



Analysis Study Of Government System Structure And Dynamics Indonesia And Malaysia

Karmanis¹, Karjono², dan Sugiyanto³

^{1,3}Fisip Untag Semarang, Indonesia

²Politeknik bumi Akpelni, Indonesia

asay_angel@yahoo.com¹, karjono@akpelni.ac.id², sugiyanto_2010@yahoo.co.id³

Abstract: Government institutions have an important role in maintaining state stability, but often separatist conflicts arise due to dissatisfaction with a government system that is considered unfair. This research aims to examine the structure and dynamics of the government systems of Indonesia and Malaysia, which adhere to a presidential system, and Malaysia, which adhere to a constitutional monarchy system, so as to provide a comprehensive understanding of political dynamics in Southeast Asia. The research method uses a qualitative descriptive approach with literature study to understand the structure and dynamics of the Indonesian and Malaysian government systems. The research results show that Indonesia has a presidential system of government with strong executive power, while Malaysia has a constitutional-monarchical system with a complex division of power between the prime minister and the states. Although both share historical and cultural similarities, differences in their governmental structures lead to different strengths and weaknesses in the exercise of executive power and the relationship between heads of state and heads of government. In conclusion, although Indonesia and Malaysia have historical and cultural similarities, differences in their government systems result in different dynamics in the exercise of executive power and the relationship between the head of state and head of government. Understanding these differences helps clarify the challenges and opportunities faced by both countries in building and strengthening their governance systems in accordance with the needs and dynamics of their societies. Through this research, it is hoped that it can provide a deeper understanding of the structure and dynamics of the government systems of the two countries, as well as their implications.

Keywords: Indonesia, Malaysia, Government Structure and Dynamics

1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia and Malaysia are located in Southeast Asia, the locations of these two countries are close to each other, in fact Malaysia's geographical position borders directly on Indonesia. These two countries are both members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Apart from that, Indonesia and Malaysia also have bilateral cooperation. Malaysia is a country that adheres to a federal government system consisting of a federal government and state governments, adhering to a democratic monarchical political system. Malaysia is a developing democracy with a racially, culturally, linguistically and religiously diverse population. Malaysia has a constitution based on a parliamentary system of government. In general, the Malaysian government follows the constitution adopted by the British, called the Federal Constitution.

Indonesia is a single country (republic) and its political system consists of a central government and autonomous regions. Each country has internal sovereignty over its own territory and is able to carry out its national life independently, except in matters of foreign relations, finance (fiscal and monetary systems), and the military. As a Dutch colony,

Indonesia has long adhered to the principles of constitutional democracy. The differences in the systems above influence differences in the powers of the prime minister. If you look at the government system, Malaysia adheres to a parliamentary system of government. Meanwhile, Indonesia adheres to a presidential system of government. Based on this information, the author wants to explain the structure and dynamics of the Indonesian and Malaysian government systems.

2. METHODS

The aim of this research is to describe and analyze the structure and dynamics of the Indonesian and Malaysian government systems. This research uses a qualitative descriptive research method that prioritizes library research. The approach to this research method involves collecting reference material from books, journals, guidelines and other relevant sources. So in this research we carried out an analysis of data from various literacy sources and then processed it in depth to ensure the relationship between the various topics discussed

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The following is a comparison between the governments of Indonesia and Malaysia as follows:

Government system:

Indonesia, a presidential government system with separation of powers between the executive, legislative and legislature. The presidential system is a system of government where the president is the head of state and head of government. This makes the president's position very safe. In countries with authoritarian systems, the status of leaders other than the president is unknown. (Tundjung Herning Sitabuana: 2020; 97). Indonesia's presidential political system places the president between official and government positions. The president is the head of state and head of government. The presidential system in Indonesia has several characteristics that are different from the parliamentary system, such as a clearer separation of powers and the ability to separate the head of state from the head of government. However, in reality, the Indonesian government system includes presidential and parliamentary aspects. Indonesia's government system can also be classified as a mixed system. This is a special system that describes the relationship between the highest levels of government funding in a country. This mixed system is based on the idea that the government system is a unique system that reflects the relationships between countries with the most advanced economies. In a presidential government system, there is a clear separation between

the legislative institution (parliament), the executive institution and the judiciary institution. The president is the head of state and chief executive. The President is not elected by Congress. Because the president and Congress are both directly elected by the people through parliamentary elections, the president is not responsible to Congress, so Congress cannot overthrow the president and his cabinet. On the other hand, the president cannot dissolve Congress.

