Decentralization in Action:  
*Decentralization Implementation in Jogyakarta City*  
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**ABSTRACT**

The aim of paper is to explore implementation of decentralization in Jogyakarta City after decentralization policy launched in 2001 by Megawati Administration. The research method is comparative study by using secondary data and primary data from comparison result of city condition before (pre-2002) and after the implementation of regional autonomy (2002-2008) was implemented. The study found that municipal government had good performance of economic aspect, social aspect and bureaucracy of city. However, environmental aspects of city autonomy showed quite poor performance. In implementing the decentralization policy, the good capability and vision of mayor had, the staff group of an organization, the complexity of the tasks, and the organizational communication were the factors that get must careful attention due to they influence most its success. Theoretically, the implementation of asymmetric pattern of autonomy contribute to development of the decentralization theory in the future

Keywords: Decentralization, performance, organization communication.

**INTRODUCTION**

The implementation of decentralization policy in Indonesia was started in 2001 since the Megawati Administration, called as the Big Bang Approach. Megawati Administration decentralization policy was implemented based on Autonomy Law No. 22/1999--the law was long-waited public aspiration--, which wrote down two levels of autonomous area: province and regency or city. However in 2004, Law No.32/2004 writing done only one level autonomous area: regency or city was used to substitute for the Law. Until 2009, the number of autonomous areas in Indonesia was 524; consist of 33 provinces, 398 Regencies, and 93 cities. Based on Law No. 32/2004, regency and responsibilities that have two area of obligatory responsibilities and optional areas of responsibilities). This approach is uniform for all autonomous areas in Indonesia except Papua, Aceh, and Jogyakarta.

Law 32/2004 had regulated all responsibilities of local government except responsibilities of province. According to the law, apart from the shared areas of responsibilities, the province as representative of the national government was going to be responsible for the following functions:

1) Deconcentrated functions of the national government,  
2) Providing assistance to certain national government affairs;  
3) Providing services that are provincial in scale or concern;  
4) Coordinating inter-regencies/cities and cross border or regional affairs;  
5) Taking care of certain functions that local government are not able to perform;  
6) Facilitating local government to carry out theirs affairs.

Obligatory responsibilities of regency or city are as follows:

a. Development planning and control;  
b. Planning, land use and control;  
c. Civil order;  
d. Public infrastructure development;  
e. Health services;  
f. Educational services;  
g. Social services;  
h. Manpower services;

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