The Next Episode of Islamic History: the Rise of Indonesia as the New Giant in Muslim World

1st Mohammad Izdiyan Muttaqin1
{moh.izdiyan@uinjkt.ac.id}

Syarif Hidayatullah Islamic State’s University, Jakarta, Indonesia

Abstract. After World War I and II, Muslim Society has to deal with political changes of the World. The emerging of New Muslim Majority Countries with new political system – especially democracy- has given new colour in the Islamic World. The Intellectual life in the Islamic World has also grown, despite of stagnancy in 16-19th century. In this article, the author wants to explain the rising of Indonesia as the New Giant in Muslim World. The research done by John Gerry (2011) showed that the longer a Nation lives in democracy the better it will perform in many areas. This article supports that theory. It also supports the statement of Anthony Reid (2012), Robinson and Hadiz (2017), it said that Indonesian democracy is the best democracy in Southeast Asia, and it becomes the model for other Islamic Countries to practice democracy in Muslim Society. This article also supports a research done by PWC about the shift of economic domination from G7 to E7, which include Indonesia. In military sector, Indonesia is considered to be rising according to Global Fire Power, although Indonesia will still need support from US and Russia to deal with another Asian Giant such as China and India.

Keywords: Muslim World, Indonesia, Military, Economy, Politics

1 Introduction

Along the history, Islam and Muslim Societies have important role in the history of the World. Since the rise of Islam in 7th century, Islam had lots of effect on Human Society, it grew fast, and took lots of attention from all over the world, Islam and Muslim Society were able to develop sophisticated civilization which flourished in Muslim Lands, producing their legacy in various fields, such as science, music, art, buildings, and literature. The Leadership of the Prophet Mohammad Peace be Upon Him, and his four successors had become a legendary story in the history of Mankind. Their leadership was continued by Islamic Dynasties, among them are: Umayyad Dynasty, Abbasid Dynasty, Mamluk Dynasty, and Ottoman Dynasty [1]. Unlike the previous centuries, in the beginning of 20th century there is no more Big Islamic Dynasty that Unites the Majority of Muslim Society of The World. Instead, there is a Large Muslim Country rose in Southeast Asia as the Largest Muslim Countries of the World called Indonesia [2].

This country took the attention of the Muslim World, because in fact, Indonesia is a country with largest Muslim Population in it. This archipelago country, long time ago were separated into hundreds of Islamic Kingdoms, and some Hindus, Buddhist and Christian
Kingdoms [3]. It then entirely occupied by Dutch, officially in 1920 and then occupied by Japan in 1942 until Indonesia declared independence in 1945. After a lot of changes in political system, Indonesia finally became a modern Republic Country [4]. The large number of population has made Indonesia the largest Democratic Muslim Country in the world. And the third Largest Democratic Country of the World, after India and United States of America [5].

There are many problems in democracy, but some scientists believe that democracy is still the best political system, with least negative impact [6]. It made Indonesia to be seen as a potential country which will play an important role in the long political history of Islamic World, to become the representative of Islamic World in the International politics [7].

There are some patterns that we can see from the history of political changes in the Islamic World. Politics in the Islamic World were controlled by some races in Muslim Societies. We may see in the era of four guided caliphs, and the era of Umayyad Dynasty Islamic Societies were ruled by Arabs [8]. All tasks, jobs, and important roles were handled by Arabs.

In the era of Abbasid Dynasty, the Islamic Land were dominated by Persian. Persian had strong control in the governance of Abbasid Dynasty [9]. After the downfall of Abbasid Dynasty, Islamic Societies were dominated by Mamlik Dynasty and Ottoman Dynasty which represent the Turks, as the new dominating race in the Islamic World. And after the downfall of Ottoman Empire, the Islamic World is also dominated by another non Arab race, after Persian and Turks, which is an Asian race located in the country of Indonesia.