Indonesia is a republic with a presidential system of government. The president is the head of state and head of government who is directly elected by the people for a five-year term. Indonesia has a republican form of government and a unitary state, as stated in Article 1 Paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution, which reads: "The Indonesian state is a unitary state, in the form of a republic." In its government system, Indonesia adheres to a presidential system of government. This is stated in Article 4 Paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution, which reads: "The President of the Republic of Indonesia holds governmental powers according to the Constitution" The government system in Indonesia is run by the people directly electing the president and vice president through general elections. The president serves for five years and after that can be re-elected for only one term. The President serves as Head of State and as Head of Government.

Malaysia, Geographically, this former British colony consists of two regions located on the peninsula and islands bordering Kalimantan, known as West Malaysia and East Malaysia. West and East Malaysia are separated by Indonesian territory, namely the Natuna Islands in the South China Sea. Malaysia borders Brunei, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines. This country is located near the equator and has a tropical climate. The Malaysian government system is a democratic system that prioritizes the sovereignty and freedom of the people. Malaysia is a country that practices a democratic system with a focus on the sovereignty and freedom of the people who have an important role in choosing the kingdom in this country. (Redwan, M. A. F. M., & Besar, J. A.; 2022 : 1–14.)

The country adheres to a political system known as the Westminster system, which consists of the Yang di-Pertuan Agung (Head of State), the State Council (Senate) and the Dewan Rakyat (House of Representatives). The Yang di-Pertuan Agung is a constitutional monarch who is elected for five years. The head of state is the Yang di-Pertuan Agung and he elects the Governing Council for five years, and if he wishes to resign at any time, the Yang di-Pertuan Agung must prepare a letter of resignation and sign it himself and show it to the advisory council - the king or the advisory council can remove him from office). (Holidi, A., Nadir, Gunawan, A., & Wardani, W. Y. ;2003: 165–180.

States that do not have hereditary rulers in Malaysia, such as Penang, Malacca, Sabah, and Sarawak, have governors appointed by the Yang di-Pertuan Agung as heads of state and do not participate in the election of the Yang di-Pertuan Agung. There are two types of Congress members: elected members of the National Assembly and elected members of the Yang di-Pertuan Agung. The term of office of members is three years, and the term of office of each member is a maximum of two (six) years. On the other hand, the Dewan Rakyat or People's Representative Council has a total of 222 members who are elected through general elections which are held every five years. The Malaysian parliamentary model does not have supreme power; Courts can overturn any action that violates the federal constitution. (Mubarak: 2021;142)

Executive power in the Malaysian government is in the hands of the prime minister. The cabinet's duties are responsible to the bicameral legislative body consisting of the state council and the people. The pertuan Agung is appointed by the prime minister. The federal government in Malaysia covers foreign affairs, defense, internal security, justice, finance, industry, trade, communications and transportation. Jurisdiction is vested in the Federal Court. Judicial power is vested in the High Court under the jurisdiction of the Federal Court. There is a Sessions Court and a Magistrate's Court attached to the High Court. (Sunarso: 2012; 21).

Malaysia adheres to a parliamentary system of government. This system of government is based on the British Westminster model. This government system is headed by the Yang Dipertuan Agung as Head of State. State Council or Senate as well as the People's Council or House of Representatives. In Articles 32 and 40 of the Malaysian Federal Constitution, it is written that the Yang Dipertuan Agung is a constitutional king who is elected to serve for five years. The Dipertuan Agung and Ratu (Raja Permaisuri Agung) are elected by the hereditary rulers of the nine sultanates in Malaysia or better known as the Conference of Ruler. The Malaysian Head of State or Yang Dipertuan Agung has the authority to appoint the Prime Minister as Head of Government

Government Structure:

Indonesia, Consists of three branches of government: executive (President), legislative (DPR – People's Representative Council), and judiciary (Supreme Court). Malaysia, Has a similar structure with three branches of government, but with the presence of a monarchy which is an important part of the government structure.

Parliament: Indonesia The House of Representatives is a national level legislative institution that has the authority to make laws. Malaysia, the Malaysian Parliament consists of two bodies: the Dewan Rakyat (House of Representatives) and the State Council (Senate).

