

= Indonesia =

Indonesia ( / ˈndʒəni/ IN @-@ d? @-@ NEE @-@ zh? or / ˈndoʊni?zi/ IN @-@ doh @-@ NEE @-@ zee @-@ ? ; Indonesian : [ ʔndonesia ] ) , officially the Republic of Indonesia ( Indonesian : Republik Indonesia [ rʔpublik ʔndonesia ] ) , is a country in Southeast Asia . Situated between the Indian and Pacific oceans , it is the world 's largest island country , with more than thirteen thousand islands . It has an estimated population of over 258 million people and is the world 's fourth most populous country as well as the most populous Muslim majority country . The world 's most populous island of Java contains more than half of the country 's population .

Indonesia 's republican form of government includes an elected legislature and president . Indonesia has 34 provinces , of which five have Special Administrative status . Its capital and most populous city is Jakarta . The country shares land borders with Papua New Guinea , East Timor , and Malaysia . Other neighbouring countries include Singapore , the Philippines , Australia , Palau , and the Indian territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands . Indonesia is a founding member of ASEAN and a member of the G @-@ 20 major economies . The Indonesian economy is the world 's 16th largest by nominal GDP and the 8th largest by GDP at PPP .

The Indonesian archipelago has been an important trade region since at least the 7th century , when Srivijaya and then later Majapahit traded with China and India . Local rulers gradually absorbed foreign cultural , religious and political models from the early centuries CE , and Hindu and Buddhist kingdoms flourished . Indonesian history has been influenced by foreign powers drawn to its natural resources . Muslim traders and Sufi scholars brought the now @-@ dominant Islam , while European powers brought Christianity and fought one another to monopolise trade in the Spice Islands of Maluku during the Age of Discovery . Following three and a half centuries of Dutch colonialism starting from Amboina and Batavia , and eventually all of the archipelago including Timor and West Papua , at times interrupted by Portuguese , French and British rule , Indonesia secured its independence after World War II . Indonesia 's history has since been turbulent , with challenges posed by natural disasters , mass slaughter , corruption , separatism , a democratisation process , and periods of rapid economic change .

Indonesia consists of hundreds of distinct native ethnic and linguistic groups . The largest ? and politically dominant ? ethnic group are the Javanese . A shared identity has developed , defined by a national language , ethnic diversity , religious pluralism within a Muslim @-@ majority population , and a history of colonialism and rebellion against it . Indonesia 's national motto , " Bhinneka Tunggal Ika " ( " Unity in Diversity " literally , " many , yet one " ) , articulates the diversity that shapes the country . Despite its large population and densely populated regions , Indonesia has vast areas of wilderness that support the world 's second highest level of biodiversity . The country has abundant natural resources like oil and natural gas , tin , copper and gold . Agriculture mainly produces rice , tea , coffee , spices and rubber . Indonesia 's major trading partners are Japan , the United States and the surrounding nations of Singapore , Malaysia and Australia .

= = Etymology = =

The name Indonesia derives from the Greek translation of the Indus River and the word *nèsos* , meaning " Indian island " . The name dates to the 18th century , far predating the formation of independent Indonesia . In 1850 , George Windsor Earl , an English ethnologist , proposed the terms *Indunesians* ? and , his preference , *Malayunesians* ? for the inhabitants of the " Indian Archipelago or Malayan Archipelago " . In the same publication , a student of Earl 's , James Richardson Logan , used Indonesia as a synonym for Indian Archipelago . However , Dutch academics writing in East Indies publications were reluctant to use Indonesia . Instead , they used the terms *Malay Archipelago* ( *Maleische Archipel* ) ; the Netherlands East Indies ( *Nederlandsch Oost Indië* ) , popularly *Indië* ; the East ( *de Oost* ) ; and *Insulinde* .

After 1900 , the name Indonesia became more common in academic circles outside the Netherlands , and Indonesian nationalist groups adopted it for political expression . Adolf Bastian , of the University of Berlin , popularised the name through his book *Indonesien oder die Inseln des*

Malayischen Archipels , 1884 ? 1894 . The first Indonesian scholar to use the name was Suwardi Suryaningrat ( Ki Hajar Dewantara ) , when he established a press bureau in the Netherlands with the name Indonesisch Pers @-@ bureau in 1913 .

= = History = =

= = = Early history = = =

Fossils and the remains of tools show that the Indonesian archipelago was inhabited by Homo erectus , popularly known as " Java Man " , between 1 @.@ 5 million years ago and 35 @,@ 000 years ago . Homo sapiens reached the region by around 45 @,@ 000 years ago . Austronesian peoples , who form the majority of the modern population , migrated to Southeast Asia from Taiwan . They arrived in Indonesia around 2000 BCE , and as they spread through the archipelago , confined the indigenous Melanesian peoples to the far eastern regions .

Ideal agricultural conditions and the mastering of wet @-@ field rice cultivation as early as the 8th century BCE , allowed villages , towns , and small kingdoms to flourish by the 1st century CE . Indonesia 's strategic sea @-@ lane position fostered inter @-@ island and international trade , including links with Indian kingdoms and China , which were established several centuries BCE . Trade has since fundamentally shaped Indonesian history .

From the 7th century CE , the powerful Srivijaya naval kingdom flourished as a result of trade and the influences of Hinduism and Buddhism that were imported with it . Between the eighth and 10th centuries CE , the agricultural Buddhist Sailendra and Hindu Mataram dynasties thrived and declined in inland Java , leaving grand religious monuments such as Borobudur , Sewu and Prambanan . This period marked a renaissance of Hindu @-@ Buddhist art in ancient Java .

Around the first quarter of the 10th century , the centre of the kingdom was shifted from Mataram area in Central Java to Brantas River valley in East Java by Mpu Sindok , who established the Isyana Dynasty . Subsequently , series of Javanese Hindu @-@ Buddhist polities rise and fall , from Kahuripan kingdom ruled by Airlangga to Kadir and Singhasari . In West Java , Sunda Kingdom was re @-@ established circa 1030 according to Sanghyang Tapak inscription . In Bali , the Warmadewas established their rule on the Kingdom of Bali in the 10th century . The Hindu Majapahit kingdom was founded in eastern Java in the late 13th century , and under Gajah Mada , its influence stretched over much of Indonesia .

