


Timeline of Indonesian history

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This is a **timeline of Indonesian history**.

Pre-history

- **Pleistocene:** The modern geological form of Indonesia appears, linked to Asian mainland.
- **2 million to 500,000 years ago:** Indonesia is inhabited by *Homo erectus*, now popularly known as the 'Java Man'.^[1]
- **40,000 BCE:** Earliest human societies first thought to have existed in parts of the Indonesian archipelago, highlands of the Malay Peninsula, and the Philippines.^[2]
- **3000 BCE:** The present day peoples of Indonesia are Austronesian, thought to have originated from an aboriginal Chinese society living in Taiwan (or South China). They were Neolithic peoples who learned open-water maritime skills about 3000 BCE. These light,brown-skinned people reached the Indonesian archipelago during the period 2500 BCE to 1500 BCE and virtually eliminated the existing, dark,brown-skinned inhabitants.^{[3] [4]}
- **200 BCE:** Dvipantara or Jawa Dwipa Hindu kingdom is thought to have existed in Java and Sumatra.

Early history

- **350-400** - Kutai - the Martadipura phase - earliest known stone inscriptions in Indonesia^[5]
- **5th century:** Stone inscriptions in west Java announce decrees of Purnavarman, king of Tarumanagara.^[6]
- **683:** Dapunta Hyang Sri Jayanasa performed Siddhayatra as the journey to expand his influence. The event mentioned in several inscriptions such as Telaga Batu inscription, Talang Tuwo inscription and Kedukan Bukit Inscription. The beginning of Srivijaya hegemony over the maritime region around Malacca strait and Sunda Strait.^[7]
- **686:** Srivijaya launch naval invasion against Java, mentioned in Kota Kapur Inscription. Probably contributed to the end of Tarumanagara kingdom.^[8]
- **7th to 15th century:** The Sumatra-based Srivijaya naval kingdom flourishes and declines.^[9]
- **700:** Wet-field rice cultivation, small towns and kingdoms flourish. Trade links are established with both China and India.^[10]
- **732:** Sanjaya dynasty founded around this time according to Canggal inscription.^[11]
- **8th century to 832:** The agriculturally-based Buddhist Sailendra kingdom flourishes and declines.^[11]
- **752 to 1045:** The Hindu Medang (Mataram) kingdom flourishes and declines.^[12]
- **760 to 830:** Borobudur Buddhist monument constructed.^[13]
- **856:** Prambanan Hindu temple thought to have been completed.^[11]
- **860:** Balaputra the Maharaja of Suvarnadwipa and the ruler of Srivijaya, construct the buddhist temple and monastery in Nalanda India, on the land given by King Dewapaladewa of Pala in Benggala, according to Nalanda inscription.^[14]

10th century

- **914 to 1080:** Warmadewa dynasty ruled Bali.^[15]
- **929:** The capital of Medang kingdom shifted from Central Java to East Java under Sindok rule. Probably caused by massive eruptions of Mount Merapi.
- **990 to 1006:** King Dharmawangsa of Medang kingdom launch naval invasion on Palembang in an unsuccessful attempt to conquer Srivijaya.
- **996:** Dharmawangsa commissioned the translation of the Mahabharata into Old Javanese.^[16]

11th century

- **1016:** King Dharmawangsa's Medang kingdom falls under invasion of King Wurawari from Lwaram (highly possible Srivijayan ally in Java).^[17]
- **1019:** Airlangga establishes the Kingdom of Kahuripan.^[18]
- **1030:** Sanghyang Tapak inscription in the Cicatih River bank in Cibadak, Sukabumi, West Java, mentioned about the establishment of sacred forest and Kingdom of Sunda.
- **1041:** Airlangga divided Kahuripan into two kingdoms Janggala and Kadiri and abdicated in favour of his successors.^[19]

12th century

- **1104:** King Jayawarsa of Kadiri ascend to throne.
- **1115:** King Kamesvara of Kadiri ascend to throne, at this time Janggala ceased to exist and united under Kadiri domination, highly possible under royal marriage. During his reign Mpu Dharmaja wrote Kakawin Smaradahan, an eulogy for the king and become the inspiration of Panji cycle, the tales that later spread across Southeast Asia.^[20]
- **1130:** King Jayabhaya of Kadiri ascend to throne.

13th century

- **13th century:** Islam is thought to have become established in the Aceh region.
 - **1222:** Battle of Ganter, Ken Arok defeated Kertajaya, the last king of Kediri, thus established Singhasari kingdom^[21]
 - **1257:** Baab Mashur Malamo established The Kingdom of Ternate in Maluku.
 - **1275-1290:** King Kertanegara of Singhasari launched Pamalayu expedition against Melayu Kingdom in Sumatra.
 - **1292:** Jayakatwang, ruler of Kediri, rebelled and killed Kertanegara, ended the Singhasari kingdom.
 - **1293:** Mongol invasion of Java,^[22] Kublai Khan of Yuan dynasty China, sent punitive attack against Kertanegara of Singhasari. The Mongol forces were repelled. The Hindu Majapahit kingdom was founded by Raden Wijaya in eastern Java.
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14th century

- **1309:** King Jayanegara succeeds Kertarajasa Jayawardhana as ruler of Majapahit.^[23]
- **1328:** Tribhuwana Wijayatunggadewi succeeds Jayanegara as ruler of Majapahit.
- **1350:** Hayam Wuruk, styled Sri Rajasanagara succeeds Tribhuwana Wijayatunggadewi as ruler of Majapahit; his reign is considered the empire's 'Golden Age'.^[23]
- **1350:** Under its military commander Gajah Mada, Majapahit stretches over much of modern day Indonesia.
- **1365:** The Old Javanese text *Nagarakertagama* is written.^[23]
- **1377:** Majapahit sends a punitive expedition against Palembang in Sumatra. Palembang's prince, Parameswara (later Iskandar Syah) flees, eventually finding his way to Malacca and establishing it as a major international port.^[23]
- **1389:** Wikramawardhana succeeds Sri Rajasanagara as ruler of Majapahit.^[23]

