

Leadership Style of the Minister of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto

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Abstract: Leadership is every action an individual or organization takes to coordinate and give direction to individuals or groups who are members of a particular container to achieve previously targeted goals. Every organization always has the highest leadership to guide the direction of the development of an organization. One such organization or agency is the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia. The Ministry of Defense is the implementing elements of the government led by the Minister of Defense whose position is under and responsible to the President. Therefore, this article aims to analyze the leadership style of Prabowo Subianto as the Indonesian defence minister. The research method used in this research is qualitative, then the data sources are obtained from various sources, such as books, journals, newspapers, magazines, and news on the internet. The results of this study indicate that Prabowo Subianto is closer to the charismatic leadership style and task-oriented leadership style.

Keywords: Charismatic Leadership, Leadership Style, Prabowo Subianto, Task-oriented Leadership.

I. INTRODUCTION

In carrying out organizational activities, it requires a lot of resources, such as humans, machines, and materials. Humans are the most needed resources because they have talent, energy, and creativity that are needed by organizations in achieving organizational goals. Humans are very useful in managing sustainability and building programs for organizations. In this case, what is meant is humans as organizational leaders.

Human resources in the organization need a good direction from a leader. Then need motivation that makes members more enthusiastic to achieve organizational goals. A leader is someone who can do something right and help others in doing a job. A leader must be able to provide work motivation to its members to provide the best performance. Leadership has an important role because it is the leader who will move and direct the organization in achieving its goals. Being a leader is not an easy task because you have to be a role model for members.

Every organization always has the highest leadership to guide the direction of the development of an organization. One such organization or agency is the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia. The Ministry of Defense is the implementing element of the government led by the Minister of Defense. The Minister of Defense is under and responsible to the President. The Ministry of Defense has the task of carrying out defense affairs within the government to assist

the President in administering the state government (Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia, 2015).

The task of the Ministry of Defense is to carry out functions such as the formulation, determination, and implementation of policies in the field of defense. Then carrying out the management of state property/wealth is the responsibility of the Ministry of Defense. Then supervise the implementation of tasks within the Ministry of Defense and carry out technical activities from the center to the regions.

The Minister of Defense is elected or appointed directly by the President. President Joko Widodo appointed Prabowo Subianto as Minister of Defense in the Advanced Indonesia Cabinet for the 2019-2024 period. Prabowo's appointment as Minister of Defense was announced by Jokowi at the Presidential Palace, Jakarta on October 23, 2019 (Galih, 2019). In this way, the sustainability and development of the Ministry of Defense are directly influenced under the leadership of Prabowo Subianto.

II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study, the author uses a qualitative approach, where this approach becomes a scientific method that is commonly used and implemented by a group of researchers in the social sciences. Qualitative research or qualitative research is a type of research that produces findings that cannot be achieved using statistical procedures or other quantitative methods (Nugrahani, 2014). According to Strauss and Corbin, this qualitative research is research that can be used to examine people's lives, history, behavior, organizational functionalization, social movements, or kinship relationships (Nugrahani, 2014).

In this paper, the researcher uses data sources with secondary data collection. According to Sugiyono, secondary data is a source of data obtained by reading, studying, and understanding through other media sourced from literature, books, and documents (Herviani & Febriansyah, 2016). Secondary data sources are a way of reading, studying, and understanding the availability of sources that have been researched before. According to Creswell, data collection techniques in qualitative research consist of observation, interviews, document studies, and audio-visual materials. Document study in qualitative research is a technique of collecting data from public documents, such as newspapers, official reports, or private documents, such as personal journals, electronic mail, and letters. Meanwhile, the audio-

visual materials referred to in qualitative research data collection techniques are data in forms such as photos, art objects, videos, or sounds (Cresswell, 2014).

III. RESULTS

A. *Ministry of Defense*

After the Proclamation of Independence on August 17, 1945, the government must immediately implement it, such as the transfer of power which was held in the shortest possible time. Therefore, the Preparatory Committee for Indonesian Independence (PPKI), quickly formed the first cabinet of the Presidential type which was announced on August 19, 1945. The existence of the Ministry of Defense began when the Preparatory Committee for Indonesian Independence on August 19, 1945, established 12 Departments (Ministry of Defense, 2017). One of the 12 Departments was the Department of Defense, the Department of Defense being part of the Presidential Cabinet at that time. Furthermore, in October 1945 when the Ministry of Defense was not functioning as it should, the Ministry of People's Security was created as a substitute for the Ministry of Defense.