= = = Colonial era = = =

Although Muslim traders first traveled through Southeast Asia early in the Islamic era , the earliest evidence of Islamized populations in Indonesia dates to the 13th century in northern Sumatra . Other Indonesian areas gradually adopted Islam , and it was the dominant religion in Java and Sumatra by the end of the 16th century . For the most part , Islam overlaid and mixed with existing cultural and religious influences , which shaped the predominant form of Islam in Indonesia , particularly in Java .

The first regular contact between Europeans and the peoples of Indonesia began in 1512 , when Portuguese traders led by Francisco Serrão , sought to monopolize the sources of nutmeg , cloves , and cubeb pepper in Maluku . Dutch and British traders followed . In 1602 , the Dutch established the Dutch East India Company ( VOC ) , and in following decades , the Dutch has gained foothold in Batavia and Amboina . Throughout 17th and 18th centuries , the Company became the dominant European power in the archipelago .

Following bankruptcy , the VOC was formally dissolved in 1800 , and the government of the Netherlands established the Dutch East Indies as a nationalised colony . For most of the colonial period , Dutch control over the archipelago was tenuous outside of coastal strongholds ; only in the early 20th century did Dutch dominance extend to what was to become Indonesia 's current boundaries . Despite major internal political , social and sectarian divisions during the National

Revolution , Indonesians , on the whole , found unity in their fight for independence . Japanese occupation during World War II ended Dutch rule , and encouraged the previously suppressed Indonesian independence movement .

= = = Modern era = = =

A later UN report stated that four million people died in Indonesia as a result of famine and forced labor during the Japanese occupation . Two days after the surrender of Japan in August 1945 , Sukarno , an influential nationalist leader , declared independence and was appointed president . The Netherlands tried to reestablish their rule , and an armed and diplomatic struggle ended in December 1949 , when in the face of international pressure , the Dutch formally recognized Indonesian independence ( with the exception of the Dutch territory of West New Guinea , which was incorporated into Indonesia following the 1962 New York Agreement , and the UN @-@ mandated Act of Free Choice of 1969 ) .

Sukarno moved Indonesia from democracy towards authoritarianism , and maintained his power base by balancing the opposing forces of the military and the Communist Party of Indonesia ( Partai Komunis Indonesia , PKI ) . An attempted coup on 30 September 1965 was countered by the army , who led a violent anti @-@ communist purge , during which the PKI was blamed for the coup and effectively destroyed . Large @-@ scale killings took place which targeted communists , ethnic Chinese and alleged leftists . The most widely accepted estimates are that between 500 @,@ 000 and one million people were killed , with some estimates as high as two to three million .

The head of the military , General Suharto , outmaneuvered the politically weakened Sukarno and was formally appointed president in March 1968 . His New Order administration was supported by the US government , and encouraged foreign direct investment in Indonesia , which was a major factor in the subsequent three decades of substantial economic growth . However , the authoritarian " New Order " was widely accused of corruption and suppression of political opposition .

Indonesia was the country hardest hit by the late 1990s Asian financial crisis . This increased popular discontent with the New Order and led to popular protest across the country . Suharto resigned on 21 May 1998 . In 1999 , East Timor voted to secede from Indonesia , after a twenty @-@ five @-@ year military occupation that was marked by international condemnation of repression of the East Timorese .

Since Suharto 's resignation , a strengthening of democratic processes has included a regional autonomy program , and the first direct presidential election in 2004 , which was won by Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono , who went on to win a second term in 2009 . Political and economic instability , social unrest , corruption , and terrorism slowed progress ; however , in the last five years the economy has performed strongly . Although relations among different religious and ethnic groups are largely harmonious , sectarian discontent and violence have persisted . A political settlement to an armed separatist conflict in Aceh was achieved in 2005 .

= = Government and politics = =

Indonesia is a republic with a presidential system . As a unitary state , power is concentrated in the central government . Following the resignation of President Suharto in 1998 , Indonesian political and governmental structures have undergone major reforms . Four amendments to the 1945 Constitution of Indonesia have revamped the executive , judicial , and legislative branches .

The president of Indonesia is the head of state and head of government , commander @-@ in @-@ chief of the Indonesian National Armed Forces , and the director of domestic governance , policy @-@ making , and foreign affairs . The president appoints a council of ministers , who are not required to be elected members of the legislature . The 2004 presidential election was the first in which the people directly elected the president and vice @-@ president . The president may serve a maximum of two consecutive five @-@ year terms .

The highest representative body at national level is Majelis Permusyawaratan Rakyat ( People 's Consultative Assembly ) or MPR . Its main functions are supporting and amending the constitution ,

inaugurating the president , and formalising broad outlines of state policy . It has the power to impeach the president . The MPR comprises two houses ; Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat ( People 's Representative Council ) or DPR , with 560 members , and Dewan Perwakilan Daerah ( Regional Representative Council ) or DPD , with 132 members . The DPR passes legislation and monitors the executive branch ; party @-@ aligned members are elected for five @-@ year terms by proportional representation . Reforms since 1998 have markedly increased the DPR 's role in national governance . The DPD is a new chamber for matters of regional management .

Most civil disputes appear before Pengadilan Negeri ( State Court ) ; appeals are heard before Pengadilan Tinggi ( High Court ) . Mahkamah Agung is the country 's highest court , and hears final cessation appeals and conducts case reviews . Other courts include the Commercial Court , which handles bankruptcy and insolvency ; Pengadilan Tata Negara ( State Administrative Court ) to hear administrative law cases against the government ; Mahkamah Konstitusi ( Constitutional Court ) to hear disputes concerning legality of law , general elections , dissolution of political parties , and the scope of authority of state institutions ; and Pengadilan Agama ( Religious Court ) to deal with codified Sharia Law cases .

= = = Politics = = =

Since 1999 Indonesia has had a multi @-@ party system . In the two legislative elections since the fall of the New Order regime , no political party has managed to win an overall majority of seats , resulting in coalition governments .

The Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle is the party of Joko Widodo , the Indonesian President . The Great Indonesia Movement Party is the third largest political party .

