

THE 2019 WEST PAPUA UPRISING

Protests against racism and for self-determination



tāpōl



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	4
Introduction	5
Executive Summary	7
Chapter 1. Six Turning Points of the Uprising	9
Introduction	10
The trigger of the Uprising	10
First day of the Uprising	11
First appearance of the	
Morning Star flag – the Fakfak incident	12
The unlawful killings in Deiyai	12
The beginning of the crackdown	13
The deadliest day of the Uprising	15
Summary	17
Chapter 2. The Crackdown	18
Militarisation of the Uprising	19
Attacks against press freedom	21
Attacks against human rights defenders	22
Reaction from the international community	25
Chapter 3. Analysis	26
The time-bomb exploded	27
Indonesia is racist towards West Papuan people	28
Human rights violations during the Uprising	31
The movement is getting stronger	32
Annex 1. The Trigger	34
Annex 2. The Uprising	43
Annex 3. List of Indonesians prosecuted	112
Annex 4. List of West Papuan Political Prisoners	115



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I extend my gratitude to the West Papuan activists and others who placed confidence in me to disseminate information and footage during the 2019 West Papua Uprising. Together we fought our best against the longstanding information restriction waged by the Indonesian State. This report is dedicated to you all.

Veronica Koman



INTRODUCTION

This report, by human rights lawyer Veronica Koman, is published to acknowledge the first anniversary of the 2019 West Papua Uprising (“the Uprising”) and to commemorate it as one of the most significant chapters in West Papua in decades. It is supplemented by a [‘video report’](#) of the same events, being published online.

TAPOL has edited and provided a platform for the report because it furthers the cause of justice for the West Papuan people and their democratic rights to freedom of expression and association and for past crimes to be addressed, issues long hidden from broader Indonesian and international attention. The events of the Uprising clearly show that the Indonesian authorities went to great lengths to silence these voices through militarisation, the pursuit and prosecution of protesters, restrictions on access to the internet, harassment of independent media, and the criminalisation of Indonesian activists and lawyers, including the author.

Unlike other uprisings in the world, the one in West Papua was not afforded the same global media coverage as this is one of the most restricted regions in the world, with little access granted to journalists. This situation was made even worse by internet and mobile service shutdown during the Uprising. In order to compensate this, part of this report will be delivered in storytelling style, with photographs included, particularly the timeline of events in Annexes 1 and 2. It covers the trigger of the Uprising, the Uprising itself, and the aftermath up to a year later when many of the Uprising’s political prisoners have been released after serving full sentences.

In its first chapter, the report analyses six incidents which are important for understanding the factors that triggered the Uprising, its first day, and the crackdown on protests and violent incidents.

The second chapter elaborates the types of crackdown used by the Indonesian state against the Uprising. This included deploying thousands of extra security forces into West Papua, attacks against press freedom, and coordinated attacks against human rights defenders.

The third chapter analyses the Uprising from the perspective of the racism and human rights violations that West Papuan people have endured, and the movement that incorporated ordinary West Papuans as well as students and political activists.

The report then provides four annexes with extensive information gathered over the course of several months.

Annex 1 looks at incidents on the island of Java in Indonesia on 15-18 August 2019 that triggered the Uprising.

Annex 2 contains a timeline which has more complete information, telling a day-by-day story of the Uprising.

Annex 3 lists the Indonesians prosecuted for committing racism and violence against West Papuans during the Uprising period.

Annex 4 contains a list of those who have been imprisoned for political activities during the Uprising. It includes those charged under treason and non-treason articles due to their involvement in the Uprising.

In respect to the right to self-determination of the West Papuan people, in this report the term 'West Papua' refers to the western half of the island of New Guinea. This is even though the region is divided by the Indonesian colonial authorities into two provinces named Papua and West Papua.

Information about the protests and incidents described in this report were collected through direct communication with people on the ground, human rights lawyers and defenders, and from media reports. Photographs were obtained from first-hand sources, as well as from crowd-sourced and media outlets.

It was a privilege and an honour to witness, be part of, and document the Uprising. The power of the Uprising was so electrifying that the author sensed it a day before the Uprising began, and could still feel the energy during the writing of this report almost a year later.

This report acts as a witness to the people power of West Papua. It is a wake-up call for Indonesian people to stop racism and support the right to self-determination of the West Papuan people. It is a call for the Indonesian Government to address the root causes of the conflict. And it is a reminder for the international community to stop turning a blind eye on the decades-long yearning by the West Papuan people for their legitimate right to self-determination.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The West Papua Uprising swept across 23 towns in West Papua, 17 cities in Indonesia, and 3 cities overseas during the period of 19 August to 30 September 2019. The three main demands of the Uprising were to condemn racism, to prosecute perpetrators of racist incidents in Java which triggered the Uprising, and to demand West Papuan people's right to self-determination through an independence referendum.

The trigger of the Uprising was racist persecution against West Papuan students in the Indonesian cities of Malang on 15 August, in Surabaya on 16 and 17 August, and in Semarang on 18 August 2019. It was largely, however, due to the incidents in Surabaya where Indonesian soldiers shouted 'monkey' repeatedly at the students. 'Monkey' was reclaimed by the movement and became a resistance symbol of the Uprising and is still widely used to this day. In 2020, many West Papuans commemorated 17 August, Indonesian Independence Day, as National Anti-Racism Day.

At least an extra 6,500 police (mainly Brimob) and military (TNI) personnel were deployed into West Papua to crush the Uprising. The civilian death toll during this period reached 61 people, including 35 indigenous West Papuans. Of those 35 people who died, 30 had sustained bullet wounds, suggesting that they were killed by the Indonesian security forces. Three other deaths were from stab wounds inflicted by militias, while the cause of two other deaths are unclear. Militias were used by the security forces on two of the three occasions when the Morning Star flag, representing West Papuan independence, was raised on public buildings.

At least 284 civilians were known to be injured. The actual number will be higher because many West Papuans were reported to be avoiding going to hospital. Using security forces to surround hospitals after each incident deterred many West Papuans from seeking treatment, due to trauma and fear of reprisals. Three deaths from shootings in Deiyai on 28 August could have been prevented if those victims had obtained medical help. Fourteen patients in Deiyai and four patients in Wamena were taken into police custody while still being treated in hospital, further confirming the fears of West Papuans. Similar cases took place in Jayapura.

In total, at least 22,800 civilians were displaced during the Uprising period. Following the shootings that killed eight civilians in Deiyai on 28 August 2019, at least 300 people were displaced. A further 11,000 people were displaced by violence between local communities in Wamena and 4,000 in Jayapura. Around 6,000 West Papuan students in Java and elsewhere returned to their homeland. A fresh operation taking place in Puncak regency during the Uprising had displaced 1,500 civilians.

During the Uprising, there were 13 cases of attacks against press freedom including internet shutdown, and 23 cases of attacks against human rights defenders including one case of physical attack and nine cases of judicial harassment. The internet shutdown was ruled as unlawful by the state administrative court in Jakarta in June 2020.

In response to the harsh crackdown and escalating violence, the UN Human Rights Office put out two statements of concern and sent two formal communications to the Indonesian Government. Indonesia denied all allegations.

A total of 1,017 arrests resulting in 157 number of political prisoners took place during this period. Of those cases, 22 were charged with treason. Their sentences ranged from 3 months and 14 days to 10 years.

In comparison, five soldiers who racially abused the West Papuan students in Surabaya were only temporarily suspended. Only one of them was ever tried in a military court. Sergeant Two Unang Rohana was found guilty of disobeying orders, not hate speech, and was sentenced to two months' probation, meaning he did not go to jail. Not a single police officer was ever punished for the disproportionate measures taken against the students.

Seven Indonesians were prosecuted for attacking West Papuans. Three racist perpetrators in Surabaya were sentenced to five, seven, and ten months imprisonment. Two of them were found guilty of broadcasting hoaxes; only one was found guilty of hate speech. Four Indonesians in Jayapura were prosecuted for stabbing a West Papuan to death. Two were sentenced to three years and another two juveniles were sentenced to eleven months in jail.

Now, a year later, six political prisoners from the Uprising remain behind bars. Those found guilty of treason, however, are all free after serving their full sentences and they have resumed their political activities. Alexander Gobai, one of the key activists in Jayapura who were arrested between 6-17 September and taken to prison in Balikpapan, East Kalimantan - and who then became the high-profile 'Balikpapan Seven' political prisoners - has since resumed his position as head of the student body at his university in Jayapura. At least 2,000 West Papuan 'exodus' students remain in West Papua, waiting to be facilitated to study inside West Papua or in the Pacific region. A teenager in Fakfak who suffered severe bowel injuries still has problems defecating despite a number of operations.



THE 2019 WEST PAPUA UPRISING

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TOTAL DEMONSTRATIONS 87 CITIES IN WEST PAPUA 23

CITIES OUTSIDE WEST PAPUA 17 CITIES ABROAD 3

19 AUGUST - 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

CHAPTER 1. SIX TURNING POINTS OF THE UPRISING





Introduction

This section presents six incidents or ‘turning points’ that happened during the 2019 West Papua Uprising. These turning points show the changes that happened during the Uprising, from the first incident of racist abuse of West Papuan students studying in Java, which became the ‘trigger’, through to the end of the Uprising, marked by a massive increase in security force personnel in West Papua and the use of arrests, protest dispersals, harassment and intimidation of protesters and incidents of violence.

The incidents also show the changing strategies used by the authorities, involving senior politicians making public apologies for racist statements, and attempts to co-opt Papuan students in Java by means of ‘reconciliation’ events, through to the later crackdown on all public assemblies and activities. The report calls attention too to differences in outcomes of demonstrations, some of which were dispersed by security forces, while others, such as the Deiyai massacre on 28 August, ended in unlawful killings.

The Trigger of the Uprising

The trigger of the 2019 Uprising was a series of racist incidents against West Papuan students in several cities on the island of Java, first in Malang on 15 August, then more significantly in Surabaya on 16 and 17 August, and fuelled further in Semarang on 18 August. One factor that these incidents had in common was that the persecution contained threats to expel the West Papuan students. The injury to West Papuans was felt even more deeply by the use of the racist word ‘monkey’. But later the word ‘monkey’ was reclaimed back from the racists in Java, as “The monkeys in West Papua can no longer live with the humans in Indonesia” and “the fulfillment of the right to self-determination as a solution to end racism once and for all” became the Uprising’s slogans. Protesters against the racist harassment addressed themselves as ‘monkeys fighting back’, wore monkey face masks, and carried posters of monkeys in every protest.

In response to the anger generated by these trigger events, the authorities first attempted to contain protests before then cracking down on protesters in both West Papua as well as in Indonesia more broadly. In a first period, between 19-24 August, the authorities attempted to contain the protests. Some senior local politicians (such as the Governor of East Java and the Mayor of Malang) made public apologies to the West Papuan people, even though shortly before some of them had dismissed the students’ protests. However, away from public attention, police continued to conduct surveillance and harassment of West Papuan students in Java, Bali and Sulawesi. This led to many students leaving Java to go back to West Papua. The public apologies were intended to placate the

protesters and dampen the possibility of widespread revolt. But, by 24 August, West Papuan students rebuffed further public gestures from politicians and even from a Commissioner from the National Human Rights Commission, wary and suspicious of their intent.

After 24 August, it became clear that attempts to win over students and issue public apologies had failed to quell the mounting anger in West Papua. There had also been a hiatus in security force deployments. Yet, away from media-managed attempts at reconciliation, police were continuing to harass and intimidate West Papuan students in Java by, among other tactics, delivering alcohol to them, using a well-known racist trope.

Authorities then launched a crackdown on protesters from 29 August. By means of five further incidents described below, this report details the changing events of the Uprising and the changing attitudes and strategies of the authorities.

First Day of the Uprising

The trigger for the Uprising - the racism in Java - was responded to by protests across West Papua and Indonesia. Early in the morning of 19 August, people witnessed viral social media footage which nobody had predicted: the local legislative council building in Manokwari, capital of West Papua province, in flames. On the same day, students studying in West Papua and pro-independence groups organised peaceful demonstrations in the cities and provincial capitals of Jayapura and Manokwari. They were joined in the following weeks by students studying in Java and elsewhere in Indonesia who had begun to return to West Papua in what is now described as an 'exodus'. However, explaining the participation of ordinary people is important because it tells us about the scale and intensity of protests, which were far beyond what would have been expected from protests usually organised by students or political activists alone.

Ordinary West Papuans joined spontaneous protests in Jayapura and Manokwari as well as in several other lowland cities on 19 August. No particular group or individual stood out as organising the mass protests, and the Uprising also took many pro-independence groups by surprise. Ordinary West Papuans participated in demonstrations and voiced demands to bring the perpetrators of racist abuse to justice. The racism that they had witnessed in Java reflected their own experiences of structural racism in West Papua (racism resulting from the political, economic and social system which embeds discrimination in everyday relationships between the West Papuans and the authorities as well as settlers from elsewhere in Indonesia). Spontaneous participation in demonstrations then gave ordinary West Papuans further freedom to express a collective voice against racism and to witness the extent of discontent shared by other protesters. This fed through to calls for self-determination becoming part of the demonstrations.

The scale of protests in nine cities on the first day of the Uprising indicates that the expression of these issues was not merely being voiced (let alone organised) by pro-independence organisations but were concerns shared more widely among West Papuans. Protests mainly took place in lowland areas, with the largest demonstrations in Jayapura and Manokwari. The strength of outrage on display in Manokwari caused many West Papuans to praise the city, recalling also its past history of showing resistance. It also triggered some sense of competition, that each would take part in standing up to defend their dignity as a nation. In the end, protests took place in 23 locations across West Papua during the course of the Uprising, with a sense of collective unity. Despite being prohibited by the authorities because it is the emblem of the pro-independence movement, flags with the Morning Star appeared many times, but their reactions to it now varied, as shown in the two incidents below.



First appearance of the Morning Star flag – the Fakfak incident

The event in Fakfak on 21 August 2019, the third day of the Uprising, was significant because it was the first time that the Morning Star flag was raised on a public building. Previously, a group of teenagers in Manokwari carried the flag on the first day of the Uprising. The following day, protesters in Jakarta and Yahukimo also carried the flag, and others followed.

On that first day, the flag was raised on the flagpole at the Papuan Customary Council (*Dewan Adat Papua, DAP*) office in Fakfak, by protesters rather than by DAP leaders, and it was witnessed by hundreds of people. Human rights activists monitored the event closely because they believed that a crackdown by security forces would shortly follow. Military and police did not immediately react to the flag raising, but some hours later a militia group called *Barisan Merah Putih* (BMP) came and burned down the office under the security forces' watch. Video footage showed Indonesian police and military directing the militia to attack the West Papuan protesters there.

That day also saw the Uprising's first seriously injured protester. A teenager sustained severe stomach injuries after being attacked and left in a serious condition. Although he survived, he still has problems defecating, even after several hospital operations.

Throughout the Uprising, despite Morning Star flags being brandished by protesters in many locations, it was raised on flagpoles only in three places: at the Papuan Customary Council office in Fakfak on 21 August, mentioned above; at the Regent's office in Deiyai on 26 August; and at the Governor's office in Jayapura on 29 and 30 August. Below the Deiyai incident is detailed followed by flag-raising in Jayapura.

The Unlawful Killings in Deiyai

The Deiyai shootings on 28 August are important because they became the second deadliest day of the Uprising. Tensions had been building there after the banned Morning Star flag was raised for eight hours at the Regent's office on 26 August. Fear of retaliation was in the air as it was the second time, after the events in Fakfak, that the flag had been raised since the Uprising began. This incident also indirectly resulted from the tensions that arose during the course of protests that broke out in six Central Highlands Regencies on 26 August, a week after beginning in the lowlands.

The Deiyai incident began with a youth-led anti-racism protest that spiralled into deadly violence. According to an eyewitness, a member of the local assembly (DPRD, *Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah*) Alfred Pakage, the demonstration convened in the field in front of the Regent's office. Then a soldier drove a car into a youth, Yustinus Takimai, killing him. In retaliation, the soldier was then killed by an arrow from elements in the large crowd which had gathered. The youths are then reported to have thrown projectiles at the security forces, who responded with tear gas. On learning that one of their colleagues had been killed, police and military opened fire indiscriminately into the crowd, killing six civilians.¹

The Deiyai protests had different outcomes to previous protests, partially because Deiyai is in the

1. A. You, 'Kisah tragis dari halaman kantor Bupati Deiyai', 12 September 2019. <https://jubi.co.id/kisah-tragis-dari-halaman-kantor-bupati-deiyai/>

Central Highlands, which is heavily militarised but where migrants and the security forces are outnumbered by indigenous Papuans. The results of raising the flag in Deiyai show the difference in the political situation in the Central Highlands compared to the lowlands. Two days before the shootings, the flag had been raised by protesters above the Regent's office there and left flying for eight hours before being taken down. In comparison, in the lowlands city of Fakfak on 21 August, the raising of the flag at the DAP office saw the *Barisan Merah Putih* (BMP) militia quickly attack and burn the offices to the ground. In Deiyai, by contrast, the authorities were either reluctant or unable to immediately intervene to take the flag down. However, days later further protests in this heavily militarised area led to tragic results.

These circumstances presented a very combustible situation but, until this incident, the security forces had not directly used lethal force during the Uprising. Now they did. At first, they knocked demonstrators down. Then, after one of their own had been killed, they fired live rounds into the crowd. This confirmed the anticipated fear that police and military would use excessive force against protesters. The civilian death toll reached eight people and 50 were injured. The following day, 300 extra Brimob (mobile brigade, paramilitary police) were deployed to Deiyai as well as to neighbouring Paniai regency where the injured were being treated.

Those who died did so from bullet wounds. It is very likely that the incident amounted to gross human rights violations, given that these summary executions were indiscriminate, and torture was also reported after an investigation by the KINGMI church.

The Beginning of the Crackdown

A crackdown began particularly on 29 August. It was marked by simultaneous harassment against human rights defenders in cities across Indonesia, the deployment of extra security forces into West Papua, and a series of arrests of key activists under charges of treason. The crackdown was a break from a previous strategy of attempted containment, but there was also continuity in use of militias in Jayapura.

Despite tension created by the Uprising spreading spontaneously, the crackdown in Fakfak and Deiyai could be regarded as isolated. This is because the central government was still at this time attempting to co-opt West Papuans with gestures of reconciliation. West Papuan elites, including some from West Papua, visited West Papuan students in Java, only to be rejected as well for being 'accomplices of the colonialists'. This approach failed badly and even became counter-productive because, instead of feeling assured, the West Papuans felt harassed. Police and military also systematically approached West Papuan students outside West Papua, either inviting them to hold reconciliation events or attempting to record them saying that they felt safe in Java. One of the main reasons that thousands of West Papuan students returned in an 'exodus' back to their homeland was because of this harassment.

Despite the apologies from public officials in Java for the racist remarks that had triggered the Uprising, and the arrest and beginnings of investigations into several racist perpetrators, the Uprising did not die down. Following the West Papuans' rejection of reconciliation, and fueled by the tension created from the shootings in Deiyai, the attitude of the authorities began to harden.

The crackdown was marked by harassment, intimidation and arrests of activists and protest leaders, and increasing militarisation. After a pause from 24 to 29 August, security force deployments into West Papua resumed at the end of the month. From 29 August to 1 September, there was a massive escalation of deployments, with almost 4500 police and military personnel arriving (3781 Brimob and 700 military). The arrival of these troops marked a firm switch away from the politicians' public gestures of reconciliation to a crackdown.

On 29 August and 30 August, there was also coordinated harassment against human rights defenders



in five cities in Indonesia. On 30 August, key activists in Jakarta began to be arrested. In the following days, the authorities further continued to criminalise protesters. On 5 September, the National Police Chief, Tito Karnavian, accused the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP), the West Papua National Committee (*Komite Nasional Papua Barat*, KNPB), and the Papua Students' Alliance (*Aliansi Mahasiswa Papua*, AMP) of being the masterminds behind the 'riots'. However, Karnavian also stated that the police were open to dialogue "as long as they [OPM, *Organisasi Papua Merdeka*, Free Papua Organisation] do not ask for too much". This echoed the position of both President Widodo and his Chief of Staff, Moeldoko.² The OPM rejected this because "...what Papua is fighting for is independence"³ while other parts of the pro-independence leadership had agreed to negotiations, which were not realised.⁴

In the days after that announcement, on 6-17 September, 'sweeping' operations took place. This included the arrest in Jayapura of key activists, members of the above-mentioned organisations as well as student leaders. They later became known as the 'Balikpapan Seven'.

Student activists in Sorong and Manokwari were also arrested in the days that followed. They were all charged with treason.

Following this period of militarisation, Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs, Wiranto, and President Widodo's Chief of Staff, Moeldoko, publicly stated that "foreign influence" was behind the demonstrations (or, according to the official narrative, 'riots'). The head of the military, Marshall Hadi Tjahjanto, then used this and intelligence gathering as justification for setting up a 'field office' in Jayapura, where 700 military troops had recently arrived.⁵

Another part of the crackdown was militia activities. In Jayapura, similar tactics to those used in Fakfak were used to crush the protests. As revealed in later court decisions convicting the killers of a West Papuan stabbed to death named Evertin Mofu (see Annex 3), the *Paguyuban Nusantara* militia mobilised migrant residents to attack the protesters at the Jayapura Governor's office on the 30th. Videos of migrants carrying machetes and sharp weapons had been circulating via online chat groups and, having heard the news that the militia was approaching, the West Papuan protesters who had raised the Morning Star flag the previous night agreed to leave the Governor's office to avoid a bloodbath. More than a thousand protesters were then evacuated in police and military trucks.

Militia activity had begun on 29 August in Jayapura with 'patrolling' (or sweeping), including threatening and intimidating behaviour over the course of the next four days. On 30 August, to the protests of the DAP, the national police and military chiefs in Jayapura (*Kapolri*) had closed-door meetings with members of the BMP militia, a local branch of which was responsible for violence in Fakfak on 21 August.

2. CNN Indonesia 'Jokowi Siap Bertemu Tokoh Pro Referendum Papua' 30 September 2019. <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20190930140128-12-435335/jokowi-siap-bertemu-tokoh-pro-referendum-papua>

3. BBC Indonesia, 'Papua: Kapolri buka pintu dialog dengan OPM asal 'tak ada permintaan yang berlebihan'', 5 September 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/indonesia-49585082>

4. The Jakarta Post, 'Papuan Pro-referendum Leader Benny Wenda Awaits talks with Jokowi' 14 October 2019 <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/10/14/papuan-pro-referendum-leader-benny-wenda-awaits-talks-with-jokowi.html>

5. A. Arif, 'Panglima TNI Ngantor di Papua', 2 September 2019. <https://www.ayosemarang.com/read/2019/09/02/43271/panglima-tni-ngantor-di-papua>

In summary, on two of the three occasions when the Morning Star flag was raised on public buildings, civilian militias were involved, launching an attack on the DAP office in Fakfak, and inciting the hostility and violence of the local migrant community against protestors in Jayapura. In Deiyai, heavily militarised but with a weak migrant presence, the security forces could not draw on local militia strength and committed violence directly against protestors.

The Deadliest Day of the Uprising

The deadliest day of the Uprising, 23 September, was marked by a spate of killings, injuries and arrests. There were at least 46 people killed and 148 injured in Wamena and Jayapura that day, which also led to mass displacement.

By that time, 21 activists had been arrested and charged with treason. Many of the protests, especially those outside West Papua, now demanded the release of these political prisoners. The crackdown by police in Jayapura that day was so brutal that in one of many videos available there were more than a hundred gunshots in under two minutes, further indicating the level of militarisation that had taken place by then. Four West Papuan 'exodus' students died from bullet wounds. To date, there has been no investigation into that day's events there.

The bloodiest event, however, was in Wamena. It began with anti-racist demonstrations led by high school students. Tensions had reportedly begun to rise during the previous week when an economics teacher at a local high school used the term 'monkey' in class that the West Papuan students recognised as racist, and insufficient corrective action was then taken by the school.

Official figures issued by the Indonesian military and police put the total number of dead that day at 33.⁶ However, the National Commission on Human Rights (*Komnas HAM*) has suggested that the security forces under-reported the deaths and that at least 10 more people died in the violence.⁷ Staff at Wamena hospital also reported that some Papuan high school students were brought into the hospital after being shot by police, but they were not included in police reports.⁸ An award-winning joint journalistic investigation found that at least 42 civilians died that day.⁹

Among those who died in Wamena were 25 migrants. This caused many West Papuan people to feel sorrow, guilt, shame, and demoralisation. It has to be noted, however, that even the most

6. F. Salam, 'Mengapa Pemerintah dan Keamanan Indonesia Gagal Cegah Rusuh Wamena?', 23 October 2019. <https://tirto.id/mengapa-pemerintah-dan-keamanan-indonesia-gagal-cegah-rusuh-wamena-eke3>.

7. F. Prayoga, 'Komnas HAM Temukan 10 Korban Kerusuhan Papua yang Tak Tercatat Polisi', 18 October 2019. <https://nasional.okezone.com/read/2019/10/18/337/2118826/komnas-ham-temukan-10-korban-kerusuhan-papua-yang-tak-tercatat-polisi>

8. K. Lamb, 'I feel like I'm dying': West Papua witnesses recount horror of police shootings, 28 September 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/sep/28/i-feel-like-im-dying-west-papua-witnesses-unrest-indonesia-police>

9. V. Mambor and S. Bachyul, 'Wamena investigation: What the government is not telling us', 26 November 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/longform/2019/11/26/wamena-investigation-what-the-government-is-not-telling-us.html>

comprehensive investigation available about what happened that day is still not sufficient to conclude who the rioters were. Many residents, both West Papuans and migrants, have rejected the description of the day's events as a horizontal conflict between them, because they did not recognise any of the rioters' faces. So they believe that the violence involved people from outside the area who had been deliberately brought there.

