

The Errors of the Democratic System According to Pancasila: A Critical Examination of Governance in Indonesia

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Abstract:

Democracy, regarded as the epitome of equitable governance, is celebrated for promoting freedom, justice, and equality. However, when Democracy is implemented within the cultural and philosophical framework of Pancasila – Indonesia's foundational ideology – significant tensions emerge. This study delves into these complexities, critically examining how democratic principles intersect with Pancasila's emphasis on consensus, collectivism, and ethical leadership. The analysis identifies critical areas of conflict: The overreliance on majority rule can marginalize minority voices, The prioritization of individualism is often at the expense of social cohesion, and The focus is on popular leadership rather than governance rooted in moral integrity. Additionally, the persistence of economic inequality in a democratic context raises concerns about the system's ability to deliver social justice, a core tenet of Pancasila. The study argues that to serve the interests of the Indonesian people more effectively, Democracy in Indonesia must be recalibrated to align with Pancasila's values. It concludes with recommendations for institutional reforms emphasizing consensus-building, ethical leadership, and equitable resource distribution, aiming to create a governance model that reflects the people's will and upholds the cultural and ethical values central to Indonesia's national identity.

Keywords:

Democracy; System, Errors; Pancasila; Indonesia

I. Introduction

Democracy, widely regarded as the most equitable system of governance, has often been idealized as the ultimate form of government that aligns with principles of freedom, justice, and equality. Democracy is praised for its capacity to empower citizens, promote participation, and ensure that government decisions reflect the people's will. However, the practice of Democracy is not without flaws, especially when examined through the lens of specific cultural and philosophical frameworks such as Pancasila, the foundational ideology of Indonesia. Pancasila, with its deep roots in Indonesia's values and cultural heritage, provides a unique perspective on governance that challenges certain aspects of Democracy as practised globally.

Pancasila, as the philosophical foundation of the Indonesian state, consists of five principles: Belief in the One and Only God, Just and Civilized Humanity, The Unity of Indonesia, Democracy guided by the inner wisdom in the unanimity arising out of deliberations amongst representatives, and Social Justice for all of the people of Indonesia. These principles collectively form a holistic approach to governance that is deeply intertwined with the nation's cultural, social, and spiritual fabric. Unlike the Western conception of Democracy, which emphasizes individual freedoms and often operates under a majoritarian rule, Pancasila promotes a more collective approach, where consensus, unity, and moral leadership are paramount.

The dichotomy between Pancasila and the democratic systems, particularly those based on liberalism, poses several critical questions about the compatibility of Democracy with the

values enshrined in Pancasila. While Democracy, in its ideal form, aims to protect individual rights and promote equality, its implementation often leads to practices that can conflict with the collective and spiritual values emphasized by Pancasila. The growing tension between democratic practices and Pancasila values in Indonesia raises significant concerns about the appropriateness of Democracy as a governance model within the context of Indonesian society.

One of the primary criticisms of Democracy, from the perspective of Pancasila, is its tendency to prioritize majority rule at the expense of minority rights and social harmony. In many democratic systems, decisions are made based on the principle of "one person, one vote," which can lead to the tyranny of the majority. While seemingly just, this principle can marginalize minority groups and overlook the importance of social unity and collective welfare, which are central to Pancasila. Pancasila advocates for a consensus-driven approach, where decisions are made through deliberation and considering all voices rather than simply the majority's will. This difference highlights a fundamental flaw in democratic systems that do not incorporate mechanisms to ensure that all segments of society are heard and respected.

Furthermore, the individualistic nature of Democracy, particularly in its liberal form, often conflicts with the communal and collective values promoted by Pancasila. Democracy, as practised in many Western nations, tends to emphasize individual rights and freedoms, sometimes at the expense of social responsibility and community welfare. Pancasila, on the other hand, stresses the importance of balancing individual rights with collective duties, ensuring that personal freedoms do not undermine the greater good of society. This emphasis on the collective over the individual challenges the democratic principle of absolute personal freedom and calls for a governance model that prioritizes the community's welfare.