Robert Kiyosaki ever said, that all wealth and power are always looking for new green land which is full of spirit, and it never know how does it feel to have wealth and power [10]. It could be true as Allah mentioned in Qur’an: “We alternate these days of victory and defeat among people so that Allah may reveal true believers”. This kind of changes in many areas can be seen around us from time to time.

With the promising progress that Indonesia shows, there is a new kind of nationalism that spreads in Indonesia. It’s nationalism drives Indonesian People to be proud of their islamic identity. The large protest in Jakarta, 2nd December 2017, against the insult of Al-Qur’an by the Governor of Jakarta Basuki Cahaya Purnama (which is a Christian), was noted as the largest protest in the history of Indonesia, and one of the largest in the history of the world [11]. Therefore, someone said that the classification of Indonensis Muslims into santri (practicing Muslim) and abangan (non practicing Muslim) is no longer relevant. He said that all Muslims in Indonesia today want to be more Islamic, as we can also see it in politics. Where all candidates in general election are showing their Islamic identity and religious side of their life, in order to gain more support in general election [12].

Indonesian people are also proud of the fact that Indonesia is the Largest Muslim Country of the World, and the fourth largest country of the World in population. Therefore, they believe that Indonesia should play greater role in the International World. This new nationalism that is growing in Indonesian Society, drives Indonesian Government to play greater role and to spread their influence globally. Although, Aspinall said that such nationalism is coming from Indonesian People who feel unsecure with recent situation in Indonesian [13]. But of course, this new growing nationalism has large impact in the Political life of Indonesia as a Nation. In this paper, the author wants to analyse the rise of Indonesia in several areas of life: politics, economy, social, and military.
2 The Rise of Indonesia in Politics

In the early days of Independence, Indonesia has changed its political system many times. The first political system used by Indonesia is the Presidential System or Single Nation System (Negara Kesatuan). Where the President is the symbol of the Nation as well as the leader of the Government. But it was replaced by the Parliamentary System, with multiple parties. In this system, the Indonesian Government was led by the first minister, and the President is the symbol of the Nation and has no authority to control the Government. The Single Nation System was then changed into the United States System (Republik Indonesia Serikat), Indonesia also made a new constitution to be used in the United States of Indonesia [14].

The political system was changed again into Single Nation System in 1950s, followed by the first General Election in 1955. But the new parliament from that General Election was not able to create new constitution for Indonesia. The uncertain political situation went on until 1958, and finally President Sukarno declared a decree to reuse the previous Indonesian Constitution compiled in 1945. He also modified the members of Indonesian Parliament, so it can be more tolerant and they can cooperate each other. And the political system was changed into the new system created by President Sukarno called “Guided Democracy” (Demokrasi Terpimpin). Which gave President Sukarno great portion of power [15].

Actually, the Guided Democracy tends to the total control system by the President, where all commands come from the President. Even the members of Parliament were also selected by the President. Several years later, Soekarno was declared as the long life President by the Parliament. At the same time, the Guided Democracy System is still compatible with one of the five pillars of Indonesian Constitution (Pancasila) which is democracy. And this political system had successfully created political stability that allowed Indonesia to become a respected developing country in the World. Indonesia had also successfully held an important International events such as Asian Games, Games of New Emerging Forces, and Conference of Asian and African Countries in Bandung 1995 [16].

The region of Papua which was occupied by Dutch Colonials were finally taken by Indonesian army, and officially taken by Indonesian government in 1961. Which was considered as the celebration of the coming of new Independent Countries in Asia and Africa, which people call it later as “the Third World” [17].

After the success of throwing out the Dutch from Papua, Indonesia fell into a political crisis. The rising influence of the Communist Party, ended with an attempt of coup by several Communist Party loyalist. Seven Generals of Indonesian Army were killed in that coup. The Indonesian Army finally controlled the situation, and not so long after that large number of Communist Party Loyalist were arrested, and The Communist Party banned by the Government. This process of decreasing the influence of Communism in Indonesia ended with massacres. Hundreds of thousands of Communist Party Loyalist were killed in various cities of Indonesia [18].

