

# Identity Politics of Papuan Indigenous Ethnics in the Position Seizure Contestation: A Case Study of the OPD Structural Positions in the Governmental Bureaucracy in Papua

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## **Abstract**

*This research was aimed to (1) Know how identity politics of Papua indigenous ethnics of Papua contested to seize structural positions of the OPD (Regional Apparatus Organization) in the governmental organization (2) Know identity politics of Papua indigenous ethnics collaborated with identity politics of non-Papuan ethnics in filling structural position of the OPD in the governmental bureaucracy. The research method used was qualitative i.e. describe, record, analyze, interpret conditions occur today. While data gathering used an observation technique, photos and also interview technique. The research results showed (1) Identity politics practice implemented in the governmental bureaucracy shown along with the existence of dominance of office chief, secretary, structural position and also office with much financial were mostly dominated by MT ethnics. MT ethnics marginalized other Papuan ethnics in positions of office chief, agency, district, secretary, structural position. From the process of marginalized Papuan ethnics were affected by ethnics egoism from village, clans, family, one ethnic and other Papuan ethnics emerge other Papuan ethnics prefer non-Papuan ethnics to collaborate in power in the governmental bureaucracy. Various powers in the filling of the OPD structural positions in the governmental bureaucracy. The bureaucracy of Papuan governmental bureaucracy was still thick with a cultural primordial, familism, tribalism and margaism. The purpose of ethnics identity politics applied in the governmental bureaucracy include to dominate economic resources that are much such as: Otsus Fund, APBD, PAD, DAK, DAU, governmental projects and programs for self ethnic interest and political groups in the governmental bureaucracy. (2) The filling of the OPD structural position of the governmental bureaucracy. The whole of position percentage data result available in filling the OPD structural position of the governmental bureaucracy, MT ethnics dominate all of positions available. And is followed by non-Papuan ethnics (BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA) that collaborated with MT ethnics in seizing number one and number two chairs in the governmental bureaucracy. Team baperjakat has selected officers who are skilled, good career, professional suitable with country's civil apparatus. However, all decision to promote officials in the OPD structural position, that guard ethnic contestation in the governmental bureaucracy, in overall policy based on number one and number two persons in the governmental bureaucracy. The purpose of collaboration was to dominate jointly economics resources that are much in the governemntal bureaucracy such as: Otsus Fund, APBD, PAD, DAK, DAU, governmental projects and programs for ther ethnic's interest and their politics group interest.*

## **Keywords:**

*Political Identity; Papua; Structural Position*

## INTRODUCTION

Central government's objective in issuing special autonomy policy in Papua and West Papua province is for all indigenous ethnics in Papua can cooperate to build their own region accordingly to the Papua reality (Reba et al, 2015). Therefore, the development acceleration is achieved for all Papuans. For example, the special autonomy could create acceleration in people economical condition, human resources

development, governmental institution development, and political education for the people.

However, this objective is being hampered by the fact that Papuan ethnics are more focused in political issues than other aspects in special autonomy or SA (*otonomi khusus* in Bahasa, or commonly abbreviated as *otsus*). The facts show that primordial issue is overshadowing social and economic issues that focus on human resources. One of the concrete evidences of such reality is that the identity politics is used and is reproduced by certain groups to reach their political goals. It is the very sphere where Papuans play their identity politics. Identity is a dynamic concept that integrates common features in diversity that identically related and its identity identification (Mayer, 2015).

To reach such identity political goal, Papuans exploit it in their daily life. However, in running the identity politics, Papuans also exploit the non-Papuan ethnic identities that leads to identity political game constellation in local political contestation (Ruhyanto, 2016). It is interesting to research how diverse ethnicity in Papua play their identity politics. It is also important to see how Papuans build relation among themselves

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when they interact with non-Papuan ethnics. Also noteworthy, how identity politics is utilized in achieving personal goals, in this case, *Organisasi Perangkat Daerah/OPD* (Local Government Agencies Organization).

