

# The Implementation of Regional Head General Elections During Covid-19 Pandemic

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## ABSTRACT

This research aims to examine the implementation of the regional head general election during the Covid-19 pandemic which was conducted simultaneously in December 2020 in Indonesia, especially in Bantul DIY. This research is urgent to be carried out as the Covid 19 pandemic hit all countries worldwide including Indonesia which impact political activities like the implementation of general elections in Indonesia. For that reason, it is necessary to investigate the problems and efforts to overcome them in the implementation of the simultaneous regional head election during the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020.

This research is descriptive research with a qualitative approach. Methods of data collection included interviews and documentations. The research subject was determined utilizing a purposive technique. The research subjects consisted the Chairman of General Election Commission and Election Supervisory Board in the DIY area, especially in Bantul Regency and Election Organizers in Pandak District, Bantul Regency. The collected documents include documents related to the implementation of the simultaneous general election during the Covid 19 pandemic in December 2020.

The results show that (1) the implementation of the continued simultaneous elections in Bantul DIY regency during the Covid- 19 pandemic in 2020 went well, smoothly and there were no obstacles that led to re-elections as in some other districts in Indonesia; (2) although the implementation of the general election went well and smoothly, there are still obstacles faced during the preparation stage, the time determination and confirmation of the appointment of elected candidates; (3) efforts to overcome obstacles related to the lack of registrars of elections organizers and the Voter Organizer Group and voter data update officer, Bantul Regency Election Commissions coordinate intensively with local stakeholders. Other efforts to overcome the frequently changing technical guidelines, Bantul general election commission asked the central KPU not to frequently change policies and asked the central KPU to make regulations for the next general election at an early stage so as not to complicate lower-level officers. Also, the use SIREKAP applications should be planned from the beginning, so that obstacles can be overcome long before its implementation.

Kata Kunci: *Implementation, general election, pandemic Covid-19, Bantul Regency, Indonesia*