15th century

- **15th century:** Islam becomes Indonesia's dominant religion.
- **1405-1406:** Paregreg war, Majapahit civil war of succession between Wikramawardhana against Wirabhumis.
- **1429:** Queen Suhita succeeds Wikramawardhana as ruler of Majapahit.^[23]
- **1447:** Wijayaparakramawardhana, succeeds Suhita as ruler of Majapahit.^[23]
- **1451:** Rajasawardhana, born Bhre Pamotan, styled Brawijaya II succeeds Wijayaparakramawardhana as ruler of Majapahit.^[23]
- **1453:** Reign of Rajasawardhana ends.^[23]
- **1456:** Girindrawardhana, styled Brawijaya VI becomes ruler of Majapahit.^[23]
- **1466:** Singhawikramawardhana, succeeds Girindrawardhana as ruler of Majapahit.^[23]
- **1478:** Reign of Singhawikramawardhana ends.^[23]

16th century

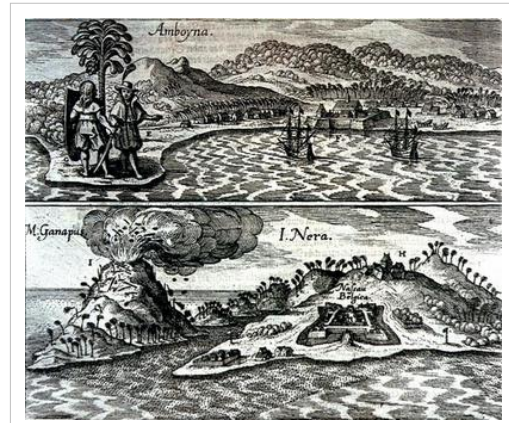
- **1509:** The Portuguese king sends Diogo Lopes de Sequeira to find Malacca, the eastern terminus of Asian trade. After initially receiving Sequeira, Sultan Mahmud Syah captures and/or kills several of his men and attempts an assault on the four Portuguese ships, which escape.^[24] The Javanese fleet is also destroyed in Malacca.
- **1511, August:** Afonso de Albuquerque after sailing from Portuguese Goa conquers the Sultanate of Malacca with a force of 1,200 and seventeen or eighteen ships.^[24]
- **1512:** The first Portuguese exploratory expedition was sent eastward from Malacca to search for the 'Spice Islands' (Maluku) led by Francisco Serrão. Serrão is shipwrecked but struggles on to Hitu (northern Ambon) and wins the favour of the local rulers.^[25]
- **1520:** The Portuguese established a trading post in the village of Lamakera on the eastern side of Solor as a transit harbour between Maluku and Malacca.
- **1520:** Sultan Ali Mughayat Shah of Aceh begins an expansionist campaign capturing Daya on the west Sumatran coast, and the pepper and gold producing lands on the east coast.
- **1521, November:** Ferdinand Magellan's expedition reaches Maluku and after trade with Ternate returns to Europe with a load of cloves.
- **1522:** The Portuguese ally themselves with the rulers of Ternate and begin construction of a fort.^[25]
- **1522, August:** Luso Sundaese Treaty signed between Portugal and Sunda Kingdom granted Portuguese permit to build fortress in Sunda Kelapa
- **1535:** The Portuguese in Ternate depose Sultan Tabariji (or Tabarija) and send him to Portuguese Goa where he converts to Christianity and bequeaths his Portuguese godfather Jordao de Freitas the island of Ambon.^[26]
- **1546 - 1547:** Francis Xavier works among the peoples of Ambon, Ternate and Morotai (Moro) laying the foundations for a permanent mission.

- **1559:** Sultan Khairun of Ternate protesting the Portuguese's Christianisation activities in his lands. Hostilities between Ternate and the Portuguese.
- **1562:** Portuguese Dominican priests build a palm-trunk fortress which Javanese Muslims burned down the following year. The fort was rebuilt from more durable materials and the Dominicans commenced the Christianisation of the local population.^[26]
- **1569:** Peace treaty was signed by Sultan Khairun of Ternate and Governor Lopez De Mesquita of Portuguese.
- **1570:** Sultan Hairun of Ternate is killed by the Portuguese.^[26] The reign of Sultan Baabullah.
- **1575:** Following a five-year war, the Ternateans under Sultan Baabullah defeated the Portuguese.
- **1578:** The Portuguese establish a fort on Tidore but the main centre for Portuguese activities in Maluku becomes Ambon.^[26]
- **1579:** The British navigator Sir Francis Drake passes through Maluku and transit in Ternate on his circumnavigation of the world. The Portuguese establish a fort on Tidore but the main centre for Portuguese activities in Maluku becomes Ambon.^[27]
- **1583:** Death of Sultan Baabullah of Ternate.
- **1595:** First Dutch expedition to Indonesia sets sail for the East Indies with two hundred and forty-nine men and sixty-four cannons led by Cornelis de Houtman.^[28]
- **1596, June:** de Houtman's expedition reaches Banten the main pepper port of West Java where they clash with both the Portuguese and Indonesians. It then sails east along the north coast of Java losing twelve crew to a Javanese attack at Sidayu and killing a local ruler in Madura.^[28]
- **1597:** de Houtman's expedition returns to the Netherlands with enough spices to make a considerable profit.^[28]
- **1598-1599:** The Portuguese require an armada of 90 ships to put down a Solorese uprising.^[26]
- **1598:** More Dutch fleets leave for Indonesia and most are profitable.^[28]
- **1599, March:** Leaving Europe the previous year, a fleet of eight ships under Jacob van Neck was the first Dutch fleet to reach the 'Spice Islands' of Maluku.^[28]
- **1599 - 1600:** The van Neck expedition returns to Europe. The expedition makes a 400 per cent profit.^[28]

