



The Political Behavior of the Batulanteh Highlands Community in the Regional Head Election of Sumbawa Regency in 2020

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to determine the political behavior of voters and the factors behind them choosing the people of the Batulanteh highlands in the 2020 Sumbawa Regency regional elections. This is interesting to research because each voter has their own reasons and interests in determining political choices, so that candidates can determine strategy in campaigning to get results that are in line with the target. This study is qualitative research. The results of the research show that the tendency for political behavior to vote for the people of the Batulanteh highlands tends to be dominated by aspects of the figure and campaign issues as well as the candidate's work program. This is closely related to the real condition of Batulanteh which is still very underdeveloped and far from development aspects. The factors behind the political behavior of Batulanteh Community voters are the voter's social circle as a variable that is outside the voter but has an influence in determining individual political choices. Individual voters' decisions are strongly influenced by group cohesion processes, not purely individual decisions and actions. This creates a "threat" if an individual in a group makes a decision that is different from the group's decision, including the decision not to vote. Then there are patron client relationships, money politics, and an assessment of regional socio-economic conditions. Of the various aspects above, the most determining aspect is money politics. Meanwhile, the patron-client aspect is relative, one-off, and not literate. The existence of money politics is considered the most determinant in influencing a person's voting decisions. This is caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, making money politics easier to accept and increasing nominal vote buying. Money politics succeeded in influencing voting behavior because candidates used personal loyalist strategies to influence voters through their social environment. The use of money politics is an effort to strengthen voters' preferences for certain candidates and strengthen the confidence of regional head candidates to be able to get guaranteed voter compliance.

Keywords : Highland Community, Political Behavior, Regional Election.

1. INTRODUCTION

The voting behavior of the people of the Batulanteh highlands is interesting to study and research. This is because Batulanteh voters are still considered traditional and apolitical voters. However, on the other hand, as the level of education continues to advance, access to communication, transportation becomes smoother and access to digital technology and social media becomes easier, this has succeeded in changing the above assumptions. The people of the Batulannteh highlands have always been the object of every regional election contestation, even though they are still considered relatively underdeveloped, but are able to provide a winning influence for any candidate who contests in the regional head election.

In general, the people of Sumbawa mostly live as an agricultural society and live in the highlands. They live from agriculture, livestock and plantations. Lifestyles and social interactions in society also influence the socio-cultural system and the specific socio-political system in this context, namely voter behavior itself. The Batulanteh area is included in the category of inland communities in the highland areas of Sumbawa Regency apart from the Orong Telu, Lantung and Ropang District areas. Voter communities living in villages, especially in Batulanteh District, starting from the villages of Kelungkung, Batudulang, Tepal, Tangkampungit, Baodesa and Baturotok, in reality can no longer

be justified as homogeneous voters in terms of characteristics, but their heterogeneity tends to become more prominent and taken into account by any candidate pair. Regent/Deputy Regent who is contesting in the election for Regional Head of Sumbawa Regency.

In general, based on the results of various previous studies on the Batulanteh plateau, the author sees that there is still a lack of research or more specific studies to look at the political dynamics of highland communities, especially regarding political behavior in voting in regional head elections. The results of direct observations in the field show that there are many different styles of political games that are often carried out by old people, political figures and novice voters who are often called millennial voters in the communities in the villages in the Batulanteh highlands. This phenomenon further strengthens the assumption that homogeneity in voter behavior can no longer be justified as an absolute truth. When we analyze this dynamic more deeply. The assumption of homogeneity often undermines the progress of knowledge, understanding and political experience of voters living in the Batulanteh mountains. The existence of the results of various political processes and political contestation at local and national levels, political contestation must at least be able to be resolved by in-depth study of whether it is true that this culture has been going on for years and has not yet changed or whether there will be changes as society becomes more open, easier to access to science and technology via social media such as mobile phones by 2015, road/transportation access began to open to four villages in the Batulanteh mountains in 1995.

The homogeneity of political behavior of the people of the Batulanteh highlands, which has often been the object of politics for many years, has been polarized in such a way, in such a fashion. model, form, method or goal, will and desire so that it begins to shift towards heterogeneity. The rhythm of homogeneity of political behavior of the Batulanteh community at the assumption and normative level is still within a reasonable framework and area to be justified, but to legalize normative assumptions it becomes a legitimate theoretical input used for solid validation of a theoretical framework that has novelty value and the area of application in the community. Those who live in interior/highland areas, which in fact have their own unique characteristics compared to urban communities, which are considered more modern and whose character heterogeneity is more prominent, do need in-depth and specific study. The results of the 2020 Sumbawa Regency regional head election were attended by five pairs of candidates, including:

- Haji Husni Djibril. B.Sc paired with Dr. Haji Muhammad Ikhsan. M.Pd. (Husni-Ikhsan).
- Nurdin Ranggabarani, SH. MH is paired with Burhanuddin Jaffar Salam. SH. MH, (Nur-Salam).
- Ir. Talifuddin. M.Si is paired with Sudirman. S.IP (Talif-Sudir).
- Drs. Haji Mahmud Abdullah is paired with Dewi Noviany. M.Pd (Mo-Noviy).
- Drs. Haji Syarafuddin Jarot is paired with Ir. Haji Mokhlis (Jarot-Mokhlis).

The results of the election for Regent and Deputy Regent of Sumbawa on December 9 2020 were won by pair number 4, namely Drs. Haji Mahmud Abdullah-Dewi Noviany. M.Pd (Mo-Noviy) who was supported by the Golkar Party, PKS, Nasdem Party and PBB with 69,683 votes, with a difference of 882 votes from candidate number 5. Drs. Haji Syarafuddin Jarot is paired with Ir, Haji Mokhlis (Jarot-Mokhlis). The election of the Mo-Noviy pair as Regent and Deputy Regent of Sumbawa after going through a very long political battle, the Mo-Noviy pair faced four tough rivals, one of which was the incumbent pair Hm. Husni Djibril-Haji Muhammad Ikhsan, in the next round, Mo-Noviy returned to fight at Bawaslu NTB and the Constitutional Court (MK), facing lawsuit number 5 Haji Syarafuddin Jarot-Ir, Haji Mokhlis. Until finally the Constitutional Court's decision rejected the Jarot-Mokhlis couple's lawsuit

For the people of the Batulanteh highlands, the victory of the Mo-Noviy pair has brought a million hopes, desires and needs, the results of which the community can immediately see and feel. Most of the people or voters of Batulanteh District are in the Batulanteh mountain villages which are still far behind the two other villages, namely Kelungkung and Batudulang Villages, these two villages have experienced the benefits of transportation and communication for a longer time. As a result of the initial interview with Ulumuddin, a Batulanteh community leader said that: "In fact, the community has started to become aware of choosing a good leader or Regent who can fight for and realize their political promises to fulfill the expectations of the Batulanteh community, especially those related to the issue of roads as a means of transportation. is good and can be enjoyed by all residents from Batudulang to

Baturotok. Then the people's desire is for there to be a telephone tower (Telkomsel or XL), so that residents can and will start to be able to use cellphones for faster communication with their families in distant places, their children who are at school in the city or their business partners. . Likewise, the facilities and facilities of schools and PUSKESDES are better and more complete." (Interview June 24, 2022)

The desire for the fulfillment of economic, social and cultural rights is an inseparable part of the movement of voter behavior patterns from remaining where they have previously been seen. We can see this from groups of older and middle-aged voters, they are becoming more observant and clever in choosing based on selling the vision and mission of candidates who are quite popular and according to them will be more representative in solving the real problems faced by the people of Batulanteh.

The homogeneity of behavioral patterns which tend to be filled with political apathy cannot be separated from the political nuances of highland society. However, political assumptions like this cannot last long in the same space when they continue to be debated because socio-cultural and political change is not a static process but is very dynamic. Never mind communities where access to public and social spaces is still narrow and difficult, cases like this can also be found in lowland/coastal or urban communities where access to public and social spaces is already open. The assumption that emerged then was that there were almost no striking differences so that a real dividing line was created between the ways of inland people or as Sumbawa people often call them "tau bao village" or people who live above (on top of the mountain, in the mountain and so on). -other) in playing politics, in choosing who is the most suitable person to be chosen as leader, the person who is most suitable to be a role model/parent or elder, his words are heard by people who live in other villages or in other cities and sub-districts in Sumbawa Regency. This side is an interesting part of the debate, the identification of traditional and modern voter political behavior patterns in communities that are embedded as highland communities with people who are considered more rational and modern in terms of voting.

On the one hand, if we look further from various previous research and analyzes regarding the political behavior of the people, the character and culture of the Sumbawa people, there is almost no difference except in certain aspects, for example in terms of language and dialect as well as village customs. -Certain villages, for example in Batulanteh District, where all the villages on average have different dialects from one village to another.

The voting behavior of the Batulanteh highland community is increasingly being researched and analyzed to find facts that are interesting to analyze and worthy of theoretical debate. The output of the shift in voter behavior patterns can be seen from their political achievements, when candidates who are mostly residents or voters in Batulanteh District themselves win and their vote share becomes the largest in Batulanteh, indirectly confirming the temporary assumption that Batulanteh people or voters are from Batulanteh residents. voters are no longer old-fashioned, traditional, old-fashioned, confined to the rhythm of apathy and trapped in a web of homogeneity that is often identified with those in the interior, but have started to be more open, brave and rational in making their political choices and are no longer co-opted by one or two just a choice, but it is already more diverse.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Behavior Concept

In the world of psychology, behavioral theory is a theory related to the relationship between beliefs and behavior. This theory states that attitudes towards behavior, subjective norms, and perceptions of behavioral control, together form an individual's behavioral intentions. Manuntung, (2018), Ulfaizah. (2006) and Upe (2008). The theory of planned behavior or behavioral theory was put forward by Icek Ajzen and Martin Fishbein (1980) which was a development of the previous theory, namely the theory of reasoned action or the theory of reasoned action. Vander Zanden. (1994) and Deaux, Kay, and Lawrence S. Wrightsman. (1988). Then Sheppard et al (1988), revealed that the determinants of behavior and its determinants are attitudes towards behavior and subjective norms.