No longer after that, the popularity of Sukarno went down. The General Suharto, The latest leader of Indonesian Army was given a mandate to recover the political stability and security of the Country. The influence and the popularity of General Suharto went up when he successfully banned the Communist Party and arrested large number of the Party’s members. In 1967 Sukarno was replaced by General Suharto, who became the President of Indonesia until 1998 [19].

President Suharto continued Sukarno’s leadership style with a Totalitarian Presidential system. Most important decisions at the Central and Regional levels are under the control of
the President. His great ability in managing Indonesian politics made him the only Indonesian President to govern more than 30 years as President. He brought Indonesia as one of the respected Asian Tigers [20]. Indonesia moved from a low-income poor country, to a developing country with a better income, which made Suharto later known as the Father of Indonesian Development [21]. In his period from 1970-1998 Indonesia's economic growth grew by an average of 7-8%, which was also followed by additional state revenues. Although finally the liberal economic system which relied on foreign debt and consumption finally collapsed in 1998. This was also triggered by the rampant corruption, collusion and nepotism at the end of the Suharto Presidency [22].

In the end of Suharto’s Presidency, Indonesia experienced disaster again, when Indonesia faced a multi-dimensional crisis in 1998. Political crisis, economic crisis, social crisis, disintegration crisis, monetary crisis, moral crisis, and various other crises befalling this Islands country [23].

At that time Indonesia experienced political ambiguity, especially when President Suharto was elected for the umpteenth time as president in 1997. The old age, and followed by the declining health of the Father of Indonesian Development, made President Suharto not as effective as before. The declining popularity of President Suharto was increasingly felt after the death of Mrs. Tien, President Suharto’s Wife. President Suharto, who had survived for more than thirty years with almost no strong rival in maintaining his power, began to look weak. His decisions are no longer considered logical and appropriate. At the same time, Indonesia entered into a monetary crisis that was quite severe [24]. Indonesian rupiah dropped sharply from Rp. 2000, - to the lowest figure of Rp. 16,650. This was followed by a wave of protests and demonstrations in various regions of Indonesia caused by rising food and goods prices, and also the lack of freedom felt by the community. President Suharto finally resigned his position in 1998, and was replaced by President BJ Habibie who was Vice President of Suharto in his cabinet, he was also a technocrat, a former minister of research and technology for several periods.

During BJ Habibie's era, Indonesia entered a period of reform. At this time freedom of thought and opinion came into reality. Indonesian People were also given the freedom to form new political parties. President Habibie succeeded in restoring the rupiah to Rp. 6000, - But his closeness to Suharto made the Indonesian people not to trust him. In 1999 General Elections were held faster than they should have been. Indonesian Parliament and the new President, President Abdurrahman Ad-Dakhil bin Wahid Hasyim, or commonly known as Gus Dur, were elected. Abdurrahman led very briefly, which was a sign of a transitional period. Probably due to poor relations with the parliament and the military. In accordance with the existing constitution, he was replaced by his Vice President Megawati, who managed to survive until 2004 [25].

In 2004 General Elections were held again. There are several important changes that occurred in Megawati's time, namely the existence of a direct election system. Where people choose their own President, and the results are then sworn by the MPR (People's Consultative Assembly). During this period the elected president was Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, commonly known as SBY. He was the first President of Indonesia to be directly elected by the Indonesian People. After getting 33.58% of the votes in the first round SBY won 60.62% of the votes in the second round. He won again in the next period (2009-2014) with the acquisition of 60% of the vote with just one round [26].

The period of SBY’s presidency was considered as a period of Indonesia's revival, particularly in the political field. Indonesia's political system which was an Authoritarian Presidential or commonly called Guided Democracy changed, into a new form, which is more
able to compromise with differences of opinion. Important decisions from the President must be approved by the DPR (People's Representative Assembly). The president could no longer dissolve parliament like what had happened during the Sukarno period. The President's leadership period is also limited to a maximum of two periods or 10 years [27].

