

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 4.1. Conclusion

Three main programs under the sunshine policy as follows: First, the expansion of inter-Korean exchange. It includes the economic, trade, and investment program as the Mount Kumgang tourism as the trademark. Second, the revolution of humanitarian issues. Referring to the program, South-North exchanged people to facilitate family reunion related to the separated families and food aid to North Korea. Third, the Light-water Reactor (LWR) Project to provide assistance to North Korea.

The domestic political constellation in South Korea in responding to the sunshine policy gave no effect on the policy implementation. With the level of analysis that the researcher use, from two domestic variables which are presidential system and representing groups, resulted in a domestic debate over sunshine policy. However, since the system of government in South Korea allowed the centralization of the President, the implementation of sunshine policy remained consistent to be held.

During the period of Kim Dae Jung, South Korean society divided into two sides, progressive and conservative. The progressives tend to support the inter-Korean engagement policy under the sunshine policy. They were optimistic that the behavior of North Korea would shift into a more positive through cooperation

between both Koreas. On the other hand, the conservative saw no hope to reconcile with North Korea and consistently criticized the implementation.

Referring to the presidential system in South Korea, Kim Dae Jung's party attempted to secure the majority in the National Assembly, since the legislature responsible to pass the bills. During two rounds of parliamentary elections, Kim's party MDP and its coalition did not manage to win the majority. It affected the legislative approval in the National Assembly including the Unification Ministry's allocation of funds from the government budget for inter-Korean relations after a parliamentary election in 2000. In the same year, the ruling coalition party ULD resigned from the bloc. Though Kim Dae Jung's government labeled as *yoso yadae* or a small government with a big opposition, the project of sunshine policy still could be managed.

The centralization of governance in South Korea during Kim Dae Jung's administration also resulted in the ignorance over provocation acts by North Korea. It caused by the adherence to the sunshine policy. Kim's government continued to strengthen inter-Korean relations in order to pursue reconciliation and peace throughout the Peninsula. Economic cooperation through the Mt. Kumgang tourism project by Hyundai Asan also supported by Kim's administration even though it suffered bankruptcy.

The representing groups analyzed in the research, media and civic groups and NGOs also showed the polarization. The progressive and conservative groups competed to gain support from South Korean society by promoting their values.

However, the debate between both sides affected only on Kim's domestic response such as the limitation of the press to silence the criticism. While North Korea's provocative behavior affected progressive groups at the end of Kim's administration, the engagement policy with North Korea under sunshine policy remain conducted.

Therefore, the domestic political constellation in the presidential system and representing groups to respond the implementation of sunshine policy drew the stance of each actor toward sunshine policy. The actors managed to exercise attempts to support or against the sunshine policy implementation. Actors in presidential system exercise the support and criticism through the legislative. The representing groups managed to conduct it through promotion, complaint, and demonstration.

#### **4.2. Suggestion**

The descriptive analysis that the researcher use requires a detailed set of data. In analyzing the domestic political constellation in responding to the sunshine policy implementation, the researcher needs to puzzle the detail information periodically to result in a proper finding. Therefore, the suggestion for the next researchers is data reduction will help to select and classify the data would then be used to sort out every phenomenon.

The domestic politic level of analysis on foreign policy implementation mightbe perceived as non-international relations research. In avoiding the research become too domestic, refers the topic on the foreign matter. It will help the researcher to

focus on foreign relations. In this research, the South Korean domestic political is analyzed in accordance with the response to sunshine policy implementation in South Korea during Kim Dae Jung's administration.

Referring to the topic, it can be considered as a flexible matter of research. Meaning, it can be analyzed through various kind of research. For a notable example, it can be analyzed through another level of analysis such as individual level to analyze the Kim Dae Jung's personality as an individual in affecting the decision he made. Other than that, through the international system level of analysis to explore the structure between actors that influence the behavior and foreign policy implementation.