Even the death of four West Papuan students in Jayapura on the same day did not lead to much demoralisation among West Papuans. After the events of 23 September, however, the mood of people involved in the Uprising became gloomy and full of sorrow. A poem by a prominent West Papuan independence activist, in which he wished that the fleeing migrants would come back again after the situation was better and safer, went viral. This is consistent with what pro-independence activists said throughout the Uprising, that they were fighting against the colonial system, not Indonesian people. According to data by the Ministry of Religious Affairs,¹⁰ Papua and West Papua provinces are among the most tolerant provinces in Indonesia.

Another factor causing the Uprising to end was the crackdown by the Indonesian state. After the deployment of thousands of extra security forces, Brimob police were patrolling everywhere. In Jayapura, raids on student dormitories took place every few days, with patrols even in universities and residential areas. Activists reported that it was almost impossible to have any meetings. At that point, many key pro-independence activists had either been jailed or forced into hiding.

10. N. Savitri, 'Papua Barat memiliki tingkat kerukunan beragama tertinggi di Indonesia', 13 December 2019 <https://www.abc.net.au/indonesian/2019-12-13/papua-barat-miliki-tingkat-kerukunan-beragama-tertinggi-di-indo/11791342>

Summary

This section has described six important events that took place, marking the start of the Uprising, from attempts to contain anger when racism against West Papuan students in Java became public, to violence committed in lowland and highland areas of West Papua, followed by a full-blown security force crackdown during September.

The report shows that ordinary West Papuans became involved in protesting from the first day of protests in nine cities in West Papua, and that this phenomenon took even pro-independence organisations by surprise. Ordinary West Papuans spontaneously joined protests because they saw them as a way to voice their anger and opposition to the continued second-class position of the West Papuan people in their own land as a result of institutional racism by the Indonesian authorities.

The Morning Star symbol was frequently displayed throughout the Uprising. But it was not until it was raised on the flagpole of an official building that it caused strong reactions from the security forces and its militia proxies, which differed depending on place and time. Following the arrival of almost 4500 extra security force personnel at the end of August and beginning of September, leading to a total of 6500 personnel deployed during the Uprising, there was a crackdown on the activities of political activists, involving pre-emptive dispersal of assemblies, arbitrary arrests and treason charges. Some weeks later, on 23 September, dozens of people were tragically killed in Jayapura and Wamena in circumstances that are yet to be properly investigated.



CHAPTER 2. **THE CRACKDOWN**



Indonesia imposed a crackdown on the Uprising so harshly that the United Nations (UN) put out two statements of concern and sent two communications to the Government of Indonesia during it.

Thousands of additional police and military personnel had been deployed into West Papua. Of the 61 civilians killed during the Uprising, 35 were indigenous West Papuans, of whom 30 died after being shot by Indonesian security forces. Throughout the period, there were 13 cases of attacks against press freedom and 23 cases of attacks against human rights defenders. There was a total of 1,017 arrests during the Uprising, resulting in 157 political prisoners being charged.

Militarisation of the Uprising

Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs Wiranto said that 6,500 military and police personnel were deployed to West Papua in the first week of September 2019.¹¹ In the second half of the Uprising, many photos taken in secret all over West Papua, especially in the capital Jayapura, emerged showing Brimob personnel in black patrolling in public spaces, including roadsides, residential areas, and universities.

An excessive number of police and military personnel surrounded hospitals following the shootings in Deiyai on 28 August and the bloody incidents in Wamena and Jayapura on 23 September. Many injured West Papuans were reportedly feeling scared and preferred to not seek treatment at the hospitals, which led to even more casualties.

After the shootings in Deiyai on 28 August, three people died not on the spot but later in their own villages. These deaths could have been prevented had they been able and willing to access treatment. Fourteen injured patients were taken into police custody while in the hospital there, confirming their fears.

In the Wamena incident on 23 September, a joint independent investigation reported in the Jakarta Post,¹² found that at least one person injured from a bullet wound had avoided going to the hospital. For this report, the author spoke to one of the investigation team, Fahri Salam. He confirmed that, throughout his time investigating in Wamena, he was told by many people that a lot of injured West Papuans that day had deliberately avoided going to hospital, for fear of being arrested or other reprisals. Their fear was confirmed, as four injured patients were arrested by police while still being treated at the hospital.

11. A. Briantika, 'Wiranto Klaim 6.500 Aparat di Papua Barat Sebagai Jumlah yang kecil' 9 September 2019 <https://tirto.id/wiranto-klaim-6500-aparat-di-papua-sebagai-jumlah-yang-kecil-ehL3>

12. V. Mambor and S. Bachyul, 'Wamena investigation: What the government is not telling us' 26 November 2019 <https://www.thejakartapost.com/longform/2019/11/26/wamena-investigation-what-the-government-is-not-telling-us.html>



Deiyai was heavily guarded by Indonesian security forces following the shootings on 28 August, displacing at least 300 civilians. Meanwhile, the horizontal conflict in Jayapura caused 4,000 people, mostly migrants, to seek refuge at police and military headquarters. In the Puncak regency, a joint police and military operation during the Uprising displaced at least 1,500 civilians.

Wamena was also heavily securitised after the violence erupted on 23 September. As widely covered by the national media, 11,000 displaced people, mostly migrants from Indonesia, were helped by the security forces and Government with access to

planes and aid. Many West Papuans were also displaced but these incidents were underreported and undocumented because they fled to the forests or nearby villages. West Papuans were reportedly feeling threatened by the high number of security forces, causing them to flee, while migrants who chose to stay felt safer by the presence of security forces.

Outside West Papua, mostly in Java, police and military conducted harassing surveillance against West Papuan students. The security forces frequently visited their dormitories or schools, including seeking to speak with them during school hours. In some cases, officers forced the students to say on record that they were feeling safe, for the purpose of propaganda. Several schools were also asked to hold 'unity'-themed events. Contrary to the result expected of being convinced that they would be safe, this led to the exodus of 6,000 West Papuan university and high school students back to West Papua. Many of them returned home also because they wanted to fight for independence for their homeland whilst the Uprising was taking place. Some others said they felt uncomfortable being stared at by people amid the Uprising taking place in their home land. A year later, while most of them had resumed their studies, at least 2,000 remained in West Papua, demanding to be educated in West Papua or the Pacific region instead.

Following the Uprising, five extra military district commands were scheduled to be built across West Papua, namely in Arfak, South Manokwari, Maybrat, South Sorong, and Tambrau regencies. Five new police headquarters were also planned, in Puncak, Intan Jaya, Nduga, Deiyai, and Yalimo regencies.

Reports of civil militia attacking West Papuans occurred in Fakfak, Jayapura, and Wamena. There was a video from Fakfak, dated 21 August, showing Indonesia police and military directing civil militia who were carrying sharp and blunt weapons to attack West Papuan protesters (see Chapter 1). Footage emerged showing civil militia in Jayapura on the morning of 1 September, throwing rocks at West Papuans while security forces were standing by. Both videos were submitted to the UN for review.

From 61 civilians killed during the Uprising, 35 were indigenous West Papuans. Thirty of those 35 died from bullet wounds, which meant that they were killed by the Indonesian security forces.

Attacks Against Press Freedom

There were 13 cases of attack against press freedom during the Uprising, including four international cases. The Government of Indonesia also enforced a massive crackdown on social media, blocking over 1,750 accounts by 29 August 2019.¹³ Many West Papuan activists complained that their social media accounts were suspended during this period.

Indonesia imposed **internet throttling and shutdown** in West Papua from the very first day of the Uprising, calling it a matter of 'national security', and issuing five announcements dated 19 August, 21 August, 23 August, 4 September, and 7 September 2019. According to SAFEnet,¹⁴ there was bandwidth throttling in several areas of Papua and West Papua provinces on 19 August from 1pm to 8.30pm local time. A complete internet shutdown was imposed in 29 districts in Papua province and 13 districts in West Papua province throughout 21 August to 4 September at 11pm local time. From 4 to 9 September, internet shutdown continued in four regencies in Papua province (Jayapura city, Jayapura regency, Mimika regency, and Jayawijaya regency) and two cities in West Papua province (Manokwari and Sorong). Civil society groups in Jakarta filed a lawsuit at the State Administrative Court on 21 November. On 3 June 2020, the Court ruled that the internet shutdown was unlawful.

Renowned West Papuan journalist **Victor Mambor** was doxxed on 22 August, including the precise location of his house on the map on Twitter. The online attack also contained vilification, linking him to the independence organisation OPM.¹⁵

On 28 August, the Independent Journalist Alliance (*Aliansi Jurnalis Independen, AJI*) in Jember issued a statement calling for an end to the prohibition on covering the Uprising protests. Authorities in at least Jember and Semarang had been asking journalists to limit or not cover the stories in order to 'calm' the situation.

Reuters' reporting on the shootings in Deiyai on 28 August which resulted in civilian casualties was stamped as a hoax by the Indonesian military's official Twitter account. The tweet further states, "*Do not be divided by foreign provocation!!! Other nations are not happy to see Indonesia united. Keep the unity, friends!!!*"¹⁶



13. Jakarta K.M. Tehusijarana, 'Government gets Youtube to block satirical West Papua advertisement', 29 August 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/08/29/govt-gets-youtube-to-block-satirical-west-papua-advertisement.html>

14. D. Juniarto, 'The rise of internet shutdown in Southeast Asia', 31 July 2020 <https://medium.com/@DamarJuniarto/the-rise-of-internet-shutdown-in-southeast-asia-region-4808e20455e2>

15. I. Duillah, 'Alert AJI Soal Intimidasi terhadap Victor Mambor', 23 August 2019 <https://aji.or.id/read/press-release/973/alert-aji-soal-intimidasi-terhadap-victor-mambor.html>

16. https://twitter.com/Puspen_TNI/status/1166681399547461632?s=20, 28 August 2019

Also on 28 August, a satirical video entitled 'Visit West Papua!' by Australia-based **Juice Media** was blocked on Youtube in Indonesia, following 'a legal complaint' from the Government.

In early September, after reporting on the killings in Deiyai, a freelance journalist writing for Al-Jazeera, **Febriana Firdaus**, was doxxed and attacked online. She received threats on her Facebook and Twitter accounts such that she had to pause her work for a while and relocate to a safe house.¹⁷

ABC Indonesia, including foreign correspondent Anne Barker and cameraman Phil Hemingway, arrived in West Papua to cover the Uprising on 3 September. They were only allowed to be in Sorong city and were followed by intelligence officers the whole time they were there. On 6 September, Jakarta police texted the team to go back to Jakarta the following day. Consequently, the team had to return to Jakarta on 8 September, two days earlier than planned. When they arrived in Jakarta, police texted them again to check if they had really returned, and asked them to go to the police headquarters. They refused to go.

On 9 September, the Indonesian Foreign Ministry invited international journalists to their office for a closed meeting. Around fifteen to twenty attended the meeting. The then spokesperson of the Ministry, Teuku Faizasyah, said that access to West Papua was now closed indefinitely due to safety reasons. The policy was also reported to be applied to diplomats.

On 9 September, Jakarta-based media **Tirto** was told by police to not cover the story of snakes being thrown into the West Papuan students' dormitory in Surabaya that dawn. Meanwhile in Jayapura, around 20 Brimob personnel searched journalist **Benny Mawel**'s house without a warrant, apparently in pursuit of arresting someone else, named Lucky Siep.¹⁸

Before the unrest in Jayapura on 23 September started, police harassed three West Papuan journalists and prevented them from reporting on the news there. The Jakarta Post correspondent **Benny Mawel**, Suara Papua journalist **Ardi Bayage**, and Jubi journalist **Hengky Yeimo** were covering thousands of students striking inside Universitas Cenderawasih.¹⁹ They were pushed and verbally abused after they took pictures of police personnel tearing up a banner. At one point, police hit Ardi Bayage's head. The journalists were asked to leave, told that it was an instruction from the Police Chief.

Attacks Against Human Rights Defenders

During the Uprising, there were 23 cases of harassment and intimidation against human rights defenders across West Papua and Indonesia, including one case of physical attack and nine cases of judicial harassment.

in Fakfak, following the Morning Star flag raising at the DAP office on 21 August, six human rights defenders and indigenous rights activists were summoned by the police as witnesses in treason cases. In police letters dated 7 September 2019, **Fredi Warpopor** was called for interrogation on 10 September, while **Samuel Rohrohmana**, **Abner Hegemur**, **Marsya Hegemur**, **Siriet Hegemur**, and **Sirset**

17. R. Gunadha, 'Jurnalis Aljazeera Febriana Firdaus Diintimidasi karena Artikel soal Papua', 5 September 2019.

<https://www.suara.com/news/2019/09/05/200109/jurnalis-aljazeera-febriana-firdaus-diintimidasi-karena-artikel-soal-papua>

18. D. Pangestika, 'Brimob Searches Papuan Journalist's House Without a Warrant', 12 September 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/09/12/brimob-searches-papuan-journalists-house-without-warrant.html>

19. Suara Papua 'Kronologis Intimidasi dan Pembatasan Tiga Wartawan untuk Meliput di Jayapura', 23 September 2019. <https://suarapapua.com/2019/09/23/kronologis-intimidasi-dan-pembatasan-tiga-wartawan-untuk-meliput-di-jayapura/>

Gwasgwas were called for the previous day, 9 September. Under Indonesian criminal procedure law, a person's status may be increased from a witness to a suspect immediately after the first interrogation. However, due to public advocacy and campaigning, the six people did not receive further summonses.

In Deiyai, where the second deadliest day of the Uprising occurred, three defenders who are pastors were harassed and intimidated by the security forces following the unrest. **Pastor Santon Takege** had the barrel of a gun thrust into his face when he tried to visit injured victims at the Madi hospital on 29 August. Military and police looked for **Pastor Demianus Adii** when they raided West Tigi villages on 4 September, but he was hidden by the villagers. Security forces intimidated **Pastor Ibrani Dwijangge** by questioning his relationship to the OPM freedom fighters when they raided Damabagata district on 6 September.

Yones Douw, head of the Justice and Peace Department of KINGMI church, was repeatedly subjected to harassing surveillance. For so many evenings that he was unable to count them, a drone would fly over his house in Nabire. He was responsible for the comprehensive reporting on the shootings in Deiyai mentioned above.

During the two days of 29 and 30 August, there were coordinated harassments against five legal aid offices across Indonesia. Right-wing reactionary militia with Indonesian flags protested against the groups over their West Papua advocacy, accusing them of provoking the unrest there. On 29 August, dozens came to harass the **Surabaya Legal Aid Institute** (Lembaga Bantuan Hukum / LBH Surabaya) in East Java province. The following day, mobs came to the **Jakarta Legal Aid Institute** (LBH Jakarta), the **Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association** (Perhimpunan Bantuan Hukum dan Hak Asasi Manusia Indonesia / PBHI) in Bandung of West Java province, the **Makassar Legal Aid Institute** (LBH Makassar) in South Sulawesi province, and the **KontraS** human rights office in Surabaya.

Following the deployment of thousands of extra police and military personnel in late August, **human rights defenders in Jayapura** reported feeling intimidated by armed Brimob personnel patrolling every corner of the city. At one point, Brimob police entered the office of the Secretariat for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (SKPKC).

Veronica Koman, an Indonesian human rights lawyer representing the West Papuan students in Surabaya, and author of this report, was named as a suspect by the East Java police on 4 September. Police accused her of inciting violence via hate speech and of broadcasting hoaxes of incidents in a Surabaya dormitory on her Twitter account, which had led to the Uprising. They said this violated Article 45A section (2) of the Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE) Law, Article 160 of the Criminal Code, Article 15 of the Criminal and Procedure Law, and Article 16 of the Elimination of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination Law. Because the author was in Australia at the time, police announced that they were seeking a 'red notice' from Interpol. Police also threatened to freeze the author's bank accounts and cancel her



passport. To this day, the Indonesian Ministry of Finance is still pursuing financial punishment against the author by demanding that she returns the USD 53,000 Master's scholarship funding she had received. Before she was named as a suspect, the Indonesian Ministry of Communication had already claimed that an incident on 17 August in a Surabaya dormitory that had been shared by the author was a hoax, but later it apologised.

Yan Christian Warinussy, a prominent West Papuan human rights lawyer based in Manokwari, was summoned by police as a witness in a treason and incitement case. In a police letter dated 23 September, he was called for interrogation on 26 September about the raising of the Morning Star flag that occurred on 3 September in Manokwari.

Dandhy Laksono, a renowned Indonesian journalist and documentary-maker, was arrested at around 11pm at his home on 26 September 2019. Jakarta police claimed his tweet, reporting on the victims of riots in Jayapura and Wamena dated 23 September, was hate speech, inciting violence in violation of Articles 28 and 45 of the ITE Law.²⁰ He was released a few hours later at 4am following public outrage, but remains a suspect at the time of writing.

Three Jayapura-based human rights lawyers representing the high-profile 'Balikpapan Seven' political prisoners were harassed and attacked. On 28 September 2019, the award-winning lawyer **Gustaf Kaver** was warned by police to not give any more public comments about the case, after he had been actively speaking in webinars for the campaign. On 8 June 2020, **Yuliana Yabansabra** was driving her motorbike when an unknown person on another motorbike punched her head in an attempt to make her fall.²¹ Two days before the verdicts, on 15 June 2020, dozens of police and military stood outside **Anum Siregar's** office, Alliance for Democracy of Papua (*Aliansi Demokrasi untuk Papua* / ALDP), for unclear reasons.

On 6 June 2020, a webinar largely about the 'Balikpapan Seven' case, hosted by the student body of Universitas Indonesia, was rebutted by the University a few hours after airing, claiming that the speakers were 'inappropriate'.²² The speakers were ex-political prisoner Sayang Mandabayan and human rights lawyers Veronica Koman and Gustaf Kaver. The State Intelligence Agency (BIN) was seen visiting the University and gave an interview there five days later, saying that the webinar "was not balanced".²³

20. A. Dipa, 'Filmmaker Dandhy Laksono Named 'hate speech' suspect for tweeting about clashes in Papua', 27 September 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/09/27/filmmaker-dandhy-laksono-named-hate-speech-suspect-for-tweeting-about-clashes-in-papua.html>

21. A. B. Da Costa, 'Escalating Intimidation, Threats, ahead of high-profile treason verdict: Rights group', 16 June 2020 <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/06/16/escalating-intimidation-threats-ahead-of-high-profile-treason-verdict-indonesian-rights.html>

22. T. I. Oktavianti, 'UI disavows #PapuanLivesMatter discussion organised by student body', 8 June 2020 "<https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/06/08/ui-disavows-papuanlivesmatter-discussion-organized-by-student-body.html>

23. BIN-UI menilai diskusi soal Papua tidak berimbang' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9pSazRbO4Ck>

Reaction From the International Community

On 2 September 2019, the Pacific Islands Forum expressed their concern over the intensifying violence in West Papua. They urged for the root causes of the conflict to be addressed and pushed for the UN Human Rights office visit to West Papua.²⁴ Two days later, Papua New Guinea restated the call for the UN to visit.²⁵

Two days later, on 4 September, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, raised her concerns about the escalating violence in West Papua.²⁶ She also encouraged Indonesian President Jokowi to hold a dialogue and to acknowledge that there had been attacks against human rights defenders and journalists, including internet shutdown.

Also on 4 September, six UN Special Rapporteurs issued a letter to the Indonesian Government, questioning it about the racist incidents in Java, shootings in Deiyai, internet shutdown, and harassment against lawyer Veronica Koman and journalist Victor Mambor.²⁷ Indonesia denied all allegations of rights violations in a letter dated 12 September.²⁸

On 16 September, five UN Special Rapporteurs called for protection of Veronica Koman and others reporting on the Uprising.²⁹ They also urged for a dialogue. The UN Special Rapporteurs also made two formal communications to the Indonesian Government related to the Uprising.

In a letter dated 20 November 2019, eight UN Special Rapporteurs sent a comprehensive list of allegations of excessive use of force and the use of civil militia during the Uprising.³⁰ Indonesia denied any allegations in its replies dated 21 November 2019³¹ and 14 February 2020.³²

On 6 September 2019, New Zealand said that they were monitoring the situation in West Papua closely and that they had raised concerns with Indonesia. They also encouraged Indonesia to allow a UN visit, as recommended by the Pacific Islands Forum.³³ The New Zealand Embassy later admitted that its request to visit West Papua had been denied by Indonesia. Diplomats from Canada and the UK were also not granted access.³⁴ Australia too, responding to the deadliest day of the Uprising on 23 September in Wamena and Jayapura, raised its concerns and urged “*absolute restraint from both sides*”.³⁵

24. Pacific Islands Forum Secretary General on events in West Papua, 2

September 2019. <https://www.forumsec.org/2019/09/02/pacific-islands-forum-secretary-general-on-events-in-west-papua/>

25. PNG urges UN visit to West Papua, 4 September 2019. <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/398044/png-urges-un-visit-to-west-papua>

26. Comment by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet on Indonesia (Papua and West Papua), 4 September 2019 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24942&LangID=E>

27. United Nations Commissions on Human Rights (UNCHR) Joint Communication by Special Procedures, 4 September 2019, UN Doc AL IDN 7/2019 <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gld=24835>

28. Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations, WTO, and other International Organisations in Geneva Response by Ambassador/Permanent Representative Hasan Kleib, 12 September 2019, Ref. No. 133/POL-II/IX/2019 <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gld=34873>

29. 'Indonesia must protect rights of Veronica Koman and others reporting on Papua and West Papua protests - UN experts', 16 September 2019 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24990&LangID=E>

30. United Nations Commissions on Human Rights (UNCHR) Joint Communication by Special Procedures, 20 November 2019, UN Doc AL IDN 8/2019 <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gld=24919>

31. Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations, WTO, and other International Organisations in Geneva, Response by Ambassador/Permanent Representative Hasan Kleib, 21 November 2019, Ref. No. 167/POL-II/XI/2019 <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gld=34964>

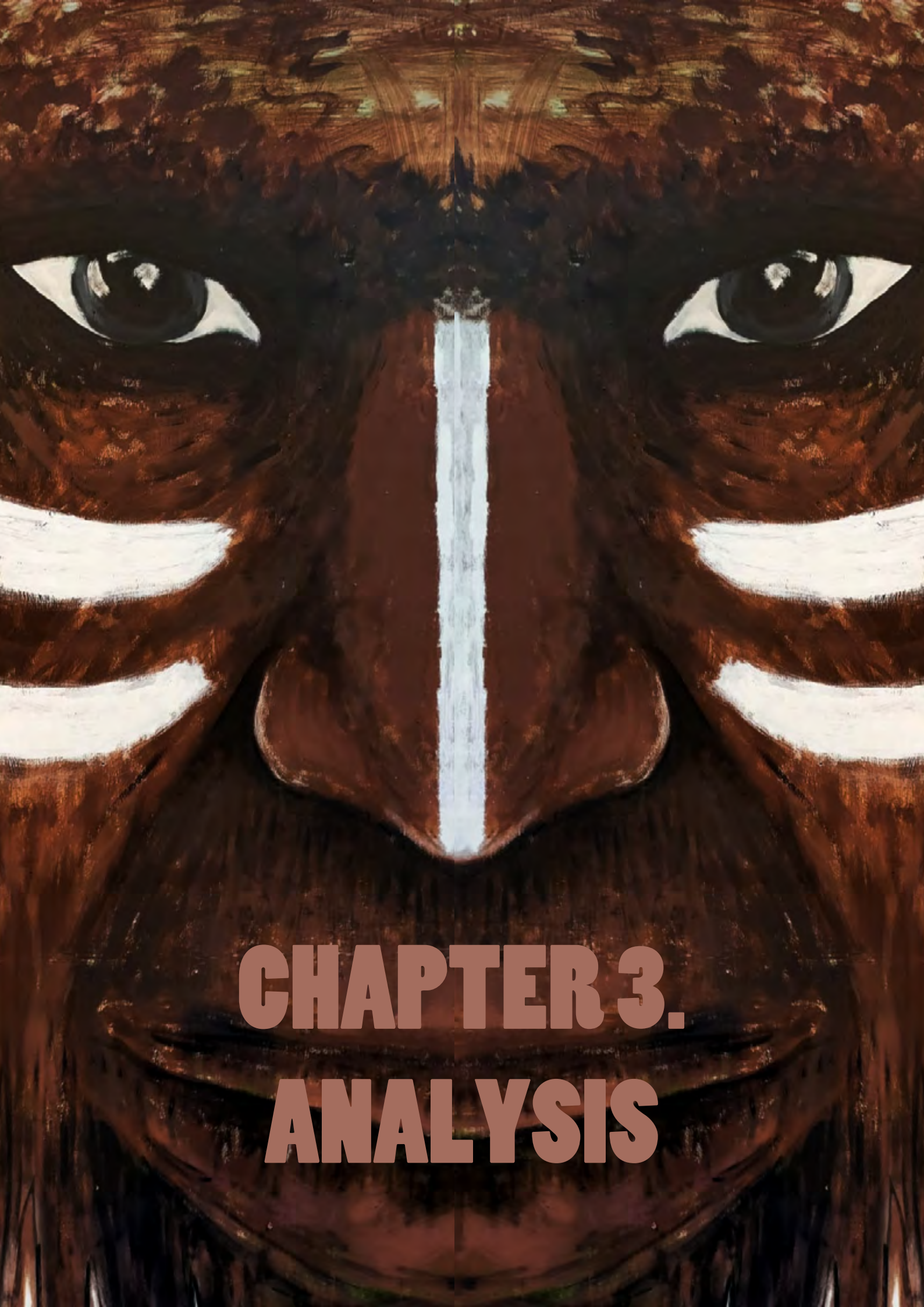
32. Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations, WTO, and other International Organisations in Geneva, Response by Ambassador/Permanent Representative Hasan Kleib, 14 February 2020, Ref. No. 35/POL-II/II/2020 <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gld=35175>

33. RNZ, 'NZ 'deeply concerned' by West Papua violence', 6 September 2019 <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/398223/nz-deeply-concerned-by-west-papua-violence>

34. J. Massola, 'Indonesia blocks diplomats from Papua, while Australia sits back', 8 October 2019 <https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/indonesia-blocks-diplomats-from-papua-while-australia-sits-back-20191007-p52yfh.html>

35. RNZ 'Australia urges restraint in West Papua amid ongoing violence', 26 September 2019

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/399625/australia-urges-restraint-in-west-papua-amid-ongoing-violence>



CHAPTER 3.

