

# Independence Asset as a Pillar of National Development

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**ABSTRACT:** With an independence asset, a nation will have self-esteem and can sit together side by side with the nations of the world, because independence has a very important meaning for the life of a nation, including Indonesia. The proclamation of Indonesian independence and the world recognition have been obtained by a hard struggle, it can even be categorized very hard and no strings attached. Thus, Bung Karno as the founding father of this nation stressed that the nation's children must never forget the history, it is known as "*jas merah*". From these words, it can be interpreted that history has a various functions for life. As *Historia Vitae Magistra* revealed meaningfully that "history provides wisdom". A more general understanding is "history is the teacher of life". The plural of Indonesian nation needs a ideological unifier, Pancasila was born as the basis of state and had provided solutions to various inconveniences of Indonesia as a plural nation. History shows that each of rebellions and discordance action by some groups of people, the values of Pancasila is a way to solve various national problems. Forming the character of the Pancasila in the life of the nation and state has fostered a spirit of nationalism for all the Indonesian, the motto of *Bhineka Tunggal Ika* (unity in diversity) becomes the guideline in uniting the society regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, language, tradition-culture. This condition makes Indonesia in a stable position in the state, because stability in the state is very much needed in welcoming development to realize prosperity for all the people of Indonesia.

**KEYWORDS:** independence, national development, sovereignty, Pancasila, nationalism

## I. INTRODUCTION

The existence of the Armed Forces cannot be denied in guarding the stability of the state, namely in the framework of national defense. The main function of national defense is to maintain the sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as the safety of the nation against threats both from outside and inside of the country. State sovereignty is a matter of principle to be maintained as an independent nation, thus, the component of the armed forces and the people is an ideal defense organization for Indonesia. Article 30 of the 1945 Constitution has emphasized the rights and obligations of each people to participate in the country's defense and security effort, where the armed forces are the main force and the people as the supporting force. The national defense and economic development of a nation must be linearly drawn, because those cannot be separated from one another [1]. There is no a country in the world has been able to achieve the success economic development while the country is unable to maintain the stability and security [2].

The Indonesian people chose diplomacy strategy in fighting for their independence, international aspects became the consideration of the nation's founders in choosing this independence strategy. A recognition from another country is important to obtain in declaring the independence of a nation, a diplomacy strategy is believed to be easier to get recognition from nations for the independence that has been proclaimed by Indonesia. Equality and cooperation with other countries in the world becomes a possible for the Indonesian, if they have been received the recognition of independence [3]. When the proclamation momentum of Indonesian

independence was proclaimed, it was a manifestation of their independence that they succeeded in achieving their freedom from the colonizer.

## **II. INDEPENDENCE BECOMES STATE SOVEREIGNTY**

Independence is an effort to free themselves from colonial intervention, this is the initial capital of a nation to achieve their goals in forming a country [4]. The history records that during the Dutch colonial era, the practice of humanitarianism toward Indonesian, oppression, duping, and injustice were a normal spectacle performed by the colonizer [5]. Therefore, the Indonesian independence is expected and reflected in the opening of the 1945 Constitution which reads: "to advance public welfare, educate the life of the nation, and participate in carrying out world order based on freedom of servant peace and social justice". Every country would not compromise to any party regarding a matter of sovereignty, this has become the principle of an independence [5]. A country's sovereignty is reflected in the ability to maintain its territorial boundaries and the safety of the people. Within the scope of the sovereign territory, the national interest of a country will be at stake [6]. Therefore, to stake the national interests, a country will risk themselves from all threats both from outside and within the country [4].

The theory of state sovereignty (*staats-sovereiniteit*) reveals that the highest power in the state and the state governs the lives of its members [7]. A sovereign state protects the people, especially weak people. One of the elements or conditions that must be fulfilled for the formation of a country is sovereign or sovereign government [8]. The term of sovereignty was first introduced by a French national expert named Jean Bodin (1539-1596). According to Jean Bodin, sovereignty is the highest power in a country. This sovereignty is single, original, and cannot be divided. Single means that there is only one supreme power, so that this power cannot be divided. Original means that the power does not not born from other powers. Whereas eternal means that state power continues uninterruptedly [5].

