

Papua Conflict Analysis Based on Causes, Types and Actors of the Conflict

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Abstract: The conflict in Papua is one of the conflicts in Indonesia that has persisted for many years and until now has not found a bright spot. Cultural violence was experienced in 1971-1973, the Indonesian government carried out the Koteka operation. Stereotypes of non-Papuans against Papuans are still growing today, leading to racial/ethnic discrimination. The government also officially categorizes TPNPB-OPM as terrorists. In the case of the Papuan conflict, one of the factors that makes it a threat is the offensive power in which the separatist movement carried out by the OPM threatens the sovereignty or integrity of the Unitary Republic of Indonesia. In addition to the existence of a different culture in Papua which often leads to discrimination against the Papuan people, there are also differences in interests. One of them is political interests where the people who are members of the Papuan Organization want independence while the Unitary Republic of Indonesia still wants to maintain its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The conflict that occurred in Papua between the OPM separatist group in conflict with the Government was included in the type of vertical conflict. The conflict in Papua is also included in the type of Non-International Armed Conflict. The actors in conflict are the Free Papua Organization (OPM) and the Supporting State for the OPM (armed opposition group & armed non-stated actor) as well as the Indonesian Government, TNI, Polri, NGOs. To reconcile Papua is not only the task of the government, the community according to their respective fields can also contribute to support the peace process.

Keywords: Government, OPM, Papua Conflict

1. Introduction

The conflict in Papua is one of the conflicts in Indonesia that has persisted for many years and until now has not found a bright spot. This conflict began with Indonesia, which became independent in 1945, wanting all the former colonies of the Dutch colonial government to become its territory, including Papua, which was then known as Netherlands New Guinea. However, the Dutch were not willing to give this territory because the indigenous Papuans were racially and ethnically different from most of the Indonesian occupation. This dispute lasted from the Round Table Conference (KMB) on December 27, 1949 until a dozen years later. The essence of the agreement

was that the Netherlands handed over Papua under the control of the United Nations Interim Executive Authority (UNTEA) on October 1, 1962. Furthermore, the Netherlands had to hand over the western part of Papua to Indonesia no later than May 1, 1963.

From 14 July to 2 August 1969, the Act of Free Choice was finally held as a referendum to determine whether the Papuan population wanted to remain in Indonesia or not. The referendum was attended by 1,026 members of the Pepera Consultative Council (DMP) representing 815,904 Papuans. Members of the DMP consist of 400 tribal and customary leaders, 360 people from regional elements, 266 people from community organizations. This dissatisfaction of the Papuan population triggered a more serious resistance by forming a military political movement which is often referred to as the Free Papua Organization (OPM). Their armed resistance broke out for the first time on 26 July 1965 in Manokwari.

Then in May 1977, around 200 OPM guerrillas attacked Freeport and responded with military operations, especially in Amungme Village. Cases of violence and human rights violations continue to occur in Papua. A wave of violence that occurred for about three months resulted in eight civilians being killed in Deiyai in riots on August 28, 2019. Then, another riot occurred on September 26, 2019 resulting in 33 people being killed in Wamena and four people being killed in Jayapura. Another tragic tragedy occurred on December 2, 2018 in which 31 workers on the Trans Papua highway project were shot dead in the Nduga area by the Papuan armed group led by Egianus Kogoya. The incident was answered by a military operation in the Nduga area. Amnesty International Indonesia noted that 182 Nduga civilians died while fleeing, after their village was visited by security forces who were hunting for the Egianus group. The government also still has debts to settle cases of human rights violations in Papua, such as the Wasior case in 2001 and the Wamena case in 2003 which were again caused by conflicts between the apparatus and local residents. Affects the level, intensity and duration of conflict. Catalysts and channels can change reasons over time, for example when two

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groups start with a battle over resources, and end with ethnic issues.

1) *Violent Cases*

Cultural violence was experienced in 1971-1973, the Indonesian government carried out the Koteka operation. Operation Koteka was an Indonesian military campaign aimed at influencing indigenous Papuans in the mountains to abandon aspects of their native culture, go to school, become economically modern, and adapt to a more general Indonesian identity. In this operation, the government involved elements of the armed forces and the civilian government to force the Dani tribe as people of the Papuan mountains to exchange their Koteka for Indonesian-style clothes. Thus, a humiliation strategy is used in the development process among the Dani community to make them more involved in social change.