ANALYSIS

The Time-Bomb Exploded

Incidents involving Indonesian flags around Indonesian Independence Day on 17 August happen each year. In 2017, a giant Indonesian flag was flown in West Papua.³⁶ In 2018, police and right-wing reactionary militia surrounded the West Papuan students' dormitory in Surabaya, forcing them to raise Indonesian flag.³⁷ Stories of West Papuan freedom fighters surrendering and declaring their loyalty to the Indonesian State also emerge at this time of year. These phenomena are examples of how much Indonesia forces its nationalism on the West Papuan people.

The Surabaya incident on 16 August 2019 was not the first time that West Papuan students had been verbally racially abused by the Indonesian authorities. The author had often heard of this behaviour, reported by students in Jakarta, and also heard it directly during chaotic moments of forced dispersal of protests.

In December 2018, following a protest to commemorate West Papua's national day, the local government and police and military in Surabaya forcibly removed over 200 West Papuan students out of the city. The author was present at the time. Hundreds of people, possibly the same mob as those who turned up the following August, counted the students one by one as they were made to walk out of the dormitory and into buses that would take them out of the city.

On 15 August 2019 in Malang, following a West Papuan protest which ended in forced dispersal by militia and police, the Deputy Mayor said that the province did not welcome separatists. The following evening of 16 August in Surabaya, hundreds of people sang "Kick out Papua" outside the student dormitory. On 18 August, a banner threatening to evict West Papuans involved in separatism was put up in Semarang, where students were surrounded by militia. This hurt West Papuans because, in reality, many of them wish to be free from Indonesia and they are not allowed to be.

The use of right-wing reactionary militia to persecute West Papuan students outside West Papua during political gatherings and protests has been gradually increasing these past four years. This tactic emerged around the establishment of FRI-WP (Indonesian People's Front for West Papua, *Front Rakyat Indonesia untuk West Papua*), the Indonesian group supporting the self-determination of West Papua, in late 2016. The militia groups usually appear with Indonesian flags, notably in Java, Bali, and Sulawesi islands. When they turn violent, police usually either just stand by watching or arrest the West Papuans.

This strategy is a way for the police to whitewash its role in the violation of freedom of assembly

36. Jayapura Kota, 'Bentangkan Bendera Merah Putih Raksasa, Walikota Pastikan Papua Adalah Bagi NKRI', 16 August 2017 <http://jayapurakota.go.id/berita404/bentangkan-bendera-merah-putih-raksasa-walikota-pastikan-papua-adalah-bagian-dari-nkri.html?1508757024>

37. A. Faizal, 'Tolak Kibarkan Merah Putih, Mahasiswa Papua dan Warga Bentrok di Surabaya', 15 August 2018 <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2018/08/15/18385041/tolak-kibarkan-merah-putih-mahasiswa-papua-dan-warga-bentrok-di-surabaya>



Nabire, 20 August 2019

and association, and to counter the narrative that Indonesians support the self-determination of West Papua. Failure to secure those who are protesting peacefully from counter-protests, however, is a violation of the rights to free speech and assembly.

These tactics and ill-treatment finally backfired last year and became the trigger for the Uprising. The State also seemed to realise that a counter-protest outside of West Papua only happened just once, in Bandung (West Java province), throughout the whole Uprising period. Since then, right-wing reactionary militia have appeared in counter-protests, but less frequently.

Although few in number, there are similar pro-Indonesia militia groups in West Papua, such as *Paguyuban Nusantara* and BMP (see Chapter 1). Before the Uprising, their role was usually to make public statements promoting Indonesian nationalism. A small number of their members are West Papuans, used by Indonesia as a 'divide and rule' tactic. When the Uprising erupted, there is evidence that these militia, as well as others, did violently attack West Papuans. In a court decision that sentenced the killers of Evertin Mofu in Jayapura (see Annex 3), it was revealed that *Paguyuban Nusantara* had mobilised migrants to attack the West Papuan protesters.

Employing militia to counter West Papuan protests exacerbates the conflict not only because it has the potential to create conflict between local communities. It also pushes West Papuans further away from Indonesia and deepens their anger and resentment. Many West Papuan students have confided to the author that they prefer to fight Indonesian soldiers in the forests, along with the West Papua National Liberation Army, rather than having to fight civilian militias. A similar idea has been expressed by some other peaceful activists, who feel that there is no space for peaceful protests in the urban streets; they feel suffocated by the open conflict.

Besides the above-mentioned factors, the Indonesian Government's unwillingness to address the root causes of the conflict, particularly the disputed history of West Papua's integration into Indonesia, was the ultimate time-bomb that exploded into the Uprising.

Indonesia is Racist Towards West Papuan People

Furthermore, the Indonesian Government is creating another time-bomb, due to explode sometime in the future. It swept the Uprising under the carpet, when it should have properly addressed the problem of racism.

It has to be noted that no-one in Government, and few in Indonesian civil society, batted an eye-lid when the West Papuan students in Java were persecuted over four consecutive days. Indonesian people started to react only when West Papuans put their cities in flames.

Meanwhile, West Papuans have been furious at soldiers shouting 'Monkeys' at the students, and at the police who disproportionately fired shots and teargas into the dormitory, attacking the besieged students.

However, only one soldier was found guilty by the military court, and only on the basis of disobeying orders, not on the basis of hate speech. He was sentenced to only two months probation and did not even have to go to jail. Four other soldiers were only suspended temporarily for an unclear amount of time. No single police officer has been punished for employing such dramatic measures against the unarmed students.



Timika, 21 August 2019

Civilians were then sacrificed in an attempt to cover up the military and police's mistakes, only to provide even further proof of how racist Indonesia is towards the West Papuan people. These racists were sentenced to five, seven, and ten months imprisonment: shorter sentences than those handed down to the victims of the racism – the West Papuans.

Instead of prosecuting the racist perpetrators properly, the Indonesian authorities have been going after West Papuans, arresting more than a thousand and naming over a hundred as suspects during the Uprising period. The message that Indonesia sent is that West Papuans are not allowed to rise up for their dignity when racially abused.

The Indonesian Government, being either incompetent or unwilling to address the conflict, looked for scapegoats for the Uprising. Press freedom and human rights defenders were systematically attacked. The national Police Chief blamed three main pro-referendum groups for the Uprising, citing that chaos was being created in order to gain attention at the UN General Assembly meeting in late September 2019.

Contrary to what the Indonesian Government was claiming, pro-independence activists were campaigning for peaceful protests. They said that, if things turned violent, it would give justification for the Indonesian State to militarise and crush the protests. When horizontal conflict erupted in Jayapura, pro-referendum activists campaigned hard to convince people to not engage in fighting with the militia, calling it a scenario created by the State to divert their call for an independence referendum. They reiterated that they were fighting against the Indonesian colonial system, not Indonesian people. As a result, in Jayapura, despite three West Papuans dying and dozens being injured from stab wounds, not a single Indonesian migrant died from being attacked by West Papuans.

This is consistent with the tactics of the West Papuan self-determination movement. The non-violent wing deliberately chooses peaceful tactics to attract international attention and is very disciplined. The students in Java, for example, are always in defensive mode when being provoked by right-wing reactionary militia. They realise that the racist Indonesian State will frame them as even more 'beast-like' if they fall into that trap. In situations where they know it is likely that they will be attacked by right-wing reactionary militia, students who are known to be easily agitated are told not to attend protests. In some situations, they do of course need to engage in self-defense, for the sake of dignity as well as their own safety.

The view that it is impossible for hundreds of thousands of people to rise up unless they are driven by a certain small group of people reflects racism in itself. The phenomenon experienced during the 'Uprising' is instead 'people power'.

West Papuans were quick to pick up on why the national Police Chief announced that more than half the people who died in the Wamena riot were migrants. It is because the subsequent responses would be different. Unlike the incident in Deiyai, where the victims were West Papuans, the Wamena riot became national headlines. Many public donation channels across Indonesia were opened, with aid pouring in, planes for evacuation provided by the military, shelters erected, and trauma healing provided. No such support was ever given to the Nduga people who have been displaced since late 2018.



TOTAL SENTENCE DURATIONS

West Papuans 110 years
2 months
12 days

Indonesians 9 years
8 months

NUMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS

West Papuans 122
Indonesians 7

WEST PAPUANS PROSECUTED

1.	Ariana Elopere	9 months	47.	Terianus Madlama	3 months 14 days	93.	Falerio Yaas	6 months
2.	Ambrosius Mulait	9 months	48.	Nilus Wenda	7 months	94.	Yan Surumaja	6 months
3.	Isay Wenda	8 months	49.	Steven Baransano	11 months	95.	Lanti Nipsan	6 months
4.	Charles Kossay	9 months	50.	Thereslin Werfete	8 months	96.	Willem Walilo	6 months
5.	Dano Tabuni	9 months	51.	Alex Pakage	6 months 22 days	97.	Mikael Hilapok	6 months
6.	Suryanta Ginting	9 months	52.	Stefanus Goo	6 months 22 days	98.	Donny Itlay	7 months
7.	Erik Aliknoe	9 months	53.	Simon Ukago	6 months 22 days	99.	Maya Kamarigi	7 months
8.	Pende Mirin	9 months	54.	Melianus Mote	6 months 22 days	100.	Pailles Yigibalom	7 months
9.	Yunus Aliknoe	9 months	55.	Juven Peki	6 months 22 days	101.	Abraham Dote	6 months
10.	Sayang Mandabayan	9 months	56.	Andreas Douw	6 months 22 days	102.	Tenak Waker	7 months
11.	Asa Asso	10 months	57.	Stevanus Pigai	5 months 22 days	103.	Jimbrif Kogoya	7 months
12.	Agus Kossay	11 months	58.	Mikael Bukega	5 months 22 days	104.	Abua Yikwa	1 year
13.	Buchtar Tabuni	11 months	59.	Yos Iyai	5 months 22 days	105.	Yogi Wenda	7 months
14.	Alexander Gobay	10 months	60.	Steven Kolbur	7 months	106.	Alpon Meku	7 months
15.	Ferry Gombo	10 months	61.	Derek Aronggear	1 year	107.	Bedira Tabuni	7 months
16.	Steven Itlay	11 months	62.	Martinus Asmuruf	1 year	108.	Elimus Bayage	7 months
17.	Hengki Hilapok	10 months	63.	Mais Wiay	1 year	109.	Yandu Kogoya	1 year
18.	Irwanus Uropmabin	10 months	64.	Rocky Dimara	10 months	110.	Biko Kogoya	7 months
19.	Rianto Ruruk	8 months 15 days	65.	Jafar Marife	1 year	111.	Rudi Komber	1 year 5 months
20.	Yoseph Syufi	8 months 15 days	66.	Yusup Wairara	1 year	112.	Jhon Assem	1 year 4 months
21.	Manase Baho	8 months 15 days	67.	Billy Wairara	1 year 10 months	113.	Paskalis Tutuop	1 year 4 months
22.	Miwak Kareth	8 months 15 days	68.	Gotlief Baransano	6 months 20 days	114.	Ignansus Hukhukmana	1 year 4 months
23.	PH	4 months	69.	Irjan Iwanggin	6 months 20 days	115.	Marius Asso	10 months
24.	Albun	8 months	70.	Freudi Marlar	10 months	116.	Oplanus Majage	10 months
25.	Daud Matuan	8 months	71.	Yance Songgreri	10 months	117.	Septianus Malaseme	10 months
26.	Elieser Siep	8 months	72.	Lois Bosway	5 months	118.	Hermina Elopere	10 months
27.	Ricky Wanimbo	9 months	73.	Oktovianus Hisage	6 months	119.	Johanis Fatari	6 months 15 days
28.	Natius Tabuni	9 months	74.	Yosam Wenda	6 months	120.	Renaldo Mirino	6 months 15 days
29.	Pilatus Pahabol	9 months	75.	Yoda Tabuni	6 months	121.	Branto Babere	6 months 15 days
30.	Jawa Wetipo	1 year 2 months	76.	Dorty Kawena	6 months	122.	Marthen Kewoy	6 months 15 days
31.	Teresta Iyaba	6 years	77.	Panra Wenda	6 months			
32.	Narius Wenda	10 years	78.	Ferlus Entama	6 months			
33.	Samuel Kurisi	2 years	79.	Yali Loho	6 months			
34.	Kanlus Doga	2 years	80.	Agustinus Mohi	6 months			
35.	Yohanes Payage	1 year 6 months	81.	Ronal Wandik	6 months			
36.	Luky Elopere	1 year 6 months	82.	Yusuf Moai	6 months			
37.	Manu Alua	2 years	83.	Jony Weya	6 months			
38.	Sonni Yando	3 years	84.	Persiapan Kogoya	6 months			
39.	Randis Lokbere	1 year 3 months	85.	Mikha Asso	6 months			
40.	Carlos Asemki	1 year 2 months	86.	Elo Hubi	6 months			
41.	Yoni Malyo	1 year 2 months	87.	Ary Asso	6 months			
42.	Hermanto Nabyal	1 year 2 months	88.	Ruvinus Tambonop	6 months			
43.	Keus Balyo	1 year 2 months	89.	Vinsen Dogopia	6 months			
44.	Yosmin Duyala	1 year 2 months	90.	Dolvius Hisage	6 months			
45.	Yenus Deal	1 year 2 months	91.	Piter Meraudje	6 months			
46.	Riko Wariensi	7 months	92.	Yorgen Aibui	6 months			

INDONESIANS PROSECUTED

MILITARY	0
POLICE	0
Syamsul Arifin	5 months
Tri Susanti	7 months
Andria Adiansyah	10 months
Nasrul	3 years
Irwan	3 years
AI	11 months
MGR	11 months

The said time-bomb in the making is very fragile. When prosecutors sought extreme sentences of up to seventeen years against the Balikpapan Seven political prisoners in June 2020, many West Papuans changed their profiles on social media into pictures of 'monkeys' again, the same phenomenon which marked the beginning of the Uprising the previous year.

Jakarta took notice of the anger rising again, supported by the emergence of the Papuan Lives Matter movement across the country. The Balikpapan Seven were sentenced to less than a year in jail each. According to Indonesian law, by default, the prosecutors must appeal because the verdicts were so very different from what they had demanded. The fact that the prosecutors did not in the end appeal means there was political intervention.

These verdicts still reflect racism, however, because, no matter how weak the case is, West Papuans must be found guilty by Indonesian courts, especially those charged with treason articles. The court was not trying any crimes; it was trying West Papuans' conscience. In the trials, most of the questions merely revolved around who shouted 'Papua Merdeka!', who led the preparation meeting for the protest, and who brought the Morning Star flags. The list of evidence of treason cited by the court includes such day-to-day objects as calculators, key rings, belts, phone chargers, decoration lights, roll cable, and bluetooth speakers.

The fact that at least 2,000 West Papuan 'exodus' students refused to resume their studies in Indonesia and stayed in their homeland, waiting to be educated in the Pacific region, suggests that the flames are still flickering.

Human Rights Violations During the Uprising

The internet shutdown imposed during the Uprising was in breach of the right to freedom of expression and the right to information. It also violates West Papuan people's right to feel safe because it exacerbated the trauma. Being unable to communicate with each other is one thing. But to be left in the dark, wondering if the blackout meant that this was now the time that they were going to be butchered, was the most traumatising effect observed during the shutdown. Moreover, in Dekai for example, the city became a ghost-town and children did not go to school for weeks because people could not verify if any of the rumours circulating were true. Had there been normal communications, the situation could have been restored sooner.

The shootings in Deiyai on 28 August 2019 are likely to amount to gross human rights violations. From footage available, the police and military opened fire on a crowd of civilians indiscriminately and excessively, such that even a 12 year-old child was among those shot.

Police and military heavily surrounding hospitals during such incidents deterred many West Papuans from going to seek treatment. For example, in Deiyai on 23 September 2019, three deaths could have been prevented if the victims had not been too afraid to seek treatment after escaping the scene. Not only was their right to health violated, but also their right to life. Also, fourteen people who had been shot and sought treatment at the hospital were taken into police custody, again violating their right to health. This pattern of intimidation also affects human rights defenders because it hampers their monitoring of rights abuses and their advocacy.

The Indonesian State also violated the political prisoners' rights to freedom of expression and assembly when it arbitrarily detained them. The fact that West Papuan political prisoners continued to be detained during the global COVID-19 pandemic breached the prisoners' right to health.

As many as thirty 30 West Papuans died from bullet wounds during the Uprising. This suggests that they were killed by Indonesian security forces, and indicates that disproportionate measures were taken against West Papuan protesters, resulting in violation of their right to life.

It is important that Independent investigations are made into the civilian killings in Deiyai on 28 August 2019 and in Wamena and Jayapura on 23 September 2019. Most West Papuans no longer believe in the Indonesian justice system. By allowing independent teams, preferably international as requested by the West Papuans, to investigate these cases, this would give some sense of justice and dignity to the people of West Papua.

The Movement is Getting Stronger

Racism in West Papua triggered not only an uprising, but also a revival of appreciation among West Papuan people of their negritude. Many have said that the Uprising has reminded them that they should instead be proud of their identity. It has also convinced many that there is truly no hope if they remain under Indonesia's racist rule.

The Balikpapan Seven were transferred from West Papua to East Kalimantan province on the island of Borneo so as to cut them off from their family, friends, and community. This step by the Indonesian authorities, however, unintentionally sprouted solidarity towards West Papuan people from many Indonesians in Kalimantan, where FRI-WP, the Indonesian group supporting the West Papua cause, had only a few members. Kalimantan was the only large region in Indonesia that did not see any protests during the Uprising, but multiple protests have since taken place in 2020.

An important factor in sustaining the movement was the Papuan Lives Matter movement which gained momentum in June 2020 after prosecutors, during the peak of the global Black Lives Matter movement, sought extraordinary treason sentences of up to seventeen years for the Uprising's Black political prisoners.

A short video of a plea from one of the Balikpapan Seven, student leader Ferry Gombo, went viral on social media. Fellow students across Indonesia became aware of the case and expressed their sympathy and support. The next fortnight leading up the verdicts saw an unprecedented number of solidarity actions from Indonesians across the country, especially from the student movement. At least 36 student bodies across Indonesia, including the western-most province of Aceh, expressed their public support for freeing the Balikpapan Seven and for Papuan Lives Matter. Multiple webinars discussing racism initiated by Indonesians took place on a daily basis throughout the month of June and July.



In Balikpapan, dozens of Indonesian students marched across the town to the District Court for three consecutive days in the lead up to the verdicts. In the front yard of the Court, at one point, they knelt down and apologised to the Balikpapan Seven. Their speaker said, “We do not know what else to do”, while in tears. On the day of the verdicts, over thirty Indonesian students arrived early, ahead of the hearings. Moslems and Christians, they prayed together in the front yard. They stayed at the Court until all seven hearings had been completed by the afternoon. Protests by Indonesian students also took place in Samarinda and Tarakan on Borneo, cities where there had not been any West Papua protests before.

The Papuan Lives Matter movement has ignited conversations among Indonesians about West Papua on an unprecedented scale. Many have been introduced to the problems in West Papua, and are actively learning and discussing them. This hopefully means that the Indonesian State will no longer be able to do whatever it wishes without calculating the consequences, now that more of its own people will question those in power. Consciousness that Indonesia has been colonising West Papua has become far more widespread among Indonesian people.

The wound is so deep that, on the first anniversary of the Uprising, many West Papuans commemorated 17 August 2020 as West Papua’s national Anti-Racism Day. Indonesia has been obsessed with making West Papuans celebrate its independence Day then, but West Papuans will always be reliving the scar at this time of year instead.





ANNEX 1

THE TRIGGER

The trigger of the 2019 Uprising was a series of racist incidents against West Papuan students in several cities on the island of Java, first in Malang on 15 August, then significantly in Surabaya on 16 and 17 August, and fueled further in Semarang on 18 August.

Some details of the incident in Surabaya were obtained from exclusive correspondence between the author and the West Papuan students. The latter have agreed to waive confidentiality for this report.

15 August 2019

To commemorate the anniversary of the New York Agreement – an agreement between the Netherlands and Indonesia in 1962 which was the basis of the 1969 sham ‘Act of Free Choice’ plebiscite – peaceful protests were held in a number of cities in both Indonesia and West Papua. They resulted in mass arrests, forced dispersal, and ill-treatment. The protests in Indonesia were led by the Papuan Students’ Alliance (AMP) and the Indonesian People’s Front for West Papua (FRI-WP). Meanwhile, the protests in West Papua were led by the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP).

The peaceful protests in six cities in Indonesia were followed by racist persecution by ultra-nationalist groups and security forces. However, the trigger for the Uprising was an incident in the city of Malang, fueled largely by racist statements from the Deputy Mayor.

Malang, East Java Province

Fifty-six West Papuan and Indonesian protesters were physically attacked by ultra-nationalist groups and police under the military’s watch, before being forcibly dispersed and removed. They were kicked, thrown with rocks and chili water, beaten with helmets, and abused with racial slurs. Thirteen of them were briefly arrested.

Twenty-two protesters were injured: Pinel Gwijangge (22), Awi Pahabol (22), Lambentus Woge (24), Warinus Wilil (23), Harminus Loho (20), Pilatus Yusuf (19), Alseno Gwijangge (18), Timinus Gwijangge (21), Nikson Penggu (22), Yulianus Hilapok (19), Daniel Kadepa (23), Jeksen (22), Melki Elopere (17), Melky Huby (23), Anandi

Gwijangge (20), Barto Gwijangge (21), Opran Gombo (18), Ferry Takimai (21), Alex Wonda (20), Erince Penggu (21), Dani Nawipa (24), and Jackson Degei (23).

On that day, the Deputy Mayor of Malang stated that West Papuan students might be removed from the city because of the ‘clash’ and that treasonous protests were not allowed.³⁸ The Mayor apologised when West Papua exploded four days later – the first day of the Uprising – saying that the City Council would never have such policy.³⁹

Jayapura - Sentani, Papua Province

Protesters expressed their support and hope that West Papua issues would be raised at the Pacific Islands Forum leaders summit being held that week. A total number of 106 indigenous West Papuans were arrested for a day.

38. N. Ratri, ‘Wakil Wali Kota Malang Munculkan Opsi Pemulangan Mahasiswa Papua Pasca-Kericuhan’, 15 August 2019. <https://www.malangtimes.com/baca/42830/20190815/125400/wakil-wali-kota-malang-munculkan-opsi-pemulangan-mahasiswa-papua-pasca-kericuhan>

39. Z. Arifin, ‘Wali Kota Malang Minta Maaf Soal Mahasiswa Papua’, 19 August 2019. <https://www.liputan6.com/regional/read/4041566/wali-kota-malang-minta-maaf-soal-mahasiswa-papua>

Ternate, North Maluku Province

Sixteen West Papuan and Indonesian student protesters were beaten and briefly arrested by police. All were released at 7.30pm local time. One Indonesian student was hospitalised after being beaten until he became unconscious.

Sula, North Maluku Province

One Indonesian student was briefly arrested when he and friends were distributing leaflets about the commemorative day. He was released after being forced to sign a statement that he would not participate again in the West Papua solidarity movement.

Ambon, Maluku Province

Eleven Indonesian and West Papuan student protesters were briefly arrested when forcibly dispersed by police.

Bandung, West Java Province

About two dozen protesters had to move to another location when over a hundred counter-protesters from ultra-nationalist groups came to where they were protesting.



Aliansi Mahasiswa Papua

16 August 2019

Surabaya, East Java Province

At 3pm local time, around 15 Indonesian soldiers in uniform and plainclothes officers came to the Kamasan dormitory where 15 West Papuan students were living. They banged on the gate until they broke it, while shouting, *“Who put the flag in the gutter?! Who threw the flag away?!”* The students were puzzled as they had not realised that the flag pole outside their dormitory had been broken. An Indonesian flag had been flying in front of the dormitory for a few days beforehand in the run-up to Indonesian Independence Day on 17 August. According to the students, the flag had been raised at dawn and so they did not see who had done that.

The students were shocked to hear the soldiers shouting, “Hey, monkeys, get out! Monkeys!”. A video capturing this moment later went viral and triggered the Uprising. In the following days, ‘Monkeys’ would be reclaimed by the movement as a symbol of resistance. An hour later, hundreds of people from ultra-nationalist groups and other right-wing reactionary militia gathered in front of the dormitory. The students could no longer be in the front yard as people would throw stones at them.



Screenshot of a video of soldiers shouting 'Monkey' at the students inside the dormitory.

By 6.30pm, hundreds of people, including children and teenagers, were singing *"Kick out, kick out Papua! Kick out Papua right now!"* The students had turned off their electricity and only used flashlights at this point. The mob outside were discussing breaking in at 7pm. Forty-five minutes later, people were yelling *"Ready?? Charge! Merdeka! Merdeka!"* (Freedom!)

A human rights defender, blending in with the crowd to monitor from outside the dormitory, reported that at 8pm police attempted to control the mob. The situation gradually turned calmer and the size of the mob decreased. Throughout this time, the students had to keep themselves secure by staying on the second floor. However, from 10.30pm the size of the mob increased again. Some people even came with guitars. They sang the Indonesian anthem while swearing at the students.

Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta Province

In the evening, West Papuan students held a spontaneous protest in front of the regional police headquarters to demand an end to the persecution taking place in Surabaya.