The phenomenon that is happening is that indigenous Papuan ethnics are competing between themselves for power and marginalize other indigenous Papuan ethnics. Within local political contestation to seize the power, ethnic identity is prominently used as the means to connect solidarity, cognitive, moral, and emotional bonds between individuals and groups (Klinken, 2007). Identity politics, according to Klanderman (2015), is "When someone is thoroughly involved in political protest process in the name of his/her group, then, he/she will exploit all of the group's identity to be the struggle focus in order to seize the power".

Thus, the political elites exploit the unity of indigenous Papuan ethnics in order to hold control over economic resources such as *dana otsus* (Special Autonomy Fund), *Pendapatan Asli Daerah/PAD* (Own-source Revenue), *Dana Alokasi Umum/DAU* (Special Allocation Fund), and other projects within the scope of governmental bureaucracy positions (Arie and Ilmar,

2017). The top seat in governmental bureaucracy can only be obtained by capturing the majority of people's vote in *pilkada/pemilihan kepala daerah* (local executive election). Huntington (1995) explained that democracy is institutional management to reach political decision by competing over people's vote to seize the power.

Non-Papuan ethnics namely BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA are also playing important role in local politics. Portion of power that is offered to BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA ethnics is to control second positions under the highest position of local bureaucracy so they can have dominant access to *dana otsus*, PAD, and DAU. Beside those resources, the private sectors are also being dominated by BS, BN, MR, AN, TA in local politics constellation. However, BS, BN, MR, AN, TA ethnics do not bring identity attributes as their means to take part in local politics because they do politics in a more relaxed. From this situation, political lobbies emerge from MT and MI ethnics to cooperate with BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA ethnics who have the largest number of populations. The political deal between the two sides is not formally done to fill the structural positions in government bureaucracy. However, BS, BN, MR, AN,

and TA ethnics do not give their support to MI but rather to give it to MT ethnic instead in order to hold the highest leadership in the region.

The impact of local ethnic identity politics has been more evident in government bureaucracy (Hong, 2016). For example, the competition over structural local government organizations, both strategic and not strategic ones, and further, the corruptive, collusive, and nepotistic behavior. There are also emerging behaviors such as spoils system, patrimonial relationship, and other negative acts in government bureaucracy. Based on aforementioned description, the researchers are interested to analyze ethnic politics behavior in government bureaucracy. Hence, this paper answered these questions (1). Indigenous Papuan ethnic identity politics is contesting for structural local government's positions in the bureaucracy. (2) Indigenous Papuan ethnic identity politics collaborate with non-Papuan ethnics in assigning structural positions of local government organization in bureaucracy.

## RESEARCH METHOD

The research type is qualitative method. Nasir (1988) explained,

qualitative research is a research to make description on a situation or an event. Then, Mardalis (1990) explained this kind of method aims to describe, record, analysis, and interpret events that happen now. According to Singarimbun and Effendi (1995), descriptive research intends to measure accurately certain social phenomenon. The goal of descriptive research according to Irawan (2002) is to describe or explain something as it is so that the researcher can get clear description on situations on the field as naturally as possible. And then, Mantra (2004) said that descriptive research is a method in investigating the status of a group of people, an object, a set of condition, a system of thought, and events in current time. Descriptive research aims to describe or to portray complex social reality within the society.

Descriptive research yields qualitative data. According to Sugiyono (2007), descriptive research is a research that is carried out on other variable. Categorized in qualitative data are words, sentences, schemes, and pictures. In addition, Moleong (1997) explained that qualitative research has characteristics that an individual is as the research tool, the analysis is inductive and descriptive in nature, emphasizes on temporary

research design, and research result is agreed upon as research subject. Research that uses qualitative procedure method is common in social research that attempts to interpret descriptively on meanings of phenomenon in social context. Besides that, this research method is chosen in order to give something useful and positive.

For the sake of representative, accurate, and accountable data and to answer the research question, this research uses purposive informant (Arikunto 1998). According to Sugiyono (2007), purposive informant is selected informant as the research subject according to his/her expertise or certain purpose instead of stratified or cluster randomness. Nawawi (2001) emphasized that informant should matches to certain criteria that are set in accordance to research objective.

