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**Political Capital of Legislative Member Ahmad Yamin in the Legislative Elections for the 2019-2024 Period in Banyuasin**

**Siti Sumayyah**

Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora UIN Raden Fatah Palembang  
Email: sitisumayyah222@gmail.com

**ABSTRACT**

This research is entitled "Political Capital of Legislative Member Election (Case Study of Ahmad Yamin's Election as Legislative Member in Banyuasin Regency for the 2019-2024 Period)." The study aims to determine the driving factors and obstacles to Ahmad Yamin's election in the legislative general election contest. Employing a descriptive qualitative research method, this study focuses on primary data, where Ahmad Yamin serves as the main actor and topic of the research, successful team members, and party cadres, while secondary data includes books, journals, documentation, and information obtained from relevant institutions related to the research problem. Data collection techniques involve observation, documentation, and interviews. The research findings indicate that Ahmad Yamin's ability to manage relationships is quite good, resulting in substantial support from the party and local residents. However, the lack of public attention to the general election poses a significant obstacle for Ahmad Yamin and his team.

Keywords: *political capital, legislative, election*

**ABSTRAK**

Penelitian ini berjudul Modal Politik Keterpilihan Anggota Legislatif (Study Kasus Keterpilihan Ahmad Yamin Sebagai Anggota Legislatif Kabupaten Banyuasin Periode 2019-2024). Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengetahui faktor pendorong dan penghambat keterpilihan ahmad yamin dalam kontes pemilihan umum legislatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif kualitatif , yang mana data primer dalam penelitian ini adalah ahmad yamin sebagai aktor utama yang menjadi topik dari penelitian, anggota tim sukses, anggota kader partai, sedangkan data sekundernya ialah buku-buku, jurnal, dokumentasi dan informasi yang didapat dari instansi yang terkait dalam permasalahan

penelitian. Teknik penelitian pengumpulan data berdasarkan hasil observasi, dokumentasi dan wawancara. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa kemampuan ahmad yamin dalam mengendalikan sebuah hubungan cukup baik, sehingga banyak mendapat dukungan dari partai dan warga sekitar. Namun, kurangnya perhatian masyarakat terhadap pemilihan umum menjadikan sebuah penghambat tersendiri untuk ahmad yamin dan tim.

Keywords: *modal politik, legislative, pemilu*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Essentially, general elections serve as a platform for selecting leaders, providing the basis for expressing the opinions of the communities in each region, as stipulated in Article 22e, specifically in paragraph 2 of the 1945 Constitution. Elections aim to ensure that the sovereignty held by the people can be realized through direct observation by determining various representatives to ensure the functioning of oversight, establishing channels that result in formulated laws, and determining the budget for the revenue and expenditure of a country. The majority of participants in these election activities seek to fulfill all needs through political parties whose members are in the People's Representative Council, as well as in provincial, district, and city Local People's Representative Council, and individuals participating in the election.

Then in 2019, Indonesia held simultaneous general elections for the first time to elect leaders to steer the state system. This included electing the president and vice president, selecting members of the People's Representative Council (DPR), the Regional Representative Council (DPD), and up to the elections for provincial and district or city DPRD. One of these elections took place in the Banyuasin regency, specifically in the Talang Kelapa electoral district.

There are six villages in the Talang Kelapa area: Sungai Rengit, Sungai Rengit Murni, Pangkalan Banten, Gasing, Talang Buluh, and Kenten Laut. It also comprises six urban neighborhoods: Air Batu, Sukajadi, Sukamoro, Tanah Mas, Talang Keramat, and Kenten. This area, covering an area of 560.12 square kilometers with a population density of approximately 125,233 inhabitants, mostly engaged in trade, is directly bordered by Sako Palembang District to the north, Gandus Palembang to the south, Sembawa District to the west, and Sukarame and Alang Alang Lebar Palembang to the east. The bustling areas of the community are located in two neighborhoods: Kenten and Sukajadi.

Then on April 17, 2019, following the legislative general elections, one of the many candidates who emerged victorious was Ahmad Yamin, who secured a seat as a legislative member of Banyuasin Regency with a vote count of 3,182, surpassing several other candidates. Therefore, the focal point of this research revolves around the driving factors contributing to Ahmad Yamin's success, as well as the obstacles encountered by him and his team.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

There are several studies related to various supporting factors for the victory of legislative members or factors that influence through the accumulation of votes in the Election from the legislative member part that has been determined through several studies, namely:

Figure Factor in the Election of DPRD Members Case Study: The Election of DPRD Members from the Gerindra Party in Klungkung Regency in the 2014 Election." The discussion of the following study relates to the form of small-scale capital ownership for participants who received significant votes. They then received encouragement through budgeting expenditures for the party that was so significant through legislative members in 2014. There is an orientation towards a study related to image-building actions in the political field that have been packaged through communication about politics.

Political Capital of Tjhai Chui Mie in the Election of Mayor of Singkawang in 2017." The discussion from the journal determines the potential of Tjhai Chui Mei so that political capital can be managed, which is related to social and economic sectors. They receive support through the party and the results of experience related to political aspects of being a legislator, then there is success in using the social scope in terms of ethnicity and religion, thus influencing the votes obtained by Tjhai Chui Mei. The orientation through the journal is related to figures who use networks on a social scale that successfully provide integration from the Singkawang community through ethnicity and religion.

