



The Dynamics of Communication Between the Regional People's Representative Council and Regional Apparatus Organizations in Fighting for the Interests

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Abstract

This research aims to determine the dynamics of communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) in advocating for the interests of the people of Nunukan Regency and the factors that influence it. This research was conducted at the Nunukan Regency DPRD office, the offices of the Nunukan Regency Government OPDs, and the homes of DPRD members who served as informants. Data collection was conducted through in-depth interviews, participant observation, and the use of supporting documents. The results of this research indicate that communication between the two institutions generally begins with an official letter and continues with informal communication using telephone or WhatsApp as needed. The content of the messages conveyed during the communication process is influenced by the problems being faced. The communication patterns used is to apply persuasive, coercive, and informative communication techniques according to the situation and conditions during the communication process. The result of this research also shows that factors that hinder smooth communication are the emergence of fear, worry, suspicion, pressure, the presence of parties who feel they have a higher status, limited time when communicating, differences in background, inability to understand the situation of the interlocutor, lack of mastery of applicable regulations, and the use of technical and foreign terms that are difficult for the interlocutor to understand.

Introduction

As social beings, communication is a crucial element in human life. The communication process occurs when a person interacts with another person. Communication is a consequence of the social relationship between two or more people. Therefore, communication is inseparable from human life, as humans are social beings. Communication involves the transmission of information, ideas, emotions, or needs, and is conveyed verbally, in writing, visually, or nonverbally (Dirgantari et al., 2024). Modern life provides everyone with the opportunity to communicate in virtually any space and time. Therefore, it is said that communication is omnipresent anytime, anywhere, and with anyone. Communication is the most common human activity and is unavoidable in everyday life. Humans cannot avoid communication. When two people meet, they inevitably engage in continuous communication, even if only through behavior. Even silence and avoiding eye contact are forms of communication (Efendi, 2021). There are many forms of communication encountered in everyday life. However, in general, communication is divided into two forms: verbal and

nonverbal. Verbal communication is communication that uses words, either spoken or written. This form of communication can occur interpersonally, in groups, organizations, or at the public level. Nonverbal communication is communication that occurs without words. This form of communication is conveyed through expressions and body language. In practice, nonverbal communication is more common than verbal communication. By observing the expressions and body language of the person speaking, one can understand what they are trying to convey (Purba et al., 2020).

Effective communication requires communication techniques. communication techniques are the methods or "art" of conveying messages by a communicator (the sender) in such a way that they have a specific impact on the recipient (the recipient). The message conveyed by the communicator is a statement originating from thoughts and feelings. These thoughts and feelings can take the form of ideas, information, complaints, beliefs, appeals, recommendations, and so on (Effendy, 2019). The impacts of communication can be cognitive, affective, or behavioral. Cognitive impacts are those that affect the recipient in the form of increased knowledge or intellectual development. Affective impacts are those that affect the recipient in the form of emotional movements that evoke specific feelings such as pity, emotion, sadness, joy, anger, and so on. Behavioral impacts are those that affect the recipient in the form of specific behaviors, actions, or activities (Effendy, 2019).

Communication between a communicator and recipient can have specific impacts or effects on the recipient (Higgins, 2022; Glikson & Asscher, 2023). The behavior of one person and another, which directly and reciprocally influences others, is discussed in communication dynamics. Dynamics refers to the interaction or interdependence between members of one group and the members of another group as a whole. Therefore, it can be concluded that dynamics is a clear dynamic or regularity in psychological relationships. Communication as a skill is inseparable from communication skills or communication competencies, which refer to the ability to communicate effectively. Effective communication is a major goal to be achieved in any communication process (Aririguzoh, 2022; Rachmad, 2024; Zhu et al., 2024; Sharkiya, 2023). Therefore, it is important to understand what a communicator must do to ensure the communication process is not wasted. Effective communication can only occur if the communicator demonstrates respect, empathy, and humility. Furthermore, the message must be clear and well-received by the recipient (Herlina et al., 2023).