The most important step in this research is the data collection technique because the main goal of research is to obtain data. By using the proper data collection technique, the scientific research standard can be fulfilled. The data collection techniques in this research are as follows. First, in-depth interview is intended to get data through direct communication that takes place several

times to get informant's whole and complete perspective. This technique aims to get accountable data. The information the researcher looks for in this technique is the opinion of several community leader and community member whom are considered knowledgeable on the issue of the research. In this method, the interview characteristic is not formal but rather to spontaneous interviews. This spontaneous characteristic makes this method is more objective and valid since there is no engineering by the researcher (Salim, 2006). This research utilizes in-depth interview since it emphasizes on familiarity by asking the openly ask the questions in flexible manner. Second, secondary data is data that has been previously processed and is owned by institutions that allow researchers not to replicate the exact research. Secondary data or supporting data is documentation from informant, or other supporting evidences from the field of research. Documentation method is useful for examining historical data. The majority of historical data are in form of letters, pictures, photographs, memorabilia, report, or other literature related to the research subject.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Research Novelty

This research is different from other previously conducted within the same topic. Suwae, et.al (2011) in their findings explained that every ethnic groups in Papua have their own ethnocentrism in their leadership. And then, Lefaan (2012) in the dissertation research mentioned that, special autonomy gives discretion to have self-determination based on ethnicity sentiment and primordial bonds. Hapsari (2011) research showed there is sons of soil domination in bureaucratic positions in the region that other people from the outside (non-Papuan) are eliminated from the primordial bonds political contestation. Laksono (2001) explained that Special Autonomy Law had been deepening the primordial bonds or ethnocentrism between the indigenous Papuans. Kubangun (2014) confirmed this that the contestation between indigenous Papuan bonded them in the bureaucracy structure based on primordial identity was getting stronger.

Based on those researches, this article's researchers can assert the uniqueness of this research. This article's research novelty is that it studies Papua's special autonomy eventually created

indigenous Papuan ethnic identity politics in government bureaucracy. Such ethnic identity political contestation leads other Papuan ethnics to be marginalized in positions such as head of local government organizations, secretaries, structural positions, and dominated the local government organizations structural positions in government bureaucracy. The marginalization is influenced by ethnic egoism from village, clan, family, and to others Papuan ethnic. This situation encourages other Papuan ethnics to prefer non-Papuan ethnic to collaborate in seizing power and in power sharing in government bureaucracy organizations structural positions. The goal of employing indigenous Papuan ethnic identity in government bureaucracy is to have control over abundant economic resources such as Dana Otsus, APBD, PAD, DAK, DAU, projects, and government programs for their own ethnic and ethnic political group benefit.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Ethnic Identity Politics Manifestation

Ethnic identity bond manifest in group of people with their own primordial features such as level, pride, language, custom, and belief that is imposed to each member born in the group. This

makes a group to have similarities with other group. The embedded characteristics in an ethnic group is a growing sense of community among the members so the feeling of brotherhood could exist. Besides, the members also have “we-ness” feeling that enables brotherhood. In identifying ethnic groups, there are two perspectives. One, as an objective unit in term of cultural difference. Two, only a product of someone’s thought that defines certain ethnic group (Abdillah, 2002).

Papua territory has various ethnics who live side by side, both from indigenous Papuan ethnics or non-Papuan ethnics. In the social life, an individual and ethnic group cannot be separated from their own inherited cultural traditions. The culture and custom is unique characteristic in the society, bureaucracy, private sector, education, and other fields. Each ethnic identity manifestation from these various ethnics are easy to identify from each living ethnic background. Therefore, this sub-chapter shall explain the involved ethnics in ethnic identity political contestation in local politics. Each indigenous ethnic in Papua has its own unique characteristic that it uses in

identity politics both in formal and non-formal form.

### **Ethnic MT Identity Politics Manifestation**

According to Liliweri (2005), interethnic relation can happen when there is social interaction because social interaction is the beginning of social relation in social communication relation among human. This correlates with Nasdian (2015) who explained that social interaction is dynamic social relations which are; between individuals, between human groups, between individuals and human groups. The relation between MT ethnic to other ethnic such as MI, TN, RA, MR, TA, and AN is well established.