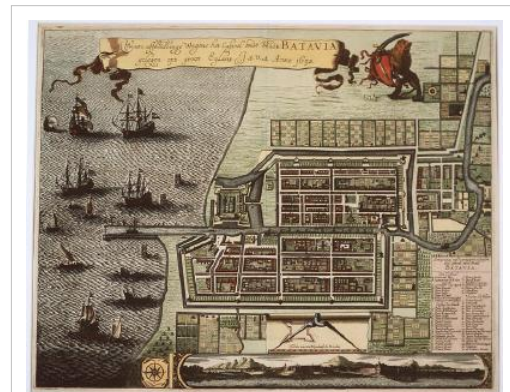
17th century

- **1600:** The Portuguese win a major naval battle in the bay of Ambon.^[29] Later in the year, the Dutch join forces with the local Hituese in an anti-Portuguese alliance, in return for which the Dutch would have the sole right to purchase spices from Hitu.^[29]
 - **1600:** Elizabeth I grants a charter to the British East India Company beginning the English advance in Asia.
 - **1602:** The Portuguese send a major (and last) expeditionary force from Malacca which succeeded in reimposing a degree of Portuguese control.
 - **1602:** The Dutch East India Company (VOC) is established by merging competing Dutch trading companies.^[29]
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- **1602, June:** British East India Company's first voyage, commanded by Sir James Lancaster, arrives in Aceh and sails on to Bantam where he is allowed to build trading post which becomes the centre of British trade in Indonesia until 1682.^[30]
- **1603:** First permanent Dutch trading post is established in Banten, West Java.^[30]
- **1604:** A second English East India Company voyage commanded by Sir Henry Middleton reaches Ternate, Tidore, Ambon and Banda. Fierce VOC hostility is encountered in Banda thus beginning Anglo-Dutch competition for access to spices^[30]
- **1605, February:** The VOC in alliance with Hitu prepare to attack a Portuguese fort in Ambon but the Portuguese surrender.^[29]
- **1606:** A Spanish fleet occupies Ternate and Tidore.^[29]
- **1610:** The VOC establishes the post of Governor General to enable firmer control of their affairs in Asia.^[29]
- **1611-1617:** The English establish trading posts at Sukadana (southwest Kalimantan), Makassar, Jayakarta and Jepara in Java, and Aceh, Pariaman and Jambi in (Sumatra) threatening Dutch ambitions for a monopoly on East Indies trade.^[30]
- **1611:** The Dutch establish a post at Jayakarta (later 'Batavia' and then 'Jakarta').
- **1613:** The Dutch expel the Portuguese from their Solor fort.
- **1619:** Jan Pieterszoon Coen appointed Governor-General of the VOC who would show he had no scruples about using brute force to establish the VOC on a firm footing.
- **1619, 30 May:** Coen, backed by a force of nineteen ships, storms the Jayakarta driving out the Banten forces, and from the ashes of Jayakarta, establishes Batavia as the VOC headquarters.
- **1620s:** Almost the entire native population of Banda Islands was deported, driven away, starved to death or killed in an attempt to replace them with Dutch colonial slave labour.
- **1620:** Diplomatic agreements in Europe commence a three-year period of cooperation between the Dutch and the English over the spice trade.^[30]
- **1623:** In a notorious but disputed incident, known as the 'Amboyna massacre', ten English and ten Japanese traders are arrested, tried and beheaded for conspiracy against the Dutch Government.^[31] The English quietly withdraw from most of their Indonesian activities (except trading in Bantam) and focus on other Asian interests.
- **1636:** The Portuguese are expelled again from their Solor fort by the Dutch following a reoccupation.
- **1646:** Sultan Agung of Mataram dies - and is buried at his graveyard at Imogiri
- **1667:** As a result of the Treaty of Breda, the Dutch secured a worldwide monopoly on nutmeg by forcing England to give up their claim on Run, the most remote of the Banda Islands.



The Dutch and English enclaves at Amboyna (top) and Banda (bottom). 1655 engraving.



Dutch Batavia in the 17th Century, built in what is now North Jakarta

18th century

- **1700:** With the decline of the spice trade, textiles are now the most important trade item in the Dutch East Indies.^[32]
- **1704-1708:** First Javanese War of Succession.^[33]
- **1717:** Surabaya rebels against the VOC.^[34]
- **1712:** The first shipment of coffee from Java reaches Amsterdam.^[35]
- **1719-1723:** Second Javanese War of Succession.^[34]
- **1735:** Governor-General Dirk van Cloon dies, one of many victims of disease in Batavia.^[36]
- **1740, 9 October:** A massacre of Batavia's ethnic Chinese begins after they are suspected by the VOC of planning a rebellion. Approximately 10,000 are killed and the Chinese quarter is burned.^[37]
- **1755, 13 February:** The Treaty of Giyanti is signed, effectively partitioning the Mataram Sultanate. The VOC recognizes Mangkubumi as Sultan Hamengkubuwana I, who rules half of Central Java. Hamengkubuwana I then moves to Yogyakarta and renames the city Yogyakarta^[38]
- **1769-72:** French expeditions capture clove plants in Ambon, ending the VOC monopoly of the plant.^[39]
- **1770:** Captain James Cook stops at Onrust Island in the Bay of Batavia for repairs to his ship Endeavour on his round the world voyage.^[40]
- **1792, March:** Hamengkubuwana I dies.^[41]