17 August 2019 - Indonesian Independence Day

Surabaya, East Java Province

The students had run out of food and water since the afternoon of the previous day. When the siege might end was still unclear. By night time, the crowd was smaller and much less aggressive. So some solidarity groups agreed that food and water should be delivered. However, it would be too dangerous for West Papuans to go, and so it was decided that Indonesians should do the job.

At a quarter past midnight, three Indonesian students arrived to deliver four boxes of takeaway food to the students trapped inside. They were being shouted at when they approached the dormitory to hand over the food. At 1.40am, another two Indonesian students delivered food and water to the dormitory. An arrangement was made that they would hook the package on the corner of the gate and walk away straight after. Unfortunately, they were pulled by the mob, interrogated, beaten, kicked, and later arrested by police. One of the West Papuan students, trapped inside and watching the scenes from the dormitory, cried out of guilt. Two days later, in the evening of the first day of the Uprising, the Ministry of Communications declared that this information shared by the author on social media was a hoax,⁴⁰ but later apologised for a wrong accusation.

After thorough planning and coordination with the students trapped inside, at around midday 27 West Papuan students from other smaller dormitories came in support, bringing food and water. They came together in one group, walked fast, and took the crowd by surprise. The dormitory's gate was opened for them and then closed again right after they entered. Even though they did not know what to do or what was going to happen next, at least they felt in a large enough number to defend themselves.

40. Kominfo, '[HOAKS] Polres Surabaya Menculik Dua Orang Pengantar Makanan untuk Mahasiswa Papua', 19 August 2019 https://www.kominfo.go.id/content/detail/20784/hoaks-polres-surabaya-menculik-dua-orang-pengantar-makanan-untuk-mahasiswa-papua/0/laporan_isu_hoaks

This development generated even more crowds coming. Police and the mob asked the students to surrender themselves. The students did not understand what they meant, how or why they should surrender. In their discussion on the second floor, they agreed that they would not surrender to the crowd as it did not make any sense to them. They were in their own 'honai' (home).

At around 3pm, the students were just agreeing to hand over a mobile phone to let their lawyer – the author – speak to the police to find out what they meant by 'surrender', when suddenly shots were heard in the background. *"Now what do we do? Jesus! They are shooting at us!"*, a student cried out, to which the author replied, *"Do not fight back. Follow the police."* That was the message that the student echoed to her friends who were panicking.

The student did not disconnect her phone and so the author could listen to what was happening. Shortly after, a male voice with Javanese accent shouted, *"Get down! Squat!"* The students were asked to waddle along the ground from the second to the ground floor and to the police trucks. As they went, they were being shouted and cursed at by police. Five students were injured: four from police's beatings, and another one's foot bled after being hit by a teargas canister.

CNN Indonesia reported that there were a total of 23 shots fired, including teargas, into the dormitory.⁴¹ This disproportionate treatment was taken against starving, thirsty, exhausted, and unarmed students who had been besieged for more than 24 hours.

While the 43 were arrested and taken to the Surabaya police station to be investigated about the flag incident, police searched the dormitory. Students reported later that police had vandalised their dormitory such that some of the windows and doors were damaged.

When the students were released at midnight, they had to sleep in the front yard because the teargas inside was still too strong. The toxic smell stayed for almost a month and the students had to sleep outside throughout this time. In some rooms with bad ventilation, the smell remained until December 2019.

A day later on 18 August, two CCTVs looking towards the dormitory were installed by the authorities. Also on 9 September, when the students were still sleeping outside, two bags of snakes were thrown at them by unknown people.

41. CNN Indonesia, 'Polisi Tangkap 43 Mahasiswa dari Asrama Papua di Surabaya', 17 August 2019 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20190817181215-20-422304/polisi-tangkap-43-mahasiswa-dari-asrama-papua-di-surabaya>

Fully armed paramilitary police takes position outside the dormitory.



Fully armed paramilitary police entering the front yard of the dormitory.



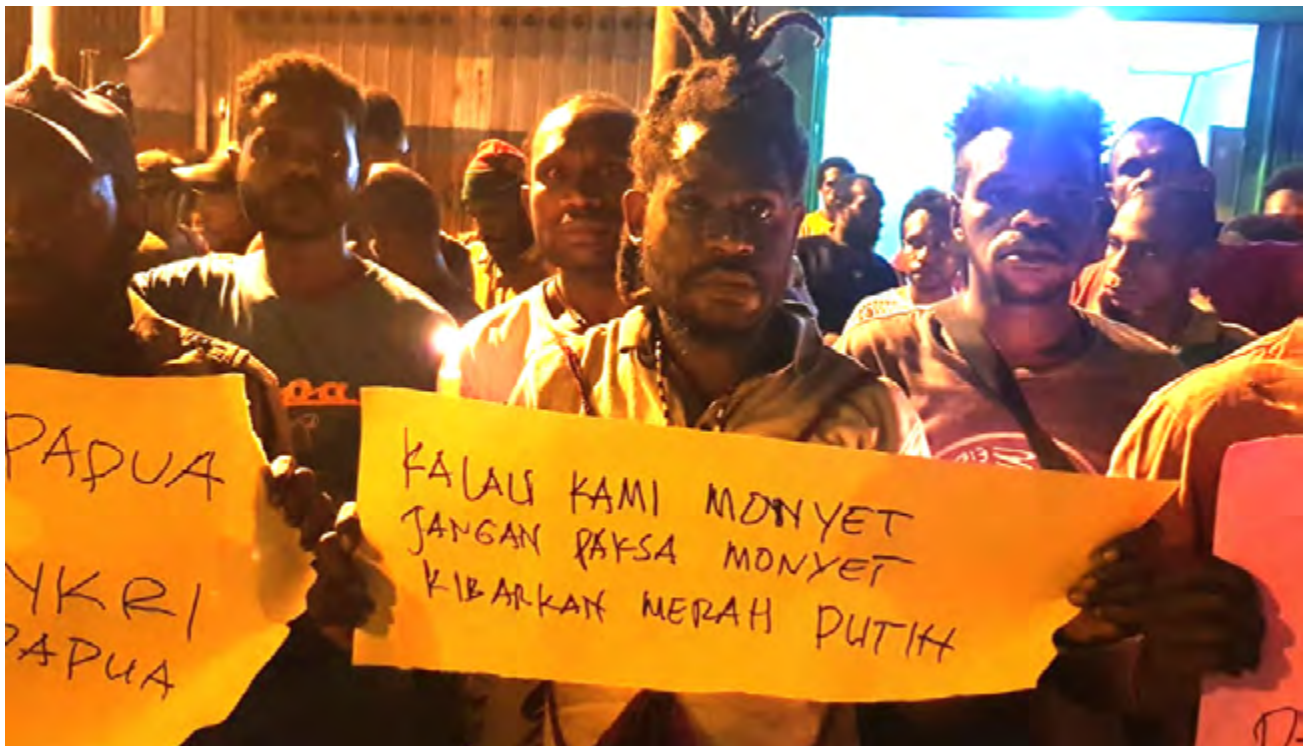
Students raise their hands on the second floor of the dormitory.





Jayapura, Papua Province

Dozens held a spontaneous vigil initiated by the West Papua National Committee (KNPB). The dawn of the Uprising had arrived. The photo of a protester holding a poster saying *"If we're monkeys, don't ask these monkeys to fly the Red and White"* would later become widely distributed among West Papuans.



Komite Nasional Papua Barat

18 August 2019

Semarang, Central Java Province

A West Papuan students' dormitory was surrounded by right-wing reactionary militia along with police and military. Even though the students had agreed to fly the Indonesian flag, the local Neighborhood Chief and police demanded their identities.

A big banner, shown below, had been put near the dormitory since 14 August 2019. It reads: “We, the residents of Candi, do not accept that this West Papua dormitory is used for activities that cause disintegration of Papua from the Indonesian Unitary State. If it does take place, we shall refuse to allow West Papuans in the Candi neighborhood.”



Aliansi Mahasiswa Papua

Jayapura, Papua Province

The Governor of Papua, Lukas Enembe, issued a Statement of Concern in response to racist attacks against the West Papuan students over the previous four days in the cities of Malang, Surabaya, and Semarang in Java.

West Papua



From now on, many West Papuans used pictures of monkeys and apes as their profile pictures on social media. They referred to themselves as ‘Monkeys’ in calls to protest and on posters, meaning that the racist remark was reclaimed as a symbol of resistance.

Many Indonesians showed their support for West Papua on social media. This marked the birth of the Uprising.



ANNEX 2

THE UPRISING

The Uprising covers the period from 19 August to 30 September 2019. The chronology of events below is compiled from reports I received from first-hand sources, as well as reports from local human rights defenders, and media news. Incidents of deaths, injuries, and arrests are included in the respective dates.

19 August 2019

Thousands of people took to the streets on the first day of the Uprising that swept across seven cities in West Papua and two cities (Bandung and Makassar) in Indonesia.^{42, 43} In West Papua, the protests turned violent in Manokwari and Sorong.

In an attempt to stem a rising tide of anger among West Papuans, and having seen Jayapura paralysed and Manokwari and Sorong in flames, the Governor of East Java province apologised to the West Papuan people on national television and guaranteed that no West Papuan students would ever be asked to move out of the province.^{43, 44} The Governors of Papua and West Papua provinces were tearful when commenting on the racism against West Papuan people. However, the security forces were not contrite and continued to monitor and harass Papuan students. Police visited West Papuan students' dormitories in Jakarta, Bogor (West Java province), and Lombok (West Nusa Tenggara province) to prevent any possible rallies from taking place.



Aliansi Mahasiswa Papua / police visiting the students' dormitory in Jakarta

42. O. Flash and A. Aibah 'USIR PAPUA ??? Oncho FLash X Andho Aibah (Music Video)', 19 August 2019 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hj31-9vimbo>; Another early development was the involvement of West Papuan rappers who released a music video about the Surabaya persecution and their pride as Black Melanesians, titled "Usir Papua??" (Kick Out Papua??). Official DXH Crew Papua 'Cara Tara Bae - DXH Crew, 19 August 2019 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlPwa8u4a8>. Another West Papuan artist also published a song about the persecution in Surabaya. Riko Manutur x Laxzl x Rehza NS x Grld 'Tolak Rasisme - 14X21 ft. New Star (Riko Mntr x Laxzl x Rehza NS x Grld) Official Music Video', 19 August 2019 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6GtPq_s6Ks Indonesian artists released a music video about the persecution and the Uprising titled "Tolak Rasisme" (Reject Racism).

43. BBC News Indonesia, 'Manokwari rusuh: Massa berangsur tinggalkan lokasi demonstrasi, para pejabat Jatim minta maaf, 19 August 2019 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/indonesia-49391778>. The Mayors of Surabaya and Malang also apologised publicly to the West Papuans.

44. H. Kusuma 'Manokwari Rusuh, Jokowi: Saling Memaafkan, Pemerintah Jaga Papua-Papua Barat', 19 August 2019 <https://news.detik.com/berita/d-4672151/manokwari-rusuh-jokowi-saling-memaafkan-pemerintah-jaga-papua-papua-barat> Chief Security Minister Wiranto praised public officials in Java for apologising and condemned the people who had been rioting. The Indonesian President held a press conference, asking everyone to forgive each other.



Governor Dominggus Mandacan



Governor Lukas Enembe

Later in the day, internet access in West Papua started to be restricted in order to 'limit hoaxes'. Instead of prosecuting the racist perpetrators in Java, police decided to go after social media accounts that 'provoked' the unrest.⁴⁵ The Ministry of Communications declared that the author's tweet about the two Indonesians arrested in Surabaya on 17 August, when delivering food to the trapped West Papuan students inside the dormitory, was a hoax.⁴⁶

45. R. Ayuningtyas, 'Polri Buru Penyebar Konten Rasis Pemicu Kerusuhan Manokwari', 19 August 2019 <https://www.liputan6.com/news/read/4041247/polri-buru-penyebar-konten-rasis-pemicu-kerusuhan-manokwari>

46. Kementerian Komunikasi dan Informatika Republik Indonesia '[HOAKS] Polres Surabaya Menculik Dua Orang Pengantar Makanan untuk Mahasiswa Papua', 19 August 2019 https://www.kominfo.go.id/content/detail/20784/hoaks-polres-surabaya-menculik-dua-orang-pengantar-makanan-untuk-mahasiswa-papua/0/laporan_isu_hoaks



Kabarpapua / Litha

Manokwari, West Papua Province

In Manokwari, protests began at 8am. The local legislative office was burnt down by 9am. A car showroom was also torched an hour later. The Deputy Governor delivered a speech condemning the racist attacks against West Papuan students in Java. At one point during the protest, dozens of the protesters sang, “Kick out, kick out the migrants!” mimicking the song “Kick out Papua” sung by the mob besieging the West Papuan students’ dormitory on the evening of 16 August. Protesters cut down some trees and burnt tyres to block main roads. The situation gradually calmed down in the afternoon. A group of teenagers carried a pole bearing a Morning Star flag while running across the town. In another location, a march of at least a thousand people led by student activists went peacefully. In all, twelve people were arrested and prosecuted throughout the day.

Sorong, West Papua Province

The airport was torched and vehicles on the parking lot were damaged.⁴⁷ The city’s penitentiary was 90% burnt down. Many of the inmates stayed in the front yard but 258 people escaped. Fifteen other buildings including a police station and the local legislative Council were also torched.⁴⁸ Main roads were blocked by cut trees and burning tyres. Tear gas and water cannon were used to disperse the crowds. Eleven people were arrested for rioting, of whom seven were prosecuted.



Sorong airport was among the places set on fire

47. F. Pebrianto and J. Hantoro, ‘Kronologi Kerusuhan di Manokwari dan Sorong, Papua Barat’, 20 August 2019 <https://nasional.tempo.co/read/1238032/kronologi-kerusuhan-di-manokwari-dan-sorong-papua-barat>

48. M. Arnani and R. E. A. Sartika, ‘Kerusuhan di Papua, Apa yang Terjadi di Manokwari hingga Jayapura?’, 29 August 2019 <https://www.kompas.com/tren/read/2019/08/29/183000065/kerusuhan-di-papua-apa-yang-terjadi-di-manokwari-hingga-jayapura>



Sorong local legislative buildings being torched

Jayapura, Papua Province

The capital city was paralysed as thousands of people marched from different directions towards the Governor's office. West Papuan Senators joined the crowd marching, and the Indonesian flag outside the office had been lowered.



A protestor wearing a 'monkey' mask



No Indonesian flag can be seen on the flagpole outside the Governor's office



Merauke, Papua Province

Hundreds of protesters were prevented from entering the city centre by police.



Kaimana, West Papua Province



Raja Ampat, West Papua Province



Yapen, West Papua Province

Makassar, South Sulawesi Province

Outside of West Papua, hundreds of West Papuan and Indonesian students held a protest. In the evening, right-wing reactionary militia surrounded and vandalised the West Papuan students' dormitory by throwing rocks at it. The students were also physically attacked and one was injured. Police intervened until the situation became calmer.

20 August 2019

Protests erupted in seven cities in West Papua and three cities in Indonesia, including in Yogyakarta. They continued for two consecutive days in four places: Kaimana, Yapen, Merauke, and Makassar. Meanwhile, the protest turned violent in South Sorong, West Papua province, and in the evening hundreds of extra military and police arrived in Manokwari.

In Surabaya, several West Papuan students were invited to an event with the city Mayor. One of the West Papuan students later clarified that he was not among those persecuted and that they had been misinformed about the nature of the meeting.

Aside from these physical protests, West Papuan artists continued to contribute music to the Uprising.⁴⁹

Merauke, Papua Province



49. Morde Sawaki M.A.C 'I'M MONKEY - Mor M.A.C (Free West Papua); 20 August 2019 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWLDND-VwuQ&feature=share> . A West Papuan artist released a song about the Uprising on Youtube.



A man in a wheelchair and young children marching



An elderly woman delivers a speech



Nabire, Papua Province

Biak, Papua Province



"We are Papuan people, not monkeys"

Yapen,
West Papua Province



Bintuni, West Papua Province



Kaimana, West Papua Province

Spotted on a video, an old West Papuan woman joined the protest by riding on the back of a motorbike, explaining about the history of West Papua and her desire to be free.

In another video, West Papuan mothers were crying during prayer, "Please free us, because we are not fit to live together with other people."



**Bengkulu,
Bengkulu
Province**



**Makassar,
South
Sulawesi
Province**



21 August 2019

The Uprising continued in six cities in West Papua and one city in Indonesia. According to media reports, an extra 300 military and 960 police personnel had been deployed into West Papua⁵⁰ The protests turned violent in Fakfak where Morning Star flags were raised and in Timika. Morning Star flags were also flying in Sorong.

The Ministry of Communications announced that it was blocking internet access in West Papua “until the situation returns to normal”.⁵¹ On the same day, the Ministry apologised for wrongfully accusing the author’s

50. T. Wibawa, ‘West Papua protests continue despite Indonesian police claiming to have regained control’, 21 August 2019 <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-08-21/west-papua-protest-indonesian-military-police-clean-up/11433840>

51. Kementerian Komunikasi dan Informatika Republik Indonesia ‘Pemblokiran Layanan Data di Papua dan Papua Barat’, 21 August 2019 https://www.kominfo.go.id/content/detail/20821/siaran-pers-no-155hmkominfo082019-tentang-pemblokiran-layanan-data-di-papua-dan-papua-barat/0/siaran_pers



"Whoever comes will be rejected" at the gate of a West Papuan dormitory in Surabaya.

tweet about two Indonesians arrested on the 17 August, when delivering food to the trapped West Papuan students, of being a hoax.⁵²

In Surabaya, the persecuted West Papuan students refused to meet any parties who came to apologise, including West Papuans who work for the Indonesian Government – whether presidential staff, Senator, Governor, or Mayor.⁵³

In Yapen, police said that the demonstration planned for the following day was allowed as long as there would be no march and it would be peaceful.

The Papuan People Assembly (Majelis Rakyat Papua / MRP) issued a statement that, due to racism and security concerns, all West Papuan students studying outside West Papua were advised to return to Papua. Thousands of West Papuan students did gradually return to their homeland over the following weeks.

Dozens of West Papuan protesters were arrested, but no racist perpetrators in Java were.

52. C. M. Annur and D Setyowati, 'Kominfo Minta Maaf Atas Cap Disinformasi Cuitan Veronica Soal Papua', 21 August 2019

<https://katadata.co.id/desysetyowati/digital/5e9a5033a3878/kominfo-minta-maaf-atas-cap-disinformasi-cuitan-veronica-soal-papua>

53 Meanwhile, police in Makassar visited a West Papuan students' dormitory to invite them to attend a dialogue with the local government, and these students also refused. Later in the day, the AMP set out why an apology from Indonesia would be insufficient, and why only a referendum on self-determination could end racism.

Fakfak, West Papua Province

A local human rights defender reported that protesters from every corner of the city headed towards the Papuan Customary Council (DAP) office from 7am. They then went towards the Tumbruni central market and torched it. Joint security forces came and dispersed them with teargas. In video footage, a man was seen walking calmly while carrying a giant Morning Star flag in plain view of the Indonesian security forces. The crowd moved into the DAP office, where they raised Morning Star flags. When the Regent and Senators arrived, the protesters delivered their statement condemning racism and asked them to return West Papuans from Java back to their homeland, and vice versa, to send Javanese back to Java. At one point, the crowd demanded that the leader touch and kiss the Morning Star flag.



The Morning Star raised at the Papuan Customary Council

After the Regent and Senators left, a pro-Indonesia militia group, the Red and White Defenders Front (BMP), approached the DAP office, carrying Indonesian flags. Protesters attempted to attack them, but police quickly shot teargas. While the protesters were scrambling, the militia, armed with sharp weapons, attacked them and burnt down the DAP office while singing the Indonesian anthem, all under police and military watch. Video footage later emerged showing the police and military directing the armed militia to chase the West Papuan protesters.

During all this, the stomach of a 19 year-old West Papuan protester, MN, was slashed until his intestines spilled out. As he tried running away, there was a series of shots from the police and military, and the militia were still behind him. A friend tried to help him but he asked his friend to continue without him because he no longer had any power to stand up. The militia arrived and then beat him up, despite his condition. He was in critical condition when brought to the hospital, but he eventually survived. He had to be operated on several times throughout the year and had to seek medical treatment in Makassar, South Sulawesi province. He still has trouble defecating to this day.

Two West Papuan protesters, Isak Bahbah (25) and Patrisius Hanaba (50), were struck by bullets, causing minor injuries. They were treated in a local clinic

Police and military were still patrolling until the evening and the militia also erected a tent near the main road. Around 8pm, twelve people came to the burnt-out DAP office and torched a car. The situation in Fakfak remained tense until the end of the month when the Provincial Government held a reconciliation event.

Only West Papuans were arrested that day. Four of them were prosecuted.



Papuan Customary Council office on fire



ANTARA / Jeremias Rahadat

Timika, Papua Province

Thousands of people took to the streets under heavy military presence with rifles. Protesters occupied the local parliament building. Some vehicles and a hotel were vandalised. The crowd was later forcibly dispersed with teargas and shots. Forty-five people were arrested. Ten of them were named as suspects, but later only three were prosecuted.

Ten people who were taken into custody were ill-treated during their detention, particularly beaten with the butt of a rifle, namely: **Teryanus Madlama** (21), **Nius Wenda** (24), **Melkisedek Yobee** (16), **Yermin Gombo** (19), **Riko Waryensi** (25), **Urbanus Juka** (21), **Elly Dolame** (20), **Lanny Kogoya** (17), **Timinus Wenda** (25), and **Maikel Gombo** (20).

Nineteen other people who were injured from ill-treatment by police are:

1. **Sagintak Wasiangge**: this high-school student was kicked and beaten with rubber during arrest, ear was pointed with a gun in a police truck, spine was hit with metal at least twice before interrogation, right ear was hit with a rifle and beaten until bleeding at the police station.
2. **Robi Nirigi**: this small child, not yet of school age, was hit in the forehead in an interrogation room.
3. **Jerianus Gwijangge**: this high-school student was beaten on the head and spine.
4. **Indibirik Kamarigi**: his spine and back was repeatedly kicked with boots, and he was beaten during arrest and at the police station.
5. **Ebenus Gwijangge**: this high-school student was beaten in the back with a metal rod prior to interrogation.
6. **Rekanus Kerabea**: he was hit with the tip of a rifle in front of the police station and then with a metal rod inside the police station prior to interrogation.
7. **Meli Kerabea**: he was hit with the tip of a rifle when being forcibly removed into a police truck; his knee and ribs were kicked when arriving at the police station, and he was hit with a metal rod in the interrogation room.
8. **Kongkinus Uamang**: this high-school student was not one of the protesters, but his right eye was hit as he was being arrested.

9. **Efesus Lepi**: he was hit with the tip of a rifle and kicked and beaten during arrest.
10. **Pendi Yanengga**: he was hit with the tip of a rifle and rubber during arrest.
11. **Moni Diwita**: he was beaten during arrest.
12. **Melianus Ayomi**: he was beaten during arrest.
13. **Anius Uamang**: he was beaten until bleeding and was sent to a hospital.
14. **Damianus Anouw**: his head and back were hit with a rifle, and his right hip was kicked.
15. **Yanes Stenamun**: the left side of his head and knee were hit, nose and lips were beaten until bleeding, and his face was beaten until his right cheek was swollen.
16. **Lusia Amisim**: her right foot was shot.
17. **Wilson Hisage**: his left elbow was shot.
18. **Mama Nawipa**: her left arm was shot.
19. **Mama Gobai**: her right leg was shot.



**Manokwari, West
Papua Province**



Cirebon, West Java Province

Indonesian students held a protest, rejecting racism and demanding that racist perpetrators be brought to justice.



Maybrat, West Papua Province



Biak, West Papua Province



22 August 2019

Protests took place in three cities in West Papua, four cities in Indonesia, and in Timor-Leste. West Papuan students in Manado and Semarang were subjected to harassing surveillance by police visits to their dormitories. At this stage, 34 West Papuan protesters had been arrested, but none of the racist perpetrators in Java had.

Police in Bandung (West Java) reaffirmed their institutional racism by sending alcohol to the student protesters, as West Papuans are stigmatised as 'alcoholic'. Graffiti of solidarity messages for West Papua appeared in Solo (Central Java), Pontianak (West Kalimantan), and Manado (North Sulawesi).



Dogiyai, Papua Province



Protesters took down everything in red and white – the colours of the Indonesian flag.

Nabire, Papua Province



"The Indonesian State has long seen us as monkeys"



Dili, Timor-Leste

After holding a press conference, dozens of activists in solidarity with West Papua were arrested when marching to the Indonesian Embassy.



Jakarta, Indonesian capital city

Protesters took their shirts off and patted their chests while shouting “*We are monkeys!*” to the police and military. There was a brief clash when security forces prevented the protesters from moving towards the State Palace. The protesters were eventually able to cut through. Morning Star flags were flying and protesters performed a ‘waita’ traditional dance in front of the State Palace. The protest continued peacefully until the crowd dispersed themselves at 17.40pm.⁵⁴



Dita Alangkara/AP

54. BBC News Indonesia, ‘Unjuk Rasa Papua di Jakarta: ‘Tangkap dan adili aktor intelektual pengepungan asrama’’, 22 August 2019 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/indonesia-49431327>

Bogor, West Java Province



Bandung, West Java Province

A Papuan students' dormitory was sent two cases of vodka by police while the students were out protesting. Offended by the implicit racist slur that Papuans are 'alcoholics', the students returned the vodka.



Yahukimo, Papua Province

Thousands of people performed a 'waita' traditional dance while flying the Morning Star flags.



Salatiga, Central Java Province



Bali, Bali Province



23 August 2019

Indonesian police claimed that the West Papua National Liberation Army (Tentara Pembebasan Papua Barat / TPNPB) was moving into the town of Wamena from its forest strongholds. One freedom fighter was shot dead in Wamena.⁵⁵ Local human rights defenders reported that two police were injured in the clash.