Custom is a set of rules, values, and norms that regulate various each ethnic activities and lives. As a rule, custom is considered to be “*everlasting*” and it will be attaching to a person forever. From this quote, custom and culture reflected from MT ethnic characteristics are egoism, ambition, determination on every aspect such as is government, political party, and life in general.

MT ethnic identity politics manifestation is reflected on how they run government bureaucracy by using bureaucracy pathology as according to Siagian (2002) is a patronage practice.

This practice manifests in nepotism a discrimination based on primordial bond like tribal group. MT ethnic also established an ethnic organization intended to weave harmony among themselves and also to affirm their identity politics. According to Effendi (2005), a culture to establish an organization indicates a shared belief, values, and behaviors by the entire member of the organization. MT ethnic use their organization to accommodate shared values by which they struggle in formal and non-formal institutions. Besides political organization, MT ethnic also manifest their ethnic identity politics by establishing formal organization in form of Christian church that its base members are MT ethnic. By running church organization, they strengthening their togetherness in form of family, culture, language, clan, and sameness of village from the spiritual side.

MT ethnic identity politics manifestation is by dominating government bureaucracy by using kinship culture. It is observable from same clan name of an ethnic who control head of regional government office head and secretary in available structural positions. Besides, they use their own local language while interacting to each other

even when they are doing their duties in government bureaucracy. The organization they established together is operating as a communication base among themselves to the ethnic outside their group. Through the organization, they consolidate their kinship culture. They even establish Protestant Church to solidify their spiritual dimension. The church projects further their culture, language, and basic values of MT ethnic through religious hymns.

#### **MI Ethnic Identity Politics Manifestation**

According Walgito (1983), social psychology is relation between individuals when an individual can influence another individual in a reciprocal social interaction. MI ethnic is Papuan ethnic who have customary land area right. Having an open-to-everyone culture, MI ethnic have never had conflict with other ethnic who live in their area. Inspired by their culture they so uphold, MI ethnic do not have any conflict with other ethnics, for example, they do not expel other ethnics who live on their soil without MI ethnic permission. They also do not hold any grudges for the fact that they are not represented in government bureaucracy and any political parties.

MI ethnic identity politics itself manifests in their positioning that becomes their strategy to build and to receive trust. Meanwhile, Hasan (2015) explained positioning or image is not done for any attraction but rather as something that is molded in prospect's mind. Therefore, MI ethnic also have an organization to bind the members, and to be the cultural and political communication channel for the members. The organization regulates rights for each members over their customary land. They also nourish their culture by holding yearly festival to celebrate the Christ's bible into their land. In the festival, they do cultural activities related to their own ethnicity such as eating sago and singing songs in their own language. Papuan ethnics are known to have their own customary lands that manifest in their own clans' surnames. Likewise, MI ethnic also have right over lands, villages, and farms that belong to them.

The conclusion is that MI ethnic identity politics manifestation is reflected in every activities of MI ethnic members that is intended to unify themselves into ethnic collectivity (Liliweri, 2005). MI ethnic organization serves as communication hub among its ethnic members to strengthen their cultural

unity. MI ethnic culture also apparent from their song lyrics that use their own language with the beauty of their homeland as the theme. Kind culture and language make ethnic MI relation to other Papuan ethnics and non-Papuan ethnics harmonious while living side by side on their soil.

### **TN Ethnic Identity Politics Manifestation**

TN ethnic also employ organization culture (Effendi, 2005) with shared values and behaviors that all the members are attached to. TN ethnic organization becomes communication hub to strengthen the brotherhood among the members. This ethnic culture is naturally hospitable that makes the relation with other ethnics is going smoothly without any significant friction.

TN ethnic identity politics is observable through TN ethnic organization that uses their own language, customary dowry, unique clan name, and the kinship solidarity. TN ethnic symbols are recognizable through its relation to other Papuan or non-Papuan ethnic groups. They weave very good relationship with existing ethnic groups.