= = = Foreign relations = = =

In contrast to Sukarno 's anti @-@ imperialistic antipathy to Western powers and tensions with Malaysia , Indonesia 's foreign relations since the New Order era have been based on economic and political co @-@ operation with the Western world . Indonesia maintains close relationships with its neighbours in Asia , and is a founding member of ASEAN and the East Asia Summit . The country restored relations with the People 's Republic of China in 1990 following a freeze in place since anti @-@ communist purges early in the Suharto era .

Indonesia has been a member of the United Nations since 1950 , and was a founder of the Non @-@ Aligned Movement ( NAM ) and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference ( OIC ) . Indonesia is signatory to the ASEAN Free Trade Area agreement , the Cairns Group , and the World Trade Organization ( WTO ) , and a member of OPEC . Indonesia has received humanitarian and development aid since 1966 , in particular from the United States , western Europe , Australia , and Japan .

The Indonesian government has worked with other countries to apprehend and prosecute perpetrators of major bombings linked to militant Islamism and Al @-@ Qaeda . The deadliest bombing killed 202 people ( including 164 international tourists ) in the Bali resort town of Kuta in 2002 . The attacks , and subsequent travel warnings issued by other countries , severely damaged Indonesia 's tourism industry and foreign investment prospects .

= = = Military = = =

Indonesia 's Armed Forces ( TNI ) include the Army ( TNI ? AD ) , Navy ( TNI ? AL , which includes Marine Corps ) , and Air Force ( TNI ? AU ) . The army has about 400 @,@ 000 active @-@ duty personnel . Defense spending in the national budget was 4 % of GDP in 2006 , and is controversially supplemented by revenue from military commercial interests and foundations . One of the reforms following the 1998 resignation of Suharto was the removal of formal TNI representation in parliament ; nevertheless , its political influence remains extensive .

Separatist movements in the provinces of Aceh and Papua have led to armed conflict , and

subsequent allegations of human rights abuses and brutality from all sides . Following a sporadic thirty @-@ year guerrilla war between the Gerakan Aceh Merdeka ( GAM ) and the Indonesian military , a ceasefire agreement was reached in 2005 . In Papua , there has been a significant , albeit imperfect , implementation of regional autonomy laws , and a reported decline in the levels of violence and human rights abuses , since the presidency of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono .

= = Administrative divisions = =

Administratively , Indonesia consists of 34 provinces , five of which have special status . Each province has its own legislature and governor . The provinces are subdivided into regencies ( kabupaten ) and cities ( kota ) , which are further subdivided into districts ( kecamatan or distrik in Papua and West Papua ) , and again into administrative villages ( either desa , kelurahan , kampung , nagari in West Sumatra , or gampong in Aceh ) .

The village is the lowest level of government administration in Indonesia . Furthermore , a village is divided into several community groups ( rukun warga ( RW ) ) which are further divided into neighbourhood groups ( rukun tetangga ( RT ) ) . In Java the desa ( village ) is divided further into smaller units called dusun or dukuh ( hamlets ) , these units are the same as rukun warga . Following the implementation of regional autonomy measures in 2001 , the regencies and cities have become the key administrative units , responsible for providing most government services . The village administration level is the most influential on a citizen 's daily life and handles matters of a village or neighbourhood through an elected lurah or kepala desa ( village chief ) .

The provinces of Aceh , Jakarta , Yogyakarta , Papua , and West Papua have greater legislative privileges and a higher degree of autonomy from the central government than the other provinces . The Acehnese government , for example , has the right to create certain elements of an independent legal system . In 2003 , it instituted a form of sharia ( Islamic law ) .

Yogyakarta was granted the status of Special Region in recognition of its pivotal role in supporting Indonesian Republicans during the Indonesian Revolution and its willingness to join Indonesia as a republic . Papua , formerly known as Irian Jaya , was granted special autonomy status in 2001 and was split into Papua and West Papua in February 2003 . Jakarta is the country 's special capital region .

Indonesian provinces and their capitals , listed by region

Indonesian name is in parentheses if different from English .

\* indicates provinces with special status

= = Geography = =

Indonesia lies between latitudes 11 ° S and 6 ° N , and longitudes 95 ° E and 141 ° E . It is the largest archipelagic country in the world , extending 5 @,@ 120 kilometres ( 3 @,@ 181 mi ) from east to west and 1 @,@ 760 kilometres ( 1 @,@ 094 mi ) from north to south . According to a geospatial survey conducted between 2007 and 2010 by National Coordinating Agency for Survey and Mapping ( Bakosurtanal ) , Indonesia has 13 @,@ 466 islands , about 6 @,@ 000 of which are inhabited . These are scattered over both sides of the equator . The largest are Java , Sumatra , Borneo ( shared with Brunei and Malaysia ) , New Guinea ( shared with Papua New Guinea ) , and Sulawesi . Indonesia shares land borders with Malaysia on Borneo , Papua New Guinea on the island of New Guinea , and East Timor on the island of Timor . Indonesia shares maritime borders across narrow straits with Singapore , Malaysia , the Philippines , and Palau to the north , and with Australia to the south . The capital , Jakarta , is on Java and is the nation 's largest city , followed by Surabaya , Bandung , Medan , and Semarang .

At 1 @,@ 919 @,@ 440 square kilometres ( 741 @,@ 050 sq mi ) , Indonesia is the world 's 15th @-@ largest country in terms of land area and world 's 7th @-@ largest country in terms of combined sea and land area . Its average population density is 134 people per square kilometre ( 347 per sq mi ) , 79th in the world , although Java , the world 's most populous island , has a population density of 940 people per square kilometre ( 2 @,@ 435 per sq mi ) .

At 4 @, @ 884 metres ( 16 @, @ 024 ft ) , Puncak Jaya in Papua is Indonesia 's highest peak , and Lake Toba in Sumatra its largest lake , with an area of 1 @, @ 145 square kilometres ( 442 sq mi ) . Indonesia 's largest rivers are in Kalimantan , and include the Mahakam and Barito ; such rivers are communication and transport links between the island 's river settlements .

Indonesia 's location on the edges of the Pacific , Eurasian , and Australian tectonic plates makes it the site of numerous volcanoes and frequent earthquakes . Indonesia has at least 150 active volcanoes , including Krakatoa and Tambora , both famous for their devastating eruptions in the 19th century . The eruption of the Toba supervolcano , approximately 70 @, @ 000 years ago , was one of the largest eruptions ever , and a global catastrophe . Recent disasters due to seismic activity include the 2004 tsunami that killed an estimated 167 @, @ 736 in northern Sumatra , and the Yogyakarta earthquake in 2006 . However , volcanic ash is a major contributor to the high agricultural fertility that has historically sustained the high population densities of Java and Bali .

