

Building Shadow City: The Social and Cultural Effects of National Capital Relocation on National Unity.

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Accepted 1 May 2023, revised 10 May 2023, published 30 June 2023

Abstract

The relocation of a capital city is a strategic decision that can have significant impacts on the social and cultural aspects of a country. This research will focus on the concept of "building shadow cities" that emerges as an alternative in addressing the relocation of a capital city. In this context, shadow cities refer to the development of new cities that serve as centers of administration and government, supporting the gradual relocation of the capital. This concept is designed to minimize the disruptions that may arise from a direct capital city relocation while maintaining and strengthening national unity. This paper will discuss the socio-cultural impacts of the relocation of a capital city and the implementation of the shadow city concept. The relocation of a capital city has complex impacts on national unity. The socio-cultural effects of the capital city relocation can have positive or negative consequences depending on factors such as the management of national identity, respect for cultural diversity, and public participation in the relocation process. Therefore, it is important for the government and society to actively manage the capital city relocation by considering the potential social and cultural impacts and ensuring that the steps taken aim to strengthen national unity and preserve the cultural diversity of the country. The relocation can impact cultural diversity and interactions among different societal groups in the shadow city. Additionally, aspects of infrastructure and city development will also be taken into consideration. In the context of this research, we will study how the development of shadow cities can create new job opportunities, improve quality of life, and strengthen the local economy. The environmental impacts of the capital city relocation will also be evaluated, with a focus on environmental protection and sustainable efforts in shadow city development. The research will utilize a descriptive qualitative research method aimed at systematically, factually, and accurately portraying the phenomena or relationships under investigation.

Keywords: *Shadow City, Capital City, Socio-cultural Effects*

Introduction

The capital city, according to the Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language (KBBI), is defined as a city that serves as the seat of government of a country or the place where the executive, legislative, and judicial administrative elements are gathered. The existence of a capital city in a country usually becomes a symbol of the nation's identity that shapes the country. Bartolini (2005) states that the capital city of a country is a significant component that represents national identity, as the location of a country's power or the representation of the extent of a country's power, and also as the focal point of the existence of supporting groups, conflicts, and cohesion among groups that form a country/nation. The capital city of a country is also a political center and plays an important role in power debates to legitimize that power.

Recently, we have heard about a policy of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia (RI) regarding the relocation of the Capital City of the Republic of Indonesia. The relocation of the

capital city was proposed during the state address on August 16, 2019, accompanied by seeking permission from the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR). As time passed, the government (through the National Development Planning Agency/Bappenas or the Ministry of National Development Planning) together with the People's Representative Council (DPR) passed the Bill on the National Capital Integrated Coastal Development (IKN) and it became a Law (UU), agreeing on the new name of the capital city, "Nusantara."

The designation of relocating the capital city to the eastern region of Indonesia is expected to reduce disparities and achieve sustainable development in Indonesia, as well as establish a new capital city that aligns with the nation's identity. Specifically, the designated core location for the new IKN is situated in parts of two regencies, namely Penajem Paser Utara (PPU) Regency and Kutai Kertanegara (KuKar) Regency. The New National Capital has five visions: as a symbol of the nation's identity; as a smart, green, beautiful, and sustainable city; modern and with international standards; efficient and effective governance; and as a driver of economic equality in the Eastern Region.

The Change of National Capital: A Step with Political, Economic, and Socio-Cultural Impacts
The change of a country's capital is a step that not only has political and economic implications but also the potential to affect the social and cultural aspects of a nation. When a country decides to relocate its capital, it can create significant socio-cultural effects. These effects can include shifts in national identity, changes in patterns of social interaction, and new dynamics in national unity. History has recorded several countries that have decided to move their capitals. A famous example is Brazil, which in 1960 relocated its capital from Rio de Janeiro to Brasília. This decision was based on the drive to accelerate domestic development and promote economic growth throughout the country. However, apart from practical reasons like these, the relocation of a capital can also have profound impacts on national identity and national unity.

New dynamics in national unity can also emerge as a result of capital relocation. This relocation process often involves the construction of new infrastructure, development of the areas surrounding the new capital, and changes in related government policies. It can give rise to new dynamics in economic development, job opportunities, and growth in specific sectors. In this context, it is important to ensure that the opportunities and benefits of capital relocation are evenly distributed throughout the country to promote solidarity and national unity.

Considering the various issues and solutions presented above, a temporary conclusion can be drawn that the relocation of a national capital is a significant decision involving political, economic, and socio-cultural aspects. In terms of socio-cultural effects, capital change can create shifts in national identity, changes in patterns of social interaction, and new dynamics in national unity. Therefore, it is important for the government and society to carefully consider these socio-cultural impacts and plan necessary measures to ensure the preservation of national unity and strong social cohesion amidst these changes.

Based on the background discussed above, the author is interested in addressing this theme in the form of a title: "Building Shadow Cities: The Socio-Cultural Effects of National Capital Relocation on National Unity." This topic will be further discussed in several key points of exposition or description, using clear and detailed language and employing a qualitative descriptive research method. The aim is to systematically, factually, and accurately depict or portray the phenomenon or the relationships among the investigated phenomena and to gain a profound understanding of the experiences, perceptions, attitudes, and meanings associated with this topic."