In expressing their ethnic identity, they use formal and non-formal means.

The formal means, for example, they record songs in their own language in cassette platform. They then distribute it to fellow ethnic members and to other ethnic groups as well. Meanwhile, in non-formal means, they communicate with fellow ethnic members to hunt in the forest.

### **RA Ethnic Identity Politics Manifestation**

RA ethnic identity politics manifestation is visible from frequent display of culture in RA ethnic cultural festival. One of the most noticeable characteristics of RA ethnic is binds them together to work together and to help each other that has become their philosophy. RA ethnic identity politics manifestations are their language and clan's surname attached to each members. Organization culture shows the characters of an organization: shared belief, values, and behaviors among all of the organization members (Effendi, 2005).

The aforementioned organization unites RA ethnic in a cultural kinship association. Ra ethnic holds cultural festival show within which dances, music with drums and flutes are played, songs are sung in their language are displayed as unique characteristics of RA ethnic identity politics. Besides, RA ethnic also

knit good relationship with Papua ethnics and non-Papua ethnics.

### **Bureaucracy Elites Strategy in Including Certain Ethnic into OPD Structural Positions in Government Bureaucracy**

The elites have a certain strategy in making sure that only their ethnic fellows who can fill the structural positions of local government organization in the bureaucracy. The strategy is by using political lobbies among the elites in Regional Representative Assembly (DPRD), ethnic organization leaders, who previously supported and helped MR and MT ethnic in winning the first and second seat of executive positions. The elites gathered in an agreed place and all of them proposed names for representation from their respective ethnics to fill OPD structural positions to the first and second person in executive seats. They also identified political opponents from certain ethnics that must be marginalized in OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. Of every processes negotiation with DPRD elites in filling OPD structural positions, the ethnic organization leaders return the final decision to the first and the second persons in the executive positions. It is also noteworthy that the OPD structural

positions filling is not employing Baperjakat and meritocratic system (source: interview, Tuesday, 29 August 2017. 16:30 Eastern Indonesia Time, with Mr. HS. Vice Chairman of KS).

Ethnic identity politics has its own characteristics based on ethnic culture that, basically, is identity of the tribe. The ethnic characteristics are heavily influenced by certain contexts. The nature of identity is dynamic since it is a social construction. Identity construction is also applied to any ethnic and community. An example of such application of ethnic identity in social life is it serves as a distinctive feature in the process of filling structural positions of OPD in government bureaucracy. It is observable from each ethnics' special features who are represented as leaders and employee's composition in government bureaucracy.

The documentation shows there has been obvious ethnic domination in holding the first seat of executive by MT ethnic since 1989 to the year of 2022. Thus, it is assured that ever since New Order era up to Reformation era, MT ethnic has been owning the regional executive seat. Similar phenomenon occurs in documented data on ethnic percentage in regional government organizations (offices, bodies, districts).

MT ethnic evidently dominate the positions filling and followed by non-Papuan ethnic such as BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA who collaborate with MT ethnic in political agreement compared to MI ethnic. The phenomenon is described in following chart.

According Turner (1999), organization hierarchy very much reflects identity. Organization hierarchy implies identity in hierarchy as different manifestation. It is evident from the data that the majority ethnic in filling the heading positions in offices, bodies, and districts in government bureaucracy is MT ethnic. The following ethnic who also significantly filling the positions are MR, AN, RA, and TA ethnics. Specifically, heads of offices are only hold by MT, MR, and RA ethnics, which the two latter are who collaborate with MT ethnic. Never has ever been recorded in history that the head of OPD government bureaucracy was from MI ethnic, which is indigenous Papuan ethnic. Same phenomenon also happens on district head position, which is a strategic position in the eye of the people. Every district head positions are influenced by ethnic identity politics or requires "policy" from MT and MR ethnic who dominate government bureaucracy organizations. Non-Papuan ethnics such

as MR, AN, and TA, and also few JA ethnic are holding positions as offices heads. One thing is confirmed that those non-Papuan ethnics who are holding the positions are generally have involved in political collaboration in supporting MT and MR ethnics in winning the first and second seats in regional executive election.