Other forms of cultural violence often occur verbally leading to direct violence. Stereotypes of non-Papuans against Papuans are still growing today, leading to racial/ethnic discrimination. Such as the detention and intimidation of Papuan students in Malang and Surabaya in 2019. Papuans face racism and stigmatization in Indonesia with the view that they are "half animals". In the case in Surabaya, this view can be seen in the term "monkey" which is addressed to Papuan students. The negative stigma against the Papuan people has degraded their dignity as human beings who must be protected and respected. This view later became the justification for direct acts of violence against the Papuan people. During the time Papua was designated as DOM, a series of violence accompanied by human rights violations occurred, especially involving the security forces. Various forms of violence have been present in Papua's long history and have accumulated as a source of conflict that has triggered the emergence of a movement of rebel groups who want to separate themselves from the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

The government also officially categorizes TPNPB-OPM as terrorists. The government's decision has been adjusted to the law that regulates terrorism. This decision was taken by the government because many parties supported it to immediately follow up on the recent violence in Papua. Various groups ranging from the MPR RI, TNI, Polri to Papuan figures who met him agreed that the TPNPB had carried out brutal killings and violence. Meanwhile, terrorism is any act that uses violence or threats of violence that creates an atmosphere of terror or widespread fear that can cause mass casualties or cause destruction of strategic vital objects to the environment, public facilities or international facilities with ideological, political and security motives.

2. Methods

The research method used in this study is a literature study using books, research journals, and other literatures. This literature study was conducted to obtain theoretical information so that researchers have a strong theoretical basis as a scientific result. The data in this study are based on relevant books and journals for the author to research. The data analysis technique used in this study is qualitative data analysis where in this study in the form of opinions expressed by experts regarding Papua

conflict, these data are used as a basis to strengthen the author's argument in analyzing the Papua conflict based on the causes, types, and actors of the conflict.

3. Discussion

1) *Causes*

In the case of the Papuan conflict, one of the factors that makes it a threat is the offensive power in which the separatist movement carried out by the OPM threatens the sovereignty or integrity of the Unitary Republic of Indonesia. Talking about the factors causing the armed conflict in Papua, of course, we can see many sides. Factors that cause conflict or the roots of conflict in a conflict (Soekanto, 2006), include:

1. *Differences between individuals*: Differences in opinion and feelings may lead to clashes between them, especially differences in opinion and feelings. Thus, this then becomes a factor causing a significant conflict.
2. *Cultural differences*: Personality differences from individuals also depend on the cultural patterns that form the background for the formation and development of personality, which will more or less affect a person's personality in that culture.
3. *Differences of interest*: Differences in interests between individuals and groups are another source of conflicting interests, both economic, political, and so on.
4. *Social change*: Social changes that take place quickly will temporarily change the values that exist in society which can lead to the emergence of groups with different views.

So, it can be seen that in addition to the existence of a different culture in Papua which often leads to discrimination against the Papuan people, there are also differences in interests. One of them is political interests where the people who are members of the Papuan Organization want independence while the Unitary Republic of Indonesia still wants to maintain its sovereignty and territorial integrity of meeting minutes and no sharing of drafts, control will be difficult. The many problematic articles in the Omnibus Law and the DPR's recklessness to ratify this law have angered many labor, student and civil society organizations. This context is the reason why today's demonstrations are widespread in many cities. (Setiaji, 2020).

2) *Types*

According to Torrents (2016), horizontal conflict occurs when different groups support different policies. In this case the conflicting groups have the same position and position, while vertical conflicts of interest arise when those who are responsible for the government in the process of maintaining and gaining power have disagreements with groups that have lower capabilities or power than the policy makers. The conflict that occurred in Papua between the OPM separatist group in conflict with the Government was included in the type of vertical conflict. This is indicated by the differences in capabilities and strengths as well as the positions held by the two parties to the conflict, where in this case the OPM separatist

group does not have a higher capability than the Indonesian government.