Effective communication is the process of conveying a message from the sender (communicator) to the recipient (communicatee), resulting in a shared perception and a change in attitude in response to the message's content (singh, 2022; Hofmeister, 2024). The purpose of effective communication is to achieve a mutual understanding between the sender and recipient. Communication is considered effective when the recipient receives the message, meaning, or intent as intended by the sender (Suprpto, 2009). Effective communication can be seen in both verbal and nonverbal forms. In verbal communication, effective communication is seen in the delivery by the communicator and the reception by the recipient. In nonverbal forms, effective communication is seen in the body language and facial expressions of both the communicator and the recipient (Purba et al., 2020). Effective communication within a communication process can only be achieved optimally if factors inhibiting communication are reduced or even eliminated entirely. Communication barriers can include socio-anthropo-psychological barriers, semantic barriers, mechanical barriers, and ecological barriers. These barriers can be reduced or eliminated if the communicator pays attention to the situation during which communication takes place, as it significantly influences the smoothness of communication. Sociological barriers can be reduced or eliminated if the communicator considers differences between themselves and the recipient in terms of social status, religion,

ideology, education level, wealth level, and so on (Rink, 2024; Chee, 2024). Anthropological barriers can be reduced or eliminated if the communicator pays attention to differences in lifestyle, norms, habits, and language between themselves and the recipient. Psychological barriers can be reduced or eliminated if the communicator examines the recipient's psychological state. Communication is difficult to achieve when the recipient is sad, confused, angry, disappointed, jealous, or experiencing other psychological conditions, such as prejudice against the communicator. Semantic barriers can be reduced or eliminated if the communicator strives to minimize semantic interference, such as mispronunciations or misspellings, which can lead to misunderstandings or misinterpretations, which in turn can lead to miscommunication. Mechanical barriers can be reduced or eliminated if the communicator pays attention to the quality of the communication media, such as a strong telephone signal, clear text, and so on. Ecological barriers can be reduced or eliminated if the communicator minimizes environmental disturbances during communication, such as traffic noise, rain, or thunder (Effendy, 2019).

Effective communication is essential in the communication process between government institutions. Effective communication is necessary both among members within an institution and between institutions coordinating to produce a policy (Mohammed, 2024; Bess et al., 2023; Malik & Shankar, 2025). One inter-institutional communication that greatly requires effective communication is communication between the Regency Regional Representative Council (DPRD) and the Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD). The Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) is a regional people's representative institution that carries out regional government functions as an equal partner to the regional government. Within the regional government structure, the DPRD exists at two levels: at the provincial level (DPRD Provinsi) and at the regency/city level (DPRD Kabupaten/Kota). The regency/city DPRD consists of members of political parties participating in general elections, elected by the people through general elections. The regency/city DPRD is a regional people's representative institution based in the regency/city and serves as an element of the regency/city government administration (Indartini, 2019).

The DPRD's existence as a legislative institution represents a mandate granted by the people to a democratic state. The DPRD is an institution that formulates and makes regulations for implementation by the regional government (Tartib & Wahyuni, 2023; Pone & Bakir, 2024; Arif et al., 2023; Irsyada & Wardana, 2024; Idris & Rattanapun, 2024). Furthermore, the DPRD, as the people's representative, oversees regional government policies (Syam et al., 2024). With DPRD oversight, the regional government is expected to avoid mistakes that could harm the community (Indartini, 2019). As representatives of the people, the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) is required to convey the aspirations received from the community to the regional government. In carrying out its functions, the DPRD must continuously coordinate with the government, as the holder of executive power, to ensure that the public's interests are realized. Legislative, budgetary, and oversight functions can only function through interaction between the DPRD and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD). This interaction between the DPRD and OPD is realized through communication between the two. Effective communication is essential for effective governance and positive impacts on the community. Without effective communication, the aspirations of the community will not be properly conveyed. The Nunukan Regency DPRD is a legislative body that serves as a working partner of the Nunukan Regency Government (Pemkab), North Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. The leadership of the Nunukan Regency DPRD consists of one chairperson and two second-place representatives from the political party with the most seats. The current members of the Nunukan Regency DPRD (Regional People's Representative Council) were elected in the 2024 elections, and were inaugurated on August 12, 2024. The seats won by the

participating political parties are: Hanura (6 seats), PKS (5 seats), Nasdem (Nasdem) and Demokrat (Democratic Party) each with 4 seats, Gerindra (Gerindra) and PDIP (Indonesian Democratic Party) with 3 seats each, and PAN (National Mandate Party), PKB (National Awakening Party), and PBB (PBB) with 1 seat each. The number of members of the Nunukan Regency DPRD in the 2024 elections increased by 5 seats compared to the 25 seats in the 2019 elections. This increase in seats is due to population growth over the past five years.