In the Puncak regency, Indonesian security forces began to raid and attack Tegelobak village in Gome district, accusing the village of being home to the TPNPB. Civilians fled out of fear.⁵⁶

In Merauke, police prevented West Papuans from distributing leaflets about anti-racism campaigns at a local market.

West Papuan students in Bandung (West Java province) refused to meet the governor of West Java and rejected an invitation from the provincial police to have a reconciliation meal. Civil society groups in Jakarta delivered a petition to the Ministry of Communications and held a protest in front of the Ministry to demand an end to the internet shutdown in West Papua.



Human rights lawyers Jennifer Robinson and the author together filed an urgent appeal to the United Nations (UN) over the internet blocking in West Papua.⁵⁷ On 12 September, the Indonesian representative to the UN in Geneva replied to an inquiry by the UN on this, saying that the measure was taken to prevent “hoaxes that were used to incite violence in Papua”.⁵⁸

55. J. R. Purba and A. Ika, 'Kontak Senjata di Wamena, 1 Anggota KKB Dilumpuhkan TNI-Polri', 23 August 2019 <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2019/08/23/13034171/kontak-senjata-di-wamena1-anggota-kkb-dilumpuhkan-tni-polri>

56. A. Belau, 'Aparat Gabungan Dilaporkan Sedang Penyisiran di Puncak Papua', 25 August 2019 <https://suarapapua.com/2019/08/25/aparat-gabungan-dilaporkan-sedang-penyisiran-di-puncak-papua>

57. J. Robinson, 'Urgent appeal filed with UN Special Rapporteur by West Papuan journalist over internet blocking by Indonesia', 23 August 2019 <https://www.doughtystreet.co.uk/news/urgent-appeal-filed-un-special-rapporteur-west-papuan-journalist-over-internet-blocking>

58. Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations, WTO and other International Organisations in Geneva, letter of response by Ambassador/Permanent Representative Hasan Kleib, 12 September 2019 Ref. No. 133/POL-II/IX/2019 <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gld=34873>

Solidarity messages for West Papua came from Australia. The Australian Defence Force and the Royal Australian Navy in Cairns were paint-bombed by solidarity activists because they regularly conduct joint training with the Indonesian Army, and so are deemed complicit in human rights abuses in West Papua. Graffiti also appeared in Brisbane, as did a solidarity video from Alice Springs.



Solidarity actions in Cairns, Australia

Protests occurred in Sarmi in West Papua, two cities in Indonesia, and in Papua New Guinea.

Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta Province

Indonesian students held a protest, with a pun on the national motto written on a banner: *"Diversity is only words"*.



Palu, Central Sulawesi Province

Indonesians stood in front of the regional police headquarters, condemning racism and demanding fulfilment of the right to self-determination for the West Papuan people.



24 August 2019

West Papuan students across Java and Bali issued a statement refusing any reconciliation with the Indonesian Government and demanding their right to self-determination. They also rebuffed an approach from the National Human Rights Commission, saying that it had always failed to address serious abuses in West Papua.

Hundreds of West Papuans were displaced by a fresh joint security forces operation in Puncak regency. A civilian, Ginobina Tabuni (60), was burned to death in a traditional 'honai' home when Upaga village was attacked by military/police action.⁵⁹



⁵⁹ H. Yeimo, 'Korban honai terbakar di Gome diperabukan pada Minggu', 27 August 2019 <https://jubi.co.id/korban-honai-terbakar-di-gome-diperabukan-pada-minggu>

Protests took place in Papua New Guinea as well as in two cities in Indonesia, including in Kupang (East Nusa Tenggara province) where protesters were prohibited by police from shouting “Free Papua” and from wearing Morning Star motifs.

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (PNG)

The Governor of Port Moresby and the National Capital District, Powes Parkop, led a crowd of a thousand-plus rallying in support of West Papua. Some protesters burned an Indonesian flag.



Semarang, Central Java





'Free Papua' poster in Bali

25 August 2019

A student body from the largest public university in Indonesia, Universitas Indonesia, issued a statement of solidarity for West Papua. It highlighted the importance of not subscribing to blind nationalism while disregarding human rights.⁶⁰

A tribute to the West Papua Uprising was made at the Darwin Festival in Australia. Solidarity graffiti was spotted in Sydney, Australia, and also in Bali.

60. BEM FISIP UI, 'Seruan Solidaritas: Di Antara Perikemanusiaan dan Persatuan Indonesia', 15 August 2019 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zd7rDA7e34Xdz0BmaixD8vvC1FM5wL0/view>



Police visiting high school students in Pasuruan

26 August 2019

The Papua Customary Council issued a statement calling on all West Papuan students to return home and saying that the issue of racism would be brought to the UN.

More than 800 West Papuans had been displaced by a fresh joint security forces operation in Puncak regency.⁶¹

In Pasuruan (East Java province), police forced West Papuan senior high school students to be recorded reading out an Indonesian nationalist text, leaving at least one student in tears.

Protests erupted in six regencies across the highlands in West Papua, in one city in Indonesia, and in the Netherlands.

61. A. Belau, '800-an Orang Mengungsi ke Distrik Gome, Puncak Papua', 26 August 2019 <https://suarapapua.com/2019/08/26/800-an-orang-mengungsi-ke-distrik-gome-puncak-papua>

Deiyai, Papua Province

Thousands of protesters took to the streets and gathered at the office of the Regent. While one protester was giving a speech, another suddenly climbed the flagpole and raised the Morning Star. The flag flew at the Regent's office for eight hours.



Wamena, Papua Province

Thousands joined a rally, including those who had survived being displaced by the ongoing Nduga military operation that, up until then, had caused the death of 186 civilians.



Yahukimo, Papua Province

Morning Star flags were flying.



Dogiyai, Papua Province

A West Papuan public servant delivered a speech saying that he was ready to take off his uniform because so many Dogiyai residents had fallen victim to the army and police. There would be no peace with the Indonesian state, he said.



Paniai, Papua Province



Star Mountains, Papua Province



Makassar, South Sulawesi Province



The Hague, The Netherlands

Solidarity activists protested and carried out a performance outside the Indonesian Embassy.



27 August 2019

In Surabaya, West Papuan students refused to meet the Governor of Papua who had come all the way there to mediate, accusing him of being an accomplice of the Indonesian State. Instead they shouted “*Papua Merdeka*” (Free Papua) to him and his group.

Protests took place in one city in West Papua and one in Indonesia.

Bandung, West Java Province

Protesters were blockaded when heading to the West Java military headquarters.



Sorong, West Papua Province

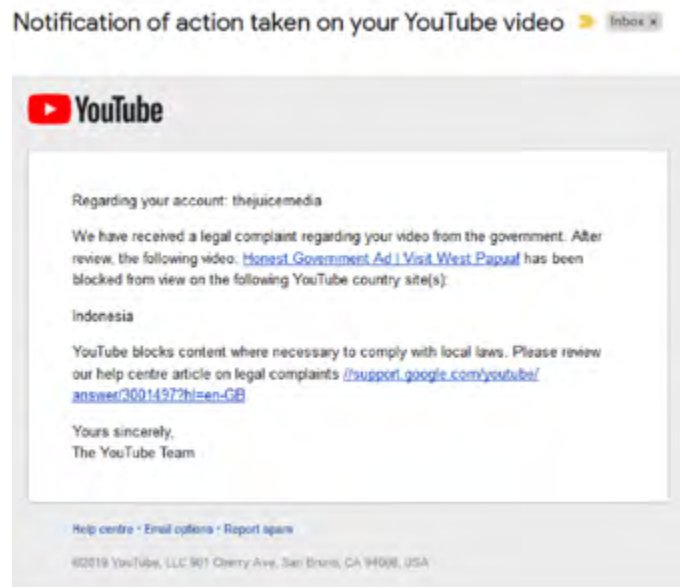
At the Mayor's office, protesters handed over an Indonesian flag to a government representative to symbolise their rejection of 'special autonomy' and all forms of compromise with Indonesia. They demanded an independence referendum.



28 August 2019

In Yogyakarta, West Papuan students refused to meet representatives of the Papuan People's Assembly who had come to visit, as a way of expressing their rejection of 'special autonomy' and any compromise.

Protests occurred in two cities in Indonesia and in one town in West Papua, and it became the second deadliest day of the Uprising.



The Indonesian military's official account on Twitter claimed that Reuters' reporting on the shootings in West Papua that day was a hoax. The Indonesian Government also asked YouTube to block a satirical 'Honest Government Ad' by the Australia-based Juice Media about West Papua from being viewed in Indonesia. Some social media accounts of West Papuan activists sharing situation updates were suspended.

Deiyai, Papua Province

According to a report by the KINGMI church, eight West Papuans and one military personnel died, while 50 West Papuans and seven Brimob paramilitary police were injured.

Thousands of people had arrived at the Regent's office in Waghete by midday. While protesters were delivering speeches in the front yard, the number of police and military present kept increasing, with additional personnel arriving from outside Deiyai.

Almost two hours later, Yustinus Takimai was standing at one corner when he was suddenly hit by a car carrying soldiers. He died instantly. Protesters who were standing nearby immediately shot at soldiers inside the cars with arrows. This incident was the trigger of the unrest that followed.

Protesters became outraged when they heard multiple gunshots. They threw rocks and shot arrows towards the security forces while shouting, *"You said that we are monkeys. Now you come to kill us too?"* The military and police replied with multiple teargas and live rounds. Many died and were injured; some others escaped to the forest.

Bodies laying in the front yard were guarded by security forces. Paramedics in an ambulance arrived at the scene an hour later, but they had to return empty-handed because security personnel scared them off, accusing them of being part of the protests. They had to walk back to the hospital which they then decided to close early.

In the afternoon, dead bodies and injured people were taken to Hospital Madi, where there are more facilities, in the neighboring Paniai regency. At this point, internet and mobile services in the area had been shut down, and the main road connecting Paniai and Deiyai was blocked by police and military. Security forces asked people to return ten weapons that had been stolen during the chaos.

The following day, extra security forces were deployed to Deiyai and Paniai. Pastor Santon Takege was threatened at gunpoint when trying to visit the hospital and those arrested. Marinus Ikomou, Derikson Adii, Hans Ukago, and Yustinus Takimai were buried in their respective home villages.

On 30 August, the bodies of Aleks Pigai, Pilemon Waine and Aminadap Kotouki were transferred back from Paniai to Deiyai, and subsequently taken to their home villages also to be buried. Nine weapons stolen from a military car were returned via the local government. Yemi Douw died from his injury in his home in Widimei village. Around midday, all motorbikes that had been left at the Regent's office because people had run away and had not been back to retrieve them, were taken to Nabire. To this day, the motorbikes have not been returned to their owners, and the total number is still unclear because police refused to answer when asked.

The next day, ten patients who were still being treated at the hospital in Paniai were taken into custody for investigation over the unrest. A further victim, Yemi Douw, was buried.

In the following week, joint security forces conducted a sweeping operation for Morning Star insignia and sharp weapons in villages. They also forced men wearing the traditional 'koteka' to put on clothes. Villagers became traumatised and were afraid to go gardening, fishing, or collecting wood.

On 2 September: Okomo village and its surroundings.

On 4 September: Diyai I and Diyai II villages. Pastor Demianus Adii was intimidated.

On 5 September: Bomou I, Bomou II, and Yaba villages.

On 6 September: villages in the Yatamo area. Pastor Ibrani Dwijangge was intimidated.

On 7 September, four more patients, still under treatment at the hospital from bad injuries, were also taken into custody for investigation. Out of a total of 14 people arrested, nine would later become political prisoners.

Civilian Victims Who Died:

1. **Yustinus Takimai** (24): During the protest, he was suddenly hit by a car driven by Indonesian soldiers. He died instantly and the incident became the trigger for further unrest. He was buried the next day.
2. **Alpius Pigai** (20): He was shot on the chest and died at the scene. He was from Desa Digibagata, West Tigo district. He was buried two days after the incident.
3. **Marinus Ikomou** (37): He was shot during the protest, managed to escape to Yaba village and later died on the same day. His family took his body and the next day buried him in Ayatei, West Tigi district, his home village.
4. **Hans Ukago** (26): He was shot in the back, fell down and died at the gate of the Regent's office. He was from Diyai village, West Tigi district, where he was buried the next day.
5. **Derikson Adii** (21): He was shot and managed to escape to Mogouda where he then fell. His corpse was picked up by his family who buried him at his home in Atouda village the next day.
6. **Pilemon Waiane** (28): He was shot in the chest and died instantly. He was from Demago village, West Tigi district, and was buried there two days later.
7. **Aminadap Kotouki** (35): He was shot in the stomach. The bullet passed through his back. He was from Bomou village, Waghete district. He died instantly and was buried two days later.
8. **Yemi Douw** (29): He was shot in the stomach but managed to go to Punyai where he died two days later. He was from Widimei village, West Tigi district. He was buried the next day.

Civilian Victims Injured:

1. **Yul Badii** (20): He was shot in his right thigh. He was from Ayatei village, West Tigi district.
2. **Bernadus Kotouki** (16): He is a student from Bomou II village, Waghete district. He was shot in the right thigh.
3. **Yohanes Adii** (47): He is a farmer from Edarotali village, East Tigi district. He was shot in the left thigh.
4. **Juven Peki** (34): He is a farmer from Widimei village, West Tigi district. He was shot through in the thigh.
5. **Simon Pakage** (29): He is a farmer from Kokobaya village, Kaporaya district. He was shot in the right arm.
6. **Samuel Edowai** (26)
7. **Gergorius Tekege** (29): He is a farmer from Okomokebo village, Waghete district. He was shot in the right back.
8. **Simon P Ukago** (27): He is a farmer from Diyai II village, West Tigi district. He was arrested during the protest and tortured in the car when being taken to the Madi hospital.
9. **Step Pigai** (26): He is a college student from Waghete II. He was arrested and taken to the hospital but tortured whilst in the vehicle.
10. **Melianus Mote** (32): He is a college student from Waghete. He was shot in the right eye.
11. **Mikael Bukega** (26): He is a farmer from Okomokebo village. He was tortured in the vehicle while being brought to the hospital.
12. **Alex Pakage** (28): He is a civil servant from Oneibo village, Waghete district. He was shot in the left thigh.
13. **Stepanus Goo** (29): He is from Jinidoba village, West Tigi district. His shot was in the left thigh.
14. **Yos Iyai** (30): He is a college student from Digibagata village, West Tigi district. He was shot in the left calf.
15. **Leander Doo** (30): He is a farmer from Watiyai village, East Tigi district. He was shot in the left thigh.
16. **Frans Nawipa** (35): He is a farmer from Watiyai village, East Tigi district. His thigh was shot with the bullet passing through to his genitalia.
17. **Yonas Kayame** (28): He is a college student from Edarotali village, East Tigi district. He was shot in the back of his waist.
18. **Elihut Pigai** (21): He is from Widuwakiya village, West Tigi district. His right thigh was shot.

19. **Yance Dawapa** (26): He is a farmer from Wagomani village, West Tigi district. He was tortured whilst being transported to the hospital. His head was beaten repeatedly with the butt of a rifle. He was unconscious when he arrived at the Intensive Care Unit.
20. **Elisabet Mote** (29): She is a student from Yaba village, Waghete district. She was shot in the stomach such that her intestine was exposed. She went home immediately after receiving first aid care at the hospital because she was scared of the number of security forces in the precinct of the hospital.
21. **Yanto Dogopia** (19): He is from Bomou I village. He was shot in his right calf and left thigh.
22. **Martinus Iyai** (30): He is a farmer from Digibagata village, West Tigi district. He was shot in both thighs, with his right thigh severely injured.
23. **Yustinus Agapa** (17): He is a pupil from Widimei village, Tigi Barat district. He was severely injured after being shot through to the middle of his right thigh.
24. **Apilin Mote** (35): She is a housewife from Yaba village, Waghete district. She was severely injured after being shot in her right thigh through to her side.
25. **Naomi Pigome** (28): She is from Digibagata village, West Tigi district. She was injured after falling into a ditch when tear-gassed.
26. **Felex Agapa** (26): He is from Widimei village, West Tigi district. His left calf was shot.
27. **Karel Kotouki** (64): He is a farmer from Widimei village, West Tigi district. He was shot in the right calf.
28. **Alex Douw** (23): He is from Widimei village, West Tigi district. His right cheek was shot.
29. **Andreas Douw** (22): He is from Widimei village, West Tigi district. He was shot in his armpit.
30. **Irarius Douw** (25): He is from Widemei, West Tigi district. He was shot in the left calf.
31. **Frengki Pekei** (24): He is from Gakobo village, West Tigi district. He was shot in the right-hand side of his back.
32. **Fenior Pekei** (12): He is a child from Yaba village, Waghete district. His right knee was hit by a bullet. He had to crawl for a couple of days to reach home.
33. **Agus Mote** (20): He is a college student from Yaba village, Waghete district. His right eye was injured.
34. **Ones Badii** (-): He is from Kogemani village, West Tigi district. He was shot in the chest.
35. **Anggel Kotouki** (20): He is from Bomou II village, Waghete district. He was shot in the chest.
36. **Domin Pakege** (25): He is from Bomiu I village, Waghete district. He was shot in the palm of his hand.
37. **Marthinus Dogopia** (21): He is from Oneibo village, Waghete district. He was shot in the thigh.
38. **Amos Pakage** (24): He is from Bomou II village, Waghete district. He was shot in the stomach.
39. **Ukago Mabipai** (20): He is from Diyai I village, Waghete district. He was shot in the right leg.
40. **Titus Giay** (24): He is from Omago II village, Waghete district. He was shot in the thigh with the bullet passing through to his back.
41. **Yufri Bobii** (21): He is from Ayatei village, Waghete district. He was shot in the right chest.
42. **Olis Pekey** (19): He is from Ayatei village, Waghete district. He was shot in the right chest.
43. **Leander Douw** (28): He is a farmer from Gakobo village. He was shot on the left side of his head.
44. **Yerino Madai** (30): He is a farmer from Dagokebo village, East Tigi district. His left leg was shot.
45. **Lidia Adii** (29): She is a housewife from Watiyai village, East Tigi district. Her left calf was shot.
46. **Paulus Adii** (29): He is a farmer from Tokeugida village, East Tigi district. He was shot in the back.
47. **Demianus Adii** (21): He is from Udaugi village, East Tigi district. Both his legs were broken when a car, driven by the soldiers that killed Yustinus Takimai, also hit him.
48. **Yulius Adii** (30): He is a farmer from Edarotali village, East Tigi district. His right calf was shot.
49. **Leander Waine** (29): He is a farmer from Wagomani village, West Tigi district. He was shot in his right armpit.
50. **Yustinus Wandagau** (22): He is a student from Waghete. A bullet went through his right arm.



Jakarta Post

Jakarta

Protesters flew Morning Star flags in front of the State Palace. Eight people were later arrested, and six of them were charged with treason for this act.



Jember, East Java Province

The Independent Journalists Alliance (AJI) issued a statement of condemnation against attempts by the Government and security forces to prevent media coverage of the Deiyai protest.

29 August 2019

A series of coordinated attacks against human rights defenders began. In Surabaya, right-wing reactionary militia protested against the Surabaya Legal Aid Institution for providing assistance to West Papuan students. For a while in the afternoon, a group of people also gathered in front of the West Papuan students' dormitory for unclear reasons.

Locals in Yahukimo reported that suspension of communications had caused confusion and concern, leading to parents keeping their children at home rather than going to school for the past week, as well as widespread fears that a security crackdown could take place without the outside world knowing.

300 extra Brimob personnel were deployed to the highlands of West Papua where the deadly clash had taken place the previous day.⁶²

Protests occurred in two cities in West Papua, with one, in Jayapura turning violent.

62. Suara.com 'Kapolri kirim pasukan ke Deiyai dan Paniai, Brimob ke Jayapura' 29 August 2019 <https://www.suara.com/news/2019/08/29/122433/kapolri-kirim-ratusan-pasukan-ke-deiyai-dan-paniai-brimob-ke-jayapura>

Yalimo, Papua Province



Jayapura, Papua Province

Thousands of people marched and brought the town to a halt. The protests, led by student groups, went off peacefully. However, in some other locations the protests turned violent.

The office of the Papuan People's Assembly, buildings near the port, vehicles, and several other public facilities were torched and damaged. The Abepura prison, where a number of West Papuan political prisoners were being held, was among the buildings damaged and burnt, with many prisoners escaping. A police station and local military chief's vehicle were also torched.⁶³ Of the 64 people arrested that day, 28 were prosecuted.



Jubi / Agus Pabika

63. D. Lestari and B. Nugraha, 'Rusuh di Jayapura, lapas dirusak dan polsek dibakar', 29 August 2019 <https://www.viva.co.id/berita/nasional/1231156-rusuh-di-jayapura-lapas-dirusak-dan-polsek-dibakar>



One West Papuan protester was hit with a rifle butt and fifteen other protesters were shot with rubber bullets, including six who had to be treated in hospital, although they were able to rejoin the protests after their wounds had been treated.⁶⁴

According to the police, four people died that day.⁶⁵ Among them was Marselino Samon (15), who was found dead from stab wounds.

Having cut off phone communications in Deiyai the previous day, the Government then did the same in Jayapura.⁶⁶ Electricity also became cut off after the cable was burnt.⁶⁷



Protesters raised the Morning Star at the Governor's office during the afternoon and continued to occupy the office until the following day.

64. B. Mawel, 'Tertembak peluru karet, 15 mahasiswa tetap bisa berunjukrasa, satu lainnya dipopor' 29 August 2019 <https://jubi.co.id/tertembak-peluru-karet-15-mahasiswa-tetap-bisa-berunjukrasa-satu-lainnya-dipopor>

65. Liputan6.com, 'Polisi ungkap empat warga tewas usai kerusuhan di Jayapura', 2 September 2019 <https://www.liputan6.com/news/read/4052511/polisi-ungkap-empat-warga-tewas-usai-kerusuhan-di-jayapura>

66. Suara.com, 'Aksi anti rasis di Jayapura memanas, pemerintah matikan telepon dan sms', 29 August 2019 <https://www.suara.com/news/2019/08/29/142135/aksi-anti-rasis-di-jayapura-memanas-pemerintah-matikan-telepon-dan-sms>

67. CNN Indonesia, 'Demo rusuh, PLN putus aliran listrik se-Jayapura', 29 August 2019 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20190829161318-20-425817/demo-rusuh-pln-putus-aliran-listrik-se-jayapura>



Militia climbing the gate at the Legal Aid Foundation (LBH) in Jakarta

30 August 2019

Human rights groups in four different cities became the targets of harassment similar to what had happened to the Legal Aid Institute in Surabaya the previous day. The offices of the Jakarta Legal Aid Institute, the Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association in Bandung, the Makassar Legal Aid Institute, and KontraS Surabaya were surrounded by right-wing reactionary militia who carried Indonesian flags and protested against the West Papua advocacy work of these organisations.



Reactionary group at the legal aid association PBHI in Bandung



Reactionary group at the office of human rights defenders KontraS in Surabaya



In Surabaya, a 'Referendum is the Solution' banner, installed outside a West Papuan students' dormitory, was paint-bombed by a number of motorcyclists.

An extra 600 Brimob personnel were deployed to Jayapura.⁶⁸ An additional 329 army⁶⁹ and 250 Brimob⁷⁰ personnel were deployed to West Papua in general.

In Jayapura, the Papuan Customary Council questioned the motive behind a closed-door meeting between military and police chiefs and ultra-nationalist militia there.⁷¹

The head of the largest Islamic militia group in Indonesia responded to media reports that the group was sending personnel to West Papua, by saying *"the said 2,000 personnel are part of 5,000 members who are already in West Papua. ... there is no deployment from outside West Papua. ... They are ready to assist the military if needed to calm the situation."*⁷²

In Jakarta, West Papuan students Charles Kossay and Dano Tabuni were arrested for treason. Other students called for their release, saying *"Papuan monkeys from Sorong to Samarai are ready to fill the colonial prison"*.

68. Tim Detikcom - Detiknews, 'Demo berujung rusuh, 600 Brimob dari Kaltim dikirim ke Jayapura', 29 August 2019 <https://news.detik.com/berita/d-4686297/demo-berujung-rusuh-600-brimob-dari-kaltim-dikirim-ke-jayapura>

69. R. Ratumakin, 'Ratusan Kostrad dan Marinir didatangkan ke Papua', 31 August 2019 <https://jubi.co.id/ratusan-kostrad-dan-marinir-didatangkan-ke-papua>

70. iNews.id, 'Bantu pengamanan kerusuhan Papua, Polda Kalbar kirim 250 Brimob', 30 August 2019 <https://www.inews.id/multimedia/photo/bantu-pengamanan-kerusuhan-papua-polda-kalbar-kirim-250-brimob>

71. E. Wally 'DAP wilayah Mamta-Tabi pertanyakan pertemuan Kapolri dan Panglima TNI dengan Barisan Merah Putih', 30 August 2019 <https://jubi.co.id/dap-wilayah-mamta-tabi-pertanyakan-pertemuan-kapolri-dan-panglima-tni-dengan-barisan-merah-putih>

72. E. Dimedjo, 'Gus Yaqut: Tidak ada pengiriman Banser NU ke Papua', 30 August 2019 <https://www.tagar.id/gus-yaqut-tidak-ada-pengiriman-banser-nu-ke-papua>



Jayapura, Papua Province

Protests took place in Jayapura over two consecutive days. People had been occupying the Governor's office to demand an independence referendum, and the Morning Star had been raised.

Migrant civil militias named Paguyuban Nusantara, with sharp and blunt weapons, were sweeping West Papuans in Entrop and near Youtefa market areas. Cars with unopened windows had rocks thrown at them. West Papuans had also been chased by civil militias in the Entrop area the previous day.