Based on the above data sources, what distinguishes the researcher's writing from the previous one is that the study focuses on the economic and social capital of Ahmad Yamin as factors driving his victory in the legislative general election held on April 17, 2019. and a different case study in Banyuasin Regency with the dynamics of the community which are certainly different. Using descriptive research with a qualitative approach method aimed at making descriptive, factual, and accurate about the facts and characteristics of a certain population or object.

## **METHOD**

This research employs a Descriptive Method by collecting data related to the supporting factors for Ahmad Yamin and his team's success in the legislative general election, a case study as a Legislative Member of Banyuasin Regency for the period 2019-2024. The approach used in this study takes a qualitative form in which data is collected on phenomena that should be determined by the researcher, thereby determining the sample taken from qualitative data interpreted into specific sentences. Qualitative data adjust its samples interpreted through specific sentences. Thus, the approach undertaken in the research provides an overview of the object and research subject, resulting in descriptive data types found through spoken or written actions by various parties observed.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In the following section, the researcher presents data on the sustainability as designated accordingly, adjusting interviews conducted with informants in a particular study. Thus, the obtained findings demonstrate the presentation of the research interpreted through words, followed by arguments and perspectives derived from information, thereby providing an exposition related to the conducted research topic. The significance of this research lies in its objective to describe how the capital influences Ahmad Yani's success in the legislative general election for the period 2019-2024.

Ahmad Yamin possesses several assets that contribute to his success, including social capital, economic capital, cultural capital, and symbolic capital. His social capital comprises relationships and family networks that Ahmad Yamin utilizes to secure victory and maintain

his position amidst intense political competition. Additionally, effective communication with religious leaders in Talang Kelapa has garnered support from numerous volunteers during Ahmad Yamin's campaign.

Furthermore, his economic capital stems from the restaurant business he established before joining the political party. Ahmad Yamin's cultural capital is evident in his ability to communicate effectively with diverse age groups within the community. He acquired this skill not only through formal education but also through inherited traits from his father, who was adept at social interaction and fluent in refined Javanese language. His clear demeanor encourages the community to choose him as their leader. This clarity extends to the work programs implemented by Ahmad Yamin and his team. Lastly, symbolic capital includes his luxurious residence, car, and educational achievements.

From the interviews conducted, the researchers clearly observed that the community in Talang Kelapa district still lacks significant knowledge about politics, indicating a need for further education. This is crucial for them to understand the importance of exercising their voting rights towards a political actor. The lack of awareness among the community about politics is compounded by economic factors, as the livelihoods of the residents in Talang Kelapa district are predominantly dependent on labor and fishing.

From the perspective of electoral contestants, there is one keyword that gradually emerges as pivotal in the current political system, namely competition. Competition is a logical consequence in democracy, where each candidate vies to convince voters that their party and candidacy are worthy of selection and victory in the elections (Firmanzah, 2007:20). In the legislative elections on April 17, 2019, the public must be discerning in choosing their representatives. It is imperative to distinguish genuinely competent politicians from those who merely make empty promises.

Understanding the background of political parties or legislative candidates is essential beforehand. This comprehension enables the public to select legislative candidates who are truly deserving and capable of fulfilling the mandate of the people, without being swayed by grandiose and unrealistic promises from politicians. Understanding the political parties and the figures they endorse in the legislative elections is crucial for the public. Based on the research findings, several respondents indicated that they often track the developments of their preferred political parties through print and electronic media, inundated daily with political news leading up to the 2019 legislative elections.

### **The Challenges Faced by Ahmad Yamin in Garnering Votes During the Legislative Elections 2019-2024**

In relation to the community's ideology, this can certainly influence people's choices. Here, it means that Ahmad Yamin and his successful team, along with their programs, were not sufficient to win over the hearts of some individuals who simply do not favor him. Speaking of dislike, Ahmad Yamin is, of course, a fallible human who continually strives to improve himself. Despite Ahmad Yamin and his team working diligently, the researcher can vividly perceive the impact of their tangible programs, such as the revival of street lighting, the improvement of roads, and the equitable distribution of clean water.

However, the dynamics of political party development are fundamental facts that will be useful for analyzing political changes in this country. The vision and mission of political parties are also crucial for the public to understand a political party. The vision of a political

party is its long-term goal. Vision is a statement about the ideal conditions and situation of society that the political party wants to create.

This is very important considering that the public should be given an overview and certainty about the finalization of their struggle. Sometimes, this vision represents a significant leap (quantum leap) from the structure and conditions of society now to the dream that is desired to be realized. So, it is not surprising that many people see the vision of a political party as something irrational. Whereas the mission explains why an organization must exist. Therefore, the establishment of a political party should be preceded by a clear mission about why the party must exist. This mission statement also provides an overview of the values and beliefs it holds and provides a basis for its struggle.