Since its establishment in 1999, the Nunukan Regency DPRD has championed the interests of the community by fostering communication and coordination with the Nunukan Regency Regional Government Organizations (OPD). However, it is interesting to examine the extent of effective communication between the two institutions and its impact on realizing the interests of the people of Nunukan Regency (Kuswandi et al., 2023; Kenawas, 2024). The dynamics of communication between the Nunukan Regency Regional Representative Council (DPRD) and the Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD), including the inhibiting and supporting factors that influence it, are crucial for effective communication between the two (Asykin et al., 2024; Rahman, 2023; Kadir et al., 2025). The communication that occurs between the Regency DPRD and the local government constitutes political communication. Political communication can be viewed in both narrow and broad terms. In the narrow sense, political communication is any form of message delivery, whether symbolic, written, verbal, or gestural, that influences a person's position within a particular power structure. In the broad sense, political communication is any type of message delivery, particularly those containing political information, from one source to a number of recipients (Kumaini & Anwar, 2012).

Political communication is not simply the process of conveying a political message from one person to another (Budiana, 2022; Siantur & Megasari, 2023; Wolfsfeld, 2022). Nor is it a combination of communication and politics (Widjayanto et al., 2022; Feldman, O. (2023). Political communication is the deliberate delivery of a political message by a communicator to a recipient with the aim of influencing the recipient to behave in a certain way. Before a political message can be constructed to be delivered to the recipient with the aim of influencing them, there must be a political decision formulated based on various considerations. A message delivered is not only intended to create a cognitive effect on the recipient, but also a cognitive and behavioral effect. If the message delivered not only makes the recipient understand, but also touches the depths of his heart, thereby evoking certain feelings in him, then that effect is an affective effect. The affective effect is higher in level than the cognitive effect. However, the behavioral effect is higher in level than both of these effects because the communication message received by the recipient not only makes him understand and with certain feelings, but also makes him carry out an action or activity desired by the communicator (Effendy, 2019). Research on political communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and the regional government was conducted by (Kumaini & Anwar, 2012). However, this study focused solely on the forms of political communication that occurred between the regional government and the DPRD in the preparation of the Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBD) in Samarinda City. The study found that in preparing the APBD, the communication methods used by the Regional Government and DPRD were negotiation and rhetoric. Both forms of communication are essential to reaching agreement among the many perceptions or opinions stemming from the interests of each party. Furthermore, the study identified three obstacles to political communication between the Regional Government and the Samarinda City DPRD. However, the study's findings did not explain the effectiveness of negotiation and rhetoric in realizing the interests of the Samarinda City community (Kumaini & Anwar, 2012). Negotiation and rhetoric were also found in the communication between the Regency and Nunukan DPRD and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD). Rhetorical forms of communication can be found in commission

meetings involving relevant regional government agencies (OPDs) as well as in public hearings (RDPs) involving OPDs and related parties. One example of a RDP involving OPDs is the RDP held on Monday, February 3, 2025, by the Joint Commission of the Nunukan Regency DPRD (Regional People's Representative Council), the Nunukan Regency Regional Hospital (RSUD), specialist doctors, the Head of the P2KB Health Office, the Nunukan BPJS Kesehatan (National Health Insurance Agency), the Head of the Tarakan BPJS Kesehatan Branch, and the Indonesian Ombudsman (Indonesian Ombudsman) North Kalimantan Regional Office.

Unlike previous research, this study seeks not only to determine the forms of communication that occur between the DPRD and OPDs. Furthermore, it seeks to uncover the communication dynamics between the two. The communication dynamics examined include how the DPRD and OPDs communicate, the messages they convey, the media they use, and the impact of communication on realizing the interests of the people of Nunukan Regency. Understanding the communication dynamics that occur between the DPRD of Nunukan Regency and the Regional Apparatus Organization of Nunukan Regency is very important to increase the effectiveness of communication, build better relationships, and achieve the desired goals.

Methods

The approach used in this research is a qualitative approach with a descriptive research strategy. According to Sarosa (2021:7), qualitative research focuses on the phenomenon under study in its natural setting, and the researcher examines the phenomenon comprehensively with all its complexity. Furthermore, according to Jaya, I Made (2021:110), qualitative research is research conducted comprehensively on an object. The researcher serves as the primary instrument in qualitative research, and the research results are then explained verbally through valid data. This is because qualitative research emphasizes meaning over generalization. Qualitative research provides a description of a phenomenon or situation. The phenomena in qualitative research are holistic or comprehensive. Therefore, the data obtained cannot be separated. The purpose of descriptive research is to systematically, factually, and accurately analyze the facts and characteristics of a particular population or region. This research aims to determine the influence of effective communication between the Nunukan Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) on the realization of the interests of the Nunukan Regency community.