Human behavior is the result of all kinds of experiences and interactions between humans and their environment which are manifested in the form of knowledge, attitudes and actions. In other words, behavior is an individual's

response or reaction to stimuli originating from outside or from within him. This response can be passive (without action) such as thinking, arguing and behaving or active (taking action). Active behavior can be seen, while passive behavior is not visible, such as knowledge, perception or motivation. Some experts include Vander Zanden. (1994) and Deaux, Kay, and Lawrence S. Wrightsman. (1988) differentiates forms of behavior into three domains, namely knowledge, attitudes and actions or we often hear the terms knowledge, attitude, practice and practice Sarwono, (2007) & Manuntung (2018). In sociology, behavior is considered as something that is not directed at other people and therefore is a very basic human social action. According to psychologist Skinner (1986) quoted from Notoatmodjo (2007), Elida Prayitno. (2011) and Linda L. Davidof, et al. (1991), formulated that behavior is a person's response or reaction to an external stimulus or stimulus. Because this behavior occurs through the process of a stimulus to the organism, and then the organism responds, Skinner's theory is called the S-OR theory (Stimulus-Organism-Response).

2.2. Concept of Political Behavior

The study of voter political behavior is basically still a new problem in the political context in Indonesia. In the United States itself, the study of voters' political behavior in the political context emerged in 1937, marked by the publication of the book "Political Behavior: Studies in Election Statistics" by Herbert Tingsten (1937). Previously, many political scientists in America focused and were more satisfied with traditional political science research methods, such as textual analysis of political philosophy, legislative policy-making processes, descriptions of political institutions, and the like. (Budiarjo 2001, Mujani, et al., 2012, Liddle, 2012). Meanwhile, the concept of political behavior itself emerged and developed in the period after World War II. This movement was influenced by the works of sociologists Max Weber (2006), Durkheim (2012) & Talcott Parsons (1990). In addition to new discoveries in the field of psychology. Political science scholars who are famous for this approach to political behavior are Gabriel A. Almond (structural functional analysis) Ritzer, George (2011). David Easton (general systems analysis) Easton (1965), then Karl W. Deutsch (communications theory), Deutsch (1988) and Robert Dahl (2006). One of the main ideas of the pioneers of the behavioral approach is that of political behavior, or power, or political beliefs.

2.3. Sociological Concepts

The sociological approach or more precisely the social structural approach to explaining voter behavior in elections, is logically divided into microsociological models and macrosociological models. The microsociological explanation model is always associated with sociologists Paul F. Lazarsfeld (1944), Bernard Berelson (1954), and Hazel Gaudet (1955) from Columbia University, therefore this model is also called the Colombian school. Macrosocial explanation model from Seymour Martin Lipset (1967) and Stein Rokkan (1980), Mujani & Liddle (2012), The basic thesis of this approach is based on observations of election behavior at all levels or layers of society as a whole, which ultimately makes an explanation regarding the formation of party systems in Western Europe. The basis of the microsociological explanation model comes from the social circle theory formulated by Georg Simmel (1976). According to this theory, every human being is related in various social circles, for example family, circle of friends, workplace and so on. Paul F. Lazarsfeld (1944), applied this way of thinking to voters. A voter lives in a certain context: his economic status, religion, place of residence, occupation and age define the social circle that influences the voter's decision. Each social circle has its own norms, compliance with these norms results in integration. However, this context also controls individual behavior by putting pressure on the individual to adapt, because basically everyone wants to live in peace, without arguing with their social circle.

2.4. Social Psychological Concept

The next approach to voting behavior is The Michigan Model, a method for understanding voting behavior that developed in the early 1950s. The Michigan Model (1950), later known as the psychological approach whose complete description can be seen in "The American Voter" (1960) written by Campbell, A, PE Converse, WE Miller, & DE Stokes. (1960). In contrast to the sociological model, in the psychological model, there are psychological attachments/drives that shape a person's political orientation. This psychological bond is caused by a feeling of closeness to the party or candidate. Individual perceptions and assessments of candidates or the themes raised (short-term influence) greatly influence election choices. In simple terms, according to Roth (2008), Bartels, (2012) Lau and Redlawsk (2006), the psychological approach seeks to explain what factors influence election decisions through the

triad of determinants, party identification (Party ID), candidate orientation and issue orientation. . This depiction can be seen from Dalton's (2002) explanation that the behavioral process of choosing a psychological model is like a filter in a causality funnel that a person's psychological aspects can influence political choices and electoral candidacy (Dalton, 2002), Mujani, et al: Liddle , (2012), Nordholt (2005)

2.5. Rational-choice concept (rational choice)

The final voting behavior approach, namely the rational choice model, is an approach to choosing behavior which is a criticism of two existing approach models, namely the sociological and psychological approaches. In contemporary political science, there are two references that form the basis of the rational choice model. The first is Down's work entitled an economic theory of democracy which was published in 1957. And the second work is Olson's entitled the logic of collective action which was published in 1965. In general, in Down's work (1957), in every democratic election event There are two parties that interact with each other, namely the party providing the supply, in this case the political party supporting the candidate or success team, and also the voter or the one making the demand.

2.6. Concept of Community Social Behavior

Community social behavior according to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (2001) is "Individual responses or reactions to stimuli or the environment". Individual responses or reactions can become behavioral patterns that can be formed through a process of habituation and reinforcement (Reinforcement) by conditioning the stimulus (Conditioning) in the environment (Environmentalistic). Not all behavior can be observed objectively or sensoryly by the eye, but behavior can also be observed from behavior that is not real or not only from the sense of sight (Covert Behavior).

2.7. Social Interaction Concept

The general form of social processes is social interaction, therefore social interaction is the main condition for activities in society. Other forms of social processes are only special forms of social interaction. Social interaction is a dynamic social relationship that concerns the relationship between individuals and human groups. Syahrial Syarbaini and Rudyanta, (2009). According to Soerjono Soekanto (2014), the general form of social processes is social interaction, while the specific form is social activities. Social interaction is a dynamic social relationship involving relationships between individuals, between groups of people, and between individuals and groups of people.

2.8. Concept of Electoral Democracy

The term democracy comes from two word origins, namely "demos" and "kratos" or "kratein". According to its literal meaning, what is meant by democracy is demos which means people and kratos or cratein which means to rule, a government run by the people. Democracy implies political power or government run by the people, from the people and for the people. Warren, (1963), Huntington, (1968) and Kahani & Hokins, (2004), As a concept, the terms voters, citizens and society have been conceptualized as citizens. Thus, judging from the meaning of the original word, democracy means government by the people. Even though the meaning of the term democracy is clear according to the sound of the original words, in practice democracy is understood and implemented differently. According to Henry B. Mayo (1960) , Meriam, (1993) and Haris (2014) provide the definition of democracy, as: "A democratic political system is one in which public politicians are made on a majority basis, by representatives subject to effective popular control at periodic elections which are conducted on the principle of political equality and under conditions of political freedom."

2.9. Concept of Political Participation

Political participation is the participation of ordinary citizens in determining all decisions that concern or affect their lives. Therefore, participation is an important aspect of democracy because through participation the public can influence public policies that will affect them. The word participation is synonymous in public life, especially in political life. Participation itself has a meaning which means taking part, being involved, contributing, having a role and working together. Apart from that, participating is defined as those who follow, play a role, and participate. Endarmoko (2006), Miriam (1998) and Berger, (1976), reveal several important aspects and one of them is

participation. Democracy and participation are based on the assumption that parties feel they know what is best for themselves. People's lives are very influential and depend on decisions and regulations designed by the government, with this people have the right to determine how their lives are based on political opinions and views.

3. RESEARCH METHODS

3.1. Research Approach

This research approach emphasizes qualitative descriptive research. The output of this research is an explanation of the political behavior of voting for the people of the Batulanteh highlands in the 2020 Sumbawa Regency Regional Head election. Researchers looked for data on three things. First, voter behavior is based on a sociological approach. Second, voter behavior is based on a psychological approach. Third, what is voter behavior based on the rational choice approach. The analysis that will be carried out in this research is nothing more than an attempt to describe the three models of voting behavior, namely the sociological model, the rational choice model and the psychological model. The three voter behavior approaches above reinforce or complement each other.

3.2. Research focus

The research focus is the limitation of the problem based on the level of importance and urgency of the problem to be solved. This is done to be able to direct research to be more focused, detailed and not deviate from the initial concept that has been created. Therefore, the focus of this research is on the aspects underlying the political choices of Batulanteh highland voters in the 2020 Sumbawa Regency regional head election (Pilkada), including:

- a. Voter behavior of the Batulanteh highland community in the regional head election of Sumbawa Regency:
 - 1) Emotional bonds built by voters with the parties supporting candidates in the Sumbawa regional elections
 - 2) The orientation of the people of the Batulanteh highlands towards the figure and image of the candidate
 - 3) Orientation of the people of the Batulanteh highlands towards the candidate's campaign and work program
- b. FactorThe background to the political behavior of the people of the Batulanteh highlands in the 2020 regional elections, includes:
 - 1) Social Circle
 - 2) Patron Client Relations
 - 3) Money Politicsor Money Politics
 - 4) Community Assessment of Regional Socio-Economic Conditions

3.3. Research Informant

The informants selected conducted interviews with voters in the Batulanteh highlands, regarding the concept of voter political behavior during the 2020 Regent election. The informants selected in this research were;

- a. The people of the Batulanteh highlands who have the right to vote in the 2020 Sumbawa Regency Pilkada
- b. Candidate for Regent/Deputy Regent
- c. Candidate Supporting Party Management
- d. Candidate Success Team
- e. Prospective Volunteers
- f. Member of KPUD and Bawaslu

3.4. Technical Data Analysis

The data analysis technique in this research uses interactive analysis (Miles and Huberman, 1984), suggesting that activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and continue continuously until completion. Activities in data analysis are data reduction, data display, data conclusion drawing/verification.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 Voter Political Behavior

Voter political behavior is the action of a person taking part in voting for a person, political party or certain public issue. Then, Kristiadi (1996) defined voting behavior as a person's attachment to voting in the general election process based on psychological factors, sociological factors and rational factors of voters or what is called voting behavior theory.

