

## Conflict Resolution after Village Head Election in Jeneponto Regency (Legal and Sociological Review)

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**Abstract.** Background. The research problem is that there was a post-village election conflict in Batujala Village, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency. The aim of the research is to analyze the conflict resolution that was carried out after the election of the village head in Jeneponto Regency. Research methods. This research uses mixed qualitative and quantitative research methods, namely mixed methods concurrent embedded, simultaneously or together but with different weights. Analysis of research data using qualitative data analysis and quantitative data. For qualitative through data reduction, data display and drawing conclusions, while for quantitative data through questionnaire verification, tabulation of questionnaire data and the percentage of questionnaire data. Research result. Conflict resolution after the village head election in Jeneponto Regency was carried out in several ways, namely dominating (emphasizing) assisted by the police, making integrative efforts (together) by summoning the two conflicting parties and compromising to get an agreement between the two conflicting parties. Post-election village head conflicts can be resolved through dominance, integrative and compromise conflict resolution.

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**Keywords:** *Resolution; Conflict; Election; Village*

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Villages are legal community units that have territorial boundaries that are authorized to regulate and manage government affairs, local community interests based on community initiatives, origin rights, and/or traditional rights that are recognized and respected within the system of government of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (Article 1 Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages).

In order for development in the village to be carried out and run smoothly, it is necessary to have a government capable of carrying out development programs at the

lowest level, namely the village or *kelurahan*. In accordance with Law number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government, according to this Law Village Government is the lowest level of Government directly responsible to the Camat who has the task of carrying out government, development, and other community tasks (Sundari, 2012).

However, based on the observations of researchers, there have been various frauds that have arisen accompanying the Village Head Election so far, among others due to the presence of prospective candidates "drop-dropan" from above, prospective candidates

violating the requirements set by the Laws, fraud in citizen registration, the election process and the vote count that was not honest and fair, as well as the election committee that acted unfairly and sided with one of the candidates, some of these issues often trigger chaos in the Village Head Election, for village communities. The position of Village Head is a symbol of one's social status in society (Minahasa, 2010).

Initial observations of the implementation of the Batujala Village Head Election, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency, Monday 15 November 2021 were attended by 3 (three) candidate Village Heads, namely:

1. Sukirman, obtained 1,200 votes.
2. Arnol Syam, received 700 votes.
3. Muhiddin, obtaining 800 votes.

In the election for the Head of Batujala Village, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency, the level of community participation was quite high, with 2,700 (87.75%) voters exercising their right to vote out of the 2,700 total voters, from the results of the vote count Candidate for Village Head Serial Number 1 (one) Sukirman, received the most votes with a total of 1,200 (40%) votes and designated as the elected Village Head Candidate, in general the implementation of the Batujala Village Head Election went in an orderly, conducive, safe and smooth manner, but Serial Number 2 (two) Arnol Syam filed an objection to the results of the vote count at TPS XI (Eleven)

with the consideration that there was suspicion of fraud in determining whether or not the ballots were valid for one of the Village Head candidates, the reading of the ballots was not thorough and in a hurry so that witnesses and the public who witnessed the ballots did not pay close attention to whether the vote was valid or not, whether there was changes in the results of the validity of the ballots in the midst of the implementation of the vote count of 18 votes.

The results of the initial calculation of the 18 ballots declared invalid were still changed to become valid. Even though at the same time at the Batujala Village Hall, votes were being counted at other polling stations. The change in the validity of the 18 ballots at TPS XI was very influential and changed the overall counting results in Batujala Village, the above description was the reason Arnol Syam filed an objection to the Village Head Election Committee on the results of the vote count for the Batujala Village Head Election, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency.

The problem that will be examined is the presence of several violations in the Village Head Election, causing disputes in the Village Head Election, as explained in Law no. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, it is stated that if there is a dispute over the election of the Village Head, the Regent is given authority to resolve disputes over the Village Head Election (Pilkades) which can disrupt democracy in Indonesia.

One of the challenges that needs to be researched is post-conflict village head election conflict resolution in a sociological and legal review. This research is important to do to find solutions to resolve conflicts that occurred in village head elections that occurred in Jenepono Regency.

Various research results have been carried out related to the existence of village power, domination and legitimacy, which have been studied by several researchers, namely the role of *botoh* in village head elections (Akbar & Aribowo, 2019), the legitimacy of elected village heads (Maryam J & Saputra, 2021), the power of village heads (Ramly, 2020) and domination of power in village head elections (Wance & Djae, 2019).