Based on the field research findings, it appears that many residents of Talang Kelapa sub-district, especially in Kenten village, have a limited understanding of the vision and mission of the political parties they favor. They only have a general idea of these political parties. Field data indicates that the majority of respondents state that they are not particularly familiar with the vision and mission of the political party they favor. They do not pay much attention to the vision and mission of a political party in the 2019 legislative elections. The voices of the people are crucial to achieving the goals of political parties. A political party becomes legitimate (having influence and recognition) or not depending on whether it has votes and occupies seats in legislative bodies. Therefore, participants in the 2019 legislative elections are competing to gain voter support and strive to socialize their political parties and the candidates they nominate in order to garner the sympathy of the electorate.

The political party and legislative candidate socialization conducted in Kenten Village generally appeared to be smooth, with no significant unrest observed. The socialization efforts included the utilization of mass media and campaigns. As expressed by Firmanzah, the political arena is marked by media involvement in the hustle and bustle of politics. Media, in this context, is broadly defined as all means related to conveying messages, both real and symbolic, from political institutions to the broader society.

In addition to media socialization, campaign activities also received considerable attention to attract the voting masses. Campaigning is one of the efforts to influence the populace to sympathize with a particular party, thus ensuring that they cast their votes in favor of the intended candidates. According to Lilleker & Negrine (2000), political campaigning is a period allocated by the electoral committee to all contestants, whether political parties or individuals, to present their agendas and influence public opinion while simultaneously mobilizing the community to vote for them during the election. (Firmanzah, 2018)

Campaign activities serve to directly demonstrate to the public the strength of a political party. These activities typically involve speeches and calls to vote for candidates from the respective political party. Additionally, supporters participating in these campaigns often receive T-shirts. Apart from these campaign activities, political party socialization also occurs through the distribution and posting of stickers and posters containing slogans and images of the political party along with its legislative candidates. This initiative aims to familiarize voters with the political party and its candidates. Stickers and posters are affixed along roadsides, trees, walls, and residential buildings. Furthermore, banners are placed on highly trafficked roads to ensure clear visibility, allowing the public to grasp messages that may not have been effectively communicated through other media channels or to reinforce the party's stance. Political parties may also use radio, television, and print media to disseminate information, facilitating public understanding of their programs and political promises through both visual

and verbal means. This approach aims to enhance voter comprehension and engagement with the political party's agenda.

It is important for voters to be aware of political party leaders or candidates nominated by political parties. The public must exercise discernment in making their choices, as elections provide an opportune moment for improving the state of the nation. On several occasions, researchers have found that some members of the public have limited knowledge of Ahmad Yamin's profile. This is attributed to the limited interaction between Ahmad Yamin and the predominantly rural population residing in Kenten village.

There are three aspects in the voter profile: Firstly, the profile concerning political party supporters. Understanding the characteristics of supporters and sympathizers is essential to comprehend why they align themselves with a particular party. Basic characteristics such as age, gender, occupation, life goals, lifestyle, values, and norms need to be understood. Secondly, the profile regarding swing voters. Unlike the compilation of supporter profiles, this profile of swing voters is conducted to determine both their numbers and fundamental characteristics. Swing voters typically wait until the end of the campaign period before deciding which candidate to vote for. Thirdly, the profile regarding supporters of other parties. Each election contestant is required to broaden their support base. There is no guarantee against behaviors such as defection and supporters crossing over to other parties. Consequently, in addition to safeguarding their support, they also tend to compete for supporters from other parties.

Based on the exposition above, the researcher observes that preferences for political parties do not necessarily influence voters' choices for legislative candidates from the respective political parties. For instance, individuals who favor a particular political party may not necessarily vote for legislative candidates from that party. This implies that voters who understand the political party they favor may not choose legislative candidates from that party because the candidates endorsed by the preferred political party may not sufficiently appeal to voters to choose legislative candidates from the favored political party.

## **CONCLUSION**

The findings of this research are related to the resources possessed by Ahmad Yamin in winning the legislative election contest for the period 2019-2024 (A case study in Talang Kelapa district, Banyuasin regency). Thus, the following conclusions can be drawn: Ahmad Yamin possesses several resources that support his success, including social, economic, cultural, and symbolic resources. His social capital comprises relationships and family networks leveraged by Ahmad Yamin to achieve victory and maintain his position amidst stiff political competition. Additionally, his effective communication with religious leaders in Talang Kelapa has resulted in significant volunteer support during his campaign.

Furthermore, his economic capital stems from a restaurant business he started before joining the party. Culturally, his ability to communicate with people of diverse ages reflects not only his educational background but also a hereditary talent inherited from his father, who was adept at socializing and fluent in Javanese. His clear demeanor encourages constituents to confidently choose him as their leader, especially given his track record of work along with his team. Lastly, his symbolic capital, represented by a luxurious house, car, and educational credentials, adds to his appeal.

Recruitment of volunteer teams by Ahmad Yamin is deemed highly communicative. Thus, the researcher observed that the volunteer teams were very active in ensuring Ahmad Yamin's victory. However, the researcher also noted challenges faced by Ahmad Yamin and his success team, whether stemming from his party or independently recruited volunteer teams, particularly concerning public apathy towards politics.

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