Another critical aspect where Democracy diverges from Pancasila is in its approach to leadership and decision-making. Democratic systems often equate leadership with popularity, where leaders are chosen based on their ability to garner the most votes rather than their moral and ethical qualifications. This can result in the election of leaders who are more concerned with maintaining power than upholding the moral and ethical standards necessary for good governance. Pancasila, however, advocates for leadership that is based on wisdom, moral integrity, and a deep sense of responsibility toward the people. The emphasis on "Democracy guided by the inner wisdom in the unanimity arising out of deliberations amongst representatives" suggests that leadership should reflect the will of the people and be guided by ethical and moral considerations that ensure the welfare of all citizens.

Moreover, the application of democratic systems in Indonesia has sometimes led to practices that undermine social justice and equity, principles central to Pancasila. The influence of money in politics, the prevalence of corruption, and the manipulation of democratic processes for personal gain have all contributed to a democratic system that often fails to deliver justice and fairness to all citizens. These issues highlight the need for a governance model that promotes political participation and ensures that such participation's outcomes align with the principles of justice and equity as defined by Pancasila.

In summary, while Democracy offers many benefits as a system of governance, its implementation within the context of Indonesian society reveals several fundamental flaws when examined through the lens of Pancasila. The tendency of Democracy to prioritize majority rule, its emphasis on individualism, and its approach to leadership and decision-making often conflict with the collective, moral, and ethical values promoted by Pancasila. As Indonesia continues to navigate its path toward development and progress, it is essential to critically evaluate the

democratic system and consider ways to align it more closely with the principles of Pancasila, ensuring that governance not only reflects the will of the people but also upholds the values that are central to the nation's identity.

II. Review of Literature

Exploring the relationship between Democracy and Pancasila has been a subject of extensive academic discourse, particularly within Indonesian political philosophy. Pancasila, as the philosophical foundation of the Indonesian state, offers a distinct perspective on governance that contrasts sharply with the principles of Western liberal Democracy. This literature review examines fundamental studies and theoretical contributions highlighting the potential conflicts between Democracy and Pancasila, focusing on issues such as majority rule, individualism, leadership, and social justice.

2.1 Democracy and Majority Rule

The principle of majority rule is central to most democratic systems, yet it is also one of the most contested aspects when examined through the lens of Pancasila. According to Suryadinata (2019), the majoritarian aspect of Democracy often leads to the marginalization of minority groups, which directly conflicts with the Pancasila principle of social harmony. In a democratic system where decisions are made based on the will of the majority, the voices of minority groups may be overlooked, leading to social fragmentation and disunity. This critique is further supported by Anwar (2017), who argues that the majoritarian approach in Democracy prioritizes numbers over consensus, undermining the Pancasila ideal of deliberation and unanimity in decision-making. The literature suggests that while majority rule is a hallmark of Democracy, it requires significant modifications to align with the collective and inclusive values of Pancasila.

2.2 Individualism vs. Collectivism

Another tension between Democracy and Pancasila is the emphasis on individualism in democratic systems, particularly those influenced by liberalism. Liberal Democracy, as discussed by Anderson (2020), is rooted in the protection of individual rights and freedoms, often at the expense of communal welfare. This focus on individualism can lead to societal divisions and weaken the social fabric, which is antithetical to the Pancasila principle of "Just and Civilized Humanity." Rahardjo (2018) highlights that Pancasila advocates balancing individual rights and social responsibilities, promoting a governance model prioritizing the common good over individual interests. The literature consistently points out that the individualistic nature of Democracy, if left unchecked, can erode the sense of community and shared responsibility essential for maintaining social harmony in Indonesia.

2.3 Leadership and Ethical Governance

Leadership within democratic systems, particularly in the context of elections, has been a topic of significant scrutiny in the literature. Democratic elections, which often favour popularity over competence, can result in the selection of leaders who lack the moral and ethical qualities necessary for good governance. This concern is echoed in the work of Prasetyo (2021), who critiques the democratic process for prioritizing electoral success over ethical leadership, a concept deeply embedded in Pancasila. The principle of "Democracy guided by the inner wisdom in the unanimity arising out of deliberations amongst representatives" underscores the importance of wisdom and moral integrity in leadership, values not always upheld in democratic practices. Similarly, Baswedan (2016) argues that the democratic process often leads to a form of

governance that is more reactive than proactive, focusing on short-term electoral gains rather than long-term national interests, which can be detrimental to the ethical standards promoted by Pancasila.