Village power, domination and legitimacy gave birth to social conflict embryos as in the results of research on the dynamics of Rural Politics in Village Head Elections (Rohmawati, 2013), Democracy Leads to Conflict - Post-Village Head Election Social Conflict (Usman & Marzaman, 2019), social conflict in elections village heads (Widayanti et al., 2019), Effects of Village Political Contest on Ahmadiyah Conflict (Alkawy, 2020) and Potential Disturbances of Peace and Public Order in Elections for Village Heads and Regional Head Elections (Suhendi, 2020).

So it requires conflict resolution to resolve conflicts resulting from village head elections such as Social Conflict Resolution

from the Perspective of Islamic Law and Customary Law in Head Elections (Fuadi, 2020), The Role of Village Heads in Resolving Inter-Community Conflicts Based on Government Regulation Number 2 of 2015 (Ahmad & Ongki, 2019), Conflict Management in Village Head Elections (Taufik, 2018), Conflict Resolution Efforts, *Pilkades* Conflict Resolution (Haya, 2020), legal remedies in resolving disputes over village head election results (Sul-toni, 2019), resolution of disputes over village head election results (FN, 2020), Basics of Conflict and Conflict Resolution Models (Sulaeman, 2010) and Conflict Resolution in Regional Head Elections (Loilatu, 2011).

However, no one has examined post-conflict village head election conflict resolution in a sociological and legal review. So that this research has a novelty or research novelty in studying post-conflict village election conflicts.

## RESEARCH METHODS

The research design uses mixed qualitative and quantitative research methods, namely mixed concurrent embedded methods, simultaneously or together but with different weights. Informants amounted to 20 informants, while the research respondents amounted to 50 respondents. The data collection techniques used were questionnaires, direct observation, guided interviews and documentation (Manab, 2015).

Qualitative data analysis was carried out through reduction, display and drawing conclusions (Suardi, 2023), while quantitative data was carried out through verification, tabulation and percentages. The validity of qualitative data uses triangulation of sources and methods (Manab, 2015), while quantitative data uses reliability tests (accuracy) and validity tests (correct).

The stages of the research were carried out in three stages, namely the initial stage, the process stage and the output stage. In the initial stage, the researcher conducted a post-conflict village head election conflict resolution study in sociology and legal review, then at the research process stage, the researcher collected qualitative data and quantitative data using interviews, observation, documentation and questionnaires. Analysis of research data using qualitative data analysis and quantitative data. For qualitative through data reduction, data display and drawing conclusions, while for quantitative data through questionnaire verification, tabulation of questionnaire data and the percentage of questionnaire data. The data that has been analyzed is then interpreted and presented in the form of narratives, tables or diagrams. Outcomes to be achieved in post-conflict village head election conflict resolution research in a sociological and legal review.

## DISCUSSION

Conflict resolution after the village head election in Batujala Village, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency was carried out by mediation between the two conflicting camps. Mediation steps are carried out by:

### Domination (Emphasis)

There was domination (emphasis), namely securing several people who became provocateurs and asking for help from one company of Brimob to carry out security for the road which was blocked by mass residents supporting the candidate for Batujala Village, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency who lost, even Mobile Brigade will give warning shots if people are anarchists. Meanwhile, the Village Party has tried in such a way as to appease the masses of supporters of the losing village head candidate, one form of effort being made is coordinating with the police and the TNI so that they can safeguard residents who are frontal against the results that have been determined by the Batujala village head election committee, Bontoramba District, District Jeneponto.

Forms of efforts to suppress the conflict that occurred by deploying security forces to the location of the conflict. This was done to anticipate the anarchism of the masses of supporters of the village head candidate who lost as a result of not accepting that the candidate had lost during the election. Domination is an effort to resolve conflicts in

society (Wance & Ibrahim, 2019); (Loilatu, 2011); (Siswanto, 2017); (Sulaeman, 2010).

Based on the results of the questionnaire that the researcher gave to the respondents related to domination (emphasis), namely:

Table 1 Domination Efforts (Emphasis) as a solution to village election conflicts.

No	Category	Frequency	%
1.	Really agree	3	34,1%
2.	Agree	4	44,6%
3.	Don't agree	2	18,9%
4.	Strongly disagree	1	1,4%
Total		10	100 %

Source: 2023 data processing results.

Based on table 1, the conflicting parties strongly agree with the domination (emphasis) from the government and the police as much as 34.1%, 44.6% agree that there is domination (emphasis) from the government and the police, 18.9% disagree with the domination (emphasis) from the government and the police and 1.4% strongly disagreed with the dominance (emphasis) from the government and the police.

In essence, there is synergy between the government, the police and the community in order to create security and order so that prolonged conflicts do not occur.