In the realm of political science, individual political behavior is formed based on factors that influence an individual's decision to choose a political party or candidate in general elections. These factors include social, ethnic, religious, historical, economic factors, and certain psychological experiences that influence individual decisions in the voting booth. Scientifically, voting behavior is divided into three approaches which have been considered fundamental in political science, namely the sociological model, the psychological model, and the rational choice model. The results of this research are focused on the political behavior of the people of the Batulanteh highlands and the factors behind their behavior. politics chose the people of the Batulanteh highlands in the 2020 regional elections. This focus is on limiting problems based on the level of importance and urgency of the problem to be solved. This is done to be able to direct research to be more focused, detailed and not deviate from the initial concept that has been created. Therefore, the results of this research are on the strongest aspects that influence voters' political decisions so that they make their choice on one candidate in the 2020 Sumbawa Regency Pilkada. The discussion of the research results is as follows.

4.1.1 Emotional Ties with the Supporting Party

Emotional ties to a party or party identification are important attitudes that influence a person or voter, every individual always identifies with one of the political parties. these basic partisan loyalties can influence their political choices. Emotional ties to the party is the political attitude of voters who vote for the same candidate pair as the party they support or in other words, it can be described as the elite's choice of the same party and in line with the wishes of their mass base (straight-ticket voting), where it is almost certain that citizens support the supporting coalition party candidates, will also vote for the candidate supported by the party they support.

Based on the results of interviews with several informants and based on the author's analysis in the field, in this perspective, the people of the Batulanteh plateau in choosing regional head candidates during the 2020 regional elections had no relevance to the existence of political parties, meaning that the existence of political parties was not a preference for the community in elect existing pairs of regional head candidates. This is based on several factors, namely that organizationally political parties have not been able to make a massive contribution to development in the Batulanteh highlands, furthermore, public knowledge of political parties is still very low, but they only see that political parties are just a forum or vehicle to the ladder of power. However, it is not seen as an institution that has value for development. Apart from that, the figure of a candidate who is ready to fight by bringing the issue of new development in the Batulanteh highlands is more visible than the origin of the candidate's party, especially as the Batulanteh highlands are the most underdeveloped region in Sumbawa district, so the issue of development with its concept of rationality is more seen rather than the origin of the party that carries the existing candidate pair.

If viewed historically, the Batulanteh people are a primordial society which finds it quite difficult to accept new culture or innovation from a social aspect, because the Batulanteh people are a traditional society which highly values traditional and cultural values, including due to the geographical condition of Batulanteh which is difficult to reach by modern life. Social factors are one of the strong factors in forming the cultural characteristics and customs of the Batulanteh community, so that their belief in the rationality of the past in all aspects of life is still very strong, especially the social and political values of the past are considered sufficient to provide very good social values for social life.

This means that if we draw on political issues, especially the regional elections, the people of Batulanteh will place their political standards on the existence of old parties that existed during the Suharto (New Order) era, namely Golkar, PDI and PPP, because the existence of these three parties has a straight line. which was in line with strengthening the traditional values of the Batulanteh community at that time. This means that if the people of Batulanteh place the standard of their political choices on their emotional relationship with the party, then they should

choose the candidate pair supported by the three parties, especially Golkar as the party that was in power nationally for quite a long time at that time, including in Sumbawa, in fact the winner in the Regency Pilkada Sumbawa is a candidate pair that is actually being put forward by new middle class parties outside of the three parties. In fact, specifically in Batulanteh, the highest number of votes went to the pair of candidates who were the overall winners in the 2020 Sumbawa Regency Pilkada, namely the Mo-Novi pair. Research conducted by Pomper on the 1946, 1964, and 19721 elections found that there was a continuous decline in the influence of party identification on voter choices starting from the 1956, 1964 elections, and peaking in the general election. This means that the existence of political parties from election to election, especially in the modern era, is no longer the main determination for the voting public in determining their choices which have nothing to do with the origin of the supporting party, but are more looked at personal figures and strategic issues that will be discussed. complete it with the target group. As if to confirm this research, in Liddle and Mujani's research on voter behavior in the 1999 election, they found two important conclusions in understanding voter behavior, namely that political sects are fading at the mass voter level, mass voters tend to care less about the sect of each political party.

As reinforcement, it is also interesting that even though various community leaders in various villages in the Batulanteh area are cadres of a particular party, or even one of their families is a sympathizer of a particular party, it is also not enough for the people of Batulanteh in general to choose the candidate pair that is proposed or supported by a party joined by one of his family or community leaders in Batulanteh. This means that political parties have no influence on people's preferences in choosing certain candidate pairs in the regional elections. This condition is enough to give a stigma that if the figures or one of their family members are part of a certain political party, it is not a guarantee that the public will choose a candidate pair from the party that is followed by the existing community leaders and their family members, especially if they are not sympathizers or cadres. one party. Nor Azimah's (1992) research on the factors that influence voter behavior in the City of Tinggi Melaka found that there was no influence between mothers and fathers in the same family to determine the same choice in voting during political contestations.

- **Findings:**

- 1) The existence of political parties is not a reference for the people of Batulanteh in choosing existing regional head candidate pairs. It has been proven that candidate pairs promoted by the ruling party and the old party actually lost in Batulanteh.
- 2) The underlying factor is that people do not use political parties as a basis for determining their choices because organizationally political parties have not been able to make a massive contribution to development in the Batulanteh highlands.
- 3) The Batulanteh community's knowledge and understanding of political parties is still very low, instead they see that political parties are only a forum or vehicle for the ladder of power, not seen as an institution that has value for development.

- **Minor Proposition:**

- 1) The existence of political parties is not the basis for the Batulanteh people's choice in selecting certain candidate pairs, but they only see that political parties are merely political tools or vehicles to achieve power.
- 2) Political parties as organizations have never taken a substantive role in making concrete contributions to the Batulanteh community so that the big names and existence of political parties are not considered important by the Batulanteh community.

- **Major Proposition:**

Political parties have not been able to act wisely and essentially to society in general, including the people of Batulanteh, so that the people of Batulanteh view parties as just a tool or vehicle to get to the seat of power. This aspect has formed the public's mindset that political parties are not determined by the public in determining their choices based on the party they come from, but rather because of other, more concrete factors.

4.1.2. Orientation towards the character and image of the candidate

In general, regional head candidate pairs competing in the 2020 Sumbawa Pilkada are figures who are widely known by the public. This is based on the Pilkada process or stages which are quite lengthy, allowing each candidate pair to freely introduce themselves to the public through various methods and instruments, such as posters, billboards, banners, and through various mainstream media. Apart from that, previously they were figures who were already known to the public as well. The Pilkada culture, especially in Sumbawa, 3 years before the Pilkada, issues about figures who will run in the next Pilkada have been brought to the surface, so that the figures being discussed always make headlines in various public conversations, whether through coffee shop discussions, discussions by intellectuals, students, as well as discussions on social media. Interestingly, those who are always discussed far and wide are also those who will officially become candidate pairs in the next Pilkada. This situation is a determinant for the level of public recognition of the candidate pairs or figures who are competing to increase.

Apart from that, even though Sumbawa is very large in area, the population is relatively minimal compared to districts/cities on the island of Lombok which are still in the same province, namely NTB province. This is also a factor in the fact that the figures who will compete in political competitions are so easy to know. . This means that the figures who emerge to the surface are figures who are considered "that's all", both young and old, both from the eastern, northern, southern and western regions of Sumbawa with various professional backgrounds. At the same time, the domain of communication technology also has an influence on political phenomena, where the people of Batulanteh in particular have made political issues part of their daily discussion material when they visit "hanging" at the homes of neighbors or other colleagues. Ngining is one of the habits of the people of the Batulanteh area and is a kind of obligatory activity for the Batulanteh people, especially at night after they farm during the day. It was during Ngining that they talked about various issues, including agricultural issues, rural issues, and especially local political issues, although the level of understanding and other strengthening factors were still very low and minimal. This situation has naturally strengthened people's minds towards the figures who will fight in the future Sumbawa regional elections.

From this process, the figures who became candidate pairs (paslon) were also drawn into crucial issues relating to Batulanteh, especially development issues, specifically those relating to road infrastructure in Batulanteh. Batulanteh is a local political commodity area which is always used as an issue by the public, which has created a sense of trauma or distrust (distrust) among the people of Batulanteh towards political actors, especially those who compete in the executive and legislative branches. You can imagine, since Indonesia's independence, regional election after regional election, candidate pair after candidate pair, legislative candidate after legislative candidate have promised to complete road infrastructure in Batulanteh, but to date none of these promises have been realized at all. This is the main determinant of the emergence of distrust among the people of Batulanteh towards local political actors who are fighting in the regional elections. So the personality and candidate factors have not received a large portion as the main reference for the people of Batulanteh in voting in the regional elections.

