

SOME SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE EXPERIENCES OF THE EAST TIMORESE AND WEST PAPUAN PEOPLES

INDICATOR	EAST TIMOR	WEST PAPUA
Relationship with Indonesia	<p>1974 Portugal left abruptly without any post-colonial preparation.</p> <p>1975 December - Indonesia invaded, using its fight against communism as a pretext. It annexed East Timor as its 27th province, a move not recognised by the UN. José Ramos-Horta, Rogério Lobato and Mari Alkatiri had left for the UN two weeks beforehand to lobby for recognition of the declaration of Independence of 28.11.75 and were unable to return for 24 years. In 1999 the UN sponsored a ballot for the choice between autonomy or independence with 78.5% voting to sever from Indonesia.</p>	<p>1962 Dutch handed West New Guinea over to the UN, which then put it under Indonesian interim administration.</p> <p>1969 With UN sanction an "Act of Free Choice" was held where 1026 selected Papuan chiefs voted under coercion for annexation to Indonesia. Australia arrested two pro-independence West Papuan leaders, Willem Zonggonao and Clemens Runawery, preventing them from travelling to the UN just weeks before the vote. These men carried testimonies from many West Papuan leaders calling for independence and for the UN to abandon the Act of Free Choice. The two were interviewed by ASIO and kept on Manus Island until after the vote.</p>
Prominent Leaders	<p>Nicolau Lobato: Named President on Declaration of Independence 28 November 1975. Killed in 1979.</p> <p>David Alex: Prominent resistance leader tortured and killed 1997.</p> <p>Xanana Gusmão: became leader of Falintil (Armed Forces of National Liberation of East Timor), the armed wing of Fretilin. Captured in 1992 and jailed in Jakarta for 7 years. After Independence became second President and then Prime Minister.</p> <p>José Ramos-Horta. Received Nobel Peace Prize in 1996. Become Prime Minister and then President.</p>	<p>Theys Eluay: One of the original chiefs who voted for annexation, he became increasingly resistant to Indonesian rule. Abducted and assassinated in 2001.</p> <p>Kelly Kwalik: Independence leader killed in 2009.</p> <p>Socratez Sofyan Yoman: Leader of Alliance of Baptist churches. Active in calls for dialogue and openness.</p> <p>John Rumbiak: Member of Elsham, human rights NGO in Papua. Death threats in 2003.</p> <p>Dr John Ondowame: long time outspoken promoter of dialogue.</p>
Training of Indonesian Military	<p>Australian and US training of Indonesian military personnel has been undertaken and cancelled on a number of occasions depending on levels of accusations of human rights abuses. US and Australia ended training of Kopassus after the Dili Massacre in 1991 but it was reinstated. Recent abuses in Papua have been accompanied by calls to cancel training once again.</p>	
Transmigration	<p>Thousands of Javanese re-settled in East Timor and undertook most government, nursing and teaching jobs.</p>	<p>There are large on-going programs of re-settlement of Indonesian people, particularly from Java. "Native Papuans are marginalized and became strangers on their own land..." (Rev. Socratez)</p>
Arrests, Detention	<p>"The extent to which the people of Timor-Leste suffered being locked up and physically abused reveals a 24-year period of brutality and the repeated use of violence to crush political opposition, which eventually culminated in the violence and destruction of 1999." CAVR 7.4.1</p>	<p>Constant reports of scores of people arrested and detained at flag-raising ceremonies and anniversaries.</p>
Torture	<p>"Members of the Indonesian security forces and their auxiliaries committed, encouraged and condoned widespread and systematic torture and ill-treatment of victims during the period of Indonesian occupation of Timor-Leste. In some cases torture led to death, sometimes as a direct result of the torture applied to the victim and sometimes as a result of wounds sustained during torture being left untreated." CAVR 7.4.9</p>	<p>Reports that torture is rampant used by police detectives across the country despite the force's pledge for internal reform, e.g. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2009/10/29/torture-rampant-during-questioning-watchdog.html</p> <p>2010 Torture of West Papuan man videotaped and put on internet. World-wide condemnation.</p>
Citizen groups	<p>Strong and widespread resistance to Indonesian rule followed by repression and famine in which 10s of 1000s of people died. East Timorese enter foreign embassies in Jakarta seeking asylum.</p>	<p>Groups like the West Papua National Coalition for Liberation and the Papua Central Highland Student Association maintain that dozens of organizations in Papua seek dialogue with the central government to find peaceful solutions.</p>
Lack of Access	<p>East Timor was closed to the world for 14 years 1975-1989.</p>	<p>Red Cross (ICRC) does not have full access and many journalists and human rights monitors are banned.</p>
Churches	<p>Over 90% Catholic. Church ran many social services as Government was not trusted by the people. Church was shelter and advocate.</p>	<p>Christianity dominant, followed by Islam. Christian Churches unite to demand humane treatment of every person and non-violent resistance to oppression</p>