It is also very possible for relatives of MT and MR ethnics to be chosen to fill important positions. That can happen because it is impossible for both Papuan and non-Papuan ethnics to hold heads of offices, bodies, and districts without weaving a political bond in supporting MT and MR ethnics. Those important positions are not only requiring competence but also "policy" from MT and MR ethnics. The appointment of offices, bodies, and districts heads in government bureaucracy are not wholly based on capability, career, expertise, professional performance as is the case in other part of Indonesia but instead the appointment depends on the first and the second persons who are holding the executive seats.

Other documentation also shows similar pattern on positions of secretaries in offices/bodies. Most of those who sit in secretary position in offices/bodies are of

MT ethnic and non-Papuan ethnic such as BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA who collaborate with MT ethnic. The data shows there are ethnic MI, BK, TN, and RA, of Papuan ethnic and non-Papuan ethnic, who are holding important positions. In general, they are politically supportive in seizing the power. The relationship between the two ethnics is getting even stronger beyond political sphere. Many of each ethnic's members are marrying each other. This social relation intensifies the political collaboration between the two. MT ethnic is the dominating Papuan ethnic in holding government bureaucracy structural positions, followed by non-Papuan ethnic, MR.

Overall, the filling of OPD structural positions which possess authority in government bureaucracy is determined by the first and second person of executive holder. The appointment is based on ethnic percentage to fill OPD structural positions of government bureaucracy, which is the policy made by the two highest rank of executive in the region. That is the context of the fact that MT ethnic is dominating every positions available in OPD structural positions of government bureaucracy, followed by non-Papuan ethnic of BS, BN, MR, AN,

and TA who collaborate with MT ethnic to win the first seat in government bureaucracy.

On the other side, it is notable that in the officers of strategic position appointment in OPD structural government bureaucracy, friction is barely happening between MT and MI ethnic in policy implementation. It is an anomaly if this situation happens in other region. However, the empiric situation shows the conflict is almost nonexistent because there is unwritten agreement that the first and second person of highest executive rank in the region shall decide who will have positions in the government bureaucracy.

The ethnic bond in identity politics that runs in government bureaucracy is not only manifest in group of people, primordial features such as ranks, honors, language, customs laid down upon every members of the group, but also the bond expands into a characteristic that attaches to the ethnic group indicated by the growth of sense of community. Therefore, although they are not from MT ethnic, but if they have the same emotion (especially caused by marriage or kinship), according to Abdillah (2002) the emotion generates strong awareness and causes the “we-ness” feeling within every members.

“We” word usage in ethnic group identification has two meanings. First, as an objective unit that is interpretable as cultural characteristic difference of an individual. The “we-ness” relieves the tension in the on-going government bureaucracy. Officer appointment on strategic positions by the first and second person on the executive seats and based on kinship and ethnicity is going well. Ethnicity is a shared reality. According Abdillah (2002) the relationship is based on self-identification, and if its requirements are met there will be no ethnicity because the relationship pattern does not belong to a certain group. the relationship will be harmonious forever. Overall, the on-going identity politics practices within the government bureaucracy namely kinship, clanship, and political relation, are important and influential factors in government bureaucracy.

### **Meritocracy Challenge vs Contested Strategic Position in Government Bureaucracy**

Ethnic identity politics contestation in the OPD structural positions based on merit system and its relation with Civil Servant Law (UU ASN) in bureaucracy. To fill structural position in government

bureaucracy demands merit system and to get officers and apparatuses requires proper recruitment system. To get professional apparatuses, an open and competitive recruitment. The process must be open and competitive in the procedure by which officers and apparatuses who have competence, strong work commitment, and optimum performance will be selected through the procedure (Kumorotomo dan Widaningrum, 2010).