Lying along the equator , Indonesia has a tropical climate , with two distinct monsoonal wet and dry seasons . Average annual rainfall in the lowlands varies from 1 @, @ 780 ? 3 @, @ 175 millimetres ( 70 @. @ 1 ? 125 @. @ 0 inches ) , and up to 6 @, @ 100 millimetres ( 240 inches ) in mountainous regions . Mountainous areas ? particularly in the west coast of Sumatra , West Java , Kalimantan , Sulawesi , and Papua ? receive the highest rainfall . Humidity is generally high , averaging about 80 % . Temperatures vary little throughout the year ; the average daily temperature range of Jakarta is 26 ? 30 ° C ( 79 ? 86 ° F ) .

#### = = = Biodiversity = = =

Indonesia 's size , tropical climate , and archipelagic geography , support the world 's second highest level of biodiversity after Brazil . Its flora and fauna is a mixture of Asian and Australasian species . The islands of the Sunda Shelf ( Sumatra , Java , Borneo , and Bali ) were once linked to the Asian mainland , and have a wealth of Asian fauna . Large species such as the tiger , rhinoceros , orangutan , elephant , and leopard , were once abundant as far east as Bali , but numbers and distribution have dwindled drastically . Forests cover approximately 60 % of the country . In Sumatra and Kalimantan , these are predominantly of Asian species . However , the forests of the smaller , and more densely populated Java , have largely been removed for human habitation and agriculture . Sulawesi , Nusa Tenggara , and Maluku ? having been long separated from the continental landmasses ? have developed their own unique flora and fauna . Papua was part of the Australian landmass , and is home to a unique fauna and flora closely related to that of Australia , including over 600 bird species .

Indonesia is second only to Australia in terms of total endemic species , with 36 % of its 1 @, @ 531 species of bird and 39 % of its 515 species of mammal being endemic . Indonesia 's 80 @, @ 000 kilometres ( 50 @, @ 000 miles ) of coastline are surrounded by tropical seas that contribute to the country 's high level of biodiversity . Indonesia has a range of sea and coastal ecosystems , including beaches , sand dunes , estuaries , mangroves , coral reefs , seagrass beds , coastal mudflats , tidal flats , algal beds , and small island ecosystems . Indonesia is one of Coral Triangle countries with the world 's greatest diversity of coral reef fish with more than 1 @, @ 650 species in eastern Indonesia only .

The British naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace described a dividing line between the distribution of Indonesia 's Asian and Australasian species . Known as the Wallace Line , it runs roughly north ? south along the edge of the Sunda Shelf , between Kalimantan and Sulawesi , and along the deep Lombok Strait , between Lombok and Bali . West of the line the flora and fauna are more Asian - moving east from Lombok they are increasingly Australian . In his 1869 book , The Malay Archipelago , Wallace described numerous species unique to the area . The region of islands between his line and New Guinea is now termed Wallacea .

#### = = = Environment = = =

Indonesia 's high population and rapid industrialisation present serious environmental issues ,

which are often given a lower priority due to high poverty levels and weak , under @-@ resourced governance . Issues include large @-@ scale deforestation ( much of it illegal ) and related wildfires causing heavy smog over parts of western Indonesia , Malaysia and Singapore ; over @-@ exploitation of marine resources ; and environmental problems associated with rapid urbanisation and economic development , including air pollution , traffic congestion , garbage management , and reliable water and waste water services .

Deforestation and the destruction of peatlands make Indonesia the world 's third largest emitter of greenhouse gases . Habitat destruction threatens the survival of indigenous and endemic species , including 140 species of mammals identified by the International Union for Conservation of Nature ( IUCN ) as threatened , and 15 identified as critically endangered , including the Bali starling , Sumatran orangutan , and Javan rhinoceros .

Much of Indonesia 's deforestation is caused by forest clearing for the palm oil industry , which has cleared 18 million hectares of forest for palm oil expansion . Palm oil expansion requires land reallocation as well as changes to the local and natural ecosystems . Palm oil expansion can generate wealth for local communities , but it can also degrade ecosystems and cause social problems .

= = Economy = =

Indonesia has a mixed economy in which both the private sector and government play significant roles . The country is the largest economy in Southeast Asia and a member of the G @-@ 20 major economies . Indonesia 's estimated gross domestic product ( nominal ) , as of 2014 , was US \$ 887 billion while GDP in PPP terms is US \$ 2 @.@ 685 trillion . It is the sixteenth largest economy in the world by nominal GDP and is the eighth largest in terms of GDP ( PPP ) . As of 2014 , per capita GDP in PPP was US \$ 10 @.@ 651 ( international dollars ) while Nominal per capita GDP was US \$ 3 @.@ 518 .

The debt ratio to GDP is 26 % . The industry sector is the economy 's largest and accounts for 46 @.@ 4 % of GDP ( 2012 ) , this is followed by services ( 38 @.@ 6 % ) and agriculture ( 14 @.@ 4 % ) . Since 2012 , the service sector has employed more people than other sectors , accounting for 47 @.@ 9 % of the total labour force , this has been followed by agriculture ( 38 @.@ 9 % ) and industry ( 13 @.@ 2 % ) . Agriculture , however , had been the country 's largest employer for centuries .

Indonesia was the 27th biggest exporting country in the world in 2010 , moving up three places from the previous year . Indonesia 's main export markets ( 2009 ) are Japan ( 17 @.@ 28 % ) , Singapore ( 11 @.@ 29 % ) , the United States ( 10 @.@ 81 % ) , and China ( 7 @.@ 62 % ) . The major suppliers of imports to Indonesia are Singapore ( 24 @.@ 96 % ) , China ( 12 @.@ 52 % ) , and Japan ( 8 @.@ 92 % ) . In 2014 , Indonesia ran a trade deficit with export revenues of US \$ 176 billion and import expenditure of US \$ 178 @.@ 2 billion .