Democratic elections, with a direct electoral system, are not only held at the central level, but also at the provincial, city and regency levels, be they the executive, (governors, mayors and regents), as well as the legislature (Regional People's Representative Council). This makes regional autonomy more dynamic and sound. Regional Government has strong legitimacy, with the support of their respective communities. The political system in Indonesia is getting healthier with the establishment of the Constitutional Court, which takes care of disputes in the state administration and in the General Elections [28].

This development makes Indonesia a new hope for the rise of democracy in Islamic countries. Robinson and Hadiz said that Indonesia is now seen as a model for other Islamic countries, in practicing democracy in the Muslim community [29]. Anthony Reid argues that political change in 1998 has changed Indonesia, from an Authoritarian State, to the only democratic country in Southeast Asia [30]. Nasir Tamara also believes that reforms in Indonesia have provided major transformations in the political and economic fields, which made Indonesia a democratic and developing country, ready to play an important role in the international world [31].

As this paper was created (2019) Indonesia has entered its 20th year of democracy since 1999. Research by John Gerring shows that, the longer a country grows in democracy, the better its performance in various fields [32]. This theory could be true, because after eighteen years, Indonesia's performance, especially in the political sphere, is quite good. Freedom of thought and expression of opinion become a recognized and protected right, just as the right to vote and be elected in practical politics is also increasingly used. This phenomenon is even considered to be in line with the emergence of countries of the same type, which together develop a democracy called IBSATI (India, Brazil, South Africa, Turkey, and Indonesia). These countries showed good progress after the democratic process. Positive developments have also been seen in various fields, such as economic development, security, peace, and also improved state governance [33].

Democracy in Indonesia increasingly plays an important role in the World with the holding of the Bali Democracy Forum. This forum is an initiative of the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the SBY Period in 2008. This forum is an international conference that is held every year. This is an open forum between governments to develop democracy in the Asia Pacific region. This forum aims to promote cooperation between countries in peace and democracy, through dialogue, and sharing experiences between governments. This conference was held in Nusa Dua, Bali Province [34].

Nevertheless, Indonesia, which is the hope for many parties to be able to show good performance in the International World, sometimes does not meet these expectations. Indonesia as the third giant country in Asia has long been predicted to play a big role in the future, but until now, according to some researchers, this is considered to be far from expectations. Economically, Indonesia is considered still fragile, militarily, Indonesia is still considered weak, and so is food. The issue of food is also an important thing that must be concerned about, especially in realizing food sovereignty which is very important to ensure adequate food supply for the Indonesian people [35].

In 2014, in the first year of Jokowi’s Presidency, Indonesia did experience a slight decline in performance. Jokowi is considered new to adapt to his new duties as President. This caused a bit of noise in the media and in Indonesian society. The rupiah has also fallen to its lowest
level since 1998. But in 2019, five years later, Indonesia's performance has improved. Jokowi is considered capable of playing his role well enough to strike a balance in the Indonesian Government, economic growth has also begun to stabilize, although it also shows a tendency to remain flat since 2015 [36].

Until now, of course the encouragement from the public to the Government of Indonesia to show more of its influence in the International World is even greater. The emergence of selfishness as a Big Country makes this impulse look even stronger in the post-reform era, especially in the days of President SBY and President Joko Widodo. We knew in history, that Indonesia had played many roles in the international world during Presidency of Sukarno in the 1960s, but after that, during President Suharto’s Presidency, Indonesia did not have too many roles on the international stage. Fealy and White even doubted Indonesia's ability to really play an important role in the international world, due to the unprepared power of the Republic of Indonesia in the fields of economy, military and diplomacy [37]. This also makes some researchers consider that President Jokowi's efforts to play his influence in the International World are considered to be normative (Davies, M. and Harris-Rimmer, S., 2016). Even so, in this 21st century, what is also called the "Asian century", Indonesia is expected to play its role in international geopolitics as the third giant in Asia [38].