## **III. SOVEREIGNTY ASPECTS**

In the basic principle of state sovereignty, a sovereign state exercises the jurisdiction / authority within the country's territory. As Oppenheim-Lauterpacht opinion, "As all persons and things within the territory of the state is full under its territorial supremacy, each state has jurisdiction over them" [6]. Therefore, sovereignty and jurisdiction have close relation [9]. Sovereignty is the highest power of a country that is independent or it is not subject to the authority of another country. Sovereignty basically contains two aspects:

1. Internal aspects, namely the supreme power to regulate everything that exists or occurs within the boundaries of the region [10].
2. External aspects, namely the highest power to establish relations with members of the international community and regulate everything that happens outside the country's territory and it still has related to the country's interests [11].

Based on the sovereignty, the rights, powers or authority of the state can be functioned to regulate internal and external problems [12]. In addition, form the sovereignty, the state jurisdiction is derived or born. With rights, power, and authority or with that jurisdiction, a country regulates in more detail the regulation to face the problem so that the country can achieve the goal [13]. Thus it can be concluded that only a sovereign state can have jurisdiction according to international law [7].

With the sovereignty of the state, surely the state has a goal in realizing the welfare of the people. This will refer to the economic system adopted in the administration of the country [14]. The sovereignty of a country to determine economic activity in the jurisdiction has long been accepted in international law [8].

This permanent sovereignty is guaranteed to be implemented in UN General Assembly Resolution (PBB) No. 3281 (XXIX) December 12, 1974 concerning the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of State. Article 2 (1) This resolution states "Every State has full and permanent freedom of sovereignty, including possession, use and disposal, over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activities"

The concept of permanent state sovereignty, which in this resolution, relates to the natural resources and economic activities, actually extends state sovereignty granted by UN General Assembly Resolution No. 1803 (XVII) of 1962 which only covered matters relating to natural resources. Because this expansion also includes the country's sovereign right to regulate economic activities in its territorial territory, this resolution can be a justification for host countries to limit the economic activities of foreign people and foreign companies in their jurisdictions [15].

As a sovereign country, Indonesia is able to carry out its jurisdiction in the territories that are geographically different from most countries in the world [16]. As an archipelago with a variety of occupation models from race, religion, ethnicity, language, and culture, Indonesia has diverse characteristics, so that Indonesia will not be able to carry out the inherent sovereignty without a nationalism frame that unites the souls of the people [17]. Nationalism is a form of loyalty of the people of Indonesia to see Indonesia as a unified fully, so that there is no longer a difference between the various multi-cultures that exist in the life of the nation and state [9].

Elie Kedourie gave an expression of nationalism that nationalism is a group of people who deserve to enjoy a certain government that they have exclusively and legitimately to carry out state power and state community organizations [18]. Nationalism is a doctrine that basically contains the notion of humanity that spread out into the people in which a nation is known for certain characteristics that can be affirmed and the type of legitimacy of the government is the national government itself [10].

#### **IV. THE ATTITUDE AND MANIFESTATION OF NATIONALISM**

The attitude and manifestation of nationalism is the freedom of the nation to determine its own destiny [19]. Because a nation that lives in the colonial realm feels the bitterness of humiliation and undermines the dignity of humanity [20]. Thus, nationalism aims at the life of a free nation, this is reflected in the opening of the 1945 Constitution which reads: "By the grace of Allah Almighty and by being encouraged by noble desires, so that a free national life, the people of Indonesia declare hereby its independence".