The author sees that the people of Batulanteh are bored and resigned in seeing every political competition, especially local politics in Sumbawa. The people of Batulanteh no longer see that figures A or Candidate B are those who come from educated, religious families, or come from professional circles in the bureaucracy or non-bureaucracy, because this distrust is so strongly embedded in the minds of the people of Batulanteh, even though they know these figures. will fight in the regional elections. Ramlan Subakti said that one of the important variables that influences a person's political behavior in participating in politics is "trust" in existing political elements. This means that trust in political objects is the main capital in creating the constructive character of voters in every political contestation. On the other hand, public distrust towards the candidate pairs who are competing will create apathy and indifference in choosing their leaders. This situation is what makes the people of Batulanteh surrender to every political competition even though at the same time issues regarding politics are always interesting to discuss and talk about through the habit of ginging.

The political promises that have been piling up without results from the various candidate pairs who are fighting have given rise to an irrational paradigm in looking at the figures fighting in the 2020 regional elections. So that the people of Batulanteh are becoming equal in seeing the figures who will be fighting even though the candidate pairs

bring a lot of ideas and ideas. for Batulanteh in the future. Several people in Batulanteh from intellectual circles also gave the doctrine to the people of Batulanteh in general that the fiscal strength of the Sumbawa Regional Government from time to time has not developed and remains at a stagnant level, so that whatever narratives and campaign promises made to the people of Batulanteh, especially for the construction of Batulanteh road infrastructure, will become obsolete. and it is impossible to implement it even with various political promises during the campaign. This deadlock has shifted the thinking paradigm of Batulanteh voters to switch to other options in selecting candidate pairs in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections. The other option in question is the pragmatic attitude of voters caused by the emergence of boredom in the existing candidate pairs, where voters in Batulanteh choose based on momentary interests (pragmatic). This can be illustrated through the provision of basic necessities, money and other assistance ahead of the regional elections.

- **Findings:**

- 1) The figure and personality of the candidate is not the main determination of the Batulanteh voting community, however, this factor also has implications for the electoral situation in the Batulanteh community "surrendering" and bored with political actors who have been continuing to make promises about the development of Batulanteh, which in the end are promises. just political.
- 2) The emergence of the "no other choice" factor, ultimately the preference of the people of Batulanteh in choosing candidate pairs in the Sumbawa regional elections fell on the existence of candidate pairs as seen from their character, even though this aspect has a small portion when compared to other strategic issues.
- 3) The character in question is not seen from the potential of the candidate pair but because of their seniority as a figure, including their religiosity.
- 4) The religiosity factor is very relevant to the existence of the people of Batulanteh who are very traditional religious, so that they form voting patterns based on the similarities inherent in the majority of them.

- **Minor Proposition**

- 1) The figures or personalities of the candidate pairs also contribute in determining the political choices of the people of Batulanteh, but the portion is not too large, because there are aspects that are much more important than others for the people of Batulanteh who have had very deep-rooted problems in their region, namely the infrastructure problem. road.
- 2) Political promises that are almost never realized make the level of boredom of the people of Batulanteh towards political promises so high, that they turn to figure factors whose implications contribute to shaping the voter paradigm for certain candidate pairs, especially figures based on religiosity and seniority due to their characteristics. Batulanteh society is considered religious and traditional.

- **Major Proposition**

Figures based on religiosity and seniority also have an influence on electoral politics in Batulanteh because there is no other choice amidst the very high level of boredom of the people of Batulanteh with political promises which have never been realized. The character in question has very strong relevance to the traditional characteristics of the Batulanteh community and the religiosity makes candidate pairs who are known to be religious and more senior attractive to the Batulanteh community.

4.1.3 Candidate Campaigns and Work Programs

Starting from the psychological condition of the people of Batulanteh regarding the local political practices that have occurred so far, where the feeling of resignation and boredom from the voting public is so strong, this condition has actually put politics as a boring paradigm for the people of Batulanteh. This is based on the conditions and situation of the region which is very underdeveloped, especially access to road infrastructure compared to other areas in Sumbawa Regency. At the same time, even though the Batulanteh people's understanding of politics is still quite low, the Batulanteh people are aware and know that the responsibility for development lies entirely with their leader (the government), at the same time they understand that the process of becoming a leader today is through politics, one of which is the regional elections. so that the Batulanteh community's focus on development in their region is highly expected through this political process.

In this regard, it is interesting that the political actors who make promises through the campaign process in the Batulanteh area are about the same issues from Pilkada to Pilkada. This promise is an ongoing problem of improving road infrastructure. Every time there is a political contest, the issues brought up by the political contestants, especially during the Pilkada, are always about improving road infrastructure, but these promises from Pilkada to Pilkada are just empty messages that have never been realized in the slightest. What is interesting is that political actors or candidate pairs also do not feel embarrassed about coming back to the Batulanteh community to promise again after previous promises were not made, even though the promises they brought to the Batulanteh community were about the same issue too. This aspect is what makes society in general distrustful of people who campaign politically in Batulanteh. As the floating and non-party masses increase, it must be realized that the ideological ties that were once very strong have now faded. Voters are increasingly becoming very critical and are always evaluating what the party that wins the election has done. When they see that the work program implemented by the party or candidate who won the election is not in accordance with their promises during the campaign period, voters can 'punish' the party or candidate by not re-electing them in the next election.

As a form of reaction from the people of Batulanteh to the failure of political promises that are always made, the people sometimes claim these promises while expressing their disappointment with the government through demonstrations, both by community groups and student groups from Batulanteh. These movements were also carried out through various discussions and dialogues about the future of Batulanteh, but all these efforts always failed. Due to the failure of these various efforts, the people of Batulanteh seem to be tired of the existing conditions, the effect of which is very influential on the distrust.

In the author's analysis, the political approach taken by the candidate pairs who fought in the Sumbawa regional elections to the people of Batulanteh was throwing irrational issues among the people of Batulanteh whose political knowledge was not yet mature. The irrational issue in question is the issue of developing Batulanteh road infrastructure in the midst of very minimal regional fiscal conditions. Road infrastructure in Batulanteh requires a fantastic budget due to very steep geographical conditions, while the fiscal conditions of Sumbawa Regency are irrelevant if road infrastructure in Batulanteh has to be built quickly and directly. So the rationale is that it is possible that road infrastructure in Batulanteh will be realized if there are other budget sources outside the normative APBD. However, this option has never been implemented and is even difficult to achieve. This means that development needs in Sumbawa are not relevant to the existing fiscal conditions (fiscal capacity), this is what is called the fiscal gap.

Mardiasmo (2002), a UGM economics professor, in his various analyzes said that there are various regional government problems in increasing regional development and revenue, including: (1) the high level of regional needs (fiscal need) which is not balanced with the existing fiscal capacity (fiscal capacity). owned by the region, thus giving rise to a fiscal gap, (2) the quality of public services is still very worrying causing public services to receive a negative response from citizens, (3) weak infrastructure and public facilities, (4) the potential for PAD is not yet known which is close to real, (5) reduced central aid funds (DAU is still insufficient). However, these conditions have never been generally understood by the people of Batulanteh because their understanding of politics is still very low. So the politicians who fight in the regional elections always use the issue of improving Batulanteh road infrastructure to the people of Batulanteh even though there is irrationality in budget policies that occur within the government.

This is what the author said earlier, that the political approach taken by the candidate pairs in making promises to the people of Batulanteh was to throw irrational issues among the people of Batulanteh who longed for rationality in the construction of the Batulanteh road. So there is a perception that the candidate pairs who are competing in the Pilkada are only able to make promises, even though they themselves are aware that the promises they express are very difficult to carry out or even impossible to carry out during their term of office if they succeed in winning the Pilkada. So they understand and are aware of this, but they still make promises to the people of Batulanteh. For them, the important thing is that the people are happy first so that they can win the political battle in the regional elections. This condition is played out by political contestants from Pilkada to Pilkada. The proof is that none of these political promises have been realized, especially the road improvements in Batulanteh.

- **Findings:**

- 1) Not all issues or programs offered to the people of Batulanteh are of concern to the people of Batulanteh, but the main issue is road infrastructure. The only thing they want is the completion of road access.
- 2) The Batulanteh community's knowledge of politics is not yet mature, but regarding the vision and mission or programs offered by various candidate pairs in the regional elections, they are very critical, especially regarding Batulanteh's infrastructure.
- 3) There is a "key program" as the main issue that is tailored to the desires of the people of Batulanteh which have been longed for but have not been realized. This key program is what makes the electoral candidate soar high, namely regarding road infrastructure.
- 4) The candidate pairs who dared to take action to improve the Batulanteh road were accompanied by their "sounding" in various mainstream media, so this issue had a big influence on the political choices of the people of Batulanteh. That is what made the Mo-Novu candidate pair the most vote-getter in Batulanteh as well as the winner in the 2020 Sumbawa Regional Election.

- **Minor Proposition**

- 1) The issue of improving road infrastructure in the Batulanteh area has been a dream of the people of Batulanteh for a long time, so candidate pairs who dare to offer this issue in concrete terms will be the ones who will benefit electorally.
- 2) The Batulanteh community won the Mo-Novu candidate pair as Regional Head because the candidate pair had started working on issues that the Batulanteh community yearned for concretely.
- 3) Even though there are various issues that should be resolved through political moments, for the people of Batulanteh, road repairs are an unmatched issue.

- **Major Proposition**

Even though the Pilkada is an opportunity to convey strategic programs to resolve various classic issues that have never been resolved, for the people of Batulanteh, improving road infrastructure in their area is a top issue that must be executed, so candidate candidates who have the courage to concretely start resolving this issue are the ones who gain the trust of the people of Batulanteh. This aspect has a very complete influence on the electoral candidate pairs in Batulanteh.