3 The Rise of Indonesia in Economic Affairs

In the past decade, there have been positive developments in the Indonesian economy. Even though Indonesia experienced a crisis in 1998, with a relatively high debt to GDP ratio, including per capita income which had declined, Indonesia survived the crisis safely. Suharto, who had made a long-term economic plan for Indonesia, had targeted the development of the Indonesian economy from an agricultural country that relies on agriculture to an industrial country that relies on manufacturing. Indonesia's economy which is said to take off starting in 1997 turned out to be left on the airport, due to an unstable political and economic system. This was finally successfully resolved quite well by Indonesia's political elites during the reform period [39].

In terms of statistical calculations Indonesia is considered economically good by any calculation. In general, Indonesia's GDP per capita has increased significantly. In 1997 during President Suharto Indonesia's era, GDP per capita was at the level of 1,308 USD, now in the period of President Joko Widodo in 2017, Indonesia's GDP per capita was at 3,859 USD in general Indonesia's GDP per capita increased by an average of 7.92% per year. Since the time of President SBY Indonesia joined the G20, a community of countries with large economic portion. Indonesia's macroeconomic GDP stands at 932.26 million USD. This figure is a very significant increase. In general the Indonesian economy increases by 5% every year [40].

Indonesia's economic prospects are considered to be very well. The emergence of new rich people, and the growth of the Muslim middle class (Muslim rising Middle Class) makes the Indonesian economy increasingly dependent on the export sector. So that the Indonesian economy can be increasingly controlled inside the Country [41].

Indonesia is currently the eighth largest economy, and will become the fourth largest economy in the world by 2050, according to a recent study by pricewaterhousecoopers. Indonesia will be in fourth place after China, India and America. This sequence is certainly in accordance with the total population of the four countries, the Indonesian economy in 2050 is expected to reach 10.5 trillion USD, surpassing Japan which is currently ranked 4th [42].
researchers also predict that Japan's influence in the Asia Pacific will gradually diminish, as Indonesia emerges as a new power. Even soon, in 2030 Indonesia is predicted to occupy the fifth position of the World economy [43].

Ghosal states in his article, that current economic developments indicate a transition of world economic leadership from the G7 (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States) to E7 (China, India, Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Indonesia and Turkey). PWC statistics clearly show that E7 will hold world economic dominance in the next few decades. In 2016 alone, G7 only controls 30% of the economy, while 40% is Guided by E7, the rest, 30% is Guided by other countries. In 2050, it is estimated that G7 will only control 20% of the world economy, while E7 will control 50% of the world economy, and the remaining 30% is Guided by other countries [44].

Table 1. Emerging Markets Will Dominate World’s top 10 Economies in 2050 (PWC Global, 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2050</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>UK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This data were suitable with the presentation of Chairul Tanjung, an Indonesian businessman, who had served as chair of the Indonesian National Economic Committee, he said that every seven centuries, there was a rotation of trade domination. In the 7th century, World trade was dominated by Asian countries such as China, India, Indonesia, and Umayyad Dynasty. Then in the 14th century, the global economy shifted, from Asian domination, to European domination. This continued until the 20th century. Now, in the 21st century, seven centuries have passed, and the time has come for Asian countries to dominate World trade [45]. China, India, and Indonesia are the three Asian giants who will hold great control in the world economy [46].

Indonesia is also a new market for the World to market its products. Indonesian tourists are also awaited, especially in Asia Pacific countries [47]. Japan has now also applied visa-free policy for Indonesia following more than 50 other countries which granted visa freedom for Indonesian citizens. Halal tourism and Muslim friendly business are becoming a new term that is widely touted. To accommodate the growing needs of the Muslim middle class, accommodation, food, clothing, and various other necessities become an attractive market for business people inside and outside Indonesia. Online markets, or e-commerce has also developed rapidly in the last decade. In 2017 e-commerce growth reached 22% [48].

Conditions can change from time to time, as politics, economics, and also social situations can change, but of course the calculations on paper become an indisputable fact that Indonesia's future economy is very bright. Indonesian industry is indeed going up and down. Just like other countries. In general, Indonesia's natural resources still have great potential compared to other countries in the world. And demographically, Indonesia is indeed an Asian giant in terms of population size, which naturally will grow into one of the world's economic giants. This of course requires consistent work from each party to make it happen. And
although Indonesia could fall into the abyss of crisis as it has in the past, of course, the giants will not forever remain in the hole.