19th century

- **1800, 1 January:** The bankrupt Dutch East India Company (VOC) is formally dissolved and the nationalised Dutch East Indies is established.^[42]
- **1803-25:** First phase of Padri War.
- **1808:** Herman Willem Daendels the Governor-general of the Dutch East Indies (1808–1811) begin the construction of Java Great Post Road.^[43]
- **1825-30:** Java War
- **1831-38:** Second phase of Padri War.
- **1870:** Official dismantling of the Cultivation System and beginning of a 'Liberal Policy' of deregulated exploitation of the Netherlands East Indies.^[44]
- **1873:** The beginning of the bloody Aceh War for Dutch occupation of the province.^[44]
- **1888:** Founding of the shipping line *Koninklijke Paketvaart Maatschappij* (KPM) that supported the unification and development of the colonial economy.^[44]
- **1894:** Lombok War^[44]
- **1898:** General van Heutz becomes chief of staff of Aceh campaign. Wilhelmina becomes queen of the Netherlands.^[44]

1900–1942

- **1901:** Ethical Policy is proclaimed.^[44]
- **1903:** Aceh declared conquered.^[44]
- **1904:** Van Heutz becomes Governor General.^[44]
- **1907:** Tirta Adhi Suryo founds civil servants' association *Sarekat Priyayi*.^[44]
- **1908:** Budi Utomo is proclaimed as the first official nationalist movement. Last Balinese rulers wiped out in *puputan* ('suicidal battle to death').^[44]
- **1911:** Tirta Adhi Suryo founds the Islamic Traders' League.^[44]
- **1912:** Islamic League (Sarekat Islam) becomes the first mass-based nationalist party.^[44]
- **1914:** World War I breaks out; the Netherlands is a neutral country in the war.^[44]
- **1917:** East Indies trade with Europe cut off by the war. Russian Revolution^[44]

- **1918:** Tirta Adhi Suryo dies.^[44]
- **1920:** Communist Party of Indonesia (*PKI*) is founded. Economic downturn.^[44]
- **1925:** Birth of Pramoedya Ananta Toer. A sharp rise in world commodity prices brings prosperity to the Indies.^[44]
- **1929:** Great Depression in America.^[44]
- **1930:** Sukarno's famous nationalist speech, 'Indonesia Accuses', given as defence in his political trial.^[45]

Japanese occupation (1942–1945)

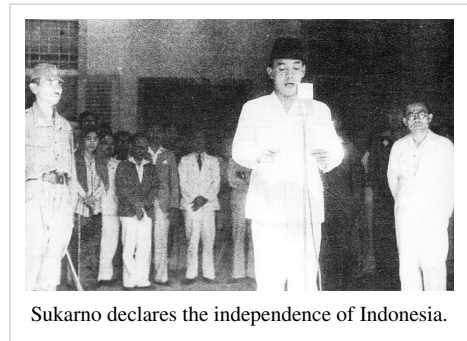
- **1941, 8 December:** Netherlands declared war on Japan.^[46]
- **1942, February:** Imperial Japan occupies Indonesia during World War II, over throwing the Dutch East Indies and install their own imperial structure.
- **1945, 28 May:** First meeting of the Investigatory Commission for Indonesian Independence.^[47]



- **1945, 1 June:** Sukarno's *Pancasila* speech^[47]
- **1945, 16 July:** Draft of constitution for the Republic completed.^[47]
- **1945, 15 August:** Japanese surrender to Allied powers.^[45]

Indonesian National Revolution (1945–1950)

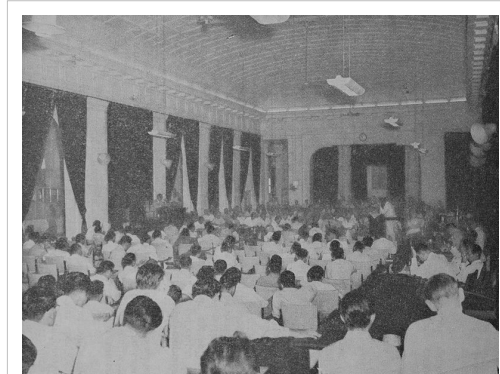
- **1945, 17 August:** "Proclamation of Indonesian Independence," signed by Sukarno-Hatta.^[45]
- **1945, late August:** Republican government established in Jakarta and constitution adopted. Central Indonesian National Committee (KNIP) established.
- **1945, 3 November:** Vice President Hatta proclaims right of the people to form political parties.
- **1945, 10 November:** Battle of Surabaya.^[45]
- **1945, August to September:** Euphoria of revolution spreads across the country, while local Japanese commanders and their troops often abandoned urban areas to avoid confrontation. Many discreetly allowed Indonesian youths to acquire arms. Republican youths take over infrastructure facilities in large Javan cities and mass pro-Republic rallies are held.
- **1946:** Social revolutions, including the Three Regions (*Tiga Daerah*) Revolt.^[45]
- **1946:** Federal states, including the State of East Indonesia are set up by Dutch in the outer islands.^[45]
- **1947, 25 March:** Linggadjati Agreement, first ceasefire.^[45]
- **1947, 20 July:** Major Dutch military offensive to resolve differences by force.^[45]
- **1948, 19 January:** Renville Agreement establishes the Van Mook line between Republican and Dutch held territories.^[45]
- **1948, August:** Fall of Amir Syarifuddin government^[45] largely from Renville Agreement fallout.
- **1948, 18 September to October:** Madiun Affair: Communist leaders launch a revolt in Central Java in an attempt to take over the Revolution but are suppressed by Republican troops.^[45]
- **1948, 19 December:** Dutch undertake second military offensive capturing Republican capital at Yogyakarta and most of the Republican cabinet. Amir Syarifuddin executed by fleeing Republicans.^[45]
- **1949, February:** Tan Malaka executed by Republican Army.^[45]
- **1949, 1 August:** Official ceasefire.^[45]