4.2. Factors that influence Voter Behavior

The factors that influence voter behavior in the Batulanteh highland region in the 2020 Sumbawa Regional Election are (1) the voter's social environment/social circle, (2) patron-client relationships, and (3) Transactional Politics/Money Politics. The following is an explanation and analysis:

4.2.1 Voter's Social Circle

The voting behavior of the Batulanteh community in the Sumbawa regional elections is indeed diverse, and generally has similarities with other communities in Sumbawa. However, there are dominant aspects that influence voter behavior in Batulanteh. The voter's social circle is part of the determination of voter behavior in Batulanteh during the Sumbawa regional elections. The influence of voters' social environment is greatly influenced by their low level of political understanding. The people of Batulanteh understand that politics is still on a general and formal level, but in relation to the essence and substance of politics, including technical aspects and various strategic issues, not much is known to the people of Batulanteh. This has created an influence on the apathetic and pragmatic attitude of the voting public in Batulanteh. This apathetic and pragmatic attitude has created options in determining choices in the Sumbawa Pilkada, namely the formation of a voter paradigm based on the influence of the social environment which is quite deep-rooted in determining political choices.

The social environment in question is local figures (village figures) who are used to being involved in the world of politics and become references for the local community. At the same time, people who don't like the village figure in question will certainly have different choices in local politics. However, in general, the influence of the social environment, which is concretized through the influence of village figures, also influences the formulation of the political choices of the people of Batulanteh. The village figures in question are those who have a fairly good economy in their village compared to other people in the village, there are also those who are usually dominantly

involved in every community agenda (religious leaders and community leaders), apart from that they also come from community groups who have jobs. quite good in their village area, such as a teacher, village head, hamlet head and also a ruler in the village.

In the sociological theory expressed by Paul F. Lazarsfeld and his colleagues Bernard Berelson and Hazel Gaudet from Colombia University, which later became known as the Colombian school (Colombia School), there is a microsociological model which suggests that every human being is related in various social circles, for example family, circle of friends, place of work and so on, namely economic status, religion, place of residence, job and age define the social circle that influences the voter's decision.

This means that the groups that are representatives of the Batulanteh community also become political references for the community in Batulanteh at a time when the Batulanteh community's understanding of politics is still very low. The phenomenon that occurred in Batulanteh regarding voters' social circles is very relevant to the theory of self-categorization theory, also known as social-identity theory, where political behavior is a form of the process of individual self-identification with social groups. They just trust the village leaders in their area, so that the social environment also influences the political choices of the people of Batulanteh.

The low level of understanding of the political community is greatly influenced by the condition of the region which is very underdeveloped compared to other regions in Sumbawa Regency. This is of course influenced by the distance between the area and the city, the condition of the road infrastructure which does not allow other people in general to get to the Batulanteh area, and the factor of inadequate communication technology in the Batulanteh area which means that the characteristics of the community are still very primordial and uphold very strong local cultural principles. deep-rooted, so that aspects of change that are modern in nature are still difficult to accept among the people of Batulanteh. This phenomenon provides an explanation that the Batulanteh community's instruments for understanding politics are still very minimal. In addition, society in general, especially parents in Batulanteh, have almost no education. So political events are an aspect that is rarely accessed by the people of Batulanteh. In the end, they only rely on billboards and stickers to really get to know the candidates who will compete in every local political agenda, including regional elections.

Of course, various instruments such as billboards, stickers and other similar things will not be able to provide concrete arguments about the figures and track records of the candidates in the regional elections. In the end, input from the public in general in voting is only through billboards and stickers. As for those which are essential and substantive, such as direct campaigning and visiting in person, they are less of a priority for candidates at the local political level, because politically Batulanteh has the smallest population compared to other sub-districts. Apart from that, the strategic issues offered during the campaign to the people of Batulanteh have also been considered obsolete by the people of Batulanteh which is based on the community's distrust of the candidates competing in political competitions. Interestingly, even though the Batulanteh area is considered not a political priority area, it is actually a Batulanteh is the caretaker or main determinant of the victory of Candidate Candidate Mo-Novi in the 2020 regional elections. This means that previously Batulanteh was considered an area that was not a political priority, but Mo-Novi's strategy of considering Batulanteh as one of the priority areas is a very appropriate and concrete strategy. , so it was the votes from the Batulanteh area that made the Mo-Novi candidate pair the winner in the 2020 regional elections.

This phenomenon shows that the Batulanteh community's ability to manage all the information obtained is very limited. So shortcuts and adopting common understanding are one way to simplify the political information process. As a result, what is considered a general truth will be accepted as an absolute truth. In this case, what is right and what is wrong really depends on the habits or environment of society which is based on numbers. The more people think that something is true, it becomes true without looking at the substance. Vice versa, it would be wrong without looking at the substance. Popkins uses the term 'low information rationality,' which emphasizes that political decisions are dominated by cognitive 'shortcut' processes. It is very difficult to trace the truth and reliability of political information received by each individual. It is very difficult to distinguish between rumors, stereotypes, propaganda and manipulation about something. Each individual receives information from many sources at different levels and often contradicts each other. Every individual has a system of values and beliefs that each of them adheres to firmly. This incident is a phenomenon that we find in every political competition in Batulanteh. There are beliefs which then become absolute truths when society and the environment consider it to be the truth. This is also one of the strong

reasons why the people of Batulanteh chose figure A or another, based on the number of other people who chose the figure in question.

Social environmental factors which are based on the low level of knowledge of the Batulanteh voting public regarding existential politics also determine voters' determination of their political choices in Batulanteh. It is a different phenomenon when the voting public has a fairly good understanding of politics, and if the geographical construction of its territory is supported by adequate infrastructure and is traversed by adequate technological instruments, then the people of Batulanteh will definitely have quite a lot of preference for various candidate pairs. Apart from that, social issues that continue to be dynamic will definitely become a hot topic of conversation in every social relationship in the Batulanteh community, so that political issues will definitely become a topic of discussion for the Batulanteh community, where this input will definitely increase the political preferences of the Batulanteh community. However, in fact, this determination has not become input for the people of Batulanteh as a social force in determining their political choices in every political agenda, including the regional elections.

In further empirical studies, Barelson proves that everyone tries to maintain the homogeneity of their social environment in order to avoid conflict. A basis for the fact that individuals choose friends and associates with more or less the same political views. In the end, this has the consequence that the favored candidate will be associated with certain points of view that are deemed appropriate, while political information is only received selectively so that existing harmony is maintained.

• **Findings:**

- 1) There are groups in the Batulanteh community who come from the elite of society (religious leaders, community leaders and civil servants) who represent the Batulanteh community at a time when the Batulanteh community's understanding of politics is still very low.
- 2) The community group in question has become a group that influences other communities so that they have formed a social environment that is a reference for the Batulanteh community.
- 3) The political behavior of the Batulanteh people has been formed from the process of individual self-identification with social groups, they just trust the village leaders in their area, so that the social environment also influences the political choices of the Batulanteh people.

• **Minor Proposition:**

- 1) In the 2020 Sumbawa Pilkada issue, public trust in local figures (in the village) is still very strong, because there is an element where the village figures in question are those who often deal with social problems in the community, including those relating to the community's personal problems, so that trust it's still firmly attached.
- 2) This trust is also caused by limited access to information and community knowledge (powerlessness), so that the existence of village figures becomes an object that can be relied on. So this phenomenon helps strengthen the perspective that village leaders are those who can be expected to exert political influence on society.

• **Major Proposition**

Underdeveloped regional conditions, as well as social conditions that are still very primordial and traditional, have formed a social perception where the existence of figures in the village is that they are an elite group, both socially and economically, so that they can be relied upon in every social matter, including those related to resolving problems. -personal problems. So that when this phenomenon is drawn on the political agenda, the elite group is also trusted and their advice is heard by other people. So that competing political actors always use these figures as mouthpieces to win those who compete.

4.2.2. Patron-Client Relationships

In the political area, the patron-client relationship applies to all social aspects, both in areas where people have a high level of knowledge and even in rural areas. In fact, in rural areas which are considered still traditional, it is very easy to implement patron client relationships. This is because people's understanding of politics is still very low, and rural economic conditions are still low, making political practice in this region still dependent on certain objects that benefit them pragmatically. This situation actually occurs in Batulanteh with all the regional characteristics which are still traditional and primordial, so the patron client relationship is strong in that circle.

In rural areas, including Batulanteh, the objects considered to be figures are those who work in the government, meaning that the people of Batulanteh who are teachers or civil servants in other fields are figures that emerge

naturally. This is because those who become teachers or civil servants are those who are considered socially superior to other groups in society. Socially superior means those who are considered educated and have economic advantages, so that they will naturally become figures in their region. Teachers and the like are a group that is highly respected and considered the main figures in Batulanteh society, because they have naturally become symbols of success in rural communities. In self-categorization theory or also known as social-identity theory, it is stated that political behavior is a form of the process of individual self-identification with social groups. The social groups in question vary depending on the object.

In this case, the social group is the communal community in the Batulanteh area. So in the political aspect, the teacher in question is a client who is able to influence political choices. This happened at all levels of local political contestation in Batulanteh. The public's trust in figures in their area is quite high, because they do not have a large and broad political domain in determining the direction of their political choices, so the existence of existing figures has become the main pillar on which they rely on their choices. The influence of this phenomenon is the strong perception that emerges from politicians who are contesting the climate and characteristics of voters in Batulanteh. The perception in question is "if you want to get a lot of votes in Batulanteh, just hold onto figures who are considered influential".

The influence of the presence of teachers or other civil servants in the Batulanteh area is related to the succession of local political contestation, in this case the regional elections are based on social figures whose existence has an electoral impact in the area. Apart from that, the existence of teachers is also structurally a line of bureaucratic coordination in every corner of Batulanteh that has schools in the area, where the teachers have families who of course have choices in the same direction as the teacher in question. At the same time, the political consequences of the political benefits of the teacher's existence are about career. Hierarchical teachers' careers are also determined politically, because they are also aware that regional heads have the prerogative right to transfer or transfer teachers in the district. Issues regarding the careers of teachers and other civil servants are very risky and sensitive in the Batulanteh area which makes them very afraid of being transferred to other work areas outside Batulanteh.