Policy and Politics: Indonesia has a diverse political history with many active political parties. The political system tends to be more pluralistic. Malaysia, traditionally dominated by a coalition of the largest political parties, namely Barisan Nasional (formerly), and now Pakatan Harapan and others. There is also an aspect of political pluralism in their democratic framework.

Ethnic and Cultural Diversity: Indonesia, a country with enormous ethnic, cultural and religious diversity. There are more than 300 ethnic groups and a variety of religions and cultures. Malaysia, Also has significant ethnic, cultural and religious diversity. Consists of three main ethnic groups: Malays, Chinese, and Indians, with various other ethnic groups and beliefs.

Economy: Indonesia, Has a diversified economy with main sectors such as agriculture, mining, manufacturing and services. Malaysia, its economy is more focused on the manufacturing, agricultural and oil and gas industries.

Despite differences in government systems, these two countries have a number of similarities such as cultural and ethnic diversity, as well as great economic challenges and potential. Both also have a focus on economic and social development as part of their government agenda.

Differences In Indonesian And Malaysian Government Systems

The difference between the Indonesian government system and the Malaysian government system. In a country, there are different government systems, depending on the socio-cultural conditions of its citizens and this is usually regulated in the country's constitution. Indonesia also has a constitution, namely the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. At the beginning of Indonesian independence on 18 August 1945, the Indonesian government system was a presidential government system, this is reflected in Article 4 paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution which states that the President of the Republic of Indonesia has government powers. Therefore, the president is not only head of state, but also head of government. (Indonesia, P. P. P. and K. M. K. R.: 2016;14). Therefore, the wave of demands for change in 1998 was a form of the need for constitutional change in Indonesia. The role of state institutions such as the People's Representative Council (DPR) must be strengthened to create responsive and non-binding legal products that of course follow the

wishes of the community. According to Locke, the functions of state power are legislative functions, executive functions, and federal functions. According to John Locke's thoughts, Montesquieu divided state power into three branches, namely: (1) Legislative power as law maker; (2) Executive power to enforce the law. (3) Judicial or judicial power.

Malaysia officially joined ASEAN on August 8 1967. Malaysia has a cabinet-style government led by a king with the title "Yang di-Pertuan Agung" as head of state. The Malaysian government is led by a "prime minister" who is elected every six years by a majority of members of parliament. Therefore, Malaysia's form of government can also be said to be a constitutional monarchy. Yang di-Pertuan Agung is the official title of Malaysia's head of state. Its full official name is Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agung. As Malaysia is a constitutional monarchy, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's role is largely ceremonial.

The constitution clearly states that executive power, theoretically vested in the head of state, is exercised by a cabinet headed by the prime minister or a council of ministers. A parliamentary cabinet system is a political system in which parliament plays an important role in government. In this case, parliament has the right to appoint the prime minister and can also overthrow the government through a vote of no confidence.

In contrast to the presidential system, the president and prime minister can run the government in a parliamentary system. In a presidential system, the president has the power to lead the government, but in a parliamentary system, the president is only a symbolic head of state. Parliamentary systems are characterized by the executive's dependence on direct or indirect support from parliament or the legislature, often expressed through persuasive vetoes. Therefore, there is no clear separation of powers between the executive branch and the legislative branch, leading to criticism from some who feel there is a lack of checks and balances found in a presidential republic (Marwiyah: 2023; 55).

The government systems of Indonesia and Malaysia do have differences. The following are the differences between the Indonesian and Malaysian government systems.

Difference	Indonesia	Malaysia
Sistem pemerintahan Government system	Presidential system of government	Parliamentary system of government
Executive	President is the Head of State and Head of Government.	The Prime Minister is the power holder, organizer and driving force of the government.

Legislature	People's Representative Council's role is to make laws with the approval of the president of the State	Council and the People's Council. These two institutions play a role in making laws
Kepala Negara Head of state	The President has no powers in matters of legislation and justice	The Dipertuan Agong has powers in the areas of executive, legislation, justice, maintenance of the Islamic religion and state security
Form of country	Indonesia is a unitary country	Malaysia has a federal and state form that adheres to a democratic monarchy system of government

Similarities between Indonesia's Government System and Malaysia

Historically, before the formation of two countries called "Indonesia" (1945) and now Malaysia (1957), relations between the two countries were relatively close. Both countries have the same historical, linguistic, religious and cultural heritage. In Indonesia, the legal system is still largely influenced by modern laws brought by European countries. The people of both countries come from the same ethnic groups and most have close kinship ties, especially between the people of Sumatra and Malaya.