- **1949, December:** International pressure leads Netherlands Government to transfer power to the United States of Indonesia (RUSI) at the Dutch-Indonesian Round Table Conference.^[45]
- **1950, 29 January:** General Sudirman, commander of Indonesia's armed forces, dies at 34
- **1950, 25 April:** The Republic of South Moluccas (RMS) is proclaimed in Ambon
- **1950, 17 August:** Following RUSI endorsement of a new constitution, the federation is dissolved and Sukarno proclaims a unitary state, the 'Republic of Indonesia'.^[45]

1950s

- **1948 - 1962:** Darul Islam rebellions begin in West Java, spread to other provinces but conclude with the execution of its leader Kartosoewiryo.^[48]
- **1950, 6 September:** The first cabinet of the unitary state is established. It is led by Prime Minister Mohammad Natsir.^[49]
- **1950, 27 September:** Indonesia becomes the 60th member of the United Nations.^[49]
- **1951, 21 March:** The Natsir cabinet falls.^[50]
- **1951, 26 April:** The composition of the new cabinet is announced. The new Prime Minister is Dr. Sukiman Wirjosanjojo.^[49]
- **1952, 25 February:** Amid bitter disputes over the signing of a Mutual Security Agreement with the US, the Sukiman cabinet resigns.^[50]
- **1952, 3 April:** The new cabinet, led by Prime Minister Wilopo is inaugurated.^[49]
- **1952, 17 October:** Army-organized demonstrations take place in Jakarta to demand the dissolution of the legislature. Tank guns and machine guns are trained on the presidential palace.^[50] This leads to the suspension of General Nasution as army chief of staff following army indiscipline over command and support that threatens the government.^[48]
- **1953, 2 June:** The Wilopo cabinet resigns.^[50]
- **1953, 31 July:** After lengthy negotiations, the composition of the new cabinet is announced. Serving his first term as prime minister is Ali Sastroamidjojo.^[50]
- **1955, March - 1961, August:** Regional rebellions in Sumatra and Sulawesi.
- **1955, 18–25 April:** The city of Bandung hosts the Asia-Africa Conference. It is the first meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement and is attended by world leaders including China's Zhou Enlai, India's Nehru, Egypt's Nasser and Yugoslavia's Tito.^[51]
- **1955, 24 July:** After a dispute with the Army over appointments, the cabinet resigns.^[50]
- **1955, 12 August:** Led by Prime Minister Burhanuddin Harahap, the new cabinet is sworn in.^[49]
- **1955, 29 September:** Indonesia holds general parliamentary elections;^[45] the last free national elections until 1999; support for the parties is widely distributed with four parties each gaining 16-22 per cent and the remaining votes split between 24 parties.^[51]
- **1955, 15 December:** Elections are held for the Constitutional Assembly^[50]
- **1956, 3 March:** The cabinet falls as a result of its policy toward the Dutch.^[50]
- **1955, 24 March:** The second cabinet to be led by Ali Sastroamidjojo takes office.^[49]
- **1956, 3 May:** Indonesia unilaterally abrogates the Round Table Agreement signed with the Dutch in 1949.^[49]
- **1956, 1 December:** Hatta resigns as vice-president.^[49]
- **1957, 21 February:** President Sukarno announces his "Conception" (*Konsepsi*) of the nature of Indonesia. This will eventually lead to Guided Democracy^[49] ^[50]
- **1957, March - 1961, August:** Regional rebellions in Sumatra and Sulawesi.^[51]



The Indonesian parliament in session in the 1950s

- **1957, 14 March:** Martial Law is proclaimed. On the same day, the cabinet resigns.^[50]
- **1957, 9 April:** Sukarno appoints a "Working Cabinet" with Djuanda as prime minister.^[49]
- **1957, 30 November:** An attempt is made to assassinate President Sukarno. Grenades are thrown at him as he visits a school in Cikini, Jakarta.^[49]
- **1958, May 18:** US Air Force pilot Allen Pope is shot down over Ambon, revealing covert American support of regional rebellions, and ends the Dulles brothers' failure to subvert the Sukarno government.^[51]
- **1959, 5 July:** With armed forces support, Sukarno issues a decree dissolving the Constituent Assembly and reintroducing the Constitution of 1945 with strong presidential powers, and assumes the additional role of Prime Minister, which completes the structure of 'Guided Democracy'.^[51]
- **1959, 10 July:** President Sukarno appoints a "Working Cabinet" with himself as prime minister.^[52]
- **1950/60s:** Military articulation of doctrines *dwifungsi* and *hankamrata*: a military role in sociopolitical development as well as security; a requirement that the resources of the people be at the call of the armed forces.^[51]