On the same day, civil militia broke into a car and forced eight West Papuans inside it to get out. They then slashed, stabbed, and almost killed them. One was in a critical condition.



he body of Oktovianus Mote (21) was covered with wounds when found. Evertin Mofu (21) was stabbed to death in front of the local Parliament and became the only case where the killers were prosecuted.

At 11am, the Regent approached the militias, asking them to not block the road and stop sweeping, but they refused.

Rumours and fears were spreading fast in the city due to the suspension of communications, but no-one was able to verify any information. The thousand-plus protesters at the Governor's office were now trapped inside because they did not want to clash with the militias. They reiterated that they did not want to fight Indonesian people; they were fighting against the colonial system. Protesters waited for the police Chief and West Papuan Senators to evacuate them.

31 August 2019

Overnight in Jakarta, more than a hundred West Papuan students surrendered themselves to the police in solidarity with their friends already arrested elsewhere. Meanwhile, Ambrosius Mulait and Isay Wenda were arrested while protesting in solidarity.



Police came to a West Papuan students' dormitory in Jakarta, arresting three students. Elsewhere, the spokesperson for the Indonesian People's Alliance for West Papua (FRI-WP) was also arrested. Of six people arrested that day, four were charged with treason and two others were released.

Chief Security Minister Wiranto, when asked about the casualties in West Papua, replied, "*It's up to us to announce the number of victims or not.*"⁷³

73. Ihsanuddin, 'Wiranto: Terserah kita mau umumkan jumlah korban atau tidak', 30 August 2019 <https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2019/08/30/21424651/wiranto-terserah-kita-mau-umumkan-jumlah-korban-atau-tidak>

Medan, North Sumatra Province



An Indonesian leading the march



Yogyakarta,
Yogyakarta
Province

"I, an Indonesian person, support Free West Papua"



1 September 2019

In Jayapura, a West Papuan students' dormitory was attacked by armed militia at dawn. Security forces came to intervene, but in video footage they were seen standing by while the militia attacked. Mikael Kareth (28), a bystander, was shot when he was checking what was happening. He was taken to hospital but did not survive. He was an indigenous West Papuan studying at Universitas Cenderawasih. His body arrived in his hometown Sorong on 4 September. Another victim, Sisilia (19), was shot as she tried to run to safety from the clash. In total, one of the two West Papuans shot dead, and a further 28 people were injured.⁷⁴

74. A. Flassy, 'Bentrokan antar warga terjadi, pemerintah diminta percepat proses rekonsiliasi', 1 September 2019 <https://jubi.co.id/bentrokan-antar-warga-terjadi-pemerintah-diminta-percepat-proses-rekonsiliasi/>

Meanwhile in Yahukimo, two public schools were burnt down. A local government spokesperson stated that the situation was tense because many rumours were spreading.⁷⁵

The national Police Chief announced that 6,000 military and police personnel had been deployed to West Papua, including with planes and helicopters. "If it's not enough, we'll add more. The Military Chief and I have committed to add more if required, until the situation is secure", he is reported as saying.⁷⁶

2 September 2019

The national Police Chief ordered police in West Papua to ban demonstrations.⁷⁷

A raid and attack by Indonesian security forces in Puncak regency resulted in three civilian deaths and the displacement of 1,500 people.⁷⁸

Sayang Mandabayan was arrested in the Manokwari airport for carrying small Morning Star flags, and charged with treason.

Bandung, West Java Province

An ultra-nationalist group counter-protested.



75. R. Kabak, 'Kota Dekai mencekam, Pemkab Yahukimo akan buat tim besar', 1 September 2019 <https://suarapapua.com/2019/09/01/kota-dekai-mencekam-pemkab-yahukimo-akan-buat-tim-besar>

76. M. Y. Manurung and J. Sugiharto, 'Papua digerojok 6 ribu pasukan, Kapolri: kalau kurang saya tambah', 1 September 2019 <https://nasional.tempo.co/read/1242516/papua-digerojok-6-ribu-pasukan-kapolri-kalau-kurang-saya-tambah>

77. CNN Indonesia, 'Kapolri perintahkan Kapolda Papua dan Papua Barat larang demo', 1 September 2019 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20190901131402-12-426533/kapolri-perintahkan-kapolda-papua-dan-papua-barat-larang-demo>

78. H. Yeimo, 'Jumlah pengungsi di distrik Gome terus bertambah', 2 September 2019 https://jubi.co.id/jumlah-pengungsi-di-distrik-gome-terus-bertambah/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=facebook

3 September 2019

Manokwari, West Papua Province

A protest took place despite the heavy presence of police and military. Protesters were blocked from marching. They held a Morning Star flag ceremony while singing the West Papuan anthem in the middle of the road. Three students were arrested over the following days for treason.



4 September 2019

Police announced that 68 protesters across West Papua had been charged for damaging property.⁷⁹ At that time, no-one had yet been charged for injuring or taking the lives of any West Papuans over the previous fortnight.



Arrestees in police trucks

In Merauke, 36 West Papuans were arrested for distributing leaflets on fighting racism: Aris Pasim, Teodorus Pasim, Martinus Pasim, Martinus Yumame, Prano Pasim, Berabas Pasim, Januarius Jebo, Predinandus Pasim, Belasius Pasim, Basilius Boy, Saverius Samogoi, Tolik Erro, Kanisius Sedap, Sangko Sedap, Hironimus Sirmi, Morisius Sedap, Pilatus Pasim, Pilatus Kaitok, Sebedius Jebo, Didimus Erro, Tobias Sirmi, Dominikus

⁷⁹ CNN Indonesia, 'Polisi tetapkan 68 tersangka kerusuhan di Papua', 3 September 2019 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20190903150108-20-427149/polisi-tetapkan-68-tersangka-kerusuhan-di-papua>

Jupjo, Yeremias Sirmi, Marianus Jupjo, Benediktus Yenakap, Salerus Kamogou, Felisianus Kamogou, Palerus Anggoyom, Meki Jebo, Kristianus Tesagai, Ernes Samogoi, Marius Kateng, Manuel Metemko, Selestinus Sedap, Pilominus Sedap, and one unknown person.

They were released the following day at 4.30pm, after being forced to sign a statement that their campaign was a provocation and they would not engage in any similar activities in the future.

Human rights lawyer Veronica Koman was named by police in Surabaya as a suspect for spreading hoaxes and inciting riots. The Indonesian police sought assistance from Interpol.

5 September 2019

National Police Chief Tito Karnavian announced that the pro-referendum groups ULMWP, KNPB, and AMP, were masterminds behind the Uprising.⁸⁰

In Manokwari, three West Papuan students were arrested.

West Papuan and Indonesian students took to the streets in Yogyakarta.

6 September 2019

Protests took place in Bali and in Manokwari, West Papua.

Student leaders Ferry Gombo and Alexander Gobai were arrested in Jayapura for treason.

9 September 2019

In Surabaya, the West Papuan students were still sleeping in the front yard of their dormitory because the inside still smelt of teargas from the 17 August incident. At 4am, four people on two motorbikes threw two bags of snakes into the dormitory area. One bag contained a large snake, and the other contained three smaller snakes which were feared to be poisonous. The latter escaped into the dormitory and had still not been found at the time of writing. Police asked Jakarta-based media Tirto to not cover this snake incident.⁸¹

West Papuan students at a number of high schools in Java and elsewhere were visited by security forces. In some cases, they were required to take part in events designed to give the public the impression that they felt safe.

Hundreds of students studying across Indonesia returned to West Papua. In interviews, some said they felt intimidated by security forces, from frequent visits or because they were forced to make pro-Indonesia statements.⁸²

80. CNN Indonesia, 'Kapalri: Benny Wenda, ULMWP dan KNPB Ada di Balik Rusuh Papua', 5 September 2019 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20190905142439-20-427817/kapolri-benny-wenda-ulmwp-dan-knpb-ada-di-balik-rusuh-papua>

81. A. Briantika, 'Polisi minta pelemparan ular asrama mahasiswa Papua tak diberitakan', 9 September 2019 <https://tirto.id/polisi-minta-pelemparan-ular-asrama-mahasiswa-papua-tak-diberitakan-ehLQ>

82. I. N. Arifah, 'Ratusan mahasiswa Papua tinggalkan kuliah karena mengaku diintimidasi', 9 September 2019 <https://www.abc.net.au/indonesian/2019-09-09/ratusan-pelajar-dan-mahasiswa-papua-pulang-karena-intimidasi/11490862>

Nduga, Papua Province

Despite still being under a military operation, the people in Nduga took to the streets.



10 September 2019

Thousands of people rallied in solidarity in Port Moresby, PNG.

11 September 2019

In Jayapura, activist Stevanus Itlay and students Hengky Hilapok and Irwanus Uropmabin were arrested for treason. Activists Nusman Kogoya and Awen Wenda were briefly arrested

Manokwari, West Papua Province

Students symbolically closed Universitas Papua, the biggest university in the province. They also opened an emergency post to greet West Papuan students returning from Java and elsewhere.



12 September 2019

Yapen, West Papua Province

A letter notifying the police of a planned protest against racism and for self-determination was rejected by the police. More than sixty people signed a statement that they would not recognise the police's rejection letter and would take to the streets anyway on 16 September. When the group delivered the signed statement to the police station, three people (SA, AR, PM) were briefly arrested for questioning.



14 September 2019

In Jayapura, West Papuans reported feeling intimidated and uncomfortable while going about their daily activities by the continuous patrols by fully-armed Brimob police, including in residential areas. An armoured personnel carrier entered the STFT Fajar Timur university there.



Armoured personnel carrier at the STFT Fajar Timur University

16 September 2019

Yapen, West Papua Province

A combined force of military and police dispersed a peaceful protest and briefly arrested Edison Kendi (49), Ayub Rawai (30), and Patric Maay (37).



Yahukimo, Papua Province

Thousands of protesters flew Morning Star flags.



17 September 2019

There was a clash between the West Papua National Liberation Army and joint security forces in Puncak regency. The Regent announced his regret for a raid by security forces which resulted in civilian casualties: 3 shot dead and 4 others injured.⁸³

The Global Pan-Africanism Network issued a statement of solidarity with West Papua.

In Jayapura, activist Agus Kossay was arrested for treason. His travel companion, Donny Itlay, was also arrested on fabricated charges. His travel companion, Donny Itlay, was also arrested on fabricated charges.

The Uprising protest started to include a call for the release of political prisoners arrested that month.

83. D. Suwandi, 'Kontak senjata KKB dengan TNI Polri, 3 warga tewas, 4 terluka', 18 September 2019 <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2019/09/18/15375201/kontak-senjata-kkb-dengan-tni-polri-3-warga-tewas-4-terluka>

Bandung, West Java Province



18 September 2019

In Nabire, the University of Satya Wiyata Mandala was surrounded by police in the morning while the Student Council was holding a meeting about the return of West Papuan students from Java and elsewhere.

In Geneva, seven international NGOs delivered an oral intervention about the human rights situation in West Papua at the General Debate of the 42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council.

Besides Sorong, protests also took place in seven cities across Indonesia to demand the release of political prisoners arrested during the Uprising so far: Jakarta, Yogyakarta, Ternate (North Maluku province), Ambon (Maluku province), Minahasa (North Sulawesi province), Makassar (South Sulawesi province), and Palu (Central Sulawesi province).

Sorong, West Papua Province

Hundreds of Brimob and military attended a protest involving just a few dozen people. The demonstration was forcibly dispersed at around 11.20am and 14 people were arrested. Ten of them were arrested and held for a day, including Joni Bame, Yheskel Kalasuat, Dolfo Nauw, Abit Yewen, and Yohanis Bame; while Yoseph Syufi, Rianto Ruruk, Manase Baho, and Miwak Kareth were charged with treason.



19 September 2019

In Jayapura, police put a cordon around the secretariat of a non-violent group, the West Papua National Committee (KNPB).

In Yogyakarta, West Papuan students campaigned against racism and for self-determination during a soccer match, while collecting donations to combat the impact of forest fires in Borneo and Sumatra.



In Timika, security forces dispersed a gathering of people welcoming West Papuan students back from Java and elsewhere, including a traditional feast 'bakar batu'. Security forces took over the stage and field of the event saying, "It is not permitted to hold mass gatherings like this in Timika". An emergency post to welcome and support West Papuan students coming back from Java and elsewhere was destroyed by security forces. Twenty-three students were arrested for a day: Yesaya Gobay, Kevin Tabuni, Ronal Tebai, Hosea Pigome, Andi Waine, Nando Edowai, Dendi Payokwa, Henki Yikim, Matias Walela, Ross Koga, Stela Tebai, Noviska Koga, Antinius Wenda (injured), Samuel Yobe, Herman Magal, Berto Yobee, Ardi Murib, Ishak Kadepa, Ongenjep Kogaa, Oskar Kamawoko, Dinus Kiwak, Ariel Nugroko, and Jhoni Jangkup. A staff member of the LEMASA (the Amungme Tribal Council) was also arrested.





Salam Papua

Also in Timika, the local police chief repainted the tomb of freedom fighter Kelly Kwalik with Indonesia's red and white colours. It had originally been painted with a Morning Star motif. Two people would later be arrested for criticising these two incidents on Facebook.⁸⁴

Manokwari, West Papua Province

People who had gathered at the Papua Customary Council's office for a rally were prevented from marching. Septi Meidogda, the coordinator of the rally, had been under arrest since the previous day.

Students Erik Aliknoe, Thomas Syufi (23) and MW (22) were arrested for treason.



⁸⁴ A. Fatma, 'Hina Kapolres di Facebook, Dua Warga Mimika Terancam Enam Tahun Penjara', 1 October 2019 https://seputarpapua.com/view/8670-hina_kapolres_di_facebook_dua_warga_mimika_terancam_enam_tahun_penjara.html

20 September 2019

Student Pende Mirin was arrested in Manokwari for treason.

21 September 2019

Student Yunus Aliknoe was arrested in Manokwari for treason.

23 September 2019

This day marked the deadliest day of the Uprising. There were at least 46 people killed and 148 injured in Wamena and Jayapura, also leading to mass displacement.

Wamena, Papua Province



"Stop racism in Papua. We are not monkeys."

An award-winning joint investigation by the Jakarta Post, Jayapura-based Jubi, and Jakarta-based Tirto reported that at least 42 people died that day. Meanwhile, the official list from the Government totaled just 33. The data from the Government also failed to mention that they died from gunshot wounds.

The total number of people injured is unknown, as West Papuans had become too afraid to seek medical treatment at hospitals, because many were then arrested there. Many West Papuans avoided going to hospitals due to the high number of security forces guarding them. The official number from the Government of those injured is 77.⁸⁵

The chronology below is a summary from the joint investigation, which is the most comprehensive independent report available on this case.⁸⁶ The author has added several minor details and photos based on her own monitoring.

It started with another racist slur. On 18 September 2019, an Indonesian school teacher had called a West Papuan student a 'monkey'. The school had tried to resolve the matter over the week that followed but failed to do so.

On Monday morning, 23 September, hundreds of senior high school children marched across Wamena. In video footage of the rally, before the chaos began, some junior high schoolers and several elementary school children were also seen at the rally. They condemned racism and shouted "*Papua Merdeka*".

The protest turned violent after Kellon Tabuni, a student who had recently returned from Manado, was shot dead by security forces.

One of many high school students injured from dispersal by security forces.

85. D. Halim, 'Rusuh di Wamena, Polri: 23 meninggal dunia dan 77 orang luka-luka', 24 September 2019 <https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2019/09/24/13075211/rusuh-di-wamena-polri-23-meninggal-dunia-dan-77-orang-luka-luka>

86. V. Mambor and S. Bachyul, 'Wamena investigation: What the government is not telling us', 26 November 2019. '<https://www.thejakartapost.com/longform/2019/11/26/wamena-investigation-what-the-government-is-not-telling-us.html>



One of many high school students injured from dispersal by security forces



Heroic stories and photos of West Papuans shielding and helping the migrants to safety later emerged. According to locals, both West Papuans and migrants, they did not recognise any of the faces of the rioters. Since it is a small town, this is likely to mean that the rioters came from outside Wamena. Who they actually were remains unanswered to this day.



The following week was tense as Wamena became highly militarised. Armed migrants guarded their houses and walked the streets, “*carrying machetes and iron sticks*”.⁸⁷ Eleven thousand people fled the city.⁸⁸ The migrants were helped by the Government with either temporary shelter or return back to their hometowns outside West Papua. Many West Papuans, an undocumented number, also sought refuge in nearby villages or forests.

In November, a West Papuan legislator said that many students were not back at high school because they were worried about being arrested and named as suspects as some of their friends had been, while the main actors behind the riot had not been identified.⁸⁹ Reported in mid January 2020,⁹⁰ in one school, 82 students had resigned and transferred to other schools, possibly outside Wamena. Meanwhile, in another school, only a quarter of students had resumed going to school.

Of the 20 West Papuans arrested in the following days up to November 2019 for this incident, 18 were prosecuted.

The names of 17 West Papuans who died from gunshot wounds are taken from the joint investigation report and the Papua Customary Council: Ketron Kogoya, Eles Himan, Yus Asso,

87. K. Lamb et al., ‘I feel like I’m dying’: West Papua witnesses recount horror of police shootings, 27 September 2019 <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/sep/28/i-feel-like-im-dying-west-papua-witnesses-unrest-indonesia-police>

88. CNN Indonesia, ‘11 Ribu Orang Tinggalkan Wamena Pasca kerusuhan’, 3 October 2020 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20191003101343-20-436293/11-ribu-orang-tinggalkan-wamena-pascakerusuhan>

89. A. Pademme, ‘Legislator Papua: Siswa SMA di Wamena tak sekolah, khawatir ditangkap’, 3 November 2019 <https://jubi.co.id/legislator-papua-siswa-sma-di-wamena-tak-sekolah-khawatir-ditangkap/>

90. I. Adisubrata, ‘Sebanyak 82 siswa SMA Negeri 1 Wamena pindah sekolah’, 13 January 2020 <https://jubi.co.id/sebanyak-82-siswa-sma-negeri-1-wamena-pindah-sekolah/>

Nison Lokbere, Marius Wenda, Manu Meage, Elakim Wetapo, Gestanus Hisage, Kelion Tabuni, Naligi Wenda, Lawan Hesegeg, Nisaba Himan, Inius Tabuni, Beam Wenda, Naligin Yikwa, Wenas Babingga, and Yandrik Wenda.

Families brought their bodies home, some directly from the site, to be cremated.

Some of the names of 25 migrants who died from being burnt inside buildings or stabbings were released by police and reported by the Kompas newspaper:⁹¹ Muh Subhan, Yohanis Karangan, Sofyan, Rahul, Riski, Anto, Yapet, Hendra, Linda, Ibnu, Yoga, Iwan, Rustam, Irma, Ilmi, Erwin, Untung, Bambang, dr. Soeko Masetyo, Ari Nurdani, Risda, and Yunus Todingbua.

Jayapura, Papua Province

Students at Universitas Cenderawasih were striking and launching an emergency post to welcome students returning from Java and elsewhere. Hundreds of police and military surrounded the university and dispersed them with excessive force. Three local journalists, Benny Mawel, Hengky Yeimo, and Ardi Bayage, were intimidated and prevented from covering the incident.

Hundreds of students were subjected to degrading behaviour while being held inside the university.



91 R. Purba, 'Daftar Nama 31 Korban Tewas Kerusuhan Wamena', 26 August 2019 <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2019/09/26/15401191/daftar-nama-31-korban-tewas-kerusuhan-wamena>

One soldier died, while four West Papuan students were shot dead :



Very Murib: born in Jugu on 1 July 1996, he was in his second final semester studying sociology and politics at the University of Sam Ratulangi in Manado, Sulawesi. He went home to West Papua to join the strike with other students, where he was shot dead.

Ason Mujizau: born in Joambili on 14 May 1999, he had been active in the struggle for independence since high school and had been arrested several times. He had just started his first semester in electrical engineering at Universitas Cenderawasih in Jayapura when he was shot dead. His left leg was also broken and he sustained other bleeding wounds.



Hermanus Wosareak: born in Tawelma on 4 August 2003, he was in his second year of senior high school when he was shot dead. He was the first child of six. His parents are farmers in Kenyam, Nduga regency. He had moved to Jayapura to study to pursue his dream of becoming a teacher for his village.

Otier Wenda: he was studying at universitas Trunojoyo in Madura, and had returned to West Papua to join the strike with other students when he was shot dead.



The excessive use of force also injured 70 others, namely:

1. **Seripen Wasiangge** (15): hit on the left leg
2. **Lagios Gwijangge** (19): minor injuries
3. **Intanus Gwijangge** (20): hit on the back of arm
4. **Lamananus Kogoya** (19): minor injuries
5. **Dolias Gwijangge** (18): minor injuries
6. **Elies Wenda** (23): minor injuries at the waist area
7. **Emon Tabuni** (19): minor injuries on the head
8. **Andianus Wasiangge** (23): minor injuries
9. **Samuel Elopere** (23): minor injuries on the head
10. **Ney Gwijangge** (15): minor injuries on the hand
11. **Neba Gwijangge** (15): injuries on the spine
12. **Jefri Tabuni** (18): injuries on the ear
13. **Ebenut Nimingge** (17): injuries on the head and the back
14. **Salita Karunggu** (20): hit on the elbow
15. **Engedalak Gwijangge** (24): hit 3 times on the leg and thorax
16. **Janus Yelipele** (18): hit on the thigh, knee and ears, nicked on the calf by a bullet
17. **Nerko** (20): hit on the ear and the back with stick
18. **Timius Gwijangge** (22): kicked repeatedly on the nose and ribs with military boots and rubber whip
19. **Jiro Arabo** (24): hit repeatedly with rubber whip
20. **Betna Kogoya** (18): stamped on and tear gassed
21. **Osita Gwijangge** (17): stamped on, tear gassed and arms slammed into a wall
22. **Erento Kogoya** (17): hit by rubber whip on the neck and back
23. **Jeminus Nimiangge** (22): kicked on the ribs with military boots and hit with rubber whip on the back
24. **Imanus Gwijangge** (15): hit repeatedly on the ribs with rubber whip and kicked on the mouth
25. **Rdin Tabuni** (15): hit repeatedly on the back with rubber whip, kicked on the stomach, hit with a bar on the head
26. **Rantinus Ubruangge** (21): hit on the head, back, thigh with rubber whip, kicked with military boots
27. **Jini Tabuni** (19): hit on the back repeatedly with rubber whip, kicked on the head affecting his cerebellum
28. **Ilem Kogoya** (22): hit repeatedly on the back and head with rubber whip and kicked with military boots
29. **Sena Gwijangge** (19): kicked on the back
30. **Ndince Lokbere** (19): kicked on the back
31. **Anni Unve** (19): kicked and tear gassed
32. **Atena Libid** (19): kicked and tear gassed
33. **Yepri Tabuni** (21): hit on the back with rubber whip, kicked and stamped with military boots
34. **Weko Kogoya** (24): hit on the back with rattan whip, kicked on the head, the eyes, the ribs, hit with the butt of rifle
35. **Inta Gwijangge** (24): kicked and tear gassed
36. **Timanus Gwijangge** (15): kicked on the stomach
37. **Yemi Murib** (16): hit on the back of head (severely injured)
38. **Andikece Lokobere** (19)
39. **Maike Tabuni** (22): severely injured on the head from being hit, tear gassed
40. **Intanus Gwijangge** (24): hit on the body and head
41. **Seras Tabuni** (18): hit 3 times on the back
42. **Eme Kelmea**: hit on the back
43. **Tatos Telenggen**: hit severely on the head and back
44. **Ilipus Gwijangge**: light injury on the head from being hit, kicked on the knee
45. **Nosmir**: hit with rubber whip on the back
46. **Nesal Gwijangge**: hit on the back

47. **Roby Mijele:** severely injured on right arm after being hit by rubber bullet
48. **Tilvons Libid:** hit on the back and legs
49. **Robert Gwijangge:** severely injured by being hit on the thorax
50. **Joince Wanimbo:** lightly injured from being hit
51. **Judimince Gwijangge:** lightly hit on the head
52. **Matius Karunga:** hit and kicked on right thigh
53. **Pelentinus Tabuni:** severely hit on the head and back
54. **Nebon Kogoya:** severely hit on the waist
55. **Fanya Gwijangge:** hit by rubber bullet on right arm
56. **Pison Kogoya:** severely injured from being hit with rubber whip on the head and back
57. **Minget Nirigi:** hit with rubber whip on the back
58. **Seri Gwijangge:** hit with rubber whip on the head and kicked on the face and knee
59. **Wenebot Kogoya:** hit on the back
60. **Atenus Lokbere:** hit on the face and back
61. **Carles Gwijangge:** lightly injured from being hit
62. **Boaz Murib:** hit on the head and the back
63. **Pinus Nirigi:** hit on the back
64. **Ranus Gwijangge:** hit with rubber whip on the back and kicked on right thigh
65. **Elami Gwijangge:** kicked on the back and hit on the front
66. **Gibson Kogoya:** severely injured from being hit by rubber whip
67. **Nilem Kogoya:** hit by rubber whip on the head and back
68. **Lus Kogoya:** hit on the back
69. **Niki Gwijangge:** hit on the back and legs
70. **Jekson Tabuni:** hit on the back and face

Meanwhile, 733 West Papuans were arrested and released again at 2.30pm local time the following day. Four female students fainted after being released. However, a further thirteen remained in custody, including: Assa Asso, Yogi Wenda, Jembrif Kogoya, Abraham Dote, Elimus Bayage, and Yandu Kogoya.



24 September 2019

Tens of thousands of Indonesians took to the streets to reject bad laws and support other progressive issues. One of the seven demands was: *“Stop militarism in Papua and other areas, immediately release Papuan political prisoners!”*.

