

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

The Association of Southeast Asian Nation's ways in strengthening democracy tend to choose some constructive ways rather than using force and punishment. It is because ASEAN has the principle of non-interference. It means no one can interfere domestic affairs of other countries. Monopoly ASEAN that interference in promoting democracy directly in the region become restricted, the other important thing is ASEAN has its own model of democracy that it is different with the West Democracy. It happened because in Asia especially in Southeast Asia countries have their own value which affects how a state interprets a concept of democracy. That value is known as Asian Value. So, ASEAN uses term of constructive through sharing idea, belief, and value which can influence the government of a country without interfering directly.

There are five roles which ASEAN has been using in promoting and strengthening democratization in Southeast Asia especially towards Myanmar, a country which is still struggling for democratization. Those five roles are Promoting democracy by forum, being a nice partner for the member states, promoting cooperation to International Community, Building the legal cooperation in the region of Southeast Asia, and bringing ASEAN youth together.

In promoting democracy by forum, ASEAN has ASEAN Security Community and Bali Democracy Forum (BDF). ASC (ASEAN Security Community) promotes political and security in Southeast Asia, it means the

political stability which the member should maintain their own political stability. Beside ASC also promotes the cooperation of each member states in order to build political stability in Southeast Asia. It can be seen as the ASEAN way in promoting democracy because political stability is one of the requirements of political development (democratization). On the other hand, Bali Democracy Forum is one of forum which serves the principles of democracy in Asia Pacific including ASEAN member states, eventhough BDF is not a part of ASEAN, BDF is a forum which put Indonesia as the initiator and the host of this forum. Myanmar and Indonesia have been trying to cooperate as the commitment of ASC. Myanmar participation in BDF is the reflection of Myanmar's respect to Indonesia as the host of BDF. Through ASC and BDF, the sharing idea, belief and value can be occurred.

Moreover, the sharing of value, belief and idea can be occurred through being nice partner to Myanmar. It can be seen when Myanmar received the worst natural disaster called Cyclone Nargis in 2008, ASEAN led coordination with Myanmar and United Nations to giving humanitarian assistance to Myanmar. The cooperation between ASEAN, Myanmar and UN has promoted the effectiveness of government organization to Myanmar and building trust between Myanmar and International community which is effectively influenced Myanmar government. This is the first time for Myanmar to cooperate with several numbers of international communities which becomes difficult happened in the previous era before Myanmar joining in ASEAN. In the post Cyclone Nargis, Myanmar foreign affairs start to show its desire to cooperate with the West. For instance, in

will be lose in the competition with the other countries which have better effective government organization.

ASEAN has the other ways to strengthen Myanmar democratization. It is by bringing ASEAN youth together. ASEAN has several Youth Camp and Jamboree for ASEAN students, the camp aims at building trust among member states through culture and art. One of ASEAN's youth camp is ASEAN Youth Forum. One of AYF's concern is to influence the policy making for the better and more effective integration of ASEAN as one community. Through AYF, the sharing idea, value and believe can be occurred as the key point of identity changing in Myanmar government to achieve good democratization.

Those are the ways of ASEAN in strengthening democracy in Southeast Asia, including Myanmar democratization. Through those points, the Myanmar democratization can move forward without interfering directly in Myanmar's domestic affairs. Because Interference of Myanmar domestic affairs can violate the principle of non-interference that ASEAN member states have agreed about it.