



**THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY**

**DETERMINANT FACTORS OF THE WEHRKREISE  
STRATEGY DURING THE INDONESIAN NATIONAL  
REVOLUTION (1945-1949) FOR IMPLEMENTING THE  
TOTAL PEOPLE'S DEFENSE SYSTEM**

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## DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY

Hereby I acknowledge that this thesis does not contain some or the whole parts of previously published works that had been submitted to earn any scholarly degree in any University; and to the best of my knowledge and belief, there are no idioms, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, sub-chapters or chapters from any written or published works; except what was written in this thesis and mentioned in the Reference section.

If in the future this thesis is proven to be plagiarizing any previous existing works, I would accept the punishment as stated in the relevant and applicable laws/regulations.

Jakarta, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ridwan Akhmad Nugraha".

Ridwan Akhmad Nugraha

## FOREWORDS

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Almighty God for His blessings and grace, which have enabled me to complete this thesis, titled "Determinant Factors of The Wehrkreise Strategy During the Indonesian National Revolution (1945-1949) for Implementing the Total People's Defense System."

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I sincerely hope that this thesis will contribute to the advancement of defense science and prove beneficial to all related stakeholders in the development of Indonesia's national defense policies.

Jakarta, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024



Ridwan Akhmad Nugraha

## **ABSTRACT**

### **DETERMINANT FACTORS OF THE WEHRKREISE STRATEGY DURING THE INDONESIAN NATIONAL REVOLUTION (1945-1949) FOR IMPLEMENTING THE TOTAL PEOPLE'S DEFENSE SYSTEM**

**RIDWAN AKHMAD NUGRAHA**

This research examines the implementation of the People's Defense System (Sishankamrata) in Indonesia in facing complex and asymmetric contemporary challenges amidst significant limitations in military resources. To rediscover the unity of defense within Sishankamrata, it is essential to trace this defense system, which is rooted in efforts to defend independence during the 1945-1949 Revolution, despite the limitations of military resources when confronted with superior enemy forces. During that time, the establishment of Wehrkreise through Emergency Order Number One in 1948 played a significant role in strengthening national defense. This study aims to explore the determining factors for the success of the Wehrkreise strategy and its relevance in strengthening Sishankamrata in the modern era. The research employs a qualitative method with a historical approach, analyzing primary and secondary sources to identify key elements that supported the success of the Wehrkreise strategy. These factors are expected to bridge the gap between Indonesia's historical defense strategy and current strategic challenges. The research findings indicate that innovative leadership, inspirational motivation, alignment of strategy with local cultural contexts, and the integration of military operations with regionally-based people's resistance are the main success factors. The conclusion of this study emphasizes the importance of developing innovative and inspirational leadership, as well as implementing defense strategies that are in harmony with local culture, to strengthen Sishankamrata in the modern era and future. This strategy ensures that the universal defense system remains relevant and resilient in facing dynamic and asymmetric threats.

**Keywords:** Wehrkreise, Total People's Defense System, Determinant Factors

## ABSTRAK

### **FAKTOR-FAKTOR DETERMINAN DARI STRATEGI *WEHRKREISE* PADA MASA REVOLUSI NASIONAL INDONESIA (1945-1949) UNTUK IMPLEMENTASI SISTEM PERTAHANAN RAKYAT SEMESTA**

**RIDWAN AKHMAD NUGRAHA**

Penelitian ini mengkaji implementasi Sistem Pertahanan Rakyat Semesta (Sishankamrata) di Indonesia dalam menghadapi tantangan kontemporer yang kompleks dan bersifat asimetris dengan keterbatasan sumber daya militer yang masih besar. Untuk menemukan lagi kesatuan pertahanan dalam Sishankamrata maka perlu menelusuri sistem pertahanan ini yang berakar dari upaya mempertahankan kemerdekaan pada masa Revolusi 1945-1949, meskipun keterbatasan sumber daya militer menghadapi kekuatan musuh yang lebih superior. Pada saat itu pembentukan Wehrkreise melalui Perintah Kilat Nomor Satu Tahun 1948 berperan signifikan dalam memperkuat pertahanan nasional. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi faktor-faktor penentu keberhasilan strategi Wehrkreise dan relevansinya dalam memperkuat Sishankamrata di era modern. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan historis, menganalisis sumber-sumber primer dan sekunder untuk mengidentifikasi elemen-elemen kunci yang mendukung keberhasilan strategi Wehrkreise. Faktor-faktor tersebut diharapkan dapat menjembatani kesenjangan antara strategi pertahanan historis Indonesia dan tantangan strategis masa kini. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kepemimpinan inovatif, motivasi inspirasional, serta keselarasan strategi dengan konteks budaya lokal, dan integrasi operasi militer dengan perlawanan rakyat berbasis wilayah adalah faktor utama keberhasilan. Kesimpulan dari penelitian ini menegaskan pentingnya pengembangan kepemimpinan yang inovatif dan inspiratif, serta penerapan strategi pertahanan yang selaras dengan budaya lokal untuk memperkuat Sishankamrata di era modern dan masa depan. Strategi ini memastikan bahwa sistem pertahanan semesta tetap relevan dan tangguh dalam menghadapi ancaman yang dinamis dan asimetris.

**Kata Kunci:** Wehrkreise, Sistem Pertahanan Rakyat Semesta, Determinant Factors

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATION

ABRI	:	<i>Angkatan Bersenjata Republik Indonesia</i> (Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia)
BKR	:	<i>Badan Keamanan Rakyat</i> (People's Security Agency)
HRM	:	Human Resources Management
KBBI	:	<i>Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia</i> (Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language)
KDM	:	<i>Komando Distrik Militer</i> (Military District Commands)
KODAM	:	<i>Komando Daerah Militer</i> (Regional Military Command)
KODM	:	<i>Komando Onder-Distrik Militer</i> (Military Sub-District Commands)
Koter	:	<i>Komando Teritorial</i> (Territorial Command)
OMSP	:	<i>Operasi Militer Selain Perang</i> (Military Operations Other Than War)
OTK	:	<i>Organisasi Tingkat Kecamatan</i> (Sub-district Level Organization)
P3B	:	<i>Pertahanan Pulau-Pulau Besar</i> (Defense of Major Islands)
PETA	:	<i>Pembela Tanah Air</i> (Defenders of the Homeland)
PPN	:	<i>Pemuda Pembela Negara</i> (Youth Defenders of the Nation)
RRI	:	<i>Radio Republik Indonesia</i> (Radio of the Republic of Indonesia)
SISHANKAMRATA	:	<i>Sistem Pertahanan, Keamanan dan Rakyat Semesta</i> (Total People's Defense and Security System)
SISHANTA	:	<i>Sistem Pertahanan Semesta</i> (Total Defense System)
TKR	:	<i>Tentara Keamanan Rakyat</i> (People's Security Army)
TMMD	:	<i>TNI Manunggal Membangun Desa</i> (TNI Integrated Village Development)
TNI	:	<i>Tentara Nasional Indonesia</i> (Indonesian National Armed Forces)
TRI	:	<i>Tentara Rakyat Indonesia</i> (Indonesian People's Army)
US	:	United States