The leadership of the first cabinet did not yet have a Minister of Defense, then the function of the Ministry of State Defense was within the Ministry of People's Security, led by the Minister of People's Security, namely the former Soudancho Suprijadi. However, legally, Suprijadi has never held the position of Minister of Defense. Then the position of Minister of Defense was held by Sulyadikusumo as ad interim Minister on 20 October 1945. Then during the 1st Sjahrir cabinet, namely on 14 November 1945 - 12 March 1946, the function of state defense was still under the authority of the Minister of People's Security, which was held by Mr. Amir Sjarifuddin. Meanwhile, in the 2nd Sjahrir cabinet for the period 12 March - 2 October 1946, the Ministry of Defense was formed which was held by Mr. Amir Sjarifuddin. Within this cabinet, the function of defense and security was emphasized. Furthermore, the position of Minister of Defense is often held by one person, such as PM Amir Sjarifuddin in his cabinet (3 July - 11 November 1947), which shows how important the function of national defense is in dealing with various conflicts that occurred at that time (Ministry of Defense, 2015).

In the period of the 1st Hatta Cabinet (29 January 1948 - 4 August 1949) when the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia was in a precarious state due to the intervention of the Dutch army, Hatta served as ad interim Minister of Defense. However, on 15 July 1949, the position of Minister of Defense was held by Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono IX. Sri Sultan also served as Minister of Defense during the 2nd Hatta Cabinet and the United States of Indonesia Cabinet until 6 September 1950, then returned to serve in several subsequent cabinets until he resigned at his request on 2 June 1953.

At the beginning of the New Order government (Development Cabinet/ 1968), the function of defense was held directly by the President who also served as Minister of Defense/Security. This continued until 1973. So that in the Development I Cabinet in the New Order Era, starting on June 6, 1968, the position of Minister of Defense and Security was concurrent with the President of the Republic of Indonesia, General TNI Suharto. Only later in the Second Development Cabinet from March 28, 1973, to March 29, 1978, the position of Minister of Defense and Security was held by one person, namely General TNI Maraden Panggabean.

Subsequently, in the Third Development Cabinet (28 March 1978 - 19 March 1983), the Minister of Defense and Security who was concurrently the Commander of the Armed Forces was handed over to General TNI M. Jusuf, and in this period Law Number 20 of 1982 was issued concerning the Basic Provisions for the Defense and Security of the Republic of Indonesia (Ministry of Defense and Security). Defense, 2015). The next cabinet, namely the period March 19, 1983 - March 23, 1988, the position of the Minister of Defense and Security of the Republic of Indonesia was given to General TNI (Ret.) Poniman. Then, the Minister of Defense and Security was held by General TNI (ret) LB Moerdani from 1988 - 1993. In 1993 - 1998 President Suharto appointed General TNI (ret) Edi Sudrajat as Minister of Defense and Security.

At the end of the new order position, before Indonesian President Suharto resigned, General TNI Wiranto was appointed Minister of Defense and Security of the Republic of Indonesia March 14, 1998 - May 21, 1998. However, at that time there was a change of President of the Republic of Indonesia from President Soeharto to the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, B.J. Habibie. During the first cabinet period of the Reformation Era, May 22, 1998 - October 29, 1999, General TNI Wiranto was still entrusted with the position of Minister of Defense and Security (Ministry of Defense, 2015).

Furthermore, the government was held by President Abdurahman Wahid, better known as Gus Dur. In the era of the Cabinet led by Gus Dur, on July 1, 2000, the Indonesian National Police was officially released from the Ministry of Defense and Security and the TNI became an autonomous institution directly responsible to the President of the Republic of Indonesia. In the Cabinet era led by Gus Dur, the position of Minister of Defense was given to civilians, who came from academic circles, namely Prof. Dr. Juwono Sudarsono for the period 1999-2000. Then the period of August 26, 2000 - August 14, 2001, was held by Prof. Dr. Mahfud M.D. President Gusdur was overthrown and then the post of president was taken over by Megawati Soekarno Putri from 14 August 2001 - 25 October 2004. In her leadership, the position of Minister of Defense was mandated to H. Matori Abdul Djali.

During the United Indonesia Cabinet Volume I from 29 October 2004 - 26 October 2009 under the leadership of

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prof. Dr. Juwono Sudarsono was given his trust again as the Minister of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia. A number of Bills (RUUs) related to the issue of "defense" were compiled and submitted to the DPR to be passed into law, including the Reserve Components Bill, National Security Bill, State Secrets Bill, Military Justice Bill, and Veterans Bill (Ministry of Defense, 2015).