The Law No. 5 year 2014 on Civil Servant article 6 says, "Civil servant management is civil servant management to yield civil servant employees that are professional, having basic values, profession ethics, free from political intervention, free from corruption, collusion, and nepotism practices." The structural officers from echelon I, echelon II, echelon III, while regarding the existing hierarchy, propose candidates who meet the criteria to fill position vacancy to the authorized officer along with a copy directed to the Baperjakat, which is delivered to the secretary.

Indonesian government has issued related to the Law No. 5 2014 on Civil Servant that is closely related to merit system, which must be implemented in every part of government bureaucracy in

Republic of Indonesia. However, the irony in OPD structural positions filling in the government bureaucracy is more likely to be dominated by spoils system, patrimonialism, and ethnic identity politics of the MT ethnic and their supporting other ethnics such as BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA in dominating the OPD structural positions filling in government bureaucracy. Nepotism culture is still very pervasive in the government bureaucracy system (Kumorotomo and Widaningrum, 2010). The situation corresponds to what Bryant and White (in Widodo, 2008) statement that to run the duties and functions, public organization's (bureaucracy) culture emphasizes more on environment influence aspect that is deeply determining the recruitment process on bureaucracy positions. At the same time, identity politics is a leader recruitment process that tends to be based on primordialism parameter that facilitates tribalism spirit (Buchari, 2014).

The situation proves meritocracy principle related to Law on Civil Servant in government bureaucracy is not applied to assess proper officers to fill OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. The government bureaucracy is still deeply entrenched in ethnic identity politics, spoils system, patrimonialism, and ethnic

identity nepotism culture of MT ethnic along with their supporter (BS, BN, MR, AN, TA). It is evident from the ethnic percentage in position filling in overall OPD structural position of government bureaucracy. The established system in the government bureaucracy in policymaking is no longer objective, rational, honoring performance-based professionalism, and career-based assessment in filling OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. The situation creates disorganization in employee administration.

Officers in Permit Integration and Capital Investment Service Office are mostly from MI ethnic, ranging from the office' head, secretary, general affair manager, finance manager, administration, and capital investment manager. They are sharing one village, one family, one language, and one ethnic, MT. The positions filling in the very strategic office is aimed to have control as much as possible over economic resource for the sake of the individuals, the group, and long-term interest.

It is conclusive from the table above that MT ethnic is dominating OPD structural position filling in Permit Integration and Capital Investment Service Office, which is a lucrative office.

Positions such as head of the office, secretary of the office, and other subordinate positions are being dominated by a system of tribalism, kinship, language oneness, that is MT ethnic. The goal is to keep the economic resource (money) for the sake of individuals, group, and long-term political goal (local executive election/pilkada).

### **Baperjakat Performance Analysis and Ethnic Contestation Dynamics in OPD Positions Filling in Government Bureaucracy**

The performance of selection team of Baperjakat/Badan Pertimbangan Jabatan dan Kepangkatan (Body of Position and Rank Consideration) in the government bureaucracy in selecting the officers to fill the OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. Baperjakat has done its duty in a professional manner in selecting officers to fill OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy according to the established standards such as career, expertise, performance, education, and professionalism.

After Baperjakat team has selected the candidates to fill every OPD structure in government bureaucracy, the team then recommends the name to the first and second persons in the executive to

decide for the sake of long-term politics. However, every decision made by the first and the second persons in the executive do not follow any recommendations provided by the Baperjakat performance team in filling OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. This is due to ethnic identity politics and political factors are heavily influencing the process in government bureaucracy. The situation means that the Baperjakat selection team has done their job, however, the executives disregard the recommendation in filling the OPD structural position in government bureaucracy.

Ethnic contestation dynamics in OPD structural position in government bureaucracy is very evident. The dynamics itself involves processes as follow. Political lobbies, ethnic identity identification for filling positions (head of offices and bodies, head of districts, secretary, structural positions, filling offices with plenty financial resources based on ethnicity. Ethnic contestation is also prevalent and marginalizing other Papuan ethnics in filling OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy.