Indonesia has extensive natural resources , including crude oil , natural gas , tin , copper , and gold . Indonesia 's major imports include machinery and equipment , chemicals , fuels , and foodstuffs , and the country 's major export commodities include oil and gas , electrical appliances , plywood , rubber , and textiles . In an attempt to boost the domestic mineral processing industry and encourage exports of higher value @-@ added mineral products , the Indonesian government implemented a ban on exports of unprocessed mineral ores in 2014 .

Palm oil production is important to the economy of Indonesia as the country is the world 's biggest producer and consumer of the commodity , providing about half the world supply . Oil palm plantations stretch across 6 million hectares ( roughly twice the size of Belgium ) . Indonesia plans by 2015 to add 4 million additional hectares towards oil palm biofuel production . As of 2012 , Indonesia produces 35 percent of the world 's certified sustainable palm oil ( CSPO ) .

The tourism sector contributes to around US \$ 10 @.@ 1 billion of foreign exchange in 2013 , and ranked as the 4th largest among goods and services export sectors . Singapore , Malaysia , Australia , China and Japan are the top five source of visitors to Indonesia .

Corruption has been a persistent problem . Transparency International , for example , has since

ranked Indonesia below 100 in its Corruption Perceptions Index . Since 2007 , however , with the improvement in banking sector and domestic consumption , national economic growth has accelerated to over 6 % annually and this helped Indonesia weather the 2008 ? 2009 Great Recession . The Indonesian economy performed strongly during the financial crisis of 2007 ? 08 and in 2012 , its GDP grew by over 6 % . Indonesia regained its investment grade rating in late 2011 after losing it in 1997 . As of 2014 , 11 % of the population lived below the poverty line and the official open unemployment rate was 5 @. @ 9 % .

Indonesia has a sizeable automotive industry , which produced almost 1 @. @ 3 million motor vehicles in 2014 , ranking as the 15th largest producer in the world . Nowadays , Indonesian automotive companies are able to produce cars with high ratio of local content ( 80 % - 90 % ) . With production peaking at 14 @. @ 5 billion packs in 2011 , Indonesia is the second largest producer of instant noodle after China which produces 42 @. @ 5 billion packs a year . Indofood is the largest instant noodle producer in the world . Indomie brand by Indofood is one of the Indonesia 's best known global brand .

Of the world 's 500 largest companies measured by revenue in 2014 , the Fortune Global 500 , two are headquartered in Indonesia i.e. Pertamina and Perusahaan Listrik Negara .

= = = Transportation = = =

Road transport is predominant , with a total system length of 437 @, @ 759 km in 2008 . Many cities and towns have some form of transportation for hire available as well such as taxis . There are usually also bus services of various kinds such as the Kopaja buses and the more sophisticated TransJakarta bus rapid transit system in Jakarta . The TransJakarta is the largest bus rapid transit system in the world , boasts some 194 km and carries more than 300 @, @ 000 passengers daily . In addition , BRT systems exist in Yogyakarta , Palembang , Bandung , Denpasar , Pekanbaru , Semarang , Makassar , and Padang without segregated lane . Many cities also have motorised auto rickshaws ( bajaj ) of various kinds . Cycle rickshaws , called becak in Indonesia , are a regular sight on city roads and provide inexpensive transportation .

The rail transport system has four unconnected networks in Java and Sumatra primarily dedicated to transport bulk commodities and long @- @ distance passenger traffic . The inter @- @ city rail network on Java is complemented by local commuter rail services in the Jakarta metropolitan area ( KA Commuter Jabodetabek ) , Surabaya , Medan , and Bandung . In Jakarta , suburban rail services carry 700 @, @ 000 passengers a day . In addition , mass rapid transit and light rail transit systems are under construction in Jakarta and Palembang .

Sea transport is extremely important for economic integration and for domestic and foreign trade . It is well developed , with each of the major islands having at least one significant port city . Because Indonesia encompasses a sprawling archipelago , maritime shipping provides essential links between different parts of the country . Boats in common use include large container ships , a variety of ferries , passenger ships , sailing ships , and smaller motorised vessels . Traditional wooden vessel pinisi still widely used as the inter @- @ island freight service within Indonesian archipelago . Port of Tanjung Priok is Indonesia 's busiest port , and the 21st busiest port in the world in 2013 , handling over 6 @. @ 59 million TEUs . To boost the port capacity , two @- @ phase " New Tanjung Priok " extension project is currently ongoing . When fully operational in 2023 , it will triple existing annual capacity .

Frequent ferry services cross the straits between nearby islands , especially in the chain of islands stretching from Sumatra through Java to the Lesser Sunda Islands . On the busy crossings between Sumatra , Java , and Bali , multiple car ferries run frequently twenty @- @ four hours per day . There are also international ferry services between across the Strait of Malacca between Sumatra and Malaysia , and between Singapore and nearby Indonesian islands , such as Batam . A network of passenger ships makes longer connections to more remote islands , especially in the eastern part of the archipelago . The national shipping line , Pelni , provides passenger service to ports throughout the country on a two to four week schedule . These ships generally provide the least expensive way to cover long distances between islands . Still smaller privately run boats provide service between



islands .

As of 2014 , there were 237 airports in Indonesia , including 17 international airports . Soekarno ? Hatta International Airport is the 18th busiest airport in the world , serving 54 @, @ 053 @, @ 905 passengers , according to Airports Council International . Today the airport is running over capacity . After T3 Soekarno @-@ Hatta Airport expansion will be finished in August 2016 , the total capacity of three terminals become 43 million passengers a year . T1 and T2 also will be revitalised , so all the three terminals finally will accommodate 67 million passengers a year . When finished , Soekarno @-@ Hatta airport will be an aerotropolis .

Juanda Airport in Surabaya and Ngurah Rai in Bali are the country 's 2nd and 3rd busiest airport . Garuda Indonesia , flag carrier of Indonesia since 1949 , was selected by Skytrax as " The World 's Best Economy Class " in 2013 . In December 2014 , Garuda Indonesia was awarded as a " 5 @-@ Star Airline " by Skytrax and the eight best airlines in the world . As well as in June 2015 , it also was awarded with " The World 's Best Cabin Crew " .

= = = Science and technology = = =

Living in an agrarian and maritime culture the people in Indonesian 's archipelago have been famous in some traditional technologies , particularly in agriculture and marine . In agriculture , for instance , the people in Indonesia , and also in many other Southeast Asian countries , are famous in paddy cultivation technique namely terasering . Bugis and Makassar people in Indonesia are also well @-@ known with their technology in making wooden sailing vessel called pinisi boat .