1960s

- **1960, 9 March** Second Lieutenant Daniel Alexander Maukar of the Indonesian Air Force uses a MiG-17 fighter to strafe the Presidential Palace in Jakarta, oil tanks at Tanjung Priok in North Jakarta and then the Bogor Palace.^{[49] [53]}
- **1960, 18 February:** President Sukarno reshuffles the cabinet and appoints the second "Working Cabinet".^[52]
- **1960, 24 June:** The House of Representatives-Mutual cooperation (DPR-GR), composed of members chosen by President Sukarno is established.^[49]
- **1960, 17 August:** Indonesia severs diplomatic links with the Netherlands in protest over its refusal to hand over West Papua.^[49]
- **1960, 30 September:** President Sukarno addresses the United Nations General Assembly.^[49]
- **1961, March 4:** An agreement is signed in Jakarta with the Soviet Union to buy arms with long term loans.^[49]
- **1961, 17 August:** Building officially starts on the Monas National Monument in the center of Jakarta.^[49]
- **1962, January 2:** The Manadala Command to "free" West Papua from the Dutch is established. Its commander is Brigadier general Suharto.^[49]
- **1962, 15 January:** Deputy chief of staff of the Indonesian Navy Commodore Yos Sudarso is killed in a Dutch air attack on the motor torpedo boat (MTB) force he is commanding.^[49]
- **1962, 8 March:** President Sukarno again reshuffles his cabinet.^[52]
- **1962, 15 August:** The New York Agreement, transferring Western New Guinea to Indonesia, is signed at the United Nations.^[49]
- **1962, 24 August - 4 September:** Indonesia hosts the Fourth Asian Games.^[49]
- **1963, 18 May:** Parliament elects Sukarno 'President-for-life'.^[51]
- **1963, 1 May:** Following pressure from the United Nations and the American government of President John F. Kennedy, the Netherlands yields West Irian (Papua) to temporary UN supervision.^{[49] [51]}
- **1963 - 1965:** Sole years of American Peace Corps program in Indonesia.^[51]
- **1963, 18 September:** Following demonstrations in Jakarta to protest at the creation of Malaysia, the British Embassy is burned by a mob.^[49]
- **1963, 13 November:** President Sukarno conducts the final reshuffle of the "Working Cabinet".^[49]
- **1963 - 1965:** Sukarno leads the *Konfrontasi* campaign against the newly created Malaysia.^{[45] [51]}
- **1964, 17 August:** During his Independence Day speech, Sukarno for the first time publicly denounces the United States, and over the following months an anti-American campaign attacked American interests.
- **1964, 27 August:** President Sukarno appoints the Dwikora Cabinet
- **1965, 7 January:** Indonesia withdraws from membership of the UN.^{[51] [54]}
- **1965, 14 January:** The Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) calls for workers and peasants to be armed.^[54]

- **1965, 11–16 April:** The Third Session of the Provisional People's Consultative Assembly is held in Bandung.^[54]
- **1965, 26 May:** Foreign Minister Subandrio reports to President Sukarno the existence of the Gilchrist Document, a letter purporting to be from the British ambassador which discusses western military involvement in Indonesia.^[54]
- **1965, 30 September:** An abortive coup in Jakarta results in the murder of six army generals, and disposal of bodies at Lubang Buaya.^[51]
- **1965, 1 October:** A counter coup led by General Suharto that leads to the Overthrow of Sukarno
- **1965, October to 1966, March:** A violent anti-communist purge leads to the killing of approximately 1/2 million Indonesians.^[51]
- **1965, 14 October:** President Sukarno appoints Major General Suharto Minister/Commander of the Army.^[54]
- **1965, 16 October:** The Jakarta Military Command temporarily suspends the activities of the PKI and its organizations in the Jakarta region.^[54]
- **1965, 13 December:** The rupiah is devalued by a factor of 1,000 in an effort to control inflation.^[54]
- **1966, 10 January:** Anti-communist organizations grouped under the Pancasila Front issue the "Three Demands of the People" (Tritura), namely the dissolution of the PKI, the cleansing of the cabinet of elements involved in the 30 September Movement, and lower prices and economic improvements.^[54]
- **1966, 14 February:** The Extraordinary Military Court trials of people allegedly involved in the 30 September Movement begin.^[54]
- **1966, 24 February:** President Sukarno reshuffles his cabinet, creating what becomes known as the "cabinet of 100 ministers".^[54]
- **1966, 11 March:** General Suharto forces Sukarno to delegate presidential powers to himself by signing the *Supersemar*. The following day, Suharto dissolves the Indonesian Communist Party.^{[51] [55]}
- **1966, 18 March:** A total of 14 cabinet ministers are taken into "protective custody".^[54]
- **1966, 2 May:** Following large-scale demonstrations, the leadership of the Mutual-Assistance House of Representatives (DPR-GR) is replaced.^[54]
- **1966, 20 June-5 July:** The Fourth Session of the Provisional People's Consultative Assembly is held in Jakarta. It raises the status of the Supersemar into a decree, meaning Sukarno cannot revoke it, bans the PKI and its teachings and rejects Presidents Sukarno's accountability speech.^[54]
- **1966, 11 August:** Indonesia and Malaysia agree to normalize diplomatic relations.^[54]
- **1966, 28 September:** Indonesia rejoins the United Nations.^[54]
- **1967, 10 January:** New investment laws designed to bring in foreign capital are passed; restrictions are introduced regarding status of Indonesian Chinese, their names and their religions.^{[51] [54]}
- **1967, 22 February:** In a ceremony at the presidential palace, Sukarno hands over authority to Suharto.^[54]
- **1967, 7–12 March:** A Special Session of the Provisional People's Consultative Assembly strips Sukarno of his powers and appoints Suharto acting president.^[54]
- **1967, 1 October:** Diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China are suspended.^[54]
- **1968, March:** Parliament confers full presidential title on Suharto; Sukarno is under effective house arrest.^[51]
- **1968 - 1971:** Soedjatmoko is Indonesian ambassador to the United States; bilateral relations warm.^[51]
- **1969:** Papuan representatives agree to join Indonesia following the controversial 'Act of Free Choice'.^[51]