This situation is of high intensity for clients in Batulanteh, so that teachers in that area feel afraid if they are transferred to another area far from their village. Moreover, if he is transferred outside Batulanteh, his worries will become even higher. This phenomenon determines that their involvement in practical politics, positioned as clients, is very large. So whether they like it or not, their communal existence is as clients of local political contestants (patrons), especially regional elections. In this aspect, they are also very careful when becoming political clients, because they must be able to ensure that their support goes to candidate pairs who are considered strong, especially incumbent figures who are contesting again. Interestingly, the case that occurred in the 2020 Sumbawa Pilkada was that the incumbent pair came forward to contest again, but not as a pair like the previous Pilkada but as political opponents. Of course, this has an influence on the political constellation of Sumbawa, specifically in Batulanteh, where the clients, in this case the teachers, have a different direction in determining the direction of their political support, because those who are contesting are those who are still in power when the regional elections approach. in 2020. This means that in this situation there has been a split between clients in Batulanteh during the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections.

The client group considers that the two different pairs of candidates both have the same and strong chance of winning, at the same time as the Pilkada approaches, through their power, the two incumbent figures have full rights in transferring various formations of teachers and school principals. . This aspect also adds to the political complexity in Batulanteh, especially through the existence of clients. However, in the development of local political phenomena that occurred in Sumbawa, a dynamic emerged that the Haji Mo-Novi pair was believed to be a superior candidate for one of the incumbents compared to the Husni-Iksan pair, who was also one of the incumbents. The belief in the superiority of the Mo-Novi pair in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections in Batulanteh is the existence and strong support of the NTB governor who is the sibling of Novi's mother who is positioned as a candidate for deputy regent paired with Haji Mo.

- **Findings:**

- 1) People's trust in figures in their area is quite high, especially in the existence of civil servants (teachers), because they do not have a large and broad political domain in determining the direction of their political choices, so the existence of existing figures has become the main pillar on which they base their choices. .

- 2) The influence of the presence of teachers or other civil servants (clients) related to regional elections is based on social figures whose existence has an electoral impact in the region.
- 3) The existence of teachers is also structurally a line of bureaucratic coordination in every corner of Batulanteh that has schools in the area, where the teachers have families who of course have choices in the same direction as the teacher in question. The main reason why the existence of teachers (clients) is so strong in providing electoral influence in Batulanteh is because they are afraid of being transferred outside Batulanteh for the reasons:
 - a. Most of the teachers in the Batulanteh area are Batulanteh residents themselves so they are not used to having a career outside their area.
 - b. The geographical conditions and terrain from one village to another in Batulanteh are very extreme and there is quite a distance between one village and another so that they are afraid of being moved outside their village.
 - c. Some people in Batulanteh, including teachers or other civil servants, also work as farmers, which is the main source of income for the community, so if they are assigned outside their area, there are aspects that will be neglected.
 - d. The level of self-confidence of teachers who come from and work in Batulanteh is still low if they have to work outside their village or area. The competitive level is still low. Most of the teachers or civil servants who have careers in Batulanteh are those who were appointed as civil servants without testing during the era of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (SBY) because they had long been honorary teachers or serving teachers. This means that they did not become civil servants through a normative selection process, so their confidence in competing outside their village is still very strong.
 - e. Those whose positions are teachers will have income problems if they are transferred outside Batulanteh, because teachers who work in the Batulanteh area are included in the category of teachers who teach in remote areas, so there is a one-time salary increase as remote area income. So there was a high level of fear when they were moved outside Batulanteh
- 4) Issues regarding the careers of teachers and other civil servants are very risky and sensitive in the Batulanteh area which makes them very afraid of being transferred to other work areas outside Batulanteh. So the patron-client factor is the strongest aspect in winning the regional elections in Batulanteh.

- **Minor Proposition:**

- 1) Clients The most dominant people in the Batulanteh area as mouthpieces for political victory are those who work as teachers or civil servants, so that their existence is exploited by those who are still in power as accomplices in winning certain candidate pairs, in this case the Mo-Novi candidate pair.
- 2) The existence of clients is very concrete in winning the Mo-Novi candidate pair, because the teachers in the Batulanteh area are those who are considered figures and elites who are socially and economically superior in their village, so that their political advice and views are highly listened to by other communities, especially their extended family.
- 3) There is a very quantitative target for the presence of civil servants (teachers) in the Batulanteh area. By calculating the number of all teachers in Batulanteh plus their families and followers, the vote target imposed on them is very clear and valid.
- 4) There is a career fear of political consequences from clients in Batulanteh, whether they are afraid of being transferred outside the Batulanteh area due to various capacity, social and economic considerations, or those who are pursuing a career to become school principals, then patron intervention towards clients is a concrete effort in winning the Mo-Novi candidate pair. So the patron client factor is the most superior factor in winning the Mo-Novi candidate pair in Batulanteh.

- **Major Proposition**

Fear of political consequences for clients in the Batulanteh area made the presence of clients in Batulanteh the strongest factor in winning the Mo-Novi palson. The clients in question are those who work as civil servants (teachers) whose political existence is very easily intervened by powers who happen to be competing, so that career

consequences are at stake. Clients who are working in full are afraid of being transferred if the targeted electoral quantity is not met, let alone losing. At the same time, the client in question also hopes for career acceleration in the area. So that the patron's intervention towards the client has a very concrete influence.

4.2.3. Money Politics/Money Politics

Transactional politics is an inevitability in political practice in developing countries. From the first implementation of direct democracy until now, transactional politics is real, and occurs at all levels of the political game, from national level political practice to even village head elections. In the grass root level democratic process, the practice of money politics thrives. Because it is considered normal, people are no longer sensitive to the dangers. They let it go, because they don't feel that normative money politics should be avoided. Everything went naturally. Even though money politics was clearly taking place, and this was acknowledged by the public, there were no protests.

In local political practice through the 2020 Sumbawa Pilkada, the contestation process was carried out sufficiently to provide reinforcement to the public (Sumbawa Community) about the figure and capacity of each pair of candidates competing. There are five pairs of candidates competing in the 2020 Sumbawa Pilkada with all the capacities and capabilities they have. In the author's view, the five couples are grouped into several categories, namely (1) the senior politician couple category, (2) the classic figure category, (3) the young intellectual category, (4) the rich category, and (5) the hierarchical category.

The senior politician category is found in the Husni-Iksan pair, because they are indeed senior figures who have been involved in the local political vortex since the New Order era and until the 2020 regional elections are still quite present in the local political vortex. Meanwhile, the classic figure category is found in the Nurdin-BJS pair, because they are figures who always compete in every local political competition, both legislative and executive, from time to time, so that every year their political faces always appear in various public spaces. The young intellectual category is the Talif-Sudir pair, because they are a pair known for their quite capable ideas and intellect. This can be seen from their mastery of material and strategic issues in the Sumbawa regional elections, so that the main capital of this candidate pair lies in their intellectual abilities and capacities in addition to other strategies. Meanwhile, candidate pairs in the rich category are the Jarot-Muklis candidate pair. This is because these candidate pairs come to compete with "a ton" of regional election logistics, in addition to other aspects of ideas and concepts. This candidate pair is known by the people of Sumbawa as the candidate pair with the most money. Jarot's background is that he is one of the central figures of PT Amman Mineral NTB, which is one of the largest gold mining companies in Indonesia, so it is natural that this candidate pair is considered the most successful candidate pair among other candidates. The candidate pairs with hierarchical categories include the Mo-Novu candidate pair. This is because the candidate pair was formed inseparable from the hierarchical relationship (siblings) of Novi's mother, who is a national politician who is also the governor of NTB. This input is one of the bases for Mo-Novu's battle compared to other candidate pairs.

In terms of substance, if the public looks at the political battle in terms of ideas and concepts, then from the perspective of the Sumbawa community, the Talif-Sudir pair and the Nurdin-BJS pair are superior to the other candidate pairs. On the other hand, of course, relying solely on ideas and notions to win contestations in the world of politics is a wrong strategy without adequate logistical reinforcement. So it is true that this pair was initially predicted to be the winner, especially the Talif-Sudir candidate pair who were considered intellectuals and fresh newcomers in the eyes of the public. The fact is that these candidate pairs are in a middle position and cannot compete electorally with other candidate pairs even though at first they were very liked by the public.

From an empirical perspective, the Jarot-Muklis pair and the Mo-Novu pair are far superior, because these two pairs have much stronger logistics than other candidate pairs. In actual political practice, it is of course rational that the two candidate pairs are superior candidate pairs compared to other candidate pairs, even though initially it was doubtful that the two candidate pairs would compete with other candidate pairs. In fact, the two candidate pairs were recorded as winners and runners-up in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections. This means that the logistical advantages of the two candidate pairs have a huge electoral influence in addition to their other advantages.

- **Findings:**

- 1) Transactional politics occurs in the Batulanteh area, however, the Batulanteh area is not a priority area for playing in this domain, because Batulanteh is the area with the least population in terms of population compared to other areas.

- 2) Even though it is not considered a priority area, Batulanteh is the key to the victory of the candidate pair who is currently the Regional Head of Sumbawa Regency.
- 3) The minimal population factor determines that the competing candidate pairs do not make Batulanteh a priority area in playing money politics in the regional elections.

• **Minor Proposition:**

- 1) Transactional politics specifically in Batulanteh occurred in the 2020 regional elections. This is a common phenomenon, but this phenomenon is not a priority in the Batulanteh area because Batulanteh's voter population is the lowest among other sub-districts in Sumbawa.
- 2) In fact, by not making the Batulanteh area a non-priority area in carrying out transactional politics, it has made other candidate pairs who played half-heartedly in this area have to suffer defeat from the Mo-Novu candidate pair. So the accumulation of votes from the Batulanteh area became the key to Mo-Novu's holistic victory in Sumbawa Regency.

