a number of things that need to find a solution for the benefit of the community.

After the agreement between the Nasdem Party, PKS, and the Democratic Party to form a coalition for change, President Joko Widodo gathered General Chairmen of parties supporting the government, except for the Nasdem Party on May 2, 2023. This move drew responses, including from Anies Rasyid Baswedan. Anies asked that the government be neutral and not influence the people in making decisions in the 2024 general election. Anies saw that there were signs that the government was not neutral because Joko Widodo was aggressively endorsing presidential candidates and driving the formation of a grand coalition. Anies in his speech at Istora Senayan on 7 May 2023 hopes that the people will be given the trust to entrust the authority to elect leaders who have the right track record, the right record of work, and the record of good work. The state does not need to take part, because this step is a form of harassment against the Indonesian people.

Anies' response received a reaction from Hasto Kristianto as Secretary General of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P). Hasto denied that

if a meeting between general chairmen of political parties was to discuss practical politics. According to him, the President and General Chairs discussed more about the continuity of the policy going forward. Hasto also emphasized that the meeting was not discussing the candidacy process for the 2024 general election, but was more focused on discussing demographic bonuses and plans to move the National Capital. Hasto emphasized that parties supporting the government, especially the PDI-P, have political maturity, know the difference between practical politics and politics related to state and national affairs.

In tune with his PDI-P colleagues, Adian Napitupulu did not remain silent in responding to statements from the coalition for change which suspected the government of obstructing Anies' steps in the 2024 general election. Adian Napitupulu stated that several survey results released by several well-known survey institutions always placed Anies under Ganjar Pranowo and Prabowo Subianto. Therefore Adian asked the coalition for change to improve the performance of his team in promoting Anies, not to blame the government and PDI-P instead.

Meanwhile at the grassroots level, support for Anies continues to surge. The presidential candidate, who is supported by the change coalition group, mobilized hundreds of people in Bekasi, West Java to convey their message by forming the Prosperous National Alliance (Anies). This group will conduct outreach to the community by placing volunteers at each polling station (TPS) in Bekasi Regency. Meanwhile in Brebes Regency, Central Java, a declaration of support for Anies Rasyid Baswedan was carried out by forming Anes Baswedan's Youth Troops. The food fighters in Brebes want Anies to be elected President of the Republic of Indonesia in the 2024 general election. According to them, Anies is a figure who is concerned about giving attention to farming communities, especially in Central Java, and Indonesia in general.

Political parties that are not affiliated with parliament, one of which is the Umat Party, also supports Anies Rasyid Baswedan. This support is in accordance with the results of the decision of the National Working Meeting of the Ummat Party. Deputy Chairperson of the Ummat Party Central Leadership

Council, Benny Suharto stated that out of 37 provincial administrators of the Ummat Party in Indonesia, only 3 provinces had not declared their support, while 34 other provinces had provided support for Anies Baswedan. All Ummat Party cadres were very enthusiastic about gaining public support for Anies Baswedan, even all banners, baleho and other greeting boards always included Anies Baswedan's picture.

4. CONCLUSION

The Democratic National Party is one of the government-supporting parties that has boldly named Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate who will contest the upcoming 2024 general election. The Nasdem Party's move turned out to have the support of the Democratic Party and the Prosperous Justice Party which then agreed to form a coalition for change that established Anies Rasyid Baswedan as a presidential candidate. This support is given because Anies is a figure who has a nationalist and religious character. In addition, Anies, when he served as the Governor of DKI Jakarta Province, was considered to have made many achievements, so that his commitment to developing Indonesia is not in doubt. Anies is believed by the party supporting the change coalition to bring the Indonesian people towards prosperity.

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