Managing the Role as a Researcher

The researcher acts as a research instrument, while other instruments support the researcher. The researcher's presence in this study is as a full participant. The informants acknowledge the researcher's presence. The researcher's role in qualitative research is as planner, data collector, analyst, and ultimately, initiator of the research. Qualitative research emphasizes that the researcher, alone or with the assistance of others, is the primary data collection tool (Moleong, 2018). Therefore, the researcher is key to conducting research. The researcher not only acts as a data collector, data processor, and data inventor, but also as a friend to the subjects. This results in more accurate and valid results because the more the subjects trust the researcher, the easier it is for them to tell the truth and minimize faking.

Research Location and Time

This research was conducted at the Nunukan Regency DPRD office, the offices of the Nunukan Regency Government Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs), and the homes of DPRD members who served as informants. This research was conducted from March to May 2025.

Research Informants

Informants in this study served as sources for seeking or obtaining information regarding effective communication between the Nunukan Regency DPRD and OPDs regarding the realization of the interests of the Nunukan Regency community. To select appropriate informants in this study, the researcher used a purposive sampling technique based on certain considerations made by the researcher based on previously known characteristics or traits of informants in obtaining information, including the principles of suitability and adequacy of informants (Sugiyono, 2014).

Data Sources

Data collection techniques are the methods used by researchers to obtain research data. With data collection techniques, researchers obtain data with characteristics determined by the researcher (Jaya, I Made, 2021:149). In qualitative research, data collection is conducted in natural settings (natural conditions). Primary data sources and data collection techniques primarily involve observation, interviews, and documentation.

This way, the credibility of the data sources can be demonstrated. Data collection uses purposive sampling techniques. Afterward, the validity of the data is tested using triangulation techniques.

Purposive sampling is a sampling technique that is not conducted randomly but rather with specific considerations. Triangulation techniques are data analysis techniques from various perspectives. Triangulation techniques in this study were conducted by applying various methods, including interviews, participant observation, and the use of documents.

In this study, sampling is linked to representativeness of the problem, not to generalizations. Sampling is applied to situations, subjects, informants, and time.

Data Collection Procedures

Interviews are a data collection technique conducted by asking informants or research subjects directly. Interviews are activities conducted to obtain in-depth information about an issue or theme raised in the research (Singarimbun, 1989). Observation is data collection conducted by participating in the research being observed. Participant observation is a data collection method used to collect research data through observation or sensing, where the researcher is intensively involved in the informant's activities related to the problem being studied (Bungin, 2017). In addition to interviews and observations, researchers also gather information from facts stored in letters, diaries, photo archives, meeting minutes, activity journals, and so on.

Data Analysis Techniques

Qualitative data collection, which generally focuses on interviews and participant observation, results in textual analysis of unstructured field note transcripts (Jaya, 2021:162). This section explains the data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing processes. It describes how the interview transcripts, field notes, and other materials were searched and organized. It also explains how the data was processed, organized, broken down, and synthesized, as well as the search for patterns, interpretation of meaning, and determination of the substance to be reported. It also explains how data analysis was conducted during and after data collection using domain analysis, taxonomic analysis, componential analysis, and thematic analysis techniques. Domain analysis is used by researchers to obtain an overview of the data, while taxonomic analysis is used by researchers to break down domains into more detailed structures. Componential analysis is used by researchers to understand the underlying relationship structure of a domain. Componential analysis of the data is conducted by identifying

differences within domains or contrasting gaps within domains. This analysis involves selected interviews, observations, or documentation. Thematic analysis is used by researchers to identify patterns in the data and is applied to interview transcriptions. Data analysis is the process of arranging data in sequence, organizing it into patterns, categories, and basic units of description (Moleong, 2018). The first step in data analysis is to examine the data collected from interviews with research subjects and observations. Afterward, the data is read and analyzed.

Validity Checking of Findings

This section describes the researcher's efforts to ensure the validity of her findings. It explains how the researcher applied techniques such as extended fieldwork, in-depth observation, triangulation (source, method, researcher, theory), peer review, negative case analysis, tracking the consistency of results, and member checking to ensure the validity of the findings. Furthermore, it explains how the findings are checked for transferability, dependability, and confirmability.

Qualitative research methods require checking the validity of the findings. This is intended to review the data obtained in the field to determine whether they are truly valid. The sharpness of the researcher's analysis in presenting data does not automatically make the findings accurate and reliable. Data testing is necessary first, following established procedures, as a final step in generating or producing new findings. This testing will ultimately produce valid data.