Based on Law Number 39 of 2008 dated November 6, 2008, regarding the Ministry of State, the name of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia was changed to the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia. Furthermore, in the Second United Indonesia Cabinet for the period 2009 – 2014 which was again under the leadership of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, the position of Minister of Defense was entrusted to Prof. Dr. Ir. Purnomo Yusgiantoro, MA, MSc who in the United Indonesia Cabinet I served as Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources / ESDM and Lieutenant General TNI Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin, MBA as Deputy Minister.

President Joko Widodo appointed Ryamizard Ryacudu as Minister of Defense in the 2014-2019 Working Cabinet. Ryamizard is a native of Palembang, he was born April 21, 1950. Ryamizard has had a pretty good career in the army, he ended his position as Army Chief of Staff on February 18, 2005. Currently, President Joko Widodo appointed Prabowo Subianto as Minister of Defense in the Indonesian Cabinet Forward the 2019-2024 period. Prabowo himself is his rival in the 2019 Indonesian presidential election contestation. Currently, the two are a team to build a national defense.

B. *Prabowo Subianto's Biography*

Lt. Gen. (Letjen) TNI (Ret.) Prabowo Subianto was inaugurated as Minister of Defense (Menhan) by the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Ir. Joko Widodo on October 23, 2019, in the Indonesian Advanced Cabinet for the 2019-2024 term. He was born in Jakarta, on October 17, 1951. He is the son of Soemitro Djojohadikusumo and Dora Marie Sigar. He is the third of four children. His two older sisters are Biantiningsih Miderawati and Maryani Ekowati, and one younger brother, Hashim Djojohadikusumo.

Since childhood, Prabowo has lived to move abroad because he followed his parents' duties. So it affects where he was educated. Places of primary to secondary education are always changing. He attended elementary school in Hong Kong, then moved to Malaysia (Victoria Institution). Then shifted to Switzerland (International School), and he finished high school at the American School in England. After that, at the age of 19, Prabowo decided to enter the National Military Academy (AMN) in Magelang, Central Java (Ministry of Defense, 2019).

Prabowo graduated at AMN in 1974. Two years later, he joined the Army's Special Forces Command (Kopassus). It is in this unit that his name is raised. He began as commander of

the Group-1 Para Commando Platoon. At its peak, he became the number one person in Kopassus in 1996-1998. His military career continued to rise until he became Commander of Kostrad in 1998. This position was not held for long due to the national political situation, rampant demonstrations, and the fall of President Suharto. In the same year, he was shifted to become Commander of the ABRI Command and Staff School.

Retiring from military service, Prabowo Subianto turned into a businessman. After leaving office and retiring from the military, Prabowo left Indonesia and lived in Jordan and Germany. He was there to pursue business with his younger brother, Hasyim, who first became an entrepreneur. In 2004, he returned to Indonesia and tried to run for president through the Golkar Party convention. Not yet successful in Golkar, he built a farmer's network, he was elected as the General Chair of the Indonesian Farmers' Association (HKTI) in 2004. Then in 2008, he founded the Gerindra Party as well as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

His well-educated life journey and a very high sense of love for the homeland, this has a big influence on his leadership style. Leadership style can be formed based on past experiences. Or you can study the leadership of the character you idolize. So that more or less the journey of life affects attitudes in becoming a leader.

C. *Leadership Concept*

Handyaningrat argues that "leadership is the ability to convince people to pursue their goals with enthusiasm. These people or subordinates will carry out their duties by being carried out by an organizational leader who will succeed if they are supported by the ability to direct and control the organization in achieving its goals" (Sahadi, Taufiq, & Wardani, 2020). The same thing was stated by Prof. Dr. Sudarwan Danim, he defined leadership as any action taken by an individual or group to coordinate and give direction to other individuals or groups who are members of a particular forum to achieve predetermined goals (Norhasanah, 2021).

So that it can be seen from the many definitions of leadership, the majority say that leadership is an activity to influence others. Leadership is a process to influence the activities of an organization or group. Leadership is the ability to reach an agreement on a common goal. Leadership is an attempt to direct others to achieve certain goals. Leadership is a mutually influencing relationship between leaders and followers. Although it is quite difficult to generalize, in principle leadership (leadership) is about someone influencing the behavior of others for a purpose. But that does not mean that everyone who influences others for a purpose is called a leader (Yudiaatmaja, 2013).