In aerospace technology , Indonesia has a long history in developing military and small commuter aircraft as the only country in Southeast Asia to produce and develop its own aircraft , also producing aircraft components for Boeing and Airbus , with its state @-@ owned aircraft company ( founded in 1976 ) , the Indonesian Aerospace ( Indonesian : PT . Dirgantara Indonesia ) , which , with EADS CASA of Spain developed the CN @-@ 235 aircraft , which has been exported to many countries . B. J. Habibie , a former Indonesian president played an important role in this achievement . While active as a professor in Germany , Habibie conducted many research assignments , producing theories on thermodynamics , construction , and aerodynamics , known as the Habibie Factor , Habibie Theorem , and Habibie Method respectively . Indonesia also hopes to manufacture the South Korean KAI KF @-@ X fighter .

Indonesia has a well established railway industry , with its state @-@ owned train manufacturer company , the Indonesian Railway Industry ( Indonesian : PT . Industri Kereta Api ) , located in Madiun , East Java . Since 1982 the company has been producing passenger train wagons , freight wagons and other railway technologies and exported to many countries , such as Malaysia and Bangladesh . In the 1980s an Indonesian engineer , Tjokorda Raka Sukawati invented a road construction technique named Sosrobahu which becomes famous afterwards and widely used by many countries . The technology has been exported to the Philippines , Malaysia , Thailand and Singapore and in 1995 , a patent was granted to Indonesia .

= = Demographics = =

According to the 2010 national census , the population of Indonesia is 237 @. @ 6 million , with high population growth at 1 @. @ 9 % . 58 % of the population lives in Java , the world 's most populous island . In 1961 , the first post @-@ colonial census gave a total population of 97 million .

Indonesia currently possess a relatively young population , with a median age of 28 @. @ 2 years ( 2011 estimate ) .

The population is expected to grow to around 269 million by 2020 and 321 million by 2050 . An additional 8 million Indonesian live overseas , comprising one of the world 's largest diasporas . Most of them settled in Malaysia , Saudi Arabia , United Arab Emirates , South Korea , Japan , Singapore , Netherlands , United States , and Australia .

= = = Ethnic groups = = =

Indonesia is a very ethnically and linguistically diverse country , with around 300 distinct native ethnic groups , and 742 different languages and dialects . Most Indonesians are descended from Austronesian @-@ speaking peoples whose languages can be traced to Proto @-@ Austronesian , which possibly originated in Taiwan . Another major grouping are the Melanesians , who inhabit eastern Indonesia .

The largest ethnic group are the Javanese , who comprise 42 % of the population , and are politically and culturally dominant . The Sundanese , ethnic Malays , and Madurese are the largest non @-@ Javanese groups . A sense of Indonesian nationhood exists alongside strong regional identities .

Social , religious and ethnic tensions have triggered communal violence . Chinese Indonesians are an influential ethnic minority comprising 3 ? 4 % of the population . Much of the country 's privately owned commerce and wealth is Chinese @-@ Indonesian @-@ controlled . Chinese businesses in Indonesia are part of the larger bamboo network , a network of overseas Chinese businesses operating in the markets of Southeast Asia that share common family and cultural ties . This has contributed to considerable resentment , and even anti @-@ Chinese violence .

= = = Languages = = =

More than 700 regional languages are spoken in Indonesia 's numerous islands . Most belong to the Austronesian language family , with a few Papuan languages also spoken . The official language is Indonesian ( also known as Bahasa Indonesia ) a variant of Malay , which was used in the archipelago . It borrows heavily from local languages such as Javanese , Sundanese , Minangkabau , etc . Indonesian is primarily used in commerce , administration , education and the media , but most Indonesians speak other languages , such as Javanese , as their first language .

Indonesian is based on the prestige dialect of Malay , that of the Johor @-@ Riau Sultanate , which for centuries had been the lingua franca of the archipelago . It is the official language of Singapore , Malaysia and Brunei . Indonesian is universally taught in schools and consequently is spoken by nearly every Indonesian . It is the language of business , politics , national media , education , and academia .

Indonesian was promoted by Indonesian nationalists in the 1920s , and declared the official language under the name Bahasa Indonesia in the proclamation of independence in 1945 . Most Indonesians speak at least one of several hundred local languages and dialects , often as their first language . In comparison , Papua has over 270 indigenous Papuan and Austronesian languages , in a region of about 2 @. @ 7 million people . Javanese is the most widely spoken local language , as it is the language of the largest ethnic group .

= = = Urban centres = = =

= = = Religion = = =

While religious freedom is stipulated in the Indonesian constitution , the government officially recognises only six religions : Islam , Protestantism , Roman Catholicism , Hinduism , Buddhism , and Confucianism . Indonesia is the world 's most populous Muslim majority country , at 87 @. @ 2 % in 2010 , with the majority being Sunni Muslims ( 99 % ) . The Shias and Ahmadis respectively constitute 0 @. @ 5 % and 0 @. @ 2 % of the Muslim population .

In 2010 , Christians made up almost 10 % of the population ( 7 % of the total population was Protestant , 2 @. @ 9 % Roman Catholic ) , 1 @. @ 7 % were Hindu , and 0 @. @ 9 % were Buddhist or other . Most Indonesian Hindus are Balinese , and most Buddhists in modern @-@ day Indonesia are ethnic Chinese .

Though now minority religions , Hinduism and Buddhism remain defining influences in Indonesian culture . Islam was first adopted by Indonesians in northern Sumatra in the 13th century , through

the influence of traders , and became the country 's dominant religion by the 16th century .

Roman Catholicism was brought to Indonesia by early Portuguese colonialists and missionaries , and the Protestant denominations are largely a result of Dutch Reformed and Lutheran missionary efforts during the country 's colonial period . A large proportion of Indonesians ? such as the Javanese abangan , Balinese Hindus , and Dayak Christians ? practice a less orthodox , syncretic form of their religion , which draws on local customs and beliefs .

Most of indigenous native Indonesian beliefs could be categorised as animism , shamanism as well as ancestral worship . Examples of Indonesian native belief systems are Sundanese Sunda Wiwitan , Dayak 's Kaharingan and Batak 's Parmalim faith , and to some extent Javanese Kejawen belief . There are also a number of indigenous deities and ancestral worship in Kalimantan , Sulawesi , and Papua .