1970s

- **1970, 21 June:** Sukarno dies.^[55] He is buried at Blitar, East Java.^[51]
- **1970:** Nurcholish Madjid, a young Muslim modernist, begins to lay out religious developmental principles for Indonesia—'Islam, yes; Islamic party, no'.^[51]
- **1971, 3 July:** Indonesia's second parliamentary election and the first under the New Order is held. Golkar wins an outright majority.^[54]
- **1971:** Suharto's wife inspired by a visit to Disneyland, conceives a national cultural theme park.^[56]
- **1973:** Government forces fusion of political parties; Nationalist and Christian parties are merged into the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) and Muslim parties into the United Development Party (PPP). The new three party system is dominated by Golkar.^[56]
- **1974:** The 'Malari' uprising in Jakarta against Japanese penetration of the economy, Chinese Indonesian influence, and official corruption.^[56]
- **1975, April:** Mrs Suharto dedicates the vast 'Beautiful Indonesia-in-Miniature Park' (*Taman Mini*) on the outskirts of Jakarta.^[56]
- **1975, April:** Civil war breaks out in the former Portuguese colony of East Timor.^[56]
- **1975, 6 December:** U.S. President Gerald Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger, returning from China, make a hastily rescheduled one-day visit to Jakarta.^[56]
- **1975, 7 December:** Indonesia launches an invasion of East Timor.^[55]
- **1976, March:** General Ibnu Sutowo is 'dismissed with honour' after a decade as head of Pertamina, the state oil corporation.^[56]
- **1976, 17 July:** Suharto signs a bill integrating East Timor into Indonesia as its 27th province.^[56]
- **1976, 19 November:** UN General Assembly rejects Indonesia's annexation of East Timor.^[56]
- **1977:** The United States surpasses Japan as Indonesia's biggest oil customer.^[56]
- **1977, October:** Sawito Kartowibowo's trial for 'subversion' begins.^[56]
- **1978:** The People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) elevates Pancasila to the status of compulsory moral education of youth and government officials.^[56]
- **1978:** Suharto appoints B.J. Habibie as state minister for research and technology.^[56]
- **1979, December:** Writer Pramoedya Ananta Toer is released after fourteen years imprisonment with hard labour on Buru Island.^[56]

1980s

- **1980, May:** The Petition of Fifty—a statement of concern to parliament about the use of government power, propaganda, and presidential personality cult—is begun.^[56]
- **1982 - 1983:** The height of *Petrus* ('mysterious shootings') of thousands of suspected criminals by government security forces.^{[55] [56]}
- **1983:** Prabowo Subianto, then a major in ABRI marries Suharto's daughter Titiek at Taman Mini.^[56]
- **1984, 12 September:** Muslim concerned protesting over alleged insensitivities to Islam at Tanjung Priok; a riot ensues resulting in many deaths. Clamp down on Islamic political leaders.^[55]
- **1984, December:** Abdurrahman Wahid (Gus Dur) is elected chairman of Nahdlatul Ulama a position previously held by both his father and grandfather.^[56]
- **1985:** The Indonesian government require all organisations of any kind to adopt Pancasila as their sole basis.^[56]
- **1987:** Sukarno's daughter Megawati Sukarnoputri becomes a member of parliament; Suharto prohibits display of images of Sukarno although they appear frequently nonetheless.^[57]
- **1988:** Suharto is elected to a fifth term as president.^[57]
- **1989:** The Free Aceh Movement (GAM) reemerges following its 1976 founding; suppression of its guerilla activities leads to 2,000 deaths by 1991 in Aceh.^[57]

1990s

- **1991:** Indonesia wins presidency of the Non-Aligned Movement.^[57]
- **1991, 12 November:** ABRI troops fire on demonstrative funeral procession in Dili, East Timor. TV images of the killings put East Timor high on the international human rights agenda.^[57]
- **1992:** Suharto successfully defies Dutch efforts to link human rights to aid administered since 1967 by the International Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI).^[57]
- **1992-1993:** East Timorese resistance leader Xanana Gusmão is captured by Prabowo and is tried and sentenced.^[57]
- **1993:** Suharto seeks a sixth term and is easily re-elected.^[57]
- **1994, June:** Suharto shuts down *Tempo* and two other publications for critical reporting of Habibie's purchase of the former East German navy.^[57]
- **1996:** The Free Papua Movement (OPM) kidnaps fourteen scientists and foresters in Irian Jaya garnering international attention. After four months, the abductees are rescued in a bloody operation led by Prabowo.^[57]
- **1996, April:** Ibu Tien Suharto, the president's wife of 48 years, dies of a heart attack.^[57]
- **1996, July:** Military-backed thugs burst into headquarters of PDI, Megawati's party, and evict her supporters in a violent climax to government efforts to vitiate her party's popularity.^[57]
- **1997, February:** Alarmed at a *dukun's* prediction that 'the nail of Java has come loose', Suharto commands a massive *Ruat Dunia* ceremony ('Cleansing of the world') near Borobudur.^[57]
- **1997, June:** Pacific Ocean trade winds shift heralding the onset of the El Niño; severe drought across much of Indonesia follows in the ensuing months accompanied by highly destructive forest fires.^[57]
- **1997, July:** The collapse of the Thai *baht* starts the East Asian financial crisis and over the ensuing months Indonesia is the country hardest hit.^[57]
- **1997 - 1998:** Severe social unrest breaks out across Indonesian cities against Chinese Indonesians, Christians, symbols of wealth, the police and bureaucracy.^[57]
- **1998, 11 March:** Suharto unanimously elected by the MPR to his seventh presidential term.^[58]
- **1998, late March:** Largely peaceful student demonstrations against the regime rise to national prominence.^[58]
- **1998, 12 May:** Four student demonstrators at Trisakti University are shot dead by bullets unproven but thought likely to have been from army sources.^[58]
- **1998, 13 May:** Memorial services for killed students leads to vandalism, arson, looting and rape by roving mobs which continue unchecked by security forces for two days leaving 1,200 dead.^[58]
- **1998, 20 May:** For National Awakening Day, Amien Rais pledges to bring a million protestors into the streets to demonstrate against at the National Monument in Jakarta. Faced with barbed wire and massed troops he calls off the rally fearing bloodshed.^[58]
- **1998, 21 May, 9 a.m.:** After being deserted by his cabinet, Suharto resigns the presidency. Habibie assumes presidency.^[58]
- **1998, August:** General Wiranto announces the discharge of Lieutenant General Prabowo from active duty, with full pension benefits—and without court-martial for allegations of abduction and torture of student activist (some of whom remain missing as of 2003).^[58]
- **1998, 10 November:** Megawati, Rais, and the sultan of Yogya, meet at Wahid's home in Ciganjur, and issue a series of statements including a demand for the military to end their role in politics within six years.^[58]
- **1998, 13 November:** On the last day of the MPR sessions, soldiers open fire on demonstrating students killing at least fifteen and injuring hundreds.^[58]
- **1999, 19 January:** An petty argument between in the city of Ambon triggers Christian-Muslim clashes that last for three years across Maluku. As many as 10,000 are killed and 700,000 or one third of the region are displaced.^[58]
- **1999, 7 June:** Indonesia's first free and fair national elections since 1955 take place with almost no disruption and wide participation. Votes however are distributed across forty-eight parties with no party achieving a majority.^[58]