Ethnic contestation is also happening in numerous activities in OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. For example, the dominant ethnic is giving

privilege to the dominating ethnic in work, is not having any trust on marginalized ethnic in their performance, is insisting to win every argument in every meeting, is not sharing any jobs to other ethnics, is demanding their own ethnic to predominate in every works, and is demanding to be acknowledged by other ethnics, and is marginalizing other ethnics in OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy.

The OPD structural position filling in government bureaucracy is influenced by several political actors who are suggesting and deciding the officers to appoint or to replace in ethnic contestation in filling OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. *First*, ethnic organization leaders who are involved in the first and second person in executive seat election winning. These ethnic organization leaders were having political negotiation to give names of their ethnics in representing ethnic contestation in filling of OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy, or even replacing other ethnics in OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. *Second*, ethnic officer actors in the government bureaucracy who directly involved in the election winning process. The supporting grounds of this strategy are at village-level

ethnic bases in the community. The officer actors have given inputs to the first and second persons in the executive seats, ethnic officer actors who support and be different in politic in first- and second-persons election. Ethnic contestation in officer appointment in OPD structural in government bureaucracy. *Third actors, first and second persons*, they who hold the power in government bureaucracy.

Ethnic organization leaders and bureaucracy officers who support first and second persons in the executive seats are suggesting names for the executives to appoint or even to replace in filling the OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. Finally, the executives are holding the ultimate decisions to choose the right ethnic officers to fill OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. DPRD performance role, they never supervise nor intervene the ethnic contestation in government bureaucracy performance. They consider ethnic contestation in government bureaucracy performance is purely internal affairs of government bureaucracy. DPRD recognize that all the matters regarding the appointment is fully under the executive's authority. DPRD never supervise nor responding to any

ethnic contestation in performance nor OPD structural position filling in government bureaucracy although there is evident ethnic identity politics.

Furthermore, there is also marginalization over both Papuan and non-Papuan ethnics in OPD structural position filling in government bureaucracy. Meanwhile, personal and group political interests occupy DPRD. This situation reflects that DPRD role in supervising the ethnic contestation in government bureaucracy performance is not effective. Eventually this condition leads to poor quality of ethnic performance in government bureaucracy.

## CONCLUSION

Indigenous Papuan ethnic identity politics is on the stage in contestation to seize structural positions in government bureaucracy. From the documentation data result it is evident that, in general, MT ethnic is dominating the positions of head of office, secretary, structural positions, and other strategic offices with abundant financial resources. MT ethnic marginalize other Papuan ethnics in head of office or body, head of district, secretary, structural position, and they dominate the OPD structural position filling in government bureaucracy.

Hometown, clan, family, kinship factors are the source of ethnic egoism that leads to certain Papuan ethnic's marginalization. Thus, other Papuan ethnics beside MT ethnic choose to collaborate with other non-Papuan ethnic to seize power in government bureaucracy. The result is that they share the OPD structural position filling in government bureaucracy. Government bureaucracy in Papua is still dominated by primordial culture such as kinship, clan, and tribe. The goal of ethnic identity politics implementation in the government bureaucracy is to control abundant economic resources such as Special Autonomy Fund, APBD, PAD, DAK, DAU, government projects and programs for the interest of their own ethnic and political groups in government bureaucracy.

Indigenous Papuan ethnic identity politics is collaborating with other non-Papuan identity politics in filling OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy. From overall percentage data of positions in OPD structural positions in government bureaucracy, MT ethnic is dominating all available positions. The following non-Papuan ethnics who are holding the positions are BS, BN, MR, AN, and TA ethnics. They are collaborating with MT ethnic to win

first and second seat in the government bureaucracy. The Baperjakat team has already accomplished selection to the officers who meet the desired criteria based on their expertise, career, and professionalism according to the Law no. 5 year 2014 on Civil Servant. However, all the assessment result to appoint officers in OPD structural officers is not effectively implemented by the first and second person of the executive in the government bureaucracy. Overall, the policy in appointing officers is on the hand of the first and second person in the government bureaucracy. The goal to collaborate is to control the enormous economic resource within the government bureaucracy such as; Special Autonomy Fund, APBD, PAD, DAK, DAU, projects, and government programs for their own ethnic and political group interest.

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