The layman's meaning of a nation seizing its independence rights is a momentum where a nation succeeds in achieving the freedom from foreign colonialism [21]. However, the important meaning of independence is how the state can create prosperity, justice, and peace for all people. Because the people are an important element of a country, the state is obliged to free them [22]. Therefore, the state must be able to provide an absolute and essential independence for all people, in accordance with the true purpose of independence [11].

The result of independence is sovereignty for Indonesia, the existence of sovereignty and the spirit of nationalism that grows and roots in the soul of people will provide extraordinary energy in running a governmental organization [23]. Besides, the geographical situation of Indonesia is rich of natural resources, the cultured population in pluralism and has an armed force as a security and social power force that grows from the people along with the people. This condition must be able to be a chance for the government to bring Indonesia into a nation that should be reckoned with by other nations in the world, because the capital aspect to develop Indonesia for a better direction is sufficient if the above elements can be exploited and well managed in the life of the nation and state [12].

Independence is a golden bridge which is the gateway to a just and prosperous society, this sentence can be interpreted that independence is not the end of the struggle. Independence for the people of Indonesia and as a first step in National Development. Freedom of marriage is the culmination of the struggle against the invaders, but at this time we as children of the nation must raise the stick of independence that has been given by the heroes to guard. The effort to maintain independence is also an effort to develop the national development of the Indonesian people. It is our duty to realize a just and prosperous society in accordance with the mandate of the constitution [13].

Symbolic and normative matters about the meaning of an independence are not the right thing to put forward at this time. We should be able to find a movement where the movement can be a supporter that inspires all elements of the nation, to realize a nation that is truly independent from "backwardness". Freedom from poverty and ignorance which is currently still a problem faced by the Indonesian people. It is not only formalist independence which is only seen as normative [14].

At least, we can still hear optimistic encouragement from our minds, that someday Indonesia will return to the true direction of the country's goals. Therefore, the socialization of this reality seems to be carried out to be indoctrinated into all elements of the nation, including the people. Awareness of all elements of this nation is very important so that the path that must be traversed by this nation is truly in accordance with the direction of the country's goals. Starting from the progress of civil society, economic progress, the quality of good state administrators, in order to realize an ideal state in accordance with the goals of the nation's founders, and of course the hopes of all elements of the Indonesian which have long been outlined [15].

Indonesian have passed the periods of struggle to fill independence within 70 years old when this writing is made. During this time many joys and sorrows have been felt. 70 years is not a young age anymore, it's been half a century more. According to age measurements, humans are very mature or may be old and old enough [24]. A great nation must be able to reread the history and make it as the basis of behavior. History is the best record to reflect on where this country will be taken. History is the foundation in building a nation. The history

of injustice and colonialism of our nation should open the eyes of our hearts that this nation must be built on the strength of humanity and justice.

## V. CONCLUSION

In interpreting the history of independence, it should not be seen in the old ways, namely seeing independence as a historical myth of the warriors. This myths tend to fascinate the Indonesian people with mere physical strength, while independence can also be said as a fruit of thought. This does not deny and reduce the services of our heroes who have fought without string attached to risking their lives in seizing independence. State orientation must be reorganized to respond quickly to global changes, very interesting what was conveyed by a blog's by Yudhim in the article "The Meaning of Independence", stated that related to the globalization of technology has reduced the sovereignty of personal, community, and even the state into the system that was built in a virtual framework. This virtual world makes sovereignty swallowed up by technological systems and becomes a tool to validate modernization. Modernity, wherever practiced, has made the togetherness and solidarity that has been binding a nation so far. Independence should be able to make this nation a creative nation by creating opportunities to build strategic economic power. The balance of power in global politics is an opportunity for the Indonesian people to be able to determine economic choices which should be based on the interests of society. The most important starting point is for the interests of the wider community, thus economic policy must protect its people rather than the political interests of neoliberalism whose economic policy direction is not linear with the great interests of the Indonesian people, namely to build an economy based on the interests of all the people of Indonesia.

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