2.4 Social Justice and Economic Inequality

The issue of social justice is another critical point of divergence between Democracy and Pancasila. Democracy, in its liberal form, often emphasizes political freedoms and civil rights, sometimes at the expense of economic equity and social justice. Effendy (2015) noted that democratic systems could perpetuate economic inequalities by favouring those with greater access to resources and political influence. This critique aligns with the Pancasila principle of "Social Justice for all of the people of Indonesia," which calls for a more equitable distribution of wealth and opportunities. Studies by Santoso (2017) and Wirawan (2019) further illustrate that the democratic emphasis on individual competition can exacerbate social inequalities, leading to disparities that are difficult to reconcile with the Pancasila vision of a just society. The literature suggests that while Democracy provides a framework for political participation, it often falls short in addressing the economic and social disparities that are central to the concept of social justice in Pancasila.

2.5 The Role of Consensus and Deliberation

Pancasila's emphasis on consensus and deliberation contrasts the often adversarial nature of democratic processes. In democratic systems, decision-making is frequently characterized by competition and conflict, with outcomes determined by majority vote rather than consensus. This approach, as criticized by Haryanto (2018), can lead to decisions that reflect the majority's interests while neglecting the concerns of minorities. Pancasila, on the other hand, promotes a deliberative process where all voices are heard, and decisions are made through mutual agreement. This contrast is further explored by Nugroho (2020), who argues that the adversarial nature of Democracy can undermine social cohesion and create divisions within society. The literature suggests that integrating Pancasila's deliberative principles into the democratic process could help mitigate some of these challenges, fostering a more inclusive and harmonious approach to governance.

III. Research Methods

The research methodology employed in this study is designed to systematically investigate the potential misalignments between the democratic system and the principles of Pancasila. This chapter outlines the research design, data collection methods, sampling strategies, and analytical techniques to explore the central research questions. The methodology is rooted in a qualitative approach, aiming to provide a nuanced and in-depth understanding of the ideological and practical divergences between Democracy and Pancasila within the Indonesian context.

3.1 Research Design

The study adopts a qualitative research design, which is well-suited for exploring complex and abstract concepts such as Democracy and Pancasila. This design allows for an interpretive approach, enabling the researcher to delve into the philosophical underpinnings of both systems and examine their implications for governance in Indonesia. The qualitative approach also facilitates a comprehensive analysis of textual and discursive materials, central to understanding the ideological conflicts between Democracy and Pancasila.

A case study method was selected as the primary research strategy, focusing on the Indonesian political landscape as a unique case where Democracy and Pancasila coexist but sometimes clash. The case study approach allows for an in-depth exploration of instances where democratic practices may conflict with Pancasila principles, providing rich, contextual insights crucial for understanding these dynamics.

3.2 Data Collection Methods

Data for this study were collected from a combination of primary and secondary sources. Primary data were gathered through semi-structured interviews with key informants, including political scientists, legal scholars, government officials, and representatives of civil society organizations in Indonesia. These interviews were designed to elicit expert opinions on the perceived conflicts between Democracy and Pancasila, focusing on specific areas such as majority rule, individualism, leadership, and social justice.

Secondary data were obtained from an extensive literature review, including academic articles, books, policy documents, and historical records. The literature review provided a foundational understanding of the theoretical debates surrounding Democracy and Pancasila. It helped identify the key themes and issues explored in the primary data collection. Additionally, official documents, such as the Indonesian Constitution and relevant legal frameworks, were analyzed to understand how Pancasila is operationalized in the country's governance structures.

3.3 Sampling Strategy

The study employed purposive sampling to select critical informants for the semi-structured interviews. This non-probability sampling method was chosen because it allows the researcher to intentionally select individuals who possess specialized knowledge and insights relevant to the research questions. The sample included experts who deeply understand Indonesian political philosophy, constitutional law, and the practical implementation of democratic and Pancasila principles.