Results and Discussion

Communication Dynamics Between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) of Nunukan Regency in Advocating the Interests of the Nunukan Regency Community

This section will be divided into two sections. First, the dynamics of communication between the DPRD and OPDs. Second, the dynamics of communication between OPDs and the DPRD. Three informants from the DPRD were interviewed. One was still serving from the previous term, while the other two were only in office during the previous term. Twelve informants from the OPDs were all serving as Heads of OPDs in their respective OPDs. In the first section, the DPRD acted as the communicator, while the OPDs acted as the recipients. All three informants from the DPRD stated that they frequently communicated with OPDs. However, informant 3 (three) detailed that the frequency of communication with OPDs fluctuated, depending on the situation and conditions. All three informants from the DPRD stated that they used two media to communicate with OPDs: official letters and telephone. Phone calls can be made through regular calls or WhatsApp, depending on the situation. If the internet connection is unsupported, they switch to regular phone calls. However, compared to letters, the use of telephones is generally higher. However, informant 2 further explained that official communication always begins with letters. The three informants from the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) provided different examples of cases discussed when communicating with Regional Government Organizations (OPD). However, informant 2 further explained that the cases discussed in communication with OPDs depended on the situation within the community and the commission under which the DPRD member worked. Informant 1 explained that one case he had discussed when communicating with OPDs involved a proposal to divide an OPD into two new OPDs. In this case, the DPRD acted as the communicator, attempting to influence the OPD, while the OPD acted as the communicator. The medium used was a letter containing a meeting invitation. In this case, Informant 1, a member of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), provided a lengthy explanation of the rationale behind the proposal to divide the Regional Apparatus Organization

(OPD) into two and the benefits of doing so. This explanation ultimately resulted in the approval of the relevant OPD, resulting in an agreement. As a follow-up to this agreement, the OPD was finally fully divided, which remains the case to this day. Informant 2 explained that the cases frequently discussed with the OPD were labor disputes, specifically disputes between workers and companies. These cases prompted him to frequently communicate with OPDs involved in labor. He stated that one of the causes of labor disputes was the authoritarian attitude of companies toward workers. This led the DPRD to require the support of OPDs involved in labor to pressure companies to fulfill workers' rights. In these communications, OPDs sometimes disagreed with the DPRD regarding the method chosen by the DPRD to resolve the case, particularly when the OPD considered the proposed resolution method to be contrary to applicable regulations. This rejection from the OPD forced the DPRD to offer a compromise that would not endanger the OPD before the law. After the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) explained that they only wanted to use the Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD)'s name to pressure the company without directly involving it in the resolution process, the OPD finally reached an agreement with the DPRD. As a follow-up to this agreement, the OPD ultimately provided support to the DPRD in resolving the case.

Informant 3 explained that one of the cases discussed during their communication with the OPD involved the problems experienced by farmers, as the agricultural assistance provided by the OPD did not meet their needs. This prompted them to contact the OPD to request an explanation for this situation. After engaging in persuasive approaches, the OPD agreed to explain the reasons for the problem. Furthermore, the OPD felt greatly helped by the communication, which enabled them to understand the farmers' challenges. Following the communication, the OPD promised to find solutions to prevent similar problems from occurring in the future. Two informants from the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) stated that they use a personal approach when communicating with Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD). Informant 1 emphasized that this personal approach is not one that is motivated by personal interests. He merely positions himself as a facilitator between the OPD and the community. By doing so, the OPD does not perceive the DPRD as a threat seeking to find fault with them. The OPD views the DPRD as a friend needed to connect them with the community so that OPD programs can run smoothly. Informant 3's communication pattern involves contacting the OPD prior to a visit. This ensures the OPD is prepared when the DPRD arrives to communicate with them. Furthermore, Informant 3 stated that he positions himself as a learner when meeting with the OPD, not as someone seeking fault. He does this to ensure the OPD is open to communication.

In the second part of this description, the OPD acts as the communicator, while the DPRD acts as the recipient. Of the 12 informants from regional government agencies (OPD), eight reported frequent communication with the DPRD (Regional Legislative Council), namely informants 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, and 15. However, informant 4 emphasized that the DPRD is more proactive in initiating communication. Informants 9 and 12 stated that they communicated less with DPRD members. Informants 7 and 10 did not specify how often they communicated with the DPRD, as the frequency varied depending on the conditions and situations. The twelve informants from OPD explained that they used two communication channels when communicating with the DPRD: letters and telephone. However, the frequency of use of these two channels varied. Some, such as informant 4, used letters and telephones in a balanced way. Others, such as informants 5 and 8, used telephones more frequently. Still others, such as informant 12, used letters more frequently. The cases discussed in the communication process where the Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD) acted as communicators varied from one OPD to another, depending on their respective work areas and the level of need for DPRD assistance in resolving the problems they faced. Interviews with informants from OPDs