• **Major Proposition**

The Batulanteh area is the area with the lowest population among other sub-districts in Sumbawa Regency, so in this area, transactional politics occurs but is not prioritized. However, even though it is not a priority area, the Batulanteh area has become the caretaker area for Mo-Novu's victory. This means that the vote contribution from the Batulanteh area will determine Mo-Novu's victory in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections.

4.2.4 Assessment of Regional Socio-Economic Conditions

In reading about the government's success during its reign, the public in general always sees the legacy in physical form, even though the government's performance is not only physical, or the government's success cannot be seen from the physical alone but from soft, non-physical programs. However, society in general will say that the government is successful and good if its performance can be seen with the eye, meaning that what is seen is physical. So the government's main standard of success is when it looks at physical aspects of development.

As for non-physical success if it is related to the real conditions of the Sumbawa community, it is of course about agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries and plantations. For example, the extent to which the government is able to control the price of fertilizer as a basic need for farmers, or the extent to which the government is able to maintain good price stability for the community's agricultural products, as well as the extent of easy access for the community to obtain goods for their basic needs. If the government is able to carry out these aspects, then basically the government can be said to be successful in the view of the people of Sumbawa, because the majority of Sumbawa people are farmers whose economic life is very dependent on these aspects.

As for those related to physical development, of course the main ones are roads as the main access for the community to carry out various social and economic activities, health buildings (hospitals and health centers), bridges, markets, terminals, school buildings and sewers that Good for collecting mountain water and rain during the rainy season. The domain of physical development, especially in the regions, in this case Sumbawa only revolves around the types of physical development above. So when the government is able to realize this development, of course the government's performance is considered extraordinary.

In the author's analysis, there are fundamental problems that make the socio-economic conditions of society still not experiencing maximum development, one of the problems is level of regional needs (fiscal need) which is not balanced with the fiscal capacity possessed by the region, including Sumbawa, so that it will definitely give rise to a fiscal gap. In this aspect, we can open regional financial data, where the strength of the region, which is called the APBD, is not commensurate with the development aspects that must be carried out. The fiscal condition of Sumbawa Regency in 2021 experienced quite tremendous pressure, so that in accumulation there was a reduction of 220 billion compared to 2020, even though in the PAD aspect there was an increase of 10.44% or around 18 billion/year. Apart from that, there was a reduction in transfer funds (balancing funds) of 2.27%, so that the total balancing funds for Sumbawa Regency were at 1.36 trillion. So the total APBD of Sumbawa Regency in 2021 is 1.63 trillion (PAD + Balancing Fund). The stagnant budget must also be formulated proportionally for direct expenditure and indirect expenditure. In his formulation, Indirect Expenditure certainly has a large portion, because employee expenditure is the largest portion. Meanwhile, the rest will be allocated for development spending. This development expenditure is a very minimal portion compared to the development needs that should be carried out. This is what explains why so

many campaign narratives conveyed by political actors from time to time for the development of various public infrastructures are always slow and often result in failure.

- **Findings**

- 1) The progress and performance of regional heads who compete in the next Pilkada is a very important aspect for the public, especially the people of Batulanteh, as it strengthens their confidence in their political decisions in selecting candidate pairs who will play a good role in the conditions of their region.
- 2) This work has implications towards regional socio-economic conditions which are the basis for strengthening public issues in future political competition, so that competitors with incumbent status will greatly benefit politically on the basis of this good performance.
- 3) Haji Mo as a participant in the 2020 regional elections who also had the status of incumbent at that time enjoyed positive electoral implications for regional development under the previous government.
- 4) The progress and conditions of the region constitute social capital which is very fundamental as material for scientific arguments for candidate pairs, especially incumbents, to be conveyed massively to the public.

- **Minor Proposition**

- 1) Good performance which has implications for regional socio-economic conditions is social capital which is very fundamental in forming people's confidence in determining their choices in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections.
- 2) Social Capital This is a determinant for Mo-Novu's candidate pair in growing their confidence in meeting and arguing in front of the public, including the Batulanteh community.

- **Major Proposition**

The socio-economic conditions of the region have previously been a determinant for the community, including the people of Batulanteh, in strengthening their confidence in determining their choice in the 2020 Regional Election contestation, because the public made the socio-economic conditions of the region the main issue discussed through various discussion forums, both discussions held officially as well as daily discussions with colleagues and various communities.

4.3. Research Implications

4.3.1 Practical Implications

From the analysis above, there are several theoretical implications of two fundamental aspects of this research. The first is related to voter behavior and the factors behind the political behavior of voters in the Batulanteh highlands in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections. Voter behavior consists of emotional ties to parties, figures and candidates, as well as campaign issues and candidate work programs. Meanwhile, the factors behind voters' political behavior include voters' social circles, patron-client relationships, transactional politics/money politics and regional socio-economic conditions.

Emotional ties with parties: the existence of political parties does not become the public's preference in selecting existing regional head candidate pairs. This is based on the fact that organizationally political parties have not been able to make a massive contribution to development in the Batulanteh highlands, furthermore, public knowledge of political parties is still very low, but they only see that political parties are just a forum or vehicle for the ladder of power, not seen as an institution that has value for development. This indicates that there are other options or other factors that become people's preferences in determining their choice. This aspect explains why the candidate pair from the ruling party lost so badly in Batulanteh. So that the existence of political parties in the future must be able to carry out their duties and functions substantially for the community so that people's trust in political parties increases.

Personality and Candidates: The existence of candidate pairs as seen from their personality does have an influence on electoral candidate pairs, it's just that this aspect has a small portion when compared to other strategic issues. Interestingly, the character in question is not seen from the potential of the candidate pair but because of their seniority as a figure, including their religiosity. This departs from the existential nature of the Batulanteh people who are very traditional religious. Apart from that, the paradigm of the Batulanteh community is still very primordial and finds it difficult to accept social innovation caused by geographical conditions and the Batulanteh region which is still very underdeveloped compared to other areas in Sumbawa. -political issues, then the similarity aspect is relevant to the figure they support. From a practical aspect, the main rational issue is not about figures or candidates, but about

fundamental problems in the electoral area. This means that candidates must be able to read what the problems are and what the public wants so that these aspects can influence the public's choice of candidates who are able to raise these issues.

Campaign issues and candidate work programs: the issues offered in the Pilkada are indeed varied, but for the people of Batulanteh, the main issue is only about road infrastructure. It is only the completion of road access that they want, so that it is certain that candidate pairs who dare to take action to improve the Batulanteh road are accompanied by "sounding" on various stream media, so this issue will have a big influence on the political choices of the people of Batulanteh. This aspect is one of the main weapons and strategies carried out by the Mo-Novu candidate pair which makes the candidate pair become the winner of the most votes in Batulanteh as well as the winner in the 2020 Sumbawa Regional Election. This means that in the future the candidate pairs who are competing must be able to read the main problems of society and then adjust. with the vision and mission or issues raised so that the public has a sense of confidence in the candidate pairs who will compete in the future.

The factors behind the political behavior of voters include the social environment/social circle of voters: There is a communal community in Batulanteh who comes from elite circles of society (religious leaders, community leaders and civil servants) who are the representation of the Batulanteh community amidst the Batulanteh community's understanding of politics. very low. The community group in question has become a group that influences other communities so that they have formed a social environment that is the preference of the Batulanteh community. They just trust the village leaders in their area, so that the social environment also influences the political choices of the people of Batulanteh, even though there are other issues or aspects that are more dominant than the voters' social circle. This means that the existence of the figures has social power, which must then be able to be held by the candidates who will compete, because the figures in question are still strongly trusted by the surrounding community.

Patron-client relationship: The existence of existing figures has become the main pillar on which they base their choices. Figures who are considered influential in question are "teachers or other civil servants" who are hereinafter referred to as clients. The influence of the presence of teachers or other civil servants regarding regional elections is based on social figures whose existence has an electoral impact in the region. Apart from that, the existence of teachers is also structurally a line of bureaucratic coordination in every corner of Batulanteh that has schools in the area, where the teachers have families who of course have choices in the same direction as the teacher in question. At the same time, the political consequences of the political benefits of the teacher's existence are about career. Issues regarding the careers of teachers and other civil servants are very risky and sensitive in the Batulanteh area which makes them very afraid of being transferred (transferred) to another work area outside Batulanteh. So the patron-client factor is the strongest aspect in winning the regional elections in Batulanteh. The same as the social environmental aspect, the existence of clients, in this case mainly teachers (PNS), makes a very big contribution to the electoral system in their region, because there is power intervention that cannot be avoided, so that the power of patrons influences the existence of clients in directing the public to choose candidate pairs. which is determined.

Money politics: Transactional politics occurs everywhere, including in the Batulanteh area. The most massive candidate pair among the other candidates who did this was the Jarot-Muklis candidate pair, because only this candidate pair had the most capable logistics. However, the Batulanteh area is not a priority area for playing in this domain, because Batulanteh is the area with the least population in terms of population compared to other areas. Interestingly, even though it is not considered a priority area, Batulanteh is actually the key to the victory of the candidate pair who is currently the Regional Head of Sumbawa Regency.

4.3.2. Theoretical Implications

There are several theoretical implications from two fundamental aspects of this research. The first is related to voter behavior and factors that influence voter behavior in the Batulanteh highlands in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections. Voter behavior consists of emotional ties to parties, figures and candidates, as well as the vision and mission of programs and issues offered by candidates. Meanwhile, factors that influence voter behavior include the voter's social environment/social circle, patron-client relationships, and transactional politics/money politics.