4 Indonesian Military Resurrection

In general the Indonesian military is developing quite well. The Indonesian armed forces grew by themselves from the people. The Armed Forces were never formed by the government. But it grew in tandem with the growing spirit of Indonesian independence. In early days of independence, Indonesian Army were not a trained army with a regular level, but the majority of them were Japanese-trained soldiers who are members of PETA, which stands for *Pembela Tanah Air* (Defenders of the Motherland). This force was formed by Japan to increase Japanese military strength in the Asia Pacific region [49]. After Japan surrendered, PETA turned into a People’s Security Army. From this Armed Forces the Indonesian National Army grew.

The first Indonesian Armed Forces commander, was the legendary General Sudirman, he was a 30-year-old young man who had TB. He was democratically elected through a vote carried out among the soldiers themselves. By a stretcher, he was carried by his troops around Java, practicing guerrilla strategy against ABDACOM troops, a joint force formed by allies consisting of British, Dutch, Indian, and Chinese. Armed with makeshift weapons, Indonesia managed to excel, even the British General was killed in a battle in Surabaya in 1947. Although many Indonesian soldiers and people were killed, the victory belonged to Indonesia, due to the seemingly endless number of logistics and troops. Because all parts of Indonesia were sabotaging and refused to obey the command of the foreign troops. This of course made allied logistical supplies and weapons stock exhausted, which eventually forced them to recognize Indonesian independence in 1949. At this time the Indonesian military was indeed very simple, because there was no specific budget for them to buy weapons. But apparently the fighting spirit of the Indonesian National Army, with logistical support and a large enough number of troops was enough to cover their shortcomings in terms of weaponry [50].

During the war of independence, (1945-1949) the Indonesian Army succeeded in getting Japan, Netherlands, the United Kingdom and its allies out of the four largest islands of Indonesia: Java, Sumatra, Sulawesi and Kalimantan. Meanwhile the Netherlands remained in West Irian Island until the 1960s [51].

In 1960, Indonesia was stronger militarily. Since the 1960s Indonesia even has a strong desire to dominate the Asian region. President Sukarno, who found a dead end in his diplomacy with Western States to free West Irian which was still occupied by the Dutch, finally approached the eastern bloc, which was led by the Soviet Union. This made Indonesia’s weaponry very strong because it was supplied so well by the Soviet Union, which was the second Superpower to become America’s most important enemy [52].

At that time, by spending up to 2.5 billion USD, Indonesia emerged as the country with the strongest armed forces in the southern Asia Pacific region. The Netherlands is no longer a match for Indonesia in the case of the Armed Forces. The Indonesian navy is equipped with the largest and fastest warships in the World made by the Soviet, with 12 giant cannons, this ship was later given the name KRI Irian, weighing 16,640 tons. This type of ship was not given by the Soviet Union to any country except Indonesia. The Indonesian Air Force was also strengthened with the most sophisticated 100 aircraft at the time. 20 MiG-21 supersonic aircraft, 30 MiG-15 aircraft, 49 MiG-17 high-subsonic fighter aircraft, and 10 MiG-19
supersonic aircraft. Coupled with the Tu-16 Tupolev long-range strategic bomber, which makes Indonesia one of the 4 nations in the world that has strategic bombers, besides America, Russia and Britain. Not to mention the addition of 12 submarines, 9 MI-6 helicopters and 41 MI-4 helicopters. Coupled with assault rifles in large numbers. All this made Indonesia in a few years succeeded in freeing West Irian, and made the Netherlands out of the entire archipelago.