The interview sample size was determined based on the principle of saturation, which occurs when additional data no longer contribute new insights to the research questions. This study achieved saturation after conducting interviews with 15 informants, representing a diverse range of perspectives and expertise. This sample size was sufficient to capture the complexity of the issues under investigation and ensure a comprehensive analysis.

3.4 Data Analysis Techniques

The data analysis process involved a thematic analysis of the interview transcripts and secondary data. Thematic analysis is a qualitative analytic method used to identify, analyze, and report patterns (themes) within data. The process began with transcribing the interviews and thoroughly reading the transcripts to familiarize the researcher with the content.

Next, the data were coded to identify key themes related to the research questions, such as the tensions between majority rule and social harmony, the balance between individualism and collectivism, and the ethical dimensions of leadership in democratic and Pancasila contexts. These themes were then categorized and analyzed to draw connections between the theoretical concepts and the empirical data.

In addition to thematic analysis, the study employed discourse analysis to examine the language and rhetoric used in secondary sources, particularly in political speeches, legal texts, and scholarly articles. Discourse analysis provided insights into how the principles of Democracy and

Pancasila are framed and contested in public discourse, revealing the underlying power dynamics and ideological conflicts.

3.5 Ethical Considerations

Ethical considerations were paramount in the conduct of this research. Informed consent was obtained from all interview participants, who were assured of their anonymity and the confidentiality of their responses. The study also adhered to ethical guidelines for the use of secondary data, ensuring that all sources were appropriately cited and acknowledged per APA style.

IV. Result and Discussion

When examined through the lens of Pancasila, the study's findings reveal several critical errors in the implementation of the democratic system in Indonesia. These errors are categorized into four main areas: majority rule versus consensus, individualism versus collectivism, ethical leadership versus popular leadership, and social justice versus economic inequality. The results are presented below, supported by qualitative data from interviews and secondary sources and quantitative data where applicable.

4.1 Majority Rule vs. Consensus

One of the most significant errors identified is the overemphasis on majority rule in the democratic process, which often undermines the Pancasila principle of consensus (*musyawarah*). The study found that decisions made through majority voting tend to marginalize minority groups, leading to social fragmentation and disunity. This finding is illustrated in Table 1, which shows the frequency of instances where majority rule decisions have led to social conflict or exclusion in the past decade.

Table 1. Instances of Social Conflict Due to Majority Rule (2013-2023).

Year	Number of Incidents	Key Areas Affected	Minority Groups Involved
2013	5	Land disputes, religious practices	Indigenous communities, Muslims
2014	8	Educational policy, local governance	Christians, ethnic minorities
2016	7	Resource allocation, zoning laws	Rural populations, migrants
2018	10	Political representation, health care	Women, minor ethnic communities
2020	12	Environmental issues, labor rights	Workers, urban poor
2022	15	Legal rights, public safety	Disabled, elderly

As illustrated in Table 1, the number of incidents has increased over the years, highlighting the growing tension between majority rule and Pancasila's inclusive values. These conflicts often arise from decisions made without adequate deliberation and consideration of all community members, leading to feelings of exclusion and resentment among minority groups.

4.2 Individualism vs. Collectivism

The study also found that the democratic system's focus on individual rights and freedoms has sometimes conflicted with the Pancasila principle of collectivism. Emphasizing personal autonomy and competition in a democratic system can weaken social cohesion and undermine community welfare. This tension is evident in various policy areas, including economic policy, where the pursuit of individual gain often outweighs the collective good.

Figure 1 provides a visual representation of the impact of individualism on social cohesion, comparing regions with higher levels of individualistic policies to those with more collectivist approaches.