<p>Examples of Massacres</p>	<p>1983 Kraras, Vikeke. 1000 people killed. 1991 Indonesian troops fire on peaceful demonstration at Santa Cruz cemetery, killing 400. Video footage beamed around the world. 1999 Likisa 167 people tear gassed and then macheted. 1999 Suai Church Hundreds killed. “.... Indonesian military commanders ordered, supported and condoned systematic and widespread unlawful killings and enforced disappearances of thousands of civilians The systematic failure of the Indonesian military and civilian leadership to prevent and stop these acts which they must have known about, and to punish the direct perpetrators of these crimes, is itself evidence of complicity.” CAVR 7.2.4.2</p>	<p>1977 The killing by aerial bombardment of several thousand Papuans in Jayawijaya. 1981 Napalm and chemical weapons against villagers. 1998 Biak. Hundreds shot at, many killed and injured for raising West Papuan flag. 2001 Massacre in Wasior. 2000, 2003 Massacres in Wamena.</p> <p>Numerous extrajudicial killings, including torture killings of detained prisoners, assassinations of political, cultural, and village leaders, and brutal killings of civilian men, women, and children.</p>
<p>Impunity and sham trials</p>	<p>2004 November - End of two-year process under which 18 people were tried by Indonesian court for human rights abuses in East Timor during 1999 independence drive. Eurico Guterres was convicted but was freed on appeal.</p> <p>No other person has been convicted of crimes detailed in the CAVR Report.</p>	<p>Police honored for killing Kwalik: “A team of 50 police officers on Wednesday received special commendations from the National Police headquarters for shooting and killing Kelly Kwalik, the charismatic leader of an armed faction of the pro-independence Free Papua Movement, in December.” (<i>Jakarta Globe January 13, 2010</i>) Regular instances of token punishments for criminal acts e.g. two soldiers received light sentences for “disobedience” in the matter of the video of the West Papuan man tortured in October 2010.</p>
<p>International Reports/Investigations</p>	<p>2005 CAVR Report http://www.cavr-timorleste.org/ presented to the UN finds that between 102,000 and 183,000 Timorese died violently between 1974 and 1999 and that the Indonesian military are responsible for 90% of those deaths.</p> <p>2007 November - An Australian coroner’s court rules that five Australian-based journalists were deliberately killed by Indonesian troops in 1975 to stop them exposing the invasion of East Timor.</p> <p>2008 Indonesian-East Timorese Commission of Truth and Friendship established in 2005 reports on human rights violations in 1999. President Susilo expresses “deep regret” but stops short of an apology. Previous 23 years of occupation were not included in the investigation.</p> <p>Numerous books, reports and articles are available on the history of Timor-Leste.</p>	<p>“The Asian Human Rights Commission is of the view that the situation in Papua, consisting of intimidation, destruction of property, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture and extra-judicial killings, amounts to a gross violation of human rights. The AHRC therefore urges Komnas HAM to conduct inquiries regarding these violations with a view to bringing the situation into the human rights court process.” Asian Human Rights Commission Dec 2010 http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwbnsf/db900sid/MUMA-8BY825?OpenDocument Genocide in West Papua? (2005) John Wing with Peter King http://sydney.edu.au/arts/peace_conflict/docs/WestPapuaGenocideRpt05.pdf 2011 Kopassus documents show the level of spying by the Indonesian military on West Papuans is oppressive at every level of West Papuan society. Systematic campaign to intimidate both human rights defenders and the West Papuan people a whole. http://www.smh.com.au/world/abuses-in-west-papua-put-peace-effort-at-risk-20110814-1isxu.html http://images.smh.com.au/file/2011/08/12/2553999/Kopassus2011.pdf</p>
<p>Resources</p>	<p>1989 Australia and Indonesia divided the resources of the Timor Gap 50/50. 2002 Timor Gap Treaty renegotiated at East Timor’s independence 90/10 in favour of Timor-Leste. 2006 East Timor and Australia divide equally billions of dollars in expected revenues from oil and gas deposits in the Greater Sunrise fields of the Timor Sea on condition that talks on disputed maritime boundaries are postponed until 2056. Australia and oil companies in dispute with Timor-Leste over where processing will take place, and therefore which nation will get the jobs, infrastructure and other downstream benefits.</p>	<p>Freeport-McMoran Copper and Gold Inc. largest tax-payer to the Indonesian Government, mines the Grasberg Mine, the largest gold mine and the third largest copper mine in the world, located in the province of Papua. Constant attacks around Freeport with the Free Papua Movement (OPM) denying involvement. Accusations that Indonesia's military fails to monitor illegal logging and is actively involved in it.</p>