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Please return this form to:  
**TAPOL, the Indonesia Human Rights Campaign, 111 Northwood Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 8HW, UK.**

**TAPOL** monitors and disseminates information about the human rights situation throughout Indonesia, on the internet and in its quarterly publication, *TAPOL Bulletin*.

**TAPOL** cooperates with partner NGOs in various parts of Indonesia and campaigns with them on human rights issues.

**TAPOL** works closely with human rights and peace NGOs in the UK and Europe and campaigns to win support from parliamentarians of all parties.

**TAPOL** lobbies the UK government, the EU and the UN to press Indonesia to halt human rights abuses and to end military operations in Aceh and West Papua.

**TAPOL** campaigns for an embargo on all arms supplies to Indonesia and opposes cooperation between the UK and the Indonesian armed forces.

**TAPOL** is part of an international network of organisations working in solidarity with the people of Indonesia, Aceh and West Papua.

**TAPOL** can provide speakers for events and meetings.



## The Indonesia Human Rights Campaign



111 Northwood Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 8HW, UK

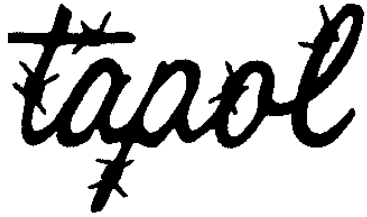
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**Set up in 1973, TAPOL monitors and exposes human rights violations in Indonesia and promotes democratisation**



## The Indonesia Human Rights Campaign

Indonesia has been experiencing a fragile transition from dictatorship to democracy since the ending of the authoritarian rule of President Suharto in May 1998.

Some initial progress was made after Suharto's downfall, but President Megawati Sukarnoputri (2001-2004) proved an ineffectual leader who allowed the Indonesian military (TNI) to reassert its influence over security and political affairs.

This has had major implications for conflicts in Aceh and West Papua, which have escalated as the government has imposed military solutions to long-standing political problems. The exploitation of natural resources by Jakarta and western companies such as Exxon and Freeport continues to be a major cause of tension and human rights violations.

Despite the holding of elections in 2004, the democratisation process in Indonesia still has a long way to go. The human rights situation remains a cause for concern, corruption is rampant, the rule of law requires strengthening, armed forces personnel continue to enjoy impunity for gross violations of human rights, and press freedom is again under threat.

It is questionable whether the election of retired general Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono as president in September 2004 will advance the cause of reform. He retains a team of military advisers from the Suharto era and supports the retention of the TNI's territorial command structure, which provides it with a means of control and political influence at the local level.

**Aceh** on the northwestern tip of the island of Sumatra, has been an area of armed conflict between the TNI and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) since 1976. Numerous military operations and campaigns of brutality and repression have resulted in thousands of deaths and widespread rights violations. The majority of victims have been civilians.

In May 2003, Jakarta declared martial law and launched its largest military operation since the invasion of East Timor in 1975. The year-long offensive cost over 2,000 lives without resolving the conflict. Military operations continue under the current civil emergency status. Civil society is pressing hard for the resumption of peace talks, which broke down in May 2003.

**West Papua** became a contested part of Indonesia following the fraudulent 'act of free choice' in 1969. Tens of thousands have been killed in state-sponsored acts of terror aimed at those opposed to rule from Jakarta. Human rights are routinely violated and Papuans are imprisoned simply for expressing support for self-determination.

Since 2003, West Papua has been in a state of chaos caused by the government's contradictory and divisive attempts to implement special autonomy and split the territory into three provinces. The West Papuan people are calling for West Papua to be made a *Land of Peace* and for peaceful dialogue with Indonesia to consider all options for the future of the territory.

**Other regional conflicts** Conflicts have plagued several other areas of Indonesia's far-flung archipelago, most notably in Maluku, Sulawesi and West and Central Kalimantan. The causes are often complex. Religion has played a part, but so have inter-related political, economic, social and ethnic rivalries and tensions. In some cases, conflicts have been used by outside forces, including the military and militia groups, for their own ends.

**1965/1966 massacre** The slaughter of hundreds of thousands of leftwing suspects and the detention of many thousands for more than a decade without trial continues to cast a shadow. No one has been called to account for the tragedy, one of the worst massacres of the 20th century. Survivors and victims' families are now speaking out and calling for Suharto and known perpetrators to be brought to justice and for the 1966 anti-communist law to be repealed.

**East Timor** has been an independent state since May 2002, but nation building has been hampered by the denial of justice to the victims of crimes against humanity committed during the Indonesian military occupation (1975-1999).

The trials in Indonesia of a handful of the alleged perpetrators were a travesty of justice. Serious crimes proceedings in East Timor have suffered from a lack of political support and Indonesia's refusal to co-operate. The victims, their families and the East Timorese people are demanding an international tribunal for East Timor.

**Impunity** Countless human rights violations were committed during the 33 years of the Suharto dictatorship. They continue to this day, largely because the perpetrators know they are unlikely to be brought to justice.

The ending of impunity is an essential part of the democratisation process and is key to resolving regional conflicts, but meaningful accountability and respect for the rule of law remain elusive.

**Arms sales** The UK is a major supplier of military equipment to the TNI. British-supplied equipment has been used in East Timor, West Papua and most recently Aceh. TAPOL campaigns for a total military embargo against Indonesia.