The conflict in Papua is also included in the type of Non-International Armed Conflict, this is because the actors involved in this conflict involve state actors (the Indonesian government) and non-state actors (terrorist groups). With the identification of the Papuan conflict as belonging to the KBNI type, no country outside Indonesia may interfere in the resolution of this conflict. This argument is supported by Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions which reads "every state, other than countries experiencing conflict, is obliged to respect basic humanitarian rules in armed conflicts that are not international in nature". Referring to the legal basis, it is certain that the Indonesian government has the authority to resolve the Papua conflict itself.

B. Actors

Based on the analysis conducted, there are two actors in conflict in the Papua conflict, including:

1) Free Papua Organization (OPM) and States Supporting the OPM (armed opposition group & armed non-stated actor)

The Free Papua Organization (OPM) is a general term for the Papuan pro-independence movement which was triggered by the attitude of the Indonesian government since 1963. The Papuan pro-independence movement is the result of the unfair treatment received by the Papuan people from the Indonesian government which is considered repressive. The first armed OPM resistance was carried out in Manokrawi on 26 July 1965, quoted from BBC Indonesia. There is also the existence of the KKB or known as the Free Papua Movement National Defense Army (TPN-OPM), which is also known as the Armed Criminal Group (KKB) or the Armed Separatist Group (KSB).

2) Indonesian Government, TNI, Polri, NGO/NGO

Various efforts have been made by the government in the peace process for the conflict in Papua, including restrictions on foreigners entering Papua in order to prevent the conflict from escalating and limiting the spread of hoax news.

4. Conclusion

The conflict in Papua is one of the conflicts in Indonesia that has persisted for many years and until now has not found a bright spot. Cultural violence was experienced in 1971-1973, the Indonesian government carried out the Koteka operation. Other forms of cultural violence often occur verbally leading to direct violence. Stereotypes of non-Papuans against Papuans are still growing today, leading to racial/ethnic discrimination. According to Kompas, the Head of Papua Regional BIN (Kabinda) Brigadier General I Gusti Putu Danny Karya Nugraha Karya died after being involved in a shootout with the Armed Criminal Group (KKB) in Dambet Village, Beoga District, Puncak Regency, on April 25, 2021 at around 15.50 WIT.

The government also officially categorizes TPNPB-OPM as terrorists. Apart from discrimination, according to LIPI, there are three other problems that cause conflict in Papua, including human rights violations, development failures, and Papua's

political status. In the case of the Papuan conflict, one of the factors that makes it a threat is the offensive power in which the separatist movement carried out by the OPM threatens the sovereignty or integrity of the Unitary Republic of Indonesia. In addition to the existence of a different culture in Papua which often leads to discrimination against the Papuan people, there are also differences in interests. One of them is political interests where the people who are members of the Papuan Organization want independence while the Unitary Republic of Indonesia still wants to maintain its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The conflict that occurred in Papua between the OPM separatist group in conflict with the Government was included in the type of vertical conflict. The conflict in Papua is also included in the type of Non-International Armed Conflict. The actors in conflict are the Free Papua Organization (OPM) and the Supporting State for the OPM (armed opposition group & armed non-stated actor) as well as the Indonesian Government, TNI, Polri, NGOs.

5. Recommendation

The conflict in Papua is a case that should be of concern to all of us, not only the government but all Indonesian citizens. This conflict continues and becomes a prolonged conflict while the people themselves are indifferent as if they turn a blind eye to what is happening in Papua. The recommendations including:

1. The government should implement fair and transparent law enforcement in order to prevent social jealousy which then leads to an increasingly chaotic and prolonged conflict. Law enforcement is not only limited to the KKB, but also to the TNI-Polri officers who are indeed guilty of bringing victims to ordinary people.
2. Conflict resolution in Papua requires a collaborative and holistic approach. The complex and multidimensional issue of Papua needs to be understood in a wider spectrum. The problems in Papua are difficult to solve and take a very long time. A collaborative approach to conflict resolution in Papua must require cooperation, interaction and mutual agreement. Therefore, he thinks that the collaborative approach model is possible to be a solution to the conflict in Papua.

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