Leaders are human beings who are few, but their role in the organization is a determinant of the success and success of the goals to be achieved. Departing from the ideas of thought, the vision of the leaders determined the direction of an

organization's journey. Although it is not the only measure of success from the level of organizational performance, the reality proves that without the presence of a leader, an organization will be static and tend to run without direction. According to Gibson, Ivancevich, and Donnelly in studying leadership, many theories can be used as references, one of which is an approach that emphasizes the nature of leaders, including the following (Shaleh, 2018):

1. *Intelligence*

One of the important findings is that significant differences in intelligence between leaders and followers may be non-functional. A general trend shows that leaders are smarter than their followers. This is by what is in Prabowo Subianto that who is known to be an intelligent person. Many achievements have been achieved from his military career as well as his abilities in business and politics.

2. *Personality*

Several research results show that personality traits such as tenacity, originality, personal integrity, and self-confidence are related to effective leadership. Individuals who display their personalities are effective leaders. There is no doubt that Prabowo is someone who has a good personality, his spirit of nationalism is unquestionable. His loyalty to the Republic of Indonesia is a matter of pride for him.

3. *Physical Characteristic*

Studies on the relationship between effective leadership and physical characteristics such as age, height, weight, and appearance reveal conflicting results. On the one hand, a body that is too tall and too heavy compared to the group average is certainly not profitable to achieve leadership positions, but on the other hand, many organizations need people with large physiques to ensure the obedience of their followers. As is known today, Prabowo Subianto has entered the age of 70, which is a very mature age to make decisions and apply his experiences so far. In stature, he has a posture similar to that of the Indonesian people, so he is considered part of the group.

4. *Supervision Ability*

Supervising ability is defined as the effective use of all forms of supervision practices indicated by the requirements of certain situations. Leadership traits do not stand alone but are combined to influence followers. This interaction affects the leader-follower relationship. Prabowo has good communication skills with members and the community. This is evident in his many successful military missions, this proves that his communication with members of the platoon and his company is very good.

D. Charismatic Leadership Style and Task-Oriented Leadership Style

According to Kartono, charismatic leaders have the power of attractive energy that can influence others (Mattayang, 2019).

So, he has a large number of followers. They will be fascinated by his uplifting way of speaking. Usually, a leader with this personality style will be visionary or have a far-sighted view. They love change and challenges.

A charismatic leader is a leader who is admired by many people. The followers do not always explain in a concrete way why the charismatic type of leader is highly admired. People tend to say that certain people have "miraculous powers" and that certain people are seen as charismatic leaders. In members of an organization or agency that is led by a charismatic person, it does not question the values adopted, attitudes, behavior, and styles used by a charismatic leader using autocratic, subordinates continue to follow and remain loyal to a charismatic leader (Mattayang, 2019).

Prabowo is part of a leader who has a charismatic style. This is shown that with the bad issues he faces, he still has followers and members who are loyal to him. From the way he gave his speech, it was like a great orator. The oration he delivered raised the spirits of his supporters. So from this way that is considered to be a "miracle power" that is within him.

According to Yuki, the task-oriented leadership style or initiating structure is the degree to which a leader determines and structures his role and the role of subordinates towards the achievement of formal group goals. Initiating structure is the degree to which a leader defines and designs his role and the roles of his subordinates towards the achievement of the group's formal goals (Shaleh, 2018). Then Robbins called the task-oriented leadership style the same as production-oriented, where the leader emphasizes the technical or task aspects of the job. Their primary concern is in completing their group task, and their members are a means to that end.

In this case, it is evident that when Prabowo was given the mandate to become the minister of defense, he immediately tried to carry out tasks according to the vision and mission of the Ministry of Defense. One of the most striking is that he immediately accelerated the program to form the Reserve Components (Komcad). The plan to hold a Komcad has been around since 2008 but has not been realized. Finally, in 2021, the first Army Military Command was born. Then he also immediately made visits to several countries to carry out defense diplomacy. The purpose of that is to establish cooperation with other countries to obtain cooperation in the main weapon system (defense equipment) as well as cooperation in other fields of defense. As a result, several collaborations have been achieved, such as defense cooperation between Indonesia and France, Indonesia and Japan, and other countries.

IV. CONCLUSION

Leadership is the process of influencing others both inside the organization and outside the organization to achieve the desired goals in certain situations and conditions. Leadership occupies a vital role in the organization because a leader in addition to determining the vision, mission, goals, and

achievement strategies is also tasked with leading, directing, motivating group members to achieve goals. Leaders are required to have high intelligence, a good personality, maturity in themselves, and also have supervisory abilities. Prabowo Subianto is the nation's best son who has the opportunity to lead the ministry of defense. His good career in the military made him have good leadership skills in the field of defense strategy. The leadership style attached to him is a charismatic leadership style and a task-oriented leadership style.

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