

ABSTRACT

Machiavelli is one of famous political philosopher. According to him, the source of power is a state. State has its sovereignty and occupied the highest position. Thus, this point of view established popularity of Machiavelli increased even after several centuries. This power is able to obtain by justify all means to achieve its goals. Ruler has the right to violate any kind of moral ethics. Since, it has nothing to do with politics.

In accordance with that matters, all Indonesia's ruler whose thoughts tend to be similar with Machiavelli was Soeharto. He became a second Indonesia's President whom served the nation for approximately 32 years. His Reign is called Orde Baru. Authoritarian, dominant and centralistic style of leadership was instilled in this reign. Soeharto's ways of thinking were influenced by the political culture that lay behind his personal life and national condition at that time.

Thus, using a qualitative method through library research, the researcher concludes that there are several points of relevance regarding the ideas that Machiavelli conveys and used by Soeharto in his reign as a President. These include; political reality, socio-political situation, power concept, religious and morality, the thought of state and law, then pragmatism notion.

Result from the research, it can be concluded that relevance is found between the concept that expressed by Machiavelli regarding state and power with the practices that carried out by Soeharto during his reign which was called the Orde Baru, and the authoritarian leadership style was being used through his leadership era. The relevance includes: the political reality of Machiavelli and Soeharto, the similarity of the political situation, the concept of power, pragmatic and particularistic, the concept of the military and the concept of state law.

Keywords: Machiavelli's way of thinking, Soeharto, The Concept State and power.