revealed that not many OPDs acted as communicators; most simply acted as recipients, responding to communications initiated by the DPRD. This was evident in the statements of informants 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14. One regional government agency (OPD) who provided a different account, stating that the OPD he led often acted as a communicator, was informant 5. He admitted to actively communicating with the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), reporting cases faced by the OPD he led to DPRD members for assistance in fighting for budget increases and drafting regional regulations to serve as a legal framework for addressing the issues. However, he stated that DPRD members appeared to be disinterested in the cases at hand, resulting in a lack of serious response. To address this, he attempted to appeal to the DPRD members' humanitarian side by outlining the potential negative impacts on the Nunukan community if the issues were allowed to drag on. This approach had a positive effect, with several DPRD members promising to provide the necessary assistance in resolving the issues raised in legislative forums.

Another informant from the Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD) who actively communicates with the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) as a communicator is informant 11. He admitted to frequently communicating with DPRD members to invite them to participate in the activities of the OPD he leads. DPRD members are sometimes invited as resource persons in technical guidance sessions, and sometimes as invited guests at events organized by the OPD. One frequent disruption in the communication process is DPRD members' busy schedules, which prevent them from attending OPD activities. However, if this disruption can be overcome, smooth communication between the two can accelerate the dissemination of information regarding OPD activities to the public. Furthermore, the DPRD, as representatives of the people, can respond by providing input for improving the programs of the OPDs they attend. The final informant from the OPD who actively communicates with the DPRD and acts as a communicator is informant 15. He admitted to actively communicating with all DPRD members to resolve administrative and financial issues. Although the communication context relates to the interests of DPRD members, this does not mean that disruptions do not occur during the communication process. One potential disruption is when a Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) member attempts to influence the decisions of the regional government agencies (OPD) he leads to align them with the party's mission. He addresses this disruption by employing a normative approach. However, if this approach is unsuccessful, he employs emotional and psychological approaches to ensure that DPRD members understand the OPD's position and the potential negative impacts of involving specific party interests in decision-making. He attempts to influence DPRD members during communication to ensure collective decisions are made. Although some DPRD members may disagree with a decision, if the commission leadership agrees, an approval document is immediately drawn up.

Communication Dynamics Between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) of Nunukan Regency in Advocating the Interests of the Nunukan Regency Community

Communication dynamics refer to how the communication process occurs and the changes that occur. Communication dynamics include the frequency of interaction, the media used, the message content, and the communication patterns between communicators and recipients, which can change depending on the situation and conditions. This discussion focuses on the dynamics of communication frequency, communication media, message content, and communication patterns during the communication process between the DPRD and the OPD of Nunukan Regency. Communication frequency dynamics refer to the changes and interaction patterns within the communication process. This includes how often communication occurs

and how it occurs. The dynamics of communication frequency can affect communication effectiveness. Too frequent but ineffective communication can lead to information fatigue. However, this does not mean that infrequent but high-quality communication can build strong relationships. Communication frequency must be tailored to needs. Increasing communication frequency without a corresponding increase in needs will only lead to boredom and fatigue on both sides. Communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) must be well-established and continuous for the smooth running of Regional Government. Good and intensive communication will facilitate coordination, synchronization, and the effective implementation of Regional Government work programs and policies. Without good and intensive communication, obstacles will arise in the formulation of regional regulations, budget management, and monitoring of OPD performance.

Based on research data, it was found that communication between the DPRD and OPD is both formal and informal. Formal communication is structured and official, following established rules and hierarchies. Conversely, informal communication is less formal, more relaxed, spontaneous, not bound by formal rules, and can occur anywhere. This aligns with the concept of organizational communication explained in Chapter II. The fundamental difference between formal and informal communication in organizational communication lies in its orientation. Formal communication is oriented toward the interests of the DPRD or OPD, while informal communication is oriented toward the interests of individuals under the DPRD or OPD. All informants from the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), both current and former, reported frequent communication with Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD). The research data indicates that most of this communication is informal. This aligns with the research reported by Carundeng et al. (2016) that, while several patterns of political communication between DPRD members and the executive branch operate effectively, one pattern stands out as more prominent.