In Yalimo (Papua province), the Regent’s office was burnt down by unknown people in the evening, apparently triggered by issues to do with scholarships promised by the local government.

25 September 2019

In Jayapura, hundreds of university and high school students took part in the funeral procession of Yery Murib (23) and Hermanus Wesareak (17), who had been shot dead by security forces on 23 September. Their coffins were covered with Morning Star flags.

In Timika, due to trauma, some school students panicked and ran away when security forces visited a school to give a talk.

26 September 2019

In Intan Jaya, the hometown of Ason Mujizau (20) who was shot dead on 23 September in Jayapura, hundreds of people took part in the funeral procession when his body arrived at the airport.



In Oksibil, 150 shops, including some residents' houses, were burnt down.⁹² Six people were later arrested and charged.



92. C. S. Budi (ed.) '4 Fakta Kerusuhan di Oksibil, 150 Kios Terbakar hingga Situasi Sudah Kondusif', 27 September 2019 <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2019/09/27/15512571/4-fakta-kerusuhan-di-oksibil-150-kios-terbakar-hingga-situasi-sudah-kondusif>

In Manokwari, a prominent West Papuan human rights lawyer, Yan Warinussy, who was representing students charged with treason, was summoned by police. While in Jakarta, a prominent documentary maker and journalist Dandhy Laksono was briefly arrested over a tweet he made about West Papua.

Some photos of armed Brimob personnel patrolling inside Universitas Cenderawasih and residential areas in Jayapura emerged.



27 September 2019

Protests in Dili, Timor-Leste, and in Yogyakarta in Java included the demand to free those arrested so far.

Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta Province



30 September 2019

"Ilaga of Puncak is on top alert" was the headline of the biggest local newspaper in West Papua that day. The armed conflict between the Indonesian security forces and the West Papua National Liberation Army had intensified to such an extent that the Regent had expressed his concern for the safety of civilians.

A demonstration in Merauke marked the last protest of the Uprising. Protesters condemned racism and demanded help for West Papuan students studying in Java and elsewhere, who were being intimidated, to return to their homeland.



ANNEX 3

LIST OF INDONESIANS PROSECUTED

Indonesians were prosecuted for committing racism and violence towards West Papuans relating to only two incidents: the racist incident in Surabaya that triggered the Uprising, and the killing of Evertin Mofu in Jayapura. Most West Papuans expressed dissatisfaction with the result of the former, while the family of Evertin Mofu felt a sense of injustice on hearing the verdicts.⁹³ In total, only five soldiers were investigated and seven civilians prosecuted, and no police have been investigated at all.

Surabaya, East Java Province

For the hate speech and racist persecution of West Papuan students on 16 August 2019 that triggered the Uprising:

Five soldiers from Tambaksari Military Subdistrict Command (Koramil) 0831/02, including the Chief N. H. Irianto, were suspended temporarily on 26 August 2019 – the eighth day of the Uprising – because their actions did not reflect ‘persuasive social communication’. Two of the five allegedly violated Article 103 of the Military Criminal Code on disobeying orders and were to be investigated under the military court.⁹⁴ The results and names of the soldiers, except for the Chief’s name, have never been made public. It was also unclear how long the temporary suspension was. The military refused to investigate its members for racist allegations, and shifted the burden to the police to investigate who it was who shouted the racial slurs.⁹⁵

A search on the online Verdicts Directory of Surabaya Military Court III-12 found only one soldier relating to this case was ever tried. In a verdict with registry number 17–K/PM.III-12/AD/I/2020 delivered in 2020,⁹⁶ Sergeant Two Unang Rohana was found guilty of “deliberately disobeying an official order” as stipulated under Article 103 Section (1) of the Military Criminal Code, because he as a soldier confronted the West Papuan students while police officers were also present. He was sentenced to two months probation, meaning he did not have to go to jail unless there was another court verdict that he was guilty of some other crime or discipline violation in a period of four months.

Subsequently, three Indonesian civilians were arrested and later found guilty by the District Court in Surabaya:

Tri Susanti was arrested on 3 September 2019.⁹⁷ She was a member of the Communications Forum

93. A. Flassy, ‘Pembunuh Evertin Mofu dihukum 3 tahun penjara, keluarga korban kecewa’, 18 February 2020 <https://jubi.co.id/pembunuh-evertin-mofu-dihukum-3-tahun-penjara-keluarga-korban-kecewa/>

94. BBC Indonesia, ‘Mengapa dua prajurit TNI dikenai pasal indisipliner dan bukan tuduhan rasialis?’, 29 August 2019 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/indonesia-49506886>

95. A. P. Taher, ‘5 Anggota TNI Diskors Terkait Insiden Asrama Papua Surabaya’, 26 August 2019. <https://tirto.id/5-anggota-tni-diskors-terkait-insiden-asrama-papua-surabaya-egZ5>

96. Pengadilan Militer III-12 Surabaya, Direktori Putusan Dilmil III-12 Surabaya 17–K/PM.III-12/AD/I/2020, 28 January 2020 <http://putusan.dilmil-surabaya.go.id/typography-mainmenu-27.html>

97. CNN Indonesia, ‘Tri Susanti dan ASN Tersangka Rasial Asrama Papua Ditahan’, 3 September 2019 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20190903135655-12-427124/tri-susanti-dan-asn-tersangka-rasial-asrama-papua->

of Children of Retired Military and Police (*Forum Komunikasi Putra-Putri Purnawirawan TNI/POLRI/FKPPI*), but was suspended from it over this case. She had helped to gather the mob outside the dormitory by broadcasting messages saying that West Papuan students had torn down the flag and broken the flagpole, and were fighting back with sharp weapons. Prosecutors sought one year jail. On 3 February 2020, she was found guilty of broadcasting a hoax that caused public unrest. She was sentenced to seven months imprisonment for violating Article 14 section (1) of Law Number 1 Year 1946 regarding Criminal Law.⁹⁸

Syamsul Arifin was arrested on 3 September 2019, along with Tri Susanti.⁹⁹ A civil servant at Surabaya City Council, he was recorded in a viral video shouting 'Monkeys' at the West Papuan students. Prosecutors sought eight months jail. He was found guilty of hate speech under Article 16 of Law No. 40 Year 2008 regarding The Elimination of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination. He was sentenced to five months imprisonment on 30 January 2020. He walked free on the day of the verdict because he had already spent five months in custody.¹⁰⁰

Andria Adiansyah (26) was arrested on 5 September 2019 for broadcasting a hoax.¹⁰¹ The Youtuber posted an old video from 17 July 2016, as if it was the incident taking place on 16 August 2019, with the title "Rejecting the Red and White Flag, Papuan Dormitory Charged by Residents". Prosecutors sought a year imprisonment for him. He was sentenced to ten months jail on 3 February 2020 for violating Article 15 of Law No. 1 Year 1946 regarding Criminal Law.

Jayapura, Papua Province

For the killing of an indigenous West Papuan named Evertin Mofu on 30 August 2019:

Nasrul (18) and Irwan (18) were arrested on 18 September 2019. The District Court in Jayapura found them guilty of jointly using force causing death as stipulated in Article 170 section (2) number 3 of the Indonesian Criminal Code. They were sentenced to three years' jail on 18 February 2020. Both submitted their appeal on 24 February. The Court of Appeal upheld the District's Court's decision on 30 April 2020.

MGR (16) and AI (17) were also arrested on 18 September 2019. The District Court in Jayapura, acting as a Juvenile Court, found them guilty of jointly using force, causing death, as stipulated in Article 170 Section (2) Number 3 of the Indonesian Criminal Code. They were sentenced to eleven months' jail on 28 November 2020.

ditahan

98. A. Baihaqi, 'Mak Susi Terdakwa Kasus Rasisme Mahasiswa Papua Divonis 7 Bulan Penjara', 3 February 2020 <https://news.detik.com/berita-jawa-timur/d-4884333/mak-susi-terdakwa-kasus-rasisme-mahasiswa-papua-divonis-7-bulan-penjara>

99. G. Salman and A. Ika, 'Tri Susanti dan Syamsul Arifin Resmi Ditahan Sebagai Tersangka Kasus Kerusuhan di Asrama Papua', 3 September 2019 <https://surabaya.kompas.com/read/2019/09/03/16210041/tri-susanti-dan-syamsul-arifin-resmi-ditahan-sebagai-tersangka-kasus>

100. CNN Indonesia 'ASN Terdakwa Rasisme Mahasiswa Papua Divonis 5 Bulan Penjara', 30 January 2020 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20200130120710-12-470110/asn-terdakwa-rasisme-mahasiswa-papua-divonis-5-bulan-penjara>

101. I. Safutra, 'Giliran YouTuber Jadi Tersangka Rasisme, Akses Internet di Papua Mulai Dibuka', 6 September 2019 <https://www.jawapos.com/nasional/hukum-kriminal/06/09/2019/giliran-youtuber-jadi-tersangka-rasisme/>

ANNEX 4



LIST OF WEST PAPUAN POLITICAL PRISONERS



There were 1,017 arrests during the Uprising. Most individuals arrested were later released but a number of them - 157 were charged. Of those charged, 122 were prosecuted. The first section of this annex details the 22 individuals who were charged with treason, whereas the second section will elaborate on those 135 political prisoners charged with offences other than treason. Those not prosecuted but charged are included in the list below, because as long as their charges have not been dropped, they can be arrested at anytime.

The individuals in this report have been given sentences ranging from 3 months and 14 days to ten years. All have been released except six political prisoners who remain behind bars in Wamena. Most individuals were released after having served their full sentences, except those prosecuted for charges other than treason who were given early release based on Indonesian Ministry of Law's COVID-19 prison policy. According to the Ministry of Law and Human Rights's policy on prisoners during the COVID-19 pandemic, those who have served at least two thirds of their sentence are eligible for 'assimilation' or conditional release. We have provided details below of individuals arrested, the full names, dates of arrests, reasons for arrest, demands by prosecutors, relevant articles, verdicts, dates of verdicts, and dates of releases. Three political prisoners are Indonesians who were targeted for their involvement in the Uprising.

Political Prisoners Charged With Treason

All 22 political prisoners charged with treason who were detained in five cities during the course of the Uprising have been freed after having served their full sentences. They are all peaceful activists. Of this number, five people were found guilty of incitement instead of

treason. Prosecutors sought less than one and half year jail terms, except for those in Balikpapan, who were regarded as the masterminds of the Uprising and for whom multi-year sentences were sought. In the end however, all were sentenced to between eight to eleven months in jail, unusually low sentences for offences which carry up to twenty years' imprisonment. Except for those in Balikpapan, all were freed within days or weeks of verdicts being delivered.

Jakarta - Six Political Prisoners

The six political prisoners – five held in Salemba Detention Centre and one in Pondok Bambu Detention Centre – were arrested in connection with a protest in front of the State Palace on 28 August 2019 where Morning Star flags were flying. They were all charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code. The first trial commenced on 15 December 2019. On 13 April 2020, the prosecutors sought one year and five months' imprisonment for each, except Isay Wenda, for whom the prosecutors sought ten months. The Jakarta District Court handed down nine month sentences for five of the accused and an eight month sentence for Isay Wenda.

Isay Wenda was freed on 28 April 2020, whereas Ariana Elopere on 27 May 2020, and the four others on 26 May 2020. The last five were considered for early release on 12 May 2020, but this was cancelled at the last minute due to a political intervention.

On the afternoon of 11 May, the five prisoners signed 'letters of execution' of the verdict. In the evening, their guarantors signed letters of assimilation. The guarantor for Suryanta, Dano Tabuni, and Ambrosius Mulait was Priest Suarbudaya Rahadian. The guarantor for Charles Kossay was his sister, Sati Kossay.

On 12 May at midday, the prisoners signed stamped letters confirming their 'assimilation' release. Having received negative results from Covid-19 rapid tests the detention centre then gave them rice and instant noodles for them to take home. The prisoners then waited for about 30 minutes before being summoned by Mr Pantje, Head of Registration of Salemba Detention Center. He apologized because, he explained, they were not eligible for early release because they had been charged with treason, which was against Government Regulation Number 99 Year 2012. The detention center said that they only realised about this after having been explained by the Ministry of Law.

1. **Charles Kossay and Dano Tabuni**, West Papuan student activists, were arrested without warrants on 30 August 2019 in Depok, West Java. During their arrest, a police officer pointed a gun at both Mr Kossay and Mr Tabuni, along with their housemates.
2. **Ambrosius Mulait** is a West Papuan student activist and the head of a student organisation called the Association of Papuan Central Highlands Students in Indonesia (AMPTPI/Asosiasi Mahasiswa Pegunungan Tengah Papua se-Indonesia). Mr Mulait was arrested on 31 August 2019 while protesting with dozens of other Papuan students in front of the Jakarta Police Force Headquarters demanding the release of Charles Kossay and Dano Tabuni.
3. **Isay Wenda** is a West Papuan student activist who was arrested on 31 August 2019 while participating in the abovementioned protest.
4. **Paulus "Suryanta" Ginting** is spokesperson for the Indonesian People's Front for West Papua (FRI-WP, Front Rakyat Indonesia untuk West Papua), an organisation that peacefully advocates for self-determination for West Papua, and was arrested on 31 August 2019. Mr Ginting is the first non-Papuan Indonesian to be charged with treason in relation to the West Papuan self-determination movement.
5. **Ariana Elopere** was arrested without a warrant on 31 August 2019. When she asked permission to change her clothes, a police officer rejected her request saying, "you Papuans usually don't wear clothes anyway" – a clearly racist comment about indigenous West Papuans. She is one of only three West Papuan women to be charged with treason since 2000.

Balikpapan – Seven Political Prisoners

The seven individuals detained in Balikpapan were key activists of the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP) and the West Papua National Committee (KNPB) and student leaders. They were arrested between 6 – 17 September 2019 following protests in Jayapura, during which Morning Star flags were flown and people were demanding an independence referendum. On 4 October 2019 they were transferred without any prior notice to their lawyers and/or families, from Papua to East Kalimantan province on the basis of “security reasons”. This transfer significantly increased the cost of providing legal aid for the trial and cut the prisoners off from their families and other sources of support. The trials commenced on 11 February 2020 and were guarded by hundreds of Indonesian police.

The prosecutors sought extremely long sentences that caused anger and indignation in West Papua. When they were freed, the State refused to fly them back to West Papua leaving them to incur large travel costs, especially during the pandemic. More than a thousand people welcomed them in a ceremony when they finally arrived in West Papua on 22 August 2020.

1. **Agus Kossay** is the chair of KNPB and is accused of being the intellectual actor behind the Uprising. He was arrested, without a warrant, on 17 September 2019. He instructed KNPB to peacefully participate in a protest in Jayapura on 19 August 2019. Mr Kossay, with members of his organisation and student activists, distributed pamphlets to invite people to join the protest a day prior to it taking place. He was charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code, in addition to Article 160 of the Criminal Code and Article 82(2) of Law Number 2 (2017) regarding Societal Organisations. Prosecutors sought 15 years, but he was only sentenced to eleven months and released on 12 August 2020.
2. **Buchtar Tabuni** is one of the most prominent leaders of the independence movement in West Papua, currently the head of the National Parliament of West Papua and is similarly accused of being a mastermind behind the Uprising. He was arrested, without a warrant, on 9 September 2019. Despite the fact that Mr Tabuni was merely gardening at the time of his arrest, the arrest involved a grossly disproportionate use of force, including the use of a helicopter, the severance of his electricity supply, and troops storming his property and shooting through his doors. Mr Tabuni has informed his lawyer that he made a public statement on his Facebook account on 15 August 2019 that he would not be involved in any anti-racism protests because he did not believe it would assist the independence cause. He has been charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code, along with Article 160. This was the third time that Mr Tabuni was imprisoned for his political activities. Prosecutors sought 17 years, but he was sentenced only to eleven months and released on 4 August 2020.
3. **Alexander Gobay** is the head of the student association at Universitas Sains dan Teknologi Jayapura and was arrested, without a warrant, on 6 September 2019. Mr Gobay led the students from his university at the 19 August protest, before travelling to Surabaya (East Java) and back to Jayapura for the 29 August protest, where he delivered speeches and was chosen as the coordinator of the protest on the spot by the other protesters. He was charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code. Prosecutors sought ten years, but he was sentenced to ten months and released on 2 July 2020. He has resumed his position as the leader of a student body at his university.
4. **Ferry Gombo** is the head of a student association at the biggest state-run university in Papua province, Universitas Cenderawasih, and was arrested, without a warrant, on 6 September 2019. Mr Gombo had arranged a meeting to organise a protest on 19 August 2019, which was attended by other student leaders and activists, and was later chosen as a leader of the protest. Mr Gombo also drafted and delivered the notification letter of protest to Jayapura police. The protest went ahead peacefully the next day, attended by thousands of people condemning racism and demanding an independence referendum, with several Morning Star flags flying. Mr

Gombo was charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code, along with Article 160, in relation to the protests on 19 and 29 August 2019. In relation to the protest on 29 August 2019 in Jayapura, which turned violent, the police have accused Mr Gombo of being the mastermind and organiser of the protests, But Mr Gombo denies any involvement in the protest on 29 August. He was in Surabaya from 26 August and only arrived back in Jayapura on the morning of 29 August and went straight home. He had been in Surabaya on the invitation of the governor of Papua, to participate in mediation in relation to the racist incident which subsequently triggered the West Papua Uprising. Prosecutors sought ten years, but he was only sentenced to ten months and released on 2 July 2020.

5. **Stevanus Itlay** is the chair of KNPB in the Timika area and was arrested, without a warrant, on 11 September 2019. The police accused Mr Itlay of planning the Uprising. Mr Itlay has informed his lawyers that he had been in Timika throughout August and only arrived in Jayapura on 29 August. He was charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code, along with Article 107(1) and (2). This was the third time that Mr Itlay had been detained for his political activities. Prosecutors sought 15 years for him, but he was only sentenced to eleven months and released on 7 August 2020.
6. **Hengki Hilapok** is a student from Universitas Sains dan Teknologi Jayapura who participated in the 19 and 29 August protests, and was arrested, without a warrant, on 11 September 2019. Mr Hilapok was responsible for hiring the sound system and cars used for the 29 August protest. He was charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code, along with Article 160. Prosecutors sought five years for him, but he was only sentenced to ten months and released on 12 August 2020.
7. **Irwanus Uropmabin** is a student from Universitas Sains dan Teknologi Jayapura who was arrested, without a warrant, on 11 September 2019. He helped organise both protests in Jayapura on 19 and 29 August 2019. He and other student activists, including from other universities, decided that they were going to hold another peaceful march towards the Governor's office on 29 August. He attended the preparation meetings held on 27 and 28 August. His role in the protest was monitoring security. Mr Uropmabin denied any involvement with regards to the violence that broke out at the protests. Before finally being arrested and detained on 11 September, he had been arrested and questioned for a day by the police on 6 September 2019. He was charged under Article 106 of the Criminal Code, along with Article 160. Prosecutors sought five years for him, but he was only sentenced to ten months and released on 7 July 2020.

Jayapura – One Political Prisoner

Assa Asso is a member of Papuan Voices and West Papua National Committee (KNPB). Papuan Voices is a West Papuan filmmaker community which documents the social and political reality in West Papua through documentary films. KNPB is a non-violent grassroots organization advocating for self-determination. He was arrested on 23 September 2019 over a Facebook post regarding the protest in Jayapura on 19 August. He was charged with treason under Article 106 of the Criminal Code, along with Article 160 regarding incitement and his trial commenced on 20 February 2020. Prosecutors demanded a one year jail term for treason. Mr Asso was found guilty of incitement, not treason, and sentenced to ten months' imprisonment. He was released on 20 July 2020.

Manokwari – Four Political Prisoners

1. **Sayang Mandabayan** was arrested on 2 September 2019 while carrying 1,496 small Morning Star flags at Manokwari airport. She participated in and gave speeches at the Uprising protests on 19 and 27 August 2019 in Sorong. When she was arrested at Manokwari airport on 2 September 2019, she had just arrived from Sorong to attend a protest in Manokwari that day.

An inspection was conducted because a lifejacket was missing from the aircraft. Airport staff found 1,496 small Morning Star flags made from paper in her bag. The police were called and subsequently arrested her. She has been charged under Article 106 of the Criminal Code. Ms Mandabayan was an employee of the Sorong City Council but she was dismissed from this post due to the allegations made against her. Shortly after her arrest, a photo of Ms Mandabayan breastfeeding her infant baby behind bars went viral. Since this time, access to Ms Mandabayan, including from her family, had been difficult. She suffered from toothache but was not afforded proper medical treatment. Her trial began on 13 February 2020. Prosecutors sought a ten month jail term for her. She was found guilty of incitement, not treason, and sentenced to nine months in jail, being freed on 3 June 2020. Three days later, she spoke about racist Indonesian law as an ex-political prisoner in a webinar held by the student body of Universitas Indonesia. She has been campaigning for West Papua's right to self-determination. On 29 July 2020, she was interrogated for hate speech at the police station after police summoned her over a Facebook post.

2. **Erik Aliknoe, Yunus Aliknoe and Pende Mirin** are students at Universitas Papua and were arrested without a warrant on 19 September 2019 on the basis of having organised a protest on 3 September 2019 at which two Morning Star flags were flown and where they delivered pro-West Papuan independence speeches. They were charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code, along with Articles 160, 212 and 213. Their trials began on 13 February 2020. Prosecutors demanded ten months jail terms for incitement instead of treason. They were sentenced to nine months jail for incitement. Erik Aliknoe and Pende Mirin were released on 6 June 2020, while Yunus Aliknoe was released on 17 June 2020.

Sorong – Four Political Prisoners

Four of the individuals in Sorong are student activists and were arrested on 18 September 2019 for organising a protest the same day. Each of the individuals – **Rianto Ruruk, Yoseph Syufi, Manase Baho** and **Ethus Miwak Kareth** – were charged under Articles 106 and 110 of the Criminal Code. Police arrested Rianto Ruruk and Ethus Kareth 30 minutes after they delivered speeches in front of Anda Malanu shop while waiting for protesters led by Yoseph Syufi and Manase Baho who were on their way from Universitas Kristen Papua to join them. The two were arrested as well. The initial plan was to march together to the mayor's office. Police accused them of flying Morning Star flags while in fact they were only wearing Morning Star stickers. Their trial began on 5 March 2020. Prosecutors sought one year and four month jail terms. They were found guilty of treason and sentenced to eight months and 15 days in jail. They were released on 31 May 2020.

Political Prisoners Charged With Non-Treason Charges

There were a total of 135 political prisoners charged with non-treason charges. A hundred of them were prosecuted; 29 were charged, charges which remain; while six people have been put on the police's wanted list. West Papuans refer to the people below as 'anti-racist political prisoners'. Some of them did commit the acts when expressing their political views, while many others were subjected to torture to force them to confess to acts that they did not commit. All have been released except six people in Wamena.

Manokwari - Twelve Political Prisoners

All were prosecuted in relation to the protest on 19 August 2019 in Manokwari which led to unrest. None of them were arrested at the place where the alleged offences took place during the protest. Of 12 people, prosecutors appealed the verdicts against 8 people. They were all freed after having served their full sentences.

1. **Andi Steven Koibur** (35) was arrested on 27 August 2019 and accused of joining another protester to set fire to a damaged car during the protest. Prosecutors sought a term of one year and 10 months in jail. The District Court found him guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced him to five months in jail on 17 December 2019. The prosecutors appealed the decision. The Court of Appeal in Jayapura revised the verdict to seven months jail on 5 March 2020.
2. **Martinus Asmuruf** (26) and **Derek Aronggear** (30) were arrested on 21 August 2019. They were accused of looting an ATM then sharing the money with other protestors when the protest turned violent. Prosecutors sought a one year and six months jail term for both of them. On 17 December 2019, the District Court found them guilty of violating Article 363 paragraph (1) on theft and sentenced them to five months in jail. The prosecutors appealed the decisions. The Court of Appeal in Jayapura revised the verdicts to one year jail for both of them on 6 March 2020.
3. **Yance Songgreri** (18) was arrested on 25 August 2019, while **Mais Wiay** (23) was arrested on 26 August. Each of them was accused of stealing a laptop from a computer shop when the protest turned violent. They were separately arrested when they came to a store to buy a charger for the laptop on different occasions. Prosecutors sought one year six months in jail for both of them. The District Court found them guilty of violating Article 363 Paragraph (1) section 2 of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced them to five months in jail on 17 December 2019. The prosecutors appealed and the Court of Appeal in Jayapura revised the verdicts. Yance Songgreri was then sentenced to ten months in jail on 5 March 2020, whereas Mais Wiay was sentenced to one year in jail on 26 February 2020.
4. **Jafar Marife** (39) and **Yusup Wairara** (19) were arrested on 29 August 2019 and accused of damaging the property of a restaurant near the location of the protest. Prosecutors sought a one year and five months jail term for each of them. Both were found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and were sentenced to one year in jail on 17 December 2019.
5. **Billy Wairara** (30) was arrested on 24 August 2019 and accused of torching a cafe near the location of the protest. Prosecutors sought a one year and ten months jail term. The District Court found him guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced him to five months in jail on 17 December 2019. The prosecutors appealed the decision. The Court of Appeal in Jayapura revised the verdict and sentenced him to one year and ten months in jail on 27 February 2020.
6. **Freudi Mariar** (19) and **Rocky Dimara** (19) were arrested on 29 August 2019 and accused of damaging the local legislative council building. Prosecutors sought one year and eight months in jail for both of them. On 17 December 2019, the District Court found them guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced Freudi Mariar to six months and Rocky Dimara to one month jail time. The prosecutors appealed the decisions. The Court of Appeal in Jayapura revised the verdict and sentenced both to ten months jail on 26 February 2020.
7. **Irjan Iwanggin** (19) and **Goodlief Baransano** (46) were accused of burning an Indonesian flag. They were charged with Article 66 and Article 24 section a of Law Number 24 Year 2009 regarding the National Flag, Language, Symbol, and Anthem. They were sentenced to six months and 20 days jail on 29 January 2020.