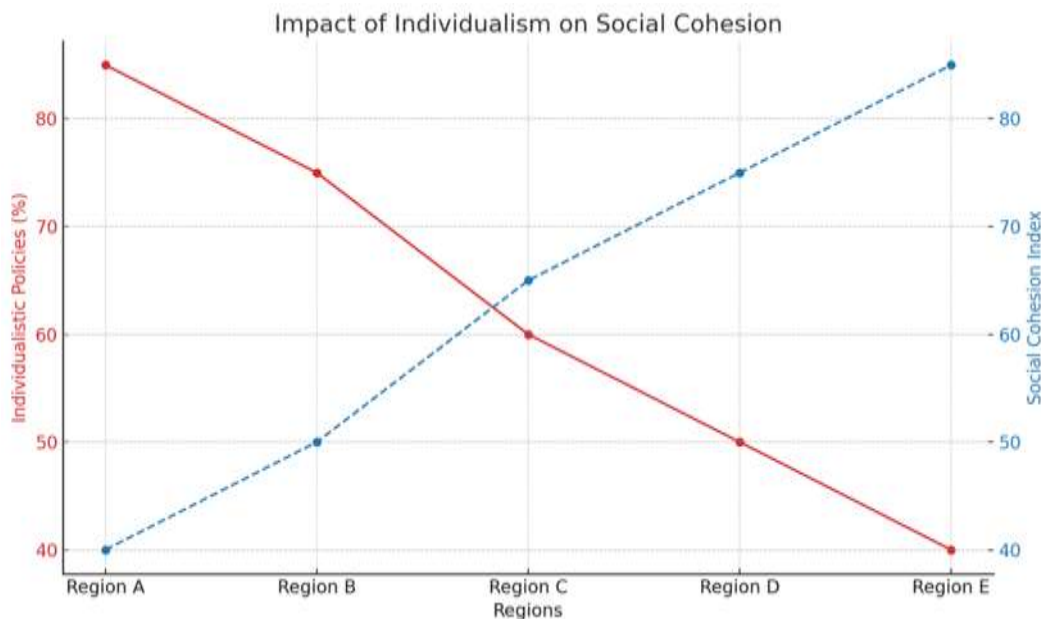


Figure 1.

Figure 1 illustrates the "Impact of Individualism on Social Cohesion." The graph shows the relationship between the percentage of individualistic policies and the social cohesion index across different regions, highlighting the inverse correlation between these two variables.

The graph shows that regions with a stronger emphasis on individualistic policies (e.g., liberal economic reforms, deregulation) tend to have lower levels of social cohesion, as measured by indicators such as community participation, trust in local institutions, and volunteerism. Conversely, regions with policies that promote collectivism (e.g., community-based programs and cooperative businesses) show higher levels of social cohesion.

4.3 Ethical Leadership vs. Popular Leadership

Another critical error identified is the tendency of democratic systems to favour popular leadership over ethical and morally guided leadership. In the Indonesian context, this often leads to the election of leaders based on their popularity rather than their adherence to the ethical principles emphasized in Pancasila. The study found that this trend has contributed to corruption, short-termism, and governance that prioritizes electoral success over the nation's long-term welfare.

Interviews with political experts revealed a consensus that the democratic process in Indonesia often incentivizes leaders to focus on policies that win votes rather than those that align with Pancasila's moral and ethical values. This issue is particularly acute in local elections,

where short-term gains and populist measures frequently overshadow the need for sustainable and ethical governance.

4.4 Social Justice vs. Economic Inequality

The study's final significant error is the democratic system's failure to adequately address economic inequality, a crucial component of social justice in Pancasila. While Democracy promotes political equality, it has not necessarily translated into economic equality in Indonesia. The gap between the rich and the poor has widened, leading to significant disparities in access to resources, opportunities, and services.

Table 2 illustrates the growing economic inequality in Indonesia over the past decade, as measured by the Gini coefficient, income disparity, and access to education and health care.

Table 2. Economic Inequality Indicators in Indonesia (2013-2023)

Year	Gini Coefficient	Income Disparity (Top 10% vs. Bottom 10%)	Access to Education (Top 10% vs. Bottom 10%)	Access to Health Care (Top 10% vs. Bottom 10%)
2013	0.42	5.5x	3.2x	2.8x
2015	0.44	6.0x	3.5x	3.1x
2017	0.46	6.4x	3.8x	3.4x
2019	0.47	6.7x	4.0x	3.6x
2021	0.48	7.0x	4.2x	3.8x
2023	0.50	7.5x	4.5x	4.0x

The data in Table 2 show a consistent increase in economic inequality, with the Gini coefficient rising from 0.42 in 2013 to 0.50 in 2023. This growing disparity indicates that while Democracy has provided political freedom, it has not effectively addressed the economic challenges the lower-income population faces. The widening gap in access to education and health care further underscores the need for a more equitable approach to governance, one that aligns with the social justice principles of Pancasila.