During President Suharto's era, Indonesia focused more on economic improvement. At the same time, the Indonesian military was developed quite well at this time. Indonesia also briefly demonstrated its military strength, by carrying out a military invasion of Portuguese Timor. This of course is not something that happens suddenly. Political instability in Portuguese Timor prompted the Indonesian Parliament, the MPR, to mandate President Suharto to carry out a military invasion of Portuguese Timor. This invasion took place very successfully, East Timor eventually became the 27th Province, the last Province in the Republic of Indonesia. When Indonesia was in a crisis, in 1999, the International World urged Indonesia to vote on the people of East Timor, about their willingness to join Indonesia, and the result was that 80% wanted to separate from Indonesia, this of course disappointed many Indonesian People. President Habibie was considered to be moving too fast in making decisions regarding East Timor, making him considered as a figure who was responsible for the release of East Timor from the Republic of Indonesia. A new research also told us there were several foreign countries which were supporting East Timor independence, such as US, Australia, and Portugal.

During the reform period the Indonesian Military also participated in the reform. Research shows that political reforms that occur in a country are considered as a good starting point for military reform, as happened in Indonesia and Turkey. In Indonesia the Indonesian Armed Forces has become more progressive and open. Indonesia's military strength increased significantly during President SBY. According to Global Fire Power, in 2012 Indonesia began to enter the top 30 of the world's military power, Indonesia was in the 22nd position. In 2015 Indonesia rose quite significantly to rank 19. In 2016 Indonesia rose more significantly to rank 12. And in 2019 Indonesia's position declined to 16th position. Indonesia became one of the Five Muslim countries included in the top 20 of the World Military forces besides Turkey (ranked 9), Egypt (ranked 12), Iran (ranked 14), and Pakistan (ranked 15).

Indonesia’s military budget more than quadrupled between 2003 and 2013. Indonesia's military strength is predicted to continue to be strengthened following increasingly high tensions in South China-sea. Indonesia is predicted to become the country with the fifth largest military budget growth in the world in the 2016-2025 period. HIS Markit predicts that the total increase will be around 4.7% with spending up to 20 trillion USD. Tensions that occur encourage this, especially with the growing influence of China in Southeast Asia. This requires Indonesia to strengthen its military, especially in terms of Navy and Air technology.

In the International World the Indonesian Army also won various awards, Indonesian Elite Forces also ranks third in the World after Britain and Israel. Indonesia also continues to be trusted to strengthen UN troops to become peacekeepers in various regions of the World.

The emergence of Indonesia as a new military force in its territory certainly steals the attention of the surrounding Countries, especially Australia, which still regards Indonesia as the biggest threat in its territory. By an Australian media, Indonesia is considered no longer a country that is able to become an ally for Australia, the development of Indonesia's power is instead considered to make Australia's position with Indonesia unbalanced.
China and India are two giants who are also the new forces that appear on the World stage. Indonesia is still considered unable to deal directly with China militarily. Therefore, some researchers said that Indonesia must still approach the United States or Russia to cover up its deficiencies in defense capabilities. In order to respond to military threats that might come from China. This theory was conveyed by Evelyn Goh and reinforced by Black L. And it seems that until now the research is still relevant [60].

5 Conclusions

After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, the Muslims began to rise. Indonesia became the Largest Muslim Country born in the 20th century. The rise of Islam through Indonesia has begun to appear. Indonesia, which is the fourth most populous country in the world, has experienced a significant growth process in the last two decades.

Politically, Indonesian democracy is recognized by experts as a stable and good democracy. Indonesia is a model of a good democratic country for Muslim majority countries. In Economy, Indonesia's economy is entering to E7 which will dominate the world economy in the 21st century.

In terms of military Indonesia has begun to rise and entered the top 20 military forces of the World. Although negative views remain and the possibility of collapsing again in the crisis remains, Indonesia is now attracting the attention of the world as one of the Asian giants, as well as a new giant of the Muslim World.
References


Ratnawati, T: Political Reform In Indonesia After Soeharto. Masyarakat Indonesia, 36(2), Pp.245-266. (2017)


Chairul Tanjung.: Indonesia 2013 And Beyond – Can The Success Continue?. Keynote Speaker In AIC, Singapore. (2013).