The research data also indicates that communication between the DPRD and OPD is generally initiated by DPRD members. The heads of OPDs generally respond by providing the required information based on the message, either directly or indirectly. This suggests that OPD heads generally employ informative communication techniques, while the DPRD generally employs persuasive communication techniques. Research data also shows that the frequency of communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) is influenced by the situation and conditions. When DPRD members are resolving a community issue, such as a conflict between workers and a company, they frequently communicate with the relevant OPD. This communication sometimes occurs in formal meeting rooms. However, most often it occurs outside the meeting room informally, for example, during lunch breaks in the Commission Room, or during evening meetings at cafes or restaurants. Informant 3 provided a different account. As a DPRD member, he actively visits government offices. He noted that many DPRD members from previous periods were embarrassed to visit government offices without a formal invitation. He did this to increase the frequency of communication. Furthermore, in his experience, OPD heads are more open to personal communication, provided the visit is without suspicious motives. Informant 8 also frequently engages in this communication, admitting to frequently visiting Council members to establish informal communication. The dynamics of message content in communication refers to how messages conveyed in a communication process change, develop, and are influenced by various factors throughout the process. Politicians understand that their messages not only create information but also play a role in shaping images and gaining support. Therefore, a Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) member strives to craft messages that align with the aspirations of the community when communicating with Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD). Based on research data, it was found that the commission a

DPRD member serves is one factor influencing the content of messages when communicating with OPDs. Each DPRD member of Nunukan Regency is assigned to one of three commissions. DPRD commissions are permanent DPRD support bodies tasked with assisting the DPRD in carrying out its legislative, budgetary, and oversight functions. Commissions are established at the beginning of the DPRD's term and consist of all DPRD members except the DPRD leadership. The research also shows that another factor influencing the content of messages in communication between the DPRD and OPD is the situation of the community on the ground. Effective communication between these two institutions is influenced not only by internal factors such as coordination and internal systems, but also by external conditions, namely the condition of the community being served. The diverse needs, hopes, and complaints of the community form the basis for the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) in carrying out its oversight and policy-making functions. Furthermore, social issues such as poverty, unemployment, or social conflict within the community also influence the dynamics of communication between the DPRD and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD). Therefore, the DPRD and OPD need to understand the conditions of the community comprehensively in order to communicate effectively, build trust, and ultimately provide better services to the community. These communication dynamics can be explained using the concept of ethos (credibility and charisma) contained in Aristotle's rhetorical theory: a. The Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), as representatives of the people, must build ethos by demonstrating integrity, competence, and commitment to the public interest.

Issues arising within the community will be coordinated with the relevant Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD), ensuring that the DPRD maintains ethos in the eyes of both the OPD and the people of Nunukan Regency. The OPD, as the executive branch, must also maintain ethos through professionalism, transparency, and accountability in implementing policies. Problems reported by the DPRD will be resolved, or at least a promise will be made, ensuring that the OPD maintains ethos in the eyes of the DPRD and the people of Nunukan Regency. If, in the communication process between the DPRD and the OPD, one party is perceived as lacking ethos, communication between the two will be hindered due to mutual distrust and suspicion. The dynamics of communication media refer to changes and developments in the use of media in the distribution of information during the communication process between communicator and recipient. The word "media" comes from the Latin word *medius*, which literally means intermediary, middle, middle, or messenger. Communication experts define media as a tool that connects communication messages delivered by the communicator (message sender) to the communicant (message recipient). More specifically, communication media has three functions: effectiveness, efficiency, and concreteness. Effectiveness is the function of communication media as a means to facilitate the smooth delivery of information. Efficiency is the function of communication media as a means to expedite the delivery of information. Concreteness is the function of communication media as a means to expedite the content of abstract messages. Motivationalness is the function of communication media as a motivator for communication. Research shows that formal communication always begins with a letter containing a meeting invitation. After that, communication continues with face-to-face interaction in the meeting room. Two media are used in informal communication: WhatsApp (What's Up) and regular telephone. However, WA is generally used. Regular telephones are only used when the communicant's WA number is inactive. If we examine the sources' statements regarding communication media, we will find the statement "more use of telephone." However, upon further investigation, it turns out that the term "telephone" in question refers to WhatsApp. The widespread use of WhatsApp (WhatsApp) in communication indicates a shift in communication media adapting to advances in communication technology. While people used to use regular telephones and email, they are now shifting to WhatsApp,

which is considered more affordable and practical. The dynamics of communication patterns refer to changes and developments in communication patterns established between communicators and recipients to achieve specific goals. Communication pattern dynamics involve adjustments to communication patterns based on changing situations, feedback received, and technological developments. Communication pattern dynamics encompass the interaction between various communication elements, such as the communicator, message, media, and their impact on the recipient. Communication patterns must be flexible and adaptable to changing situations, feedback from recipients, and technological developments. When examining the objectives of communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD), research data reveals persuasive and instructive communication techniques. Persuasive communication techniques are communication strategies aimed at influencing the attitudes, opinions, and behavior of recipients. In this case, the DPRD seeks to influence OPDs to issue policies that align with the public interest, help resolve community issues in their areas, and so on. Coercive communication techniques are communication strategies aimed at forcing the recipient to do something through orders, threats, sanctions, and other coercive means. In this case, the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) attempted to coerce the Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD) into complying with their demands by threatening them, for example, postponing the plenary meeting to ratify the Regional Regulation concerning the Accountability Report on Regional Budget Implementation.