During the heyday of great kingdoms such as Srivijaya, Majapahit and Malacca, the regions of Indonesia and Malaysia were once under the rule of these kingdoms. There are several important similarities in the early relations between the two countries. These similarities can be seen, among other things, in terms of race, language, religion, culture, profession. In terms of ethnicity, the native people of Tanah Melayu and Indonesia generally come from the same tribe, namely the Mongoloid group from Southern China (Yunan). They arrived in Southeast Asia around 2500 BC. According to the theory of Dutch anthropologist P. Sarasin, Malaysians arrived in Southeast Asia in two waves. The first wave was called the Proto Malay group and the second group was called Deutro Malay. The difference between the arrival of the Proto-Malay and Deutero-Malay groups is 2000 years (Vlekkessa, 1967: 9-10). The Proto-Malays arrived in Southeast Asia around 2500 BC. and brought Neolithic culture with them. Meanwhile, the Deutro-Malays came around 300 BC. and brought iron and bronze culture to the Southeast Asian region.

4. CONCLUSION

This research aims to gain in-depth insight into the structure and dynamics of the Indonesian government system and the Malaysian government system. Indonesia and Malaysia in implementing state practices. Indonesia and Malaysia both adhere to democratic principles. By having the same principles, it can be said that Indonesia and Malaysia have the same goal, namely the welfare of their population. With various background incidents highlighted, serious studies in Indonesia and Malaysia always present unique things. From a historical perspective, we can see that relations between the people of Indonesia and Malaysia have existed for a long time, giving rise to several cultural similarities between Indonesia and Malaysia. More specifically, parts of Malaysian culture are part of Indonesian culture, and parts of Indonesian culture are part of Malaysian culture. In fact, even though they are geographically close together, a number of differences always emerge between the two. Over time, controversies, tensions and problems have colored the relationship between the two countries since they have established a parallel relationship with similar views on conventions and harmonious closeness based on their respective interests.

Each government system adopted by the two countries each has its advantages and disadvantages. Malaysia (Prime Minister) as head of government has a weakness, namely, the power that the prime minister has is not the same as the power that is also given to the states. and the advantages of this system are that the prime minister is more focused on running the government in his federal state. Meanwhile, there is a presidential system in Indonesia. The drawback of this system is that the President cannot forcefully dissolve parliament. The advantage of this system is that the president has relatively powerful executive powers because the president has two positions at once, namely, head of state and head of government. Regardless of the differences or similarities, both countries have their respective advantages and disadvantages. Of course both countries have tried to provide protection and services to their citizens in accordance with their respective social, political and economic contexts. This is related to their commitment to improving welfare and justice for all residents.

Historical and cultural similarities do not guarantee the creation of harmony in the procedures for exercising executive power in the two countries. Understanding these differences helps clarify the challenges and opportunities faced by both countries in building and strengthening their governance systems in accordance with the needs and dynamics of their societies

REFERENCES

- Holidi, A., Nadir, Gunawan, A., & Wardani, W. Y. (2003). Differences in the authority of the Prime Minister in a parliamentary system and the President in a presidential system: A comparative study between Indonesia and Malaysia. *Yustitia Journal*, 24(2), 165–180.
- Marwiyah, S. (2023). Analysis of forms of government in ASEAN countries. *Science Partners*, p. 55.
- Mubarok, N. (2021). Government systems in Malay countries. *Socio Justisia: Journal of Law and Social Change*, 1(1), 126–155. <https://doi.org/10.XXX> (insert DOI if available)
- P. P. P. and K. M. K. R. (2016). State government system: Education and training to increase understanding of citizens' constitutional rights (p. 14).
- Redwan, M. A. F. M., & Besar, J. A. (2012). The formation of the Malay majority federal kingdom and its impact on political behavior in the DUN Kajang area, Selangor. In *Comparison of Government Systems* (pp. XXX–XXX). Government systems in Indonesia.
- Sitabuana, T. H. (2020). Indonesian constitutional law (1st ed.). Jakarta: Constitution Press (Konpress), p. 97.
- Somadiyono, S. (2020). Comparison of legal systems between Indonesia and Malaysia. *Faces of Law*, 4(2), 414–420.
- Sunarso. (2012). Comparison of government systems. Yogyakarta: Ombak, p. 21.
- Umar, N. (2013). Comparative legal studies of Malaysian and Indonesian constitutional systems.