#### = = = Education = = =

Education in Indonesia is compulsory for twelve years . Parents can choose between state @-@ run , non sectarian public schools supervised by Depdiknas ( Department of National Education ) or private or semi @-@ private religious ( usually Islamic ) schools supervised and financed by the Department of Religious Affairs . The enrolment rate is 94 % for primary education ( 2011 ) , 75 % for secondary education , and 27 % for tertiary education . The literacy rate is 93 % ( 2011 ) .

By 2014 , there were 118 state universities in Indonesia . Entry to higher education depends on the nationwide entrance examination ( SNMPTN and SBMPTN ) . According to the 2015 Times Higher Education World University Rankings , the top university in Indonesia is University of Indonesia ( rank 310 , dropped from 201 in 2009 ) , followed by Bandung Institute of Technology ( in the 431 @-@ 460 rank range ) and Gadjah Mada University ( in the 551 ? 600 rank range ) . Five other Indonesian universities , including Airlangga University , Bogor Institute of Agriculture , Diponegoro University , Sepuluh Nopember Institute of Technology and Brawijaya University all huddled in the 701 + range . All of educational institutions located in Java . Andalas University is pioneering the establishment of a leading university outside of Java .

#### = = Tourism = =

Both nature and culture are major components of Indonesian tourism . The natural heritage can boast a unique combination of a tropical climate , vast archipelago and long stretch of beaches . These natural attractions are complemented by a rich cultural heritage that reflects Indonesia 's dynamic history and ethnic diversity . The ancient Prambanan and Borobudur temples , Toraja and Bali , with its Hindu festivities , are some of the popular destinations for cultural tourism .

Indonesia has a well @-@ preserved natural ecosystem with rainforests that stretch over about 57 % of Indonesia 's land ( 225 million acres ) . Forests on Sumatra and Kalimantan are examples of popular tourist destinations , such as Orang Utan wildlife reserve . Moreover , Indonesia has one of the longest coastlines in the world , measuring 54 @,@ 716 kilometres ( 33 @,@ 999 mi ) .

With 20 % of the world 's coral reefs , over 3 @,@ 000 different species of fish and 600 coral species , deep water trenches , volcanic sea mounts , World War II wrecks , and an endless variety of macro life , scuba diving in Indonesia is both excellent and inexpensive . Bunaken National Marine Park , at the northern tip of Sulawesi has more than 70 % of all the known fish species of the Indo @-@ Western Pacific Ocean . According to Conservation International , marine surveys suggest that the marine life diversity in the Raja Ampat Islands is the highest recorded on Earth . Moreover , there are over 3 @,@ 500 species living in Indonesian waters , including sharks , dolphins , manta rays , turtles , morays , cuttlefish , octopus and scorpaenidae , compared to 1 @,@ 500 on the Great Barrier Reef .

Indonesia has 8 UNESCO World Heritage Sites , such as the Komodo National Park , Cultural Landscape of Bali , Ujung Kulon National Park , Lorentz National Park , Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra , comprises three national parks on the island of Sumatra : Gunung Leuser National Park , Kerinci Seblat National Park and the Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park ; and 18 World

Heritage Sites in tentative list , such as the historic urban centres of Jakarta Old Town , Sawahlunto Old Coal Mining Town , Semarang Old Town , as well as Muara Takus Compound Site .

The heritage tourism is focussed on specific interest on Indonesian history , such as colonial architectural heritage of Dutch East Indies era . The activities among others are visiting museums , churches , forts and historical colonial buildings , as well as spend some nights in colonial heritage hotels . The popular heritage tourism attractions are Jakarta Old Town and the royal Javanese courts of Yogyakarta , Surakarta and the Mangkunegaran .

Bali island received the Best Island award from Travel and Leisure in 2010 . The island of Bali won because of its attractive surroundings ( both mountain and coastal areas ) , diverse tourist attractions , excellent international and local restaurants , and the friendliness of the local people . According to BBC Travel released in 2011 , Bali is one of the World 's Best Islands , ranking second after Santorini , Greece . Bali is a major world surfing destination , with popular breaks dotted across the southern coastline and around the offshore island of Nusa Lembongan . As part of the Coral Triangle , Bali , including Nusa Penida , offers a wide range of dive sites with varying types of reefs .

Urban tourism activities includes shopping , sightseeing in big cities , or enjoying modern amusement parks , resorts , spas , nightlife and entertainment . Beautiful Indonesia Miniature Park as well as Ancol Dreamland with Dunia Fantasi ( Fantasy World ) theme park and Atlantis Water Adventure are Jakarta 's answer to Disneyland @-@ style amusement park and water park . The capital city , Jakarta , is a shopping hub in Southeast Asia . The city has numerous shopping malls and traditional markets . With a total of 550 hectares , Jakarta has the world 's largest shopping mall floor area within a single city . The annual " Jakarta Great Sale " is held every year in June and July to celebrate Jakarta 's anniversary . Bandung is a popular shopping destination for fashion products among Malaysians and Singaporeans .

Since January 2011 , Wonderful Indonesia has been the slogan of an international marketing campaign directed by the Indonesian Ministry of Culture and Tourism to promote tourism . In year 2015 , 10 @.@ 4 million international visitors entered Indonesia , staying in hotels for an average of 8 @.@ 5 nights and spending an average of US \$ 1 @, @ 190 per person during their visit , or US \$ 140 per person per day .

= = Culture = =

Indonesia has about 300 ethnic groups , each with cultural identities developed over centuries , and influenced by Indian , Arabic , Chinese , and European sources . Traditional Javanese and Balinese dances , for example , contain aspects of Hindu culture and mythology , as do wayang kulit ( shadow puppet ) performances .

Textiles such as batik , ikat , ulos and songket are created across Indonesia in styles that vary by region . In October 2009 , Indonesian batik has been recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity , and has become the national costume . Currently , Indonesia holds 6 items of UNESCO 's Intangible Cultural Heritage , which include wayang puppet theatre , Indonesian kris , batik and angklung .