Research data shows that in applying persuasive communication techniques, DPRD members used a personal approach. This personal approach involves the ability to build strong relationships, understand others' perspectives, and adapt their communication style to achieve effective and meaningful communication. One example of a personal approach can be seen in the statement of informant 1. In advocating for community interests, he attempted to ensure that the OPD did not feel interfered with by positioning himself as a facilitator, simply bringing the OPD and the community together. He achieved two benefits from implementing this approach. On the one hand, the community perceived him as having championed their rights by facilitating a direct meeting with the Head of the Department, who would resolve the issues they were facing. Based on Aristotle's rhetorical theory, informant 1 successfully established ethos in the eyes of the community. On the other hand, the Heads of Departments also perceived him as having helped realize the Department's work programs by connecting them with the community members who needed those programs. When viewed using Aristotle's rhetorical theory, it can be said that informant 1 successfully established ethos in the eyes of the Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD). Another example of a personal approach can be seen in informant 3's statement. He assured the OPD that his visit was not to find fault, but rather to learn. Furthermore, he never arrived at the OPD office unannounced, but rather informed them in advance so they could prepare. He did this so the OPD would be more prepared to communicate, more open in providing needed information, rather than being closed off. When viewed using communication accommodation theory, it can be said that informant 3 successfully created a harmonious relationship with the Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD), resulting in convergence (approximate adjustment). The application of coercive communication techniques is evident in the statements provided by informants 1, 2, and 8 (see appendix). Coercive communication techniques are typically employed by DPRD members when the OPD defends a disputing party in a meeting, whom the DPRD deems should not be defended. This communication technique is also commonly employed when the DPRD criticizes an OPD work program deemed detrimental to the community. However, when coercive communication techniques in the meeting are ineffective, DPRD members typically switch to persuasive communication techniques in informal forums. Persuasive communication

techniques are used when DPRD members feel the need for an integrative approach to negotiations. The integrative approach, as explained in negotiation theory, emphasizes problem-solving where no party is disadvantaged. For negotiations to run smoothly, ethos (trust) and logos (data) must be balanced. The DPRD must demonstrate its concern for OPDs and provide data on the consequences that OPDs will experience if they make the wrong decision. According to research reported by (Kumaini & Anwar, 2012), the forms of political communication between the Regional Government (Pemda) and the DPRD are negotiation and rhetoric. The application of persuasive and coercive communication techniques in the communication dynamics between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) can be explained using the concept of pathos (emotion and persuasion) in Aristotle's rhetorical theory:

The DPRD uses pathos to influence OPDs by voicing the aspirations of the Nunukan Regency community and encouraging them to act in accordance with these aspirations. Initially, the DPRD will employ persuasive communication techniques. However, if the OPD's response does not meet expectations, the DPRD will employ coercive communication techniques. If an OPD refuses to issue a policy that aligns with the DPRD's expectations, it can use pathos by explaining the policy's impact on the community. For example, by saying, "If the Social Services budget is increased, the budgets of other OPDs must be reduced because our budget is limited. Ultimately, the community will also be impacted by reduced public services." Research data reveals that the objectives of OPD communication with the DPRD include persuasive and informative communication techniques. Persuasive communication techniques are employed by regional government agencies (OPD) to influence the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) to assist them in implementing their programs, resolving community issues, advocating for budget increases, and so on. Informative communication techniques are employed by OPDs to provide information to the DPRD regarding questions raised in specific meetings. One example of persuasive communication techniques can be seen in the statement of informant 5. He garnered the DPRD's sympathy by reporting on the social problems frequently faced by the agency he leads and the obstacles they face. This is expected to arouse the DPRD members' sense of humanity, leading them to advocate for an increase in the Social Services budget.

Conclusion

The dynamics of communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) in championing the interests of the people of Nunukan Regency involve elements of communication dynamics in the form of communication media, the content of the messages communicated, and communication patterns that can change depending on the situation and conditions. The communication media generally begins with an official letter and is continued with informal communication using telephone or WhatsApp as needed. The content of the messages conveyed in the communication process is influenced by the problems being faced. The communication patterns used are applying persuasive, coercive, and informative communication techniques according to the situation and conditions during the communication process.

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