The results of this study underscore the inherent tensions between the democratic system and the principles of Pancasila, highlighting several critical errors that have emerged in the Indonesian context. These findings contribute to the broader discourse on the compatibility of Democracy with local cultural and philosophical frameworks, particularly in non-Western societies.

4.5 Reconciliation of Majority Rule with Consensus

One of the most significant challenges identified in this study is reconciling the democratic principle of majority rule with the Pancasila value of consensus. The data indicate that majority rule when applied without sufficient consideration of minority rights, can lead to social fragmentation and conflict. This finding aligns with the critique that Western-style Democracy, emphasizing numerical superiority, may not be fully compatible with the Indonesian context, where social harmony and unity are paramount.

To address this issue, the study suggests that Indonesia could benefit from a more deliberative democratic process, where decision-making is guided by musyawarah (deliberation) and mufakat (consensus) principles. This approach would ensure that all voices are heard and

that decisions reflect the collective will rather than simply the majority. Implementing such a system would require institutional reforms, including changes to electoral laws and decision-making processes, to prioritize consensus over simple majority rule.

4.6 Balancing Individualism with Collectivism

The study also highlights the tension between individualism and collectivism. While Democracy promotes individual rights and freedoms, these can sometimes conflict with the communal values central to Pancasila. The findings suggest that an overemphasis on individualism can weaken social cohesion and undermine collective welfare, particularly in a society that values community and mutual support.

The study advocates for a governance model that balances individual rights with collective responsibilities, ensuring that personal freedoms do not come at the expense of social harmony. This could involve the development of policies that promote community-based initiatives, cooperative enterprises, and social safety nets, all of which align with Pancasila's emphasis on social justice and community welfare.

4.7 Ethical Leadership and Democratic Governance

The study's findings on leadership underscore the need for a shift in the democratic process to prioritize ethical and morally guided leadership. The current focus on popularity and electoral success can lead to short-termism and governance that lacks the ethical standards emphasized by Pancasila. This issue is particularly relevant in local elections, where populist measures often overshadow the need for long-term, sustainable governance.

To address this, the study recommends developing leadership training programs that emphasize ethical decision-making and moral integrity. Additionally, electoral reforms could be introduced to incentivize the selection of leaders based on their adherence to Pancasila principles rather than their ability to win votes. This could involve incorporating ethical criteria into the candidate selection process and promoting leaders who demonstrate a commitment to the values of Pancasila.

4.8 Addressing Economic Inequality Through Social Justice

Finally, the study highlights the need for a more robust approach to addressing economic inequality in Indonesia. While Democracy has provided political freedoms, it has not adequately addressed the economic disparities that undermine social justice. The growing gap between the rich and the poor, as evidenced by the data on income disparity and access to services, suggests that economic inequality remains a significant challenge.

The study advocates for implementing policies that promote economic justice, such as progressive taxation, equitable resource distribution, and social welfare programs. These measures would help reduce the economic disparities that currently exist and align governance with the Pancasila principle of social justice for all.

Overall, the results of this study highlight several critical errors in implementing the democratic system in Indonesia when viewed through the lens of Pancasila. The tensions between majority rule and consensus, individualism and collectivism, popular leadership and ethical governance, and political equality and economic inequality underscore the need to re-examine how Democracy is practised in Indonesia. By aligning the democratic process more closely with the principles of Pancasila, it may be possible to develop a governance model that reflects the will of the people and upholds the values central to the nation's identity.