Wood carving traditions exist in many parts of the country , with exceptional examples are in Jepara in Central Java , Bali , and Asmat . Traditional carpentry , masonry , stone and woodwork techniques and decorations are also thrived in Indonesian vernacular architecture , with numbers of traditional houses ' styles has been developed . The traditional houses and settlements of the several hundreds ethnic groups of Indonesia are extremely varied and all have their own specific history .

The Indonesian film industry 's popularity peaked in the 1980s and dominated cinemas in Indonesia , although it declined significantly in the early 1990s . Between 2000 and 2005 , the number of Indonesian films released each year has steadily increased .

= = = Architecture = = =

Architecture reflects the diversity of cultural that have shaped Indonesia as a whole . Invaders , colonisers , missionaries , merchants and traders brought cultural changes that had a profound effect on building styles and techniques . The most dominant influences on Indonesian architecture have traditionally been Indian ; however , Chinese , Arab , and European architectural influences have been significant .

The Indonesia traditional houses are at the centre of a web of customs , social relations , traditional laws , taboos , myths and religions that bind the villagers together . The house provides the main focus for the family and its community , and is the point of departure for many activities of its residents . Traditional houses hold a prominent position in the society , relates to its social significance .

Example of Indonesian vernacular architecture including Toraja 's Tongkonan , Minangkabau 's Rumah Gadang and Rangkang , Javanese style Pendopo pavilion with Joglo style roof , Dayak 's longhouses , various Malay houses , Balinese houses and temples , and also various styles of lumbung ( rice barns ) .

= = = Music = = =

The music of Indonesia predates historical records . Various native Indonesian tribes incorporate chants and songs accompanied with musical instruments in their rituals . Traditional Indonesian instruments include angklung , kacapi suling , siteran , gong , gamelan , degung , gong kebyar , bambung , talempong , kulintang and sasando .

The diverse world of Indonesian music genres was the result of the musical creativity of its people , and subsequent cultural encounters with foreign musical influences into the archipelago . Next to distinctive native form of musics , several genres can trace their origins to foreign influences , such as gambus and qasidah from Middle Eastern Islamic music , keroncong from Portuguese influences , and dangdut ? one of the most popular music genres in Indonesia ? with notable Hindi music influence as well as Malay orchestras .

Today , Indonesian music industry enjoys nationwide popularity . Thanks to common culture and intelligible languages between Indonesian and Malay , Indonesian music enjoyed regional popularity in neighbouring countries such as Malaysia , Singapore and Brunei . However , the overwhelming popularity of Indonesian music in Malaysia had alarmed the Malaysian music industry . In 2008 , Malaysian music industry demanded the restriction of Indonesian songs on Malaysian radio broadcasts .

= = = Dance = = =

Traditional dance of Indonesia reflect the rich diversity of Indonesian people . The dance traditions in Indonesia ; such as Javanese , Sundanese , Minangkabau , Balinese , Malays , Acehnese and many other dances traditions are age old traditions , yet also a living and dynamic traditions . Several royal houses ; the istanas and keratons still survived in some parts of Indonesia and become the haven of cultural conservation . The obvious difference between courtly dance and common folk dance traditions is the most evident in Javanese dance . The palace court traditions also evident in Balinese and Malay court which usually imposed refinement and prestige . Sumatran courtly culture such as the remnant of Aceh Sultanate and Palembang Sultanate , are more influenced by Islamic culture , while Java and Bali are more deeply rooted in their Hindu @-@ Buddhist heritage .

Dances in Indonesia are believed by many scholars to have had their beginning in rituals and religious worship . Such dances are usually based on rituals , like the war dances , the dance of witch doctors , and dance to call for rain or any agricultural related rituals such as Hudoq dance ritual of Dayak people . In Bali , dances has become the integral part of Hindu Balinese rituals . Sacred ritual dances performed only in Balinese temples such as sacred Sanghyang dedari and Barong dance .

The commoners folk dance is more concerned with social function and entertainment value than

rituals . The Javanese Ronggeng and Sundanese Jaipongan is the fine example of this common folk dance traditions . Both are social dances that are more for entertainment purpose than rituals . Randai is a folk theatre tradition of the Minangkabau people which incorporates dance , music , singing , drama and the martial art of silat . Certain traditional folk dances has been developed into mass dance with simple but structurised steps and movements , such as Poco @-@ poco dance from Minahasa and Sajojo dance from Papua .

### == Sports ==

Sports in Indonesia are generally male @-@ oriented and spectator sports are often associated with illegal gambling . The most popular sports are badminton and football . Indonesian players have won the Thomas Cup ( the world team championship of men 's badminton ) thirteen of the twenty @-@ six times that it has been held since 1949 , as well as numerous Olympic medals since the sport gained full Olympic status in 1992 . Indonesian women have won the Uber Cup , the female equivalent of the Thomas Cup , 3 times , in 1975 , 1994 and 1996 . Liga Super Indonesia is the country 's premier football club league .

On the international stage , Indonesia experienced limited success despite being the first Asian team to qualify for the FIFA World Cup in 1938 as Dutch East Indies . In 1956 , the football team played in the Olympics and played a hard @-@ fought draw against the Soviet Union . On the continent level , Indonesia won the bronze medal once in football in the 1958 Asian Games . Indonesia 's first appearance in Asian Cup was back in 1996 . The Indonesian national team qualified for the Asian Cup in 2000 , 2004 and 2007 AFC Asian Cup , however unable to move through next stage .

Boxing is a popular combative sport spectacle in Indonesia . Some of famous Indonesian boxers are Ellyas Pical , three times IBF Super flyweight champion ; Nico Thomas , Muhammad Rachman , and Chris John . For racing sport , Indonesia has Rio Haryanto who become the first Indonesian to compete in Formula One .

Traditional sports include sepak takraw , and bull racing in Madura . In areas of Indonesia with a history of tribal warfare , mock fighting contests are held , such as caci in Flores and pasola in Sumba . Pencak Silat is an Indonesian martial art and in 1987 , became one of the sporting events in Southeast Asian Games , with Indonesia appearing as one of the leading forces in this sport . In Southeast Asia , Indonesia is one of the major sport powerhouses by winning the Southeast Asian Games 10 times since 1977 .

### == Media ==

Media freedom in Indonesia increased considerably after the end of President Suharto 's rule , during which the now @-@ defunct Ministry of Information monitored and controlled domestic media , and restricted foreign media . The TV market includes ten