- **1999, September:** East Timor votes to secede from Indonesia in a referendum conducted under UN auspices. Four-fifths of voters choose independence for East Timor over integration with Indonesia. Pro-integration militias trained and paid by ABRI immediately resort to a scorched earth policy that leaves 1,000 dead and most of the territory's infrastructure ruined.^[58]
- **1999, 13 September:** President Habibie relents to international pressure and allows a UN peacekeeping force known as 'INTERFET' to enter East Timor and restore order.^[58]
- **1999, October:** The Indonesian parliament rejects President Habibie's accountability speech. Wahid whose party received one eighth of the popular vote is elected president by the MPR. Megawati whose party received one third of the vote (the highest) is elected vice president.^[59]

2000s

- **2000, Christmas Eve:** In a coordinated attack involving more than three dozen sites across the country, churches are bombed and eighteen people killed. It is later proven to have been planned by Jemaah Islamiyah in retaliation for Christian killings of Muslims in the Maluku conflict.^[59]
- **2001** - Ethnic violence in Kalimantan as indigenous Dayaks force out Madurese transmigrants. Mass political demonstrations by Wahid's supporters and opponents. IMF stops further loans citing lack of progress in tackling corruption.^[60]
- **2000 - 2001:** President Wahid's administration is marred by failures to stabilise the economy, patterns of political favouritism, economic corruption (although Wahid himself is not accused of corruption), inability to reform the military, personal eccentricity and pettiness, ineffectiveness in dealing with major religious violence in Maluku and Sulawesi, major ethnic violence (Dayaks vs. Madurese) in Kalimantan, and separatisms in Aceh and Irian Jaya.^[59]
- **2001, July:** President Wahid is impeached chiefly on grounds of incompetence. The parliament elects Megawati president by 592 votes to 0. Hamzah Haz defeats Akbar Tandjung and Lieutenant General (ret.) Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.^[59]
- **2001, September:** President Megawati visits President George Bush a week after the 9/11 terrorist attacks and welcomes American investment. On her return to Indonesia, the Islamic right criticises her cooperation with America's war in Afghanistan, and the nationalist left criticises her for being too suppliant to foreign investors.^[59]
- **2002:** Nahdlatul Ulama and Muhammadiyah, the largest Muslim organisations in Indonesia, issue joint statements critical of militant Islamists.^[59]
- **2002, February:** Peace talks in Maliano, South Sulawesi appear to end three years of Christian-Muslim violence in Maluku and Poso.^[59]
- **2002, July:** Tommy Suharto is sentenced to fifteen years jail for illegal possession of arms, contempt of law, and masterminding the assassination of a Supreme Court judge who had convicted him for graft.^[59]
- **2002, September:** House Speaker Akbar Tandjung is sentenced to three years jail for corruption.^[59]
- **2002, October 12:** Bombs in the Kuta nightclub district in Bali kill 202 people the world's deadliest terrorist attack since 11 September 2001. Indonesian police, aided by ten nations, track down Jemaah Islamiyah operatives.^[59]
- **2002, November:** Eurico Guterres is sentenced to ten years prison for crimes committed following the 1999 ballot in East Timor.^[59]
- **2002, December:** The Indonesian government and GAM sign a peace accord aimed at ending decades of violence in Aceh. The deal breaks down the following year.^[59]
- **2003, August:** Jemaah Islamiyah bomb Jakarta's Marriott hotel killing twelve. All but one of those killed are Indonesians.
- **2004, April:** Parliamentary and local elections: Golkar party of former President Suharto wins greatest share of vote, with Megawati Sukarnoputri's PDI-P coming second.^[60]

- **2004, October:** Indonesia's first direct presidential election elects Bambang Yudhoyono following popular disillusionment with incumbent Megawati.
- **2004, 9 September:** A bomb blast outside the Australian embassy in Jakarta kills 11 and injures up to 100 people.
- **2004, 26 December:** An earthquake-triggered tsunami kills an estimated 160,000 and causes widespread devastation.
- **2005:** Bombings in Bali kill 20 people.
- **2005:** Government and Free Aceh Movement separatists sign a peace deal providing for rebel disarmament and the withdrawal of government soldiers from the province. Rebels begin handing in weapons in September; government completes troop pull-out in December.^[60]
- **2006, May:** A powerful earthquake kills thousands of people in the Yogyakarta region in central Java.^[60]
- **2007:** Adam Air Flight 574 crashes into the sea off Sulawesi, killing all 102 onboard.
- **2008:** Suharto dies from multiple organ failure.^[61] He is buried in the family Mausoleum near Solo.^[62]
- **2008:** Jemaah Islamiyah Operatives are executed when found guilty for the 2002 bombings after numerous appeals from their families.
- **2009:** Jemaah Islamiyah bomb two hotels in Jakarta, including the Marriott that was attacked in 2003.
- **2009, 17 September:** Noordin Muhammad Top, the head of Jemaah Islamiyah, is shot in Solo

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