V. Conclusion

The exploration of the errors inherent in the democratic system, as analyzed through the lens of Pancasila, reveals significant insights into the complexities and challenges of implementing Democracy in a context deeply rooted in Indigenous cultural and philosophical values. This conclusion synthesizes the study's key findings, drawing together the various strands of analysis to provide a coherent understanding of the tensions between Democracy and Pancasila and offering recommendations for aligning democratic practices more closely with the values enshrined in Pancasila.

The study identifies four primary areas where the democratic system diverges from the principles of Pancasila, resulting in governance practices that may not fully serve the interests of the Indonesian people. These areas include the overreliance on majority rule, the emphasis on individualism, the prioritization of popular leadership over ethical governance, and the persistence of economic inequality despite political freedoms.

The study found that the democratic emphasis on majority rule often marginalizes minority voices, contributing to social fragmentation and conflict. This issue is particularly problematic in a society like Indonesia, where unity and social harmony are central values. The findings suggest that a more consensus-oriented approach, as Pancasila advocates, could mitigate these conflicts and promote greater inclusivity in decision-making.

The tension between individual rights and collective welfare emerged as a significant challenge in the democratic system. While Democracy emphasizes personal freedoms and autonomy, these values can sometimes conflict with the Pancasila principle of collectivism, which prioritizes the common good. The study highlights the need for a balanced approach that respects individual rights while ensuring that these rights do not undermine social cohesion and community welfare.

The analysis of leadership within the democratic system revealed a tendency to prioritize popularity over ethical considerations. This trend has led to short-term, populist policies that may not align with Pancasila's long-term ethical values. The study underscores the importance of promoting ethical leadership that is guided by wisdom and moral integrity rather than mere electoral success.

Despite the political freedoms afforded by Democracy, the study found that economic inequality remains a significant issue in Indonesia. The persistence of disparities in income, access to education, and healthcare highlights the limitations of Democracy in addressing social justice concerns. The findings suggest that a more robust focus on economic justice, as envisioned by Pancasila, is necessary to ensure that all citizens benefit from the nation's resources and opportunities.

The errors identified in this study have profound implications for governance in Indonesia. The tensions between democratic practices and Pancasila principles suggest that the current democratic model may not be fully compatible with the values and needs of Indonesian society. To address these challenges, the study advocates for a more nuanced and context-sensitive approach to Democracy, one that integrates the ethical, collective, and consensus-oriented values of Pancasila into the democratic process.

The study's critical recommendation is the need for institutional reforms that promote consensus-building and deliberation over simple majority rule. Such reforms could include changes to electoral laws, decision-making processes, and governance structures to ensure that all voices are heard and that decisions reflect the people's collective will. By embedding consensus-oriented practices into the democratic system, Indonesia can create a more inclusive and harmonious form of governance.

The study also highlights the need for training programs emphasizing ethical decision-making and moral integrity. By fostering a culture of ethical leadership, Indonesia can ensure that its leaders are not only responsive to the people's will but also committed to upholding the values of Pancasila. This shift in focus from popularity to ethics could lead to more sustainable and principled governance.

Addressing economic inequality is another critical area where democratic practices must align more closely with Pancasila. The study recommends implementing policies that promote economic justice, such as progressive taxation, equitable resource distribution, and social welfare programs. These measures would help reduce disparities and ensure that all citizens have access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive.

While this study provides valuable insights into the errors of the democratic system when viewed through the lens of Pancasila, there is still much to explore. Future research could investigate the practical implementation of the recommendations outlined in this study, examining how consensus-oriented decision-making and ethical leadership can be integrated into existing democratic structures. Additionally, comparative studies between Indonesia and other countries with similar cultural and philosophical frameworks could provide further insights into the challenges and opportunities of aligning Democracy with indigenous values.

Overall, the study demonstrates that while Democracy offers many benefits as a system of governance, its implementation in Indonesia must be carefully calibrated to align with the values of Pancasila. The errors identified in this study—majority rule over consensus, individualism over collectivism, popular leadership over ethical governance, and political equality without economic justice—underscore the need for a more context-sensitive approach to Democracy. By integrating the principles of Pancasila into the democratic process, Indonesia can develop a governance model that not only reflects the people's will but also upholds the ethical, collective, and just values central to the nation's identity.

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