Regarding emotional ties with parties, in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections, especially in the Batulanteh area, people did not base their choice on a particular candidate pair based on the party's position. This means that they choose not to see that the candidate pair they choose is based on their party but rather that there are other, more

strategic options as a basic reference for their choice. The people of Batulanteh are a traditional society that still firmly adheres to its cultural and traditional values, so in reality the candidate pairs promoted by the old party should win, but in fact the candidate pairs who were able to get the highest number of votes in Batulanteh were the candidate pairs who did not come from the old party. This means that there are other options on which they base their choice. The results of Pomper's research on the 1946, 1964, and 19721 elections found that there was a continuous decline in the influence of party identification on voter choices starting from the 1956, 1964 elections, and peaking in the general election. Apart from that, in Liddle and Mujani's research on voter behavior in the 1999 elections, they found two important conclusions in understanding voter behavior, namely that as sectarian politics fades at the voter mass level, the mass of voters tend to care less about the sect of each political party. This means that the theory and the results of the analysis in this research have reinforcements that are relevant to each other which reinforces that the existence of political parties from election to election, especially in the modern era, is no longer the main determination for the voting public in determining their choices.

In the second aspect regarding figures and candidates, this domain does influence voters in determining their choice in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections, but the portion is not large. This means that figures and candidates are not the main reference for the people of Batulanteh in choosing their leaders. There are theories about psychological models, namely the similarity and attraction models. According to this model, every individual will be attracted to something or someone who has the same value and belief system as himself. In other words, the more two parties share the same characteristics (Similarity), the more their mutual attraction to each other will increase. Related to this theory, although in many examples of cases that occur in voter behavior in every political contestation in various countries in the world, in the Sumbawa Regional Election, especially in Batulanteh, this theory has a small portion as a form of voter behavior, meaning that figures and candidates are not The main determination that makes the people of Batulanteh choose certain candidate pairs.

Meanwhile, it is related to the vision, mission and issues offered by the candidate. In the Sumbawa regional elections, especially in Batulanteh, it really had a strong electoral effect, especially related to the vision and mission and issues regarding Batulanteh infrastructure. Why is this issue so influential, because the people of Batulanteh really want improvements to road infrastructure amidst the very worrying condition of their geographical area. So the candidate pairs who successfully started to implement this issue in total were able to gain significant votes in Batulanteh. In their theory, Schulman and Pomper say that the most important issues that must be resolved in a region are short term issues, namely problems in society that require immediate solutions. This has a significant impact on changing voter behavior. The short term issue was resolved by the Mo-Novi candidate pair which made the aspect of completing the vision, mission and issues one of the main determinations for Mo-Novi's victory in Batulanteh. Robert Dahl (1973) in his political theory said that in order for the ruler to be able to guarantee the wishes and desires of his people, the community must be given the opportunity to: (1) formulate its own preferences or interests, (2) inform each community/citizen and the government about these preferences. through individual and group actions, (3) ensuring that their interests are considered equally in the government decision-making process, without discriminating based on their content or origin. These three phases were carried out by the Batulanteh community which then led to a final joint consensus regarding road infrastructure. In the theory of political behavior expressed by Harold d. Lasswell, quoted by SP Varma, states that political behavior has an orientation dimension that shows the hopes of an individual or group to be achieved. This dimension is what strengthens the Batulanteh community in selecting the Mo-Novi candidate candidate who has successfully started to fulfill the hopes of the Batulanteh community group. This means that the theories presented above are strengthened through this research which takes as an example the case of the 2020 Sumbawa Regional Election, especially in the Batulanteh area.

Related to factors that influence voter behavior. As the first aspect regarding the social environment/social circle of voters, in the sociological theory expressed by Paul F. Lazarsfeld and his colleagues Bernard Berelson and Hazel Gaudet from Columbia University, which was later known as the Colombian School, there is a microsociological model which suggests that Every human being is related in various social circles, for example family, circle of friends, workplace and so on, namely their economic status, religion, place of residence, work and age define the social circle that influences the voter's decision. It is the same as the Colombian school of thought, that in Batulanteh, the social circle in question is those with the status of teachers (PNS), village heads, hamlet heads and also village authorities, religious figures and community leaders who are able to influence voter behavior in Batulanteh. This phenomenon is

very relevant to the theory of self-categorization theory, also known as social-identity theory, where political behavior is a form of the process of individual self-identification with social groups. They just trust the village leaders in their area, so that the social environment also influences the political choices of the people of Batulanteh.

Regarding the patron client relationship that occurs in Batulanteh, this is the main aspect that has a big influence on voter behavior which has implications for certain electoral candidate pairs. The patron and the client are like a symbiotic mutualism that depend on each other. The client depends on the patron because he has career interests as a teacher (PNS) who is afraid of being transferred or moved outside Batulanteh, while the patron depends on the client regarding electoral matters in the area. In the patron-client concept expressed by Yahya Muhaimin, which was later reviewed by Affan Gaffar (1991), the Patron usually has quite large resources, for example protection, security, facilities, position, licenses, finances/funds, and so on. Meanwhile the Client provides support and energy. In this way, a reciprocal relationship occurs. This means that this theory is truly put into practice and has strong relevance to the example of the case that occurred in the 2020 Sumbawa regional elections, especially in the Batulanteh area.

Meanwhile, transactional politics occurred in all regions in the 2020 Sumbawa Pilkada, but the Batulanteh region was not made a priority area considering that Batulanteh's population is so small compared to other regions. In this domain, the theory of rational actor theory (RAT) which states that voter behavior is a cost-benefit calculation process also applies absolutely. The advantages and disadvantages for voters are that there are trade-offs for voters even though they are pragmatic in nature. Referring to this theory, the cost-benefit associated with money politics does not fully occur. This means that in certain areas this concept does not apply based on low population, there are issues that are more urgent and desirable to be resolved apart from cost benefit issues (money politics), and there are client interests that are more sensitive and risky than transactional politics.

5. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusion

From various analyzes carried out by the author in CHAPTER V on voter behavior and the factors that influence voter behavior in the Batulanteh highland region regarding the 2020 Sumbawa Regency Regional Head Election (Pilkada), it can be concluded as follows:

1) Voter political behavior

- a. Emotional ties with parties: the existence of political parties does not become the public's preference in selecting existing regional head candidate pairs. This is based on the fact that organizationally political parties have not been able to make a massive contribution to development in the Batulanteh highlands, furthermore, public knowledge of political parties is still very low, but they only see that political parties are just a forum or vehicle for the ladder of power, not seen as an institution that has value for development. This indicates that there are other options or other factors that are people's preferences in determining their choice. This aspect explains why the candidate pair from the ruling party lost so badly in Batulanteh.
- b. Orientation towards the candidate's character and image: the existence of the candidate pair as seen from their personality has an influence on the electoral candidate, but this aspect does not have a large portion when compared to other strategic issues. Interestingly, the character in question is not seen from the potential of the candidate pair but because of their seniority as a figure, including their religiosity. This departs from the existential nature of the Batulanteh people who are very traditional religious. Apart from that, the paradigm of the Batulanteh community is still very primordial and finds it difficult to accept social innovation caused by geographical conditions and the Batulanteh region which is still very underdeveloped compared to other areas in Sumbawa. -political issues, then the similarity aspect is relevant to the figure they support.
- c. Candidate campaigns and work programs: the issues offered in the Pilkada are indeed varied, but for the people of Batulanteh, the main issue is only about road infrastructure. It is only the completion of road access that they want, so that it is certain that candidate pairs who dare to take action to improve the Batulanteh road are accompanied by "sounding" on various stream media, so this issue will have a big influence on the political choices of the people of Batulanteh. This aspect was one of the main weapons and strategies carried out by the Mo-Novu candidate pair which made the candidate pair become the winner of the most votes in Batulanteh as well as the winner in the 2020 Sumbawa Regional Election.

2) Factors underlying the political behavior of voters in the Batulanteh highlands in the 2020 regional elections

- a. Social circle of voters: There is a communal community in Batulanteh who comes from elite circles of society (religious leaders, community leaders and civil servants) who are the representation of the Batulanteh community at a time when the Batulanteh community's understanding of politics is still very low. The community group in question has become a group that influences other communities so that they have formed a social environment that is the preference of the Batulanteh community. They just trust the village leaders in their area, so that the social environment also influences the political choices of the people of Batulanteh, even though there are other issues or aspects that are more dominant than the voters' social circle.
- b. Patron-client relationship: The existence of existing figures has become the main pillar on which they base their choices. Figures who are considered influential in question are "teachers or other civil servants" who are hereinafter referred to as clients. The influence of the presence of teachers or other civil servants regarding regional elections is based on social figures whose existence has an electoral impact in the region. Apart from that, the existence of teachers is also structurally a line of bureaucratic coordination in every corner of Batulanteh that has schools in the area, where the teachers have families who of course have choices in the same direction as the teacher in question. At the same time, the political consequences of the political benefits of the teacher's existence are about career. Issues regarding the careers of teachers and other civil servants are very risky and sensitive in the Batulanteh area which makes them very afraid of being transferred (transferred) to another work area outside Batulanteh. So the patron-client factor is the strongest aspect in winning the regional elections in Batulanteh.
- c. Money politics: Money politics happens everywhere, including in the Batulanteh area. The decline in the voter economy due to the Covid pandemic has made money politics easier to accept and increased nominal vote buying. Money politics succeeded in influencing voting behavior because candidates used personal loyalist strategies to influence voters through their social environment with various voting behavior approaches.
- d. The socio-economic conditions of the region are one of the determining factors for the people of Batulanteh in strengthening their confidence in making their choice in the 2020 Regional Election contestation, because the public makes the socio-economic conditions of the region the main issue to be discussed through various discussion forums, both discussions held officially and discussions everyday with colleagues and with various communities.

5.2. Suggestions - Suggestions

- a. More research needs to be conducted that reveals voter behavior so that it is clear what the condition of voter preferences is.
- b. There needs to be a more in-depth study of political behavior. And the government's attention to voters is not only after their interests are met and then the voters are abandoned.
- c. It is necessary to provide political education to all citizens so that Indonesia as a whole has intelligent voters and the products of their choices bring a better Indonesia.

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