**Integrative (Together)**

Efforts have been made to prevent prolonged conflict by summoning the two groups involved in the conflict and unifying the perceptions between the two groups, such as the sub-district government holding meetings between the two groups involved in

the conflict, which became a forum for conflicting people to express their aspirations, so that disputes What happened was able to be resolved jointly between the District government and the two parties to the conflict.

The parties to the conflict also gave their greatest appreciation to the government for the efforts to resolve the conflict by way of deliberation, sitting together to find solutions to every problem they faced, including the problem of conflict in Batujala Village, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency. This is consistent with the characteristics of the Indonesian people who have always considered deliberation as part of the nation's culture, including the people of Batujala Village, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency. So that the Village Head Election is a process that must be secured from various forms of threats, especially fraud that can damage the democratic process in village head elections.

The government does not only direct but has its own strategy to reduce conflict and make the public aware that there is no fraud committed by the government and officials involved in the election process for the Head of Batujala Village, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency, besides that the District government also plays an active role in trying to to create peace between the two conflicting parties. Deliberation is one way to overcome social conflict in society (Loilatu, 2011);

(Susanto, 2019); (Sulaeman, 2010); (Elephants et al., 2022); (Taufik, 2018).

Based on the results of the questionnaire that the researchers gave to the respondents related to integrative efforts (together), namely:

Table 2 Integrative (together) efforts as a solution to village election conflicts.

No	Category	Frequency	%
1.	Really agree	4	44,6
2.	Agree	3	34,1
3.	Don't agree	2	18,9
4.	Strongly disagree	1	1,4
Total		10	100%

Source: 2023 data processing results.

Based on table 2 the conflicting parties strongly agreed with the government's efforts to deliberate as much as 44.6%, 34.1% agreed that there were government efforts to deliberate, 18.9% disagreed with the government's efforts to deliberate and 1.4% strongly disagreed government efforts to negotiate.

Deliberation by sitting together is a forum for conflicting communities to exchange ideas and end the conflict that occurred as a result of the election of the village head of Batujala, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency.

**Compromise**

There is an effort by the conflicting parties to reach an agreement between the two parties who understand each other as an effort to create post-conflict peace by rectifying misunderstandings and offering peace because

the conflicting parties also consider that the conflict that occurs is the result of actors who carried out provocations, especially those who were disappointed because of the defeat in the battle for the election of the village head of Batujala, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency. The village community in general was not equipped with good political education after the village head election so that the community could accept whatever the outcome of the Batujala election, Bontoramba District, Jeneponto Regency.

The government's role in ending the conflict that occurred in Batujala Village, Jeneponto Regency, is a form of concern from the government for its people. This effort was carried out by giving directions to the community to immediately make peace because the problems that occurred were a form of propaganda carried out by irresponsible parties. Village head election is an arena of democratic political contestation which is marked by the mobilization of various resources (capital) of power. In addition, there is the participation of community leaders in an effort to create peace by compromising parties who are influential in the conflict, so that the entire community of Batujala Village, Jeneponto Regency, feels peace after the conflict.

Political education for the community is an important thing to do to anticipate conflict after the election of the village head. So that the community can accept whoever is elected

as the village head because basically the most important thing is not winning or losing, but community rights and village development that are most important. Compromise is one way to overcome social conflict in society (Amirullah, 2022); (Loilatu, 2011); (Fuadi, 2020); (Haya, 2020); (Fuadi, 2020); (Siswanto, 2017); (Taufik, 2018).

Table 3. Attempts to compromise on village election conflict solutions.

No.	Category	Frequenc	%
1.	Really agree	3	34,1
2.	Agree	4	44,6
3.	Don't agree	3	34,1
4.	Strongly disagree	0	0
Total		10	100%

Source: 2023 data processing results.

Based on table 2, the conflicting parties strongly agreed with the community's efforts to accept the results of the village head election as much as 34.1%, 44.6% agreed that there were efforts from the community to accept the village head election results, 34.1% disagreed with the community's efforts to accept village head elections.

The involvement of the village head candidate to organize his mass is very important to avoid prolonged post-election conflict, by providing understanding to members of the community who support him not to act anarchistically towards the election results. The conflict that occurred was the result of the village head election which was considered by one of the village head candidates to have been fraudulent in the

election process resulting in conflict between fellow candidate supporters. Conflict is a social dynamic in people's lives that will continue to exist as long as society exists.

## CONCLUSION

Conflict resolution after the village head election in Jeneponto Regency was carried out in several ways, namely dominating (emphasizing) assisted by the police, making integrative efforts (together) by summoning the two conflicting parties and compromising to get an agreement between the two conflicting parties. Post-election village head conflicts can be resolved through dominance, integrative and compromise conflict resolution.

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