Sorong - Eight Political Prisoners

All were prosecuted in relation to the protest on 19 August 2019 in Sorong that resulted in unrest. All were arrested after the protest. They were all freed after having served their full sentences.

1. **Septianus Malaseme** was arrested on 2 September 2019, whereas **Marius Asso, Opianus Majage, and Hermina Elopere** were arrested on 5 September 2019. They were accused of destroying the property of the local legislative building. Prosecutors sought a one year jail term for all of them. They were found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) on collective violence against persons or objects of the Criminal Code. Their verdicts were delivered on 25 June 2020, and on 29 June 2020 for Marius Asso. They were all sentenced to ten months imprisonment and released on 2 July 2020.
2. **Johanis Fatari, Renaldo Mirino, Branto Babere, and Marthen Kewoy** were arrested on 22 August 2019 and accused of looting a cafe when the protest turned into unrest. Prosecutors sought 10 months in jail for them. On 17 March 2020, they were found guilty of violating Article 363 Paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced to six months and 15 days imprisonment.

Fakfak - Six Political Prisoners

Four people were prosecuted in relation to the protest on 21 August 2019 in Fakfak that turned violent. All were released after having served their full sentences. Two other people are on the police 'wanted list' for their alleged involvement in the same protest.

1. Prosecutors sought one year six months for **Rudi Relis Komber and Jhon Erickson Asem**. They were found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) on collective violence against persons or objects of the Criminal Code. Rudi Komber was sentenced to one year and five months jail on 13 February 2020, whereas Jhon Asem was sentenced to 1 year and 4 months jail on 7 February 2020.
2. Prosecutors sought one year six months for **Paskalis Tutuop and Iginansus Hukhukmana**. They were found guilty of violating Article 160 on incitement of the Criminal Code and sentenced to one year four months in jail. The verdict for Paskalis Tutuop was delivered on 7 February 2020, while the verdict for Iginansus Hukhukmana was delivered 24 February 2020.
3. **Dance Hegemur and Yakobus Temongmere** have both been put on a police wanted list (Number DPO/07/X/2019/Reskrim; and Number DPO/06/X/2019/Reskrim). Both are wanted for their alleged crimes carried out with Rudi Relis Komber.

Timika - 12 Political Prisoners

Only three out of ten people arrested and charged in relation to the protest on 21 August 2019 in Timika that turned violent have been prosecuted. Two other people were arrested in late September 2019 over Facebook posts. Those prosecuted have all been released after having served their full sentences.

1. **Riko Wariensi** (25) was arrested on 21 August 2019 for throwing rocks at a hotel along with other protestors during the protest. Prosecutors sought one year jail for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) on collective violence against persons or objects of the Criminal Code and sentenced to seven months in jail on 19 February 2020.
2. **Teryanus Madlama** (21) was arrested on 21 August 2019 during a protest when police found five packs of cigarettes in his bag after a nearby grocery store was looted earlier in the day. Prosecutors sought a four-month jail term. He was found guilty of violating Article 363 paragraph (1) section 2 of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced to three months and 14 days in jail on 12 May 2020.
3. **Nius Wenda** (18) was arrested on 21 August 2019 during a protest when police searched him and found a 27-cm knife in his pocket. Prosecutors sought one year in jail. He was found guilty of violating Article 2 section (1) on the possession of sharp weapons of the Emergency Law Number 12 Year 1951. He was sentenced to seven months in jail on 19 February 2020.
4. **Elly Dolame** (20), **Timinus Wenda** (24), **Urbanus Juka** (26), **Yermin Gombo** (19), and **Maikel Gombo** (20) were arrested on 21 August 2019 when they came out of their hiding in the forest a few hours after the unrest. The first three were accused of destroying the local legislative building, (DPRD Dewan Perwakilan Daerah) while the last two were accused of destroying a national anti-narcotics agency building (Badan Narkotika Nasional). They were all charged with Article 170 on collective violence against persons or objects of the Criminal Code. They were released because there was not enough evidence and the maximum period permitted under law to detain them had been exceeded.
5. **MY (16) and LK (17)** were arrested on 21 August 2019 and taken into custody along with eight other adults mentioned above. They were charged with Article 170 on collective violence against persons or objects of the Criminal Code, but were granted pre-trial release because they were still minors.
6. **Steven Baransano** (28) was arrested on 27 September 2019 while **Thereslin Werfete** (21) on 28 September 2019 for criticizing the police on Facebook. On 20 September, Steven Baransano condemned the acts of police on 19 September of forcibly dispersing a traditional feast event and vandalizing the tomb of a West Papuan freedom fighter. Meanwhile, Thereslin Werfete made a post online condemning the same acts, on 22 September. Prosecutors sought one year jail for both of them and an additional fine of IDR 10,000,000 or six additional months for Steven Baransano. They were both found guilty of violating Article 45A paragraph (2) on hate speech of Law Number 19 Year 2016 regarding Information and Electronic Transaction. Steven Baransano was sentenced to eight months in jail and a fine of IDR 10,000,000 or three additional months on 13 February 2020, whereas Thereslin Werfete was sentenced to eight months in jail on 5 March 2020.

Deiyai - 14 Political Prisoners

Nine people were prosecuted while five others were charged in relation to the incident in Deiyai on 28 August 2019. They were all arrested while still being treated at the hospital from gunshot wounds inflicted by the security forces. The cases were tried at the District Court in Nabire. Those prosecuted were released after having served their full sentences.

1. **Alex Pakage** (50), **Stefanus Goo** (37), **Simon Petrus Ukago** (27), **Melianus Mote** (32), **Juven Pekei** (32), **Andreas Douw** (18) were arrested on 28 August 2019. The prosecution submitted bows and arrows as evidence against them, which are West Papuans' traditional regalia, except for Andreas Douw who was accused of carrying a 30 cm knife. Prosecutors sought a one-year jail term. They were found guilty of violating Article 2 paragraph (1) on sharp weapon possession of the Emergency Law Number 12 Year 1951 and Article 212 on threatening authorities with violence of the Criminal Code. They were sentenced to six months 22 days jail on 19 March 2020 and released on 25 March 2020.

2. **Stevanus Pigai** (26), **Mikael Bukega** (26), and **Yos Iyai** (26) were arrested on 1 September 2019. Prosecutors sought 10 months imprisonment for each of them. They were found guilty of violating Article 160 of the Criminal Code on incitement. They were sentenced to five months 22 days jail on 6 March 2020 and released on the day of the verdict.
3. **Yonas Kayame** (26), **Gergorius Tekege** (25), **Samuel Edowai** (27), **Yohanis Adii** (47), and **Jhon Badii** (20) were named as suspects but granted pre-trial release based on a guarantee made by the Regent of Deiyai.

Jayapura - 42 Political Prisoners

Twenty-six people were prosecuted and two put on a police wanted list in relation to the protest in Jayapura on 29 and 30 August 2019 that turned violent. During interrogation by police, they were not granted access to lawyers and subjected to threats and beatings to confess their alleged crime. One person was arrested – and later prosecuted – when traveling with a key activist who was charged with treason, while twelve people were prosecuted in relation to the protest in Jayapura on 23 September 2019 that turned violent, and another key activist has been put on a police wanted list, for involvement in the Uprising.

1. **Lois Bosway** was arrested on 29 August 2019 and accused of buying a looted sack of sugar and several looted motorcycle spare parts. He was found guilty of violating Article 480 of the Criminal Code on buying stolen goods and sentenced to five months in jail on 10 January 2020.
2. The following people were arrested on 29 August 2019 and accused of destroying public property during protests:

- **Ferius Entama** (23) for throwing rocks at a furniture store, an ATM, and a restaurant;
- **Dorty Kawena** (18) for throwing rocks three times at a car showroom;
- **Panra Wenda** (18) for throwing rocks twice along the road and once at a restaurant;
- **Yali Loho** (22) for throwing rocks along the road;
- **Elo Hubi** (19) for throwing a rock at a hotel;
- **Ary Asso** (23) for firing rocks using a slingshot at the Papuan People's Council building;
- **Ruvinus Tambonop** (23) for throwing rocks twice at a bank and a store;
- **Vinsen Calvin Dogopia** (19) for throwing rocks at stores;
- **Agustinus Lisak Mohi** (19) for throwing rocks at two stores and a car;
- **Ronal Wandik** (23) for throwing rocks using a slingshot along the road;
- **Yusuf Marthen Moai** (20) for throwing rocks at a bank;
- **Jony Weya** (21) for throwing rocks using a slingshot at stores;
- **Persiapan Kogoya** (20) for throwing rocks at a public building and shouting Free West Papua slogans;
- **Mikha Asso** (21) for throwing rocks twice along the road and shouting Free West Papua slogans;

Prosecutors sought eight months imprisonment for each of them. They were all released on 26 January 2020 because their detention term had finished. The District Court found them guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced each of them to six months in jail on 24 February 2020, except for Vinsen Dogopia, who was sentenced on 20 February 2020. In all cases, both the defendants and the prosecutors appealed against the rulings. The Court of Appeal upheld the verdicts on 2 April 2020 for the first four appellants, on 28 April for the next four, and on 30 April for the rest. **IH**, who was prosecuted along with them, was released based on an interlocutory judgment on 25 November 2019 because he was still a minor.

3. **Piter Meraudje** (18) was arrested on 29 August 2019 and accused of stealing a motorbike from a looted store. Prosecutors sought seven months in jail for him. He was released on 26 January 2020 because his detention term had finished. The District Court found him guilty of violating

Article 363 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced him to six months imprisonment on 20 February 2020. He appealed and the Court of Appeal upheld the verdict on 2 April 2020. His co-accused, Janu, has since been put on police wanted list.

4. **Yorgen Aibui and Falerio Yaas** were arrested on 29 August 2019 and accused of stealing computer equipment from the governor's office and chocolates. Prosecutors sought eight months imprisonment for each of them. They were found guilty of violating Article 363 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced to six months imprisonment on 20 February 2020.
5. **Lanti Nipsan** (20) was arrested on 29 August 2019 for carrying a 20 cm knife in his pocket that she used to open a can of paint and a coconut prior to joining the protest. Prosecutors sought one year for her. He was found guilty of violating Article 2 section (1) of the Emergency Law Number 12 Year 1951 on the possession of sharp weapons . He was sentenced to six months imprisonment on 29 January 2020.
6. **Dolvius Hisage** (20) is a student at Universitas Cenderawasih and was arrested on 30 August 2019. He distributed pamphlets on 28 August to invite people to join the following day's protest and led protestors marching to the governor office during the protest. Prosecutors sought eight months imprisonment for him. He was released on 26 January 2020 because his detention term had finished. The District Court found him guilty of violating Article 160 of the Criminal Code on incitement and sentenced him to six months in jail on 20 February 2020. The evidence used against him was only five pamphlets. He appealed and the Court of Appeal upheld the verdict on 28 April 2020.
7. **Oktovianus Hisage** (25) and **Mikael Hilapok** (19) were arrested on 30 August 2019 and accused of looting a computer and its equipment from an electoral commission (Komisi Pemilihan Umum, KPU) building. Prosecutors sought one year jail for them. Oktovianus Hisage was released on 26 January 2020 because his detention term had finished. The District Court found them guilty of violating Article 363 paragraph (1) section 2 of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced Mikael Hilapok to six months' imprisonment on 15 January 2020 and on 11 February 2020 for Oktovianus Hisage . The latter and the prosecutor both appealed the decision. The Court of Appeal in Jayapura upheld the verdict on 30 March 2020.
8. **Yosam Wenda** was arrested on 30 August 2019 and accused of looting a computer keyboard found in his bag. **Yoda Tabuni** was prosecuted along with him for being accused of throwing rocks along the road, while **Bahlua Tabuni** has since been put on a police wanted list. Both Yosam Wenda and Yoda Tabuni were found guilty of violating Article 363 paragraph (1) section 2 of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced to six months in jail on 11 February 2020.
9. **Yan Piter Surumaja** was arrested on 30 August 2019. He was accused of carrying an axe and a slingshot in his bag and threw rocks at two stores, a hotel, and an ATM. Prosecutors sought eight months imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 2 section (1) on the possession of sharp weapons of the Emergency Law Number 12 Year 1951 and Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects. He was sentenced to six months in jail on 21 February 2020.
10. **Willem Walilo** was arrested on 30 August 2019 for carrying a small knife when returning home from checking a rumour that there had been a riot. Prosecutors sought one year imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 2 section (1) on the possession of sharp weapons of the Emergency Law Number 12 Year 1951 and sentenced to six months' imprisonment on 29 January 2020.
11. **Braham Dote** (20) was arrested on 23 September 2019 for the unrest on 29 August 2019 and accused of stealing a phone from someone's house. Prosecutors sought one year's imprisonment. He was found guilty of violating Article 362 of the Criminal Code on theft and sentenced to six months in jail on 24 February 2020. He was freed on 22 March 2020.
12. **Donny Itlay** (39) was arrested on 17 September 2019 when traveling together with a key activist Agus Kossay who was later charged with treason. Police accused him of using a stolen motorcycle despite him explaining that he was renting it. Prosecutors sought one year and three months' imprisonment. He was found guilty of violating Article 480 of the Criminal Code on buying stolen goods and sentenced to seven months in jail on 18 February 2020.
13. **Victor Yeimo** (37) is one of the most prominent non-violent independence activists in West

Papua. He has been put on a police wanted list accused of being one of the masterminds behind the Uprising. His name was constantly brought up by judges and prosecutors during the trial of 'Balikpapan Seven' (see the treason section above).

14. **Yogi Wenda** (20), **Jimbrif Kogoya** (22), **Elmius Bayage** (21), and **Maya Kamarigi** (21) were accused of participating in clashes with the military and police on 23 September 2019. Prosecutors sought eight months' imprisonment for each of them. They were found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to seven months' imprisonment on 6 April 2020. They were released on 20 April 2020.
15. **Enak Waker** (26) was arrested on 25 September 2019 when he was still being treated at a hospital. He was a bystander when shot in his left thigh during the clash between students and security forces on 23 September 2019. Prosecutors sought one year's imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to seven months in jail on 28 February 2020. He walked free on 6 April 2020.
16. **Bedira Tabuni** (19), **Alpon Meku** (22), **Pailes Yigibalom** (21), and **Biko Kogoya** (20) were accused of participating in clashes with the military and police on 23 September 2019. Prosecutors sought one year imprisonment for each of them. They were found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to seven months in jail on 28 February 2020. They walked free on 6 April 2020.
17. **Abua Yikwa** (19) and **Yandu Kogoya** (20) were accused of participating in clashes with the military and police resulting in the death of a soldier on 23 September 2019. Prosecutors sought one year and six months imprisonment for each of them. They were found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (2) section 3 of the Criminal Code on beatings and sentenced to one year in jail on 20 April 2020.

Wamena - 33 Political Prisoners

Nineteen people were arrested in relation to the riot in Wamena on 23 September 2019. Four of them were taken into custody while still being treated at the hospital from gunshot wounds inflicted by the security forces. Arrests were made up to November 2019. Some of them were tried at the District Court in Biak. Six people remain behind bars as of the time that this report is published.

Fourteen people arrested in October 2019 are included in this list because the riot was so severe that the tension was still high and that they would most likely not be arrested had there not been any riot on 23 September.

1. **AU** (16) and **RE** (16) were accused of throwing rocks at the stores during the riot. AU was shot in the right stomach and arrested on 30 September 2019, whereas RE was shot in the right thigh and arrested on 29 September 2019. Both were charged with Article 187 paragraph (1) on arson and Article 170 paragraph (1) on collective violence against persons or objects of the Criminal Code. They were released on 7 November 2019 on the basis that they were still minors following a mediation.
2. **Paben Yikwa** (34) was arrested and shot in his right thigh when watching the riot. He was a bystander and could not speak Indonesian. He was charged with Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects but released in late October 2019.
3. **Elieser Siep** (27) was arrested on 23 September 2019 for throwing rocks twice at a salon. He was interrogated and taken into custody while still being treated at a hospital after being stabbed by a non-Papuan migrant. Prosecutors sought one year's imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence

against persons or objects and sentenced to eight months' imprisonment on 6 April 2020. He was freed on 20 April 2020.

4. **Ricky Fransdian Wanimbo** (18) threw a rock at a store's gate during the riot and shot in his right knee. He was arrested and taken into custody on 28 September 2019 while still being treated at a hospital after being operated. He was not given treatment while in custody so that his wound became infected. Prosecutors sought one year and six months' imprisonment. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment on 8 April 2020. He was freed on 30 April 2020.
5. **Aibun Kogoya** (21) was accused of participating in the riot and shot in the right side of his chest. He was arrested and taken into custody on 2 October 2019 while still being treated at a hospital after being operated. Prosecutors sought ten months' imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to eight months' imprisonment on 11 March 2020. He was freed on 2 April 2020.
6. **Daud Matuan** (18) was accused of participating in the riot and shot in his right heel. He was arrested and taken into custody on 13 October 2019 while still being treated at a hospital after being operated on. Prosecutors sought one year's imprisonment for him. The Court ignored the fact that he was still a minor at the time of his arrest. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to eight months' imprisonment on 27 March 2020. He was freed on 20 April 2020.
7. **Yohanes Payage** (19) was arrested on 3 October for throwing rocks at police officers and shops. He was operated on twice after having been shot in his right thigh, which remains limp due to a persistent infection. His case was tried at the District Court in Biak. Prosecutors sought one year and eight months' imprisonment. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to one year and six months' imprisonment on 20 July 2020. He was freed on 13 August 2020.
8. **Samuel Kurisi** (43) and **Konius Doga** (19) were accused of setting fire to a car repair shop. Samuel Kurisi was arrested on 5 October 2019 and Konius Doga on 21 October 2019. Both were tried at the District Court in Biak. Prosecutors sought two years and six months' imprisonment for each of them. They were found guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced to two years' imprisonment on 20 July 2020.
9. **Luky Elopere** (20) was arrested on 7 October 2019 and tortured during interrogation to force him to admit that he set fires to shops during the riot. His case was tried at the District Court in Biak. Prosecutors sought four years imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced to one year and six months imprisonment on 6 July 2020. He was freed on 13 August 2020.
10. **Pilatus Pahabol** (25) was arrested on 8 October 2019 for damaging a house. Prosecutors sought one year and six months' imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment on 8 April 2020. He was freed on 30 April 2020.
11. **Teresta Tega Iyaba** (22) is a university student and was arrested on 11 October 2019 after a video of her shouting "burn the campus!" four times emerged. However, she did not participate in any actual vandalizing or arson. She was tortured and nearly raped twice while in police custody. Prosecutors sought six years' imprisonment. The District Court found her guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced her to four years imprisonment on 30 March 2020. She appealed the ruling and the District Court in Jayapura modified the verdict to six years imprisonment on 30 April 2020. She submitted a cassation to the Supreme Court on 14 May 2020 and is awaiting the result.
12. **Natius Tabuni** (27) was arrested on 13 October 2019 for throwing rocks at a store. Prosecutors sought one year and six months' imprisonment. He was found guilty of violating Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective violence against persons or objects and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment on 3 April 2020. He was freed on 30 April 2020.
13. **Narius Wenda** (28) was arrested on 15 October 2019 for murder. His brother Naligi Wenda

was killed during the riot on 23 September. On 12 October, his illness relapsed when he was carrying a knife that he just sharpened for a traditional cooking feast event, 'bakar batu', in honour of his brother. He accidentally stabbed a person on a motorbike who was passing his house and the victim later died in hospital. Prosecutors sought twelve years' imprisonment. The District Court found him guilty of Article 340 of the Criminal Code on premeditated murder and sentenced him to ten years in jail on 14 May 2020. He appealed the ruling and the Court of Appeal in Jayapura upheld the verdict on 20 July 2020. He submitted a cassation to the Supreme Court on 4 August 2020 and is awaiting the result.

14. **Jawa Wetipo** (24) was arrested on 17 October 2019 and was tortured into confessing that he burnt a car during the riot on 23 September. Prosecutors sought two years' imprisonment for him. He was found guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced to one year and two months' imprisonment on 7 April 2020. He was freed on 26 May 2020.
15. **Manu Marlon Alua** (19) was arrested on 17 October 2019 and tortured during detention. He admitted that he threw rocks but was forced to admit that he set fires to a campus. His case was tried at the District Court in Biak. Prosecutors sought four years' imprisonment. He was found guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced to two years' imprisonment on 6 July 2020.
16. **Sonni Yando** was arrested on 13 November 2019 and accused of setting fire to a shop which caused death. Prosecutors sought eight years' imprisonment. The District Court in Biak found him guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (3) of the Criminal Code on arson and sentenced him to three years imprisonment on 29 June 2020. Both he and prosecutors appealed the ruling. The Court of Appeal in Jayapura upheld the verdict on 9 September 2020.
17. **Konius Weya** (24) was arrested on 8 October 2019 at the airport in Wamena for carrying one piece of ammunition. He accidentally found it and intended to use it as a necklace. He was charged with arms possession but released on 5 November 2019 following a mediation by a tribal council.
18. **PH** (16) was arrested on 24 October 2019 for carrying a small knife in his pocket. Prosecutors sought ten months' imprisonment for him. The District Court acting as a juvenile court found him guilty of violating Article 2 section (1) on the possession of sharp weapons of the Emergency Law Number 12 Year 1951 and sentenced to four months' imprisonment on 21 November 2019. The prosecutors appealed the ruling. The Court of Appeal in Jayapura upheld the verdict on 10 December 2019. He walked free on 21 February 2020.
19. **Deminiel Aliknoe, Tenius Aliknoe, Elis Ilintamo, Olius Aliknoe, Onis Aliknoe, Marthinus Aliknoe, Kris Pahabol, Marius Himan, Alex Kepno, Yafeth Itlay, Krisen Pahabol, and Maikel Aliknoe** were arrested on 27 October 2019 without any warrants. They were charged with treason for having a Morning Star flag inside their house. A human rights lawyer was kicked out when they demanded the arrest warrants. Two days later, they were all released.
20. **Randis Lokbere** (19) was arrested on 21 November 2019 over a Facebook post dated 21 September 2019 about information that a teacher called a student 'monkey' which later turned into a protest on 23 September. Prosecutors sought one year imprisonment and a fine of IDR 200,000,000 or six additional months' imprisonment. The District Court in Biak found him guilty of violating Article 45A paragraph (2) on hate speech of Law Number 19 Year 2016 regarding Information and Electronic Transaction. He was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment and a fine of IDR 200,000,000 or an additional five months' imprisonment on 10 July 2020.

Oksibil - Six Political Prisoners

All were arrested without warrants in relation to the arson in Oksibil on 26 September 2019. They were subjected to torture to force them to admit that they committed arson with prosecutors seeking two years' imprisonment for each of them. The District Court in Wamena found all guilty of violating Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on arson and they were sentenced to one

year and two months' imprisonment on 7 August 2020. They were released early on 2 September 2020 based on COVID-19 policy.

1. **Yosmin Duyala** (25) was arrested at his home late in the evening of 26 September 2019. When he was waiting for a moto taxi ride in the afternoon, he was briefly taken by a military and police patrol to the police station because there was unrest nearby. The security forces then accompanied him home. At midnight, police officers broke down his door and arrested him. He was electrocuted once he arrived at the police station and the following morning, he was forced to sign a dossier that had been prepared for him.
2. **Yoni Malyo** (24) was arrested at his home on 27 September 2019. He was tortured in the police car. He was kicked and electrocuted throughout interrogation at the police station until he said yes to all questions. He was then taken to the market to look for other suspects while being beaten and kicked. Once returned to the police station, he was electrocuted and tortured again until he lost two teeth.
3. **Yenus Deal** (23) was arrested on 27 September 2019 when he was getting some cash from the ATM at the market. He was suddenly beaten and kicked by two police officers so badly that his hearing was impaired for two months. At the police station, he was beaten, kicked, and hit with a rifle's butt to force him to admit that he had committed arson.
4. **Keus Balyo** (26) was arrested at his home on 27 September 2019. He passed a military post when returning home from his garden. He was suddenly stopped and in the process of being arrested when he ran away towards the airport but then surrendered when he realised that he could get shot from behind. He was beaten, kicked, and electrocuted at the police station.
5. **Carlos Asemki** (20) was arrested at his home on 28 September 2019. He was tortured once he arrived at the police station. He was beaten all over and his mouth was burnt with cigarettes six times. He was tortured until bleeding and electrocuted throughout interrogation that lasted from 8 am to 3 pm.
6. **Hermanto Nabyal** (23) was arrested at his home on 1 October 2019. His arms and legs were handcuffed when put in the police car. He was beaten and kicked repeatedly once he arrived at the police station.

Jakarta - Two Political Prisoners

1. **Veronica Koman** (32) was named as a suspect by the East Java police on 4 September 2019. Police accused her of inciting violence via hate speech and of broadcasting hoaxes of incidents in a Surabaya dormitory on her Twitter account, which had led to the Uprising. They said this violated Article 45A section (2) of the Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE) Law, Article 160 of the Criminal Code, Article 15 of the Criminal and Procedure Law, and Article 16 of the Elimination of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination Law. Because she was in Australia at the time, police announced that they were seeking a 'red notice' from Interpol. She has been put on the national police wanted list.
2. **Dandhy Laksono** (44) was arrested at around 11pm at his home on 26 September 2019. Jakarta police claimed his tweet, reporting on the victims of riots in Jayapura and Wamena dated 23 September 2019, was hate speech, inciting violence in violation of Articles 28 and 45 of the ITE Law. He was released a few hours later at 4am following public outrage, but remains a suspect until today.

For More Information:
Papuan Behind Bars at
www.papuansbehindbars.org



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