Methods

In this scientific paper, the author used a descriptive qualitative research method that describes the related phenomena (Sugiyono, 2016), literature (library research) (Soekanto, 2007). By examining secondary data through investigation of studies. By using an approach, researchers can obtain all the information regarding the researched issue (Peter Mahmud Marzuki, 2005). There are several approaches in this research, including: Content Analysis: This method involves analyzing documents, mass media, and other relevant resources to understand the effects of the capital city relocation on national unity. Such as analyzing news reports, editorials, academic articles, policy documents, and social media related to the capital city relocation. By analyzing the content, changes in public perception, public discussions, and shifts in cultural representation in media and official documents can be observed. Next is the Ethnography method: This method involves direct observation and participation in the lives of communities affected by the capital city relocation. Conducting field research to understand the socio-cultural changes that occur in daily life, cultural practices, and social interactions surrounding the capital city relocation. This method allows researchers to gain in-depth insights into the effects of the capital city relocation from the perspective of the directly involved community. Lastly, the Comparative Approach. The legal materials used consist of: primary legal materials which include legislation and secondary legal materials consisting of literature, papers, scientific works, as well as articles related to the research object.

Findings dan Discussion

Building a Shadow City as an Alternative for the Relocation of the National Capital.

The concept of a shadow city is an idea to create a new city that functions as a "shadow capital" or "temporary capital" when a country decides to move its capital. In the context of Indonesia's capital relocation, the concept of a shadow city can be seen as a plan to build a new city that will serve as a temporary government center before all the necessary infrastructure and government facilities are fully completed in the new capital location. There are several main objectives of the shadow city concept in the context of Indonesia's capital relocation:

1. **Operational Function:** In the process of capital relocation, it is crucial to ensure the continuity of government and important operational functions. The shadow city can provide a place for government institutions to continue operating and providing services to the public during the transition period.
2. **Gradual Transition:** Constructing a new capital takes a considerable amount of time to be fully completed. With the presence of a shadow city, the capital relocation process can be done gradually. The government can start by moving some departments or government agencies first to the shadow city while the infrastructure in the new capital continues to be built.
3. **Provision of Supporting Infrastructure:** The shadow city can serve as a place to develop essential supporting infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, airports, housing, and other public facilities. This will help better prepare the new capital location before the actual government relocation process.
4. **Meeting the Needs of the Community:** The shadow city can provide the necessary public facilities and services needed by the community, such as hospitals, schools, shopping centers, and recreational facilities. This will help mitigate the potential negative impacts experienced by the population when the government decides to move the capital.

It is important to note that currently, there is no official decision regarding the construction of a shadow city in the context of relocating the capital in Indonesia. However, the concept of a shadow city can be considered as one of the strategies by the government as part of the plan to move the capital to a new location. Building a shadow city as an alternative to relocating the national capital is an interesting idea and has the potential to address several issues often associated with capital relocation. Before discussing the analysis, it is important to note that this answer is based on the assumption that the author refers to the development of a shadow city that functions in parallel as the capital, rather than just a complementary city.

1. Overcoming relocation costs: Relocating the national capital is a costly project. Building a shadow city as an alternative can help reduce the financial burden associated with constructing new infrastructure and facilities from scratch. Some of the existing facilities in the old capital can be utilized in the shadow city, thereby minimizing the cost of new development.
2. Preserving history and culture: The old capital often has important historical and cultural heritage. By building a shadow city, the country can preserve historical sites and cultural heritage, avoiding the loss that may occur if all government functions are moved to a new place. This also maintains the emotional connection between the people and their capital.
3. Maintaining administrative stability: Relocating the national capital can disrupt administrative stability and public services. By building a shadow city, most of the government functions can continue to operate in the old capital, minimizing administrative disruption and ensuring smooth public services to the residents.
4. Reducing environmental impact: The development of a shadow city can reduce the environmental impact caused by capital relocation. Construction and new development processes often have negative effects on the environment, including deforestation, land use changes, and increased greenhouse gas emissions. By utilizing existing infrastructure, new construction can be minimized, and the negative impact on the environment can be mitigated.
5. Avoiding infrastructure problems: Moving the capital to less developed areas can present challenges in building adequate infrastructure. By building a shadow city, the existing infrastructure in the old capital can be utilized, minimizing potential infrastructure deficiencies that may arise from relocation.
6. Sharing population burden: Capital relocation often aims to reduce demographic pressure in the old capital and distribute development to other regions. By building a shadow city, some of the population burden can be redirected to other areas without completely abandoning the old capital, creating a balanced development in the country.
7. Regional development and economic growth: Building a shadow city can be a driver of economic growth in the area. Infrastructure development and investments related to the construction of a shadow city can create new business opportunities, generate employment, and stimulate economic development in the region.

However, there are several challenges to consider in building a shadow city as an alternative to relocating the national capital. Some of these include complex coordination between the two capitals, efficient budget management, good spatial planning, and meeting the needs of adequate infrastructure and basic facilities in both locations. Ultimately, building a shadow city as an alternative to relocating the national capital is an interesting choice with the potential for significant benefits. However, such a decision should be based on careful considerations, including in-depth analysis of the potential political, economic, social, and environmental impacts.

The Social and Cultural Effects of the Relocation of the National Capital on National Unity

The relocation of the national capital is a government decision that has wide-ranging impacts on various aspects of people's lives. Besides significant political and economic implications, the

capital relocation also has social and cultural effects that need to be carefully considered. It has a significant impact on national identity and nationality. In the context of the capital relocation, national identity often undergoes shifts and redefinitions. Geographical changes and infrastructure transformations can influence people's perception of their national identity. Moreover, the capital relocation can also generate cultural tensions between the native population and newcomers in the new capital. This can disrupt national unity and create social conflicts that have the potential to divide society. Furthermore, the capital relocation also affects the cultural diversity of the country. Culture is an essential aspect in shaping national identity, and the capital relocation can bring changes to cultural patterns and practices of the society. The capital relocation also has the potential to shift the center of cultural, artistic, and intellectual activities of the country, altering the existing social and cultural dynamics. However, the social and cultural effects of the capital relocation are not always negative. In some cases, the capital relocation has successfully strengthened national unity and reinforced national identity. In such instances, appropriate measures have been taken to respect and promote existing cultural diversity and involve the community in the relocation process. In conclusion, the relocation of the national capital has complex impacts on national unity. The social and cultural effects of the capital relocation can be either positive or negative, depending on factors such as the management of national identity, respect for cultural diversity, and community participation in the relocation process. Therefore, it is important for the government and society to actively manage the capital relocation, considering the potential social and cultural impacts, and ensuring that the steps taken aim to strengthen national unity and preserve the cultural diversity of the country.

The anticipated social and cultural conditions in the New Capital City include an increasing cultural diversity, not only in terms of ethnicity but also economics and education levels, urbanization leading to the emergence of a metropolitan city, the opening of business and job opportunities that can trigger social conflicts among ethnic groups, as well as the presence of national symbols and local cultural wealth in the New Capital City. The relocation of the New Capital City is expected to strengthen the resilience of the Kalimantan community, ecologically, economically, socially, and culturally, in order to prevent the marginalization of the local population by newcomers. The newcomers include not only civil servants (ASN) but also their families and other economic actors. In the plan for the relocation of civil servants (ASN), two scenarios have been developed, estimating a relocation of 182,462 ASN personnel and 118,513 ASN personnel (if limited to those under 45 years old). The relocation of ASN personnel will be accompanied by their families and other economic actors, estimated to be around 1.5 million people in the future. The community hopes that the integration of a just society can occur, so that the benefits of the New Capital City development are felt by the entire Kalimantan community, especially and by Indonesia as a whole.

Positive and Negative Effects of Relocating the Capital City of a Country.

The relocation of the capital city can have both positive and negative effects, depending on its implementation and the factors involved. Here are some examples of positive and negative effects that may arise from the relocation of the capital city:

Positive Effects:

1. **Regional development:** The relocation of the capital can stimulate development and investment in the new area. Infrastructure such as roads, transportation, housing, and public facilities will be built, creating new economic opportunities and job openings.
2. **Balanced development:** By moving the capital to a previously less developed region, the government can promote more balanced development in the country. This can reduce the development gap between regions and improve accessibility to public services.

3. Environmental management: Relocating the capital provides an opportunity to design a more sustainable city. The government can consider environmental factors in the planning of the new city, including environmentally friendly designs, the use of renewable energy, and better waste management.

Negative Effects:

1. Cost: Relocating the capital is a major project that requires significant financial investment. The cost of infrastructure development and the transfer of government institutions can be a heavy burden for the government and may disrupt budget allocation for other sectors such as education and health.
2. Administrative disruptions: The relocation of the capital can cause administrative and operational disruptions in the government. The relocation of government employees, changes in administrative systems, and procedural adjustments can result in temporary instability in the governance.
3. Social and economic issues: The relocation of the capital can impact the local community in the new area. Demographic changes and rapid growth can lead to social and economic pressures, including rising property prices, traffic congestion, and tensions between local residents and newcomers.

It should be noted that the positive and negative effects associated with the relocation of the capital city can vary in each country's context. Proper implementation with careful planning and wide public participation can help mitigate the negative impacts and enhance the positive benefits of relocating the capital city.

Conclusion

The relocation of the capital city from Jakarta to Kalimantan is bound to bring pros and cons. However, as a democratic country, when the State has decided to relocate the capital city through the democratic process through the Law, all components of the nation should support it. The Indonesian nation needs to minimize the negative effects of the capital city relocation. There is no decision that satisfies the entire population, but a decision that provides greater benefits to the Indonesian nation should be supported as an expression of love and devotion to the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. The relocation of the capital city is a strategic step taken by the government with the aim of addressing various problems such as population density, uneven economic distribution, and better regional development. However, this relocation can also have significant social and cultural impacts. Therefore, it is important to build a shadow city that serves as an alternative center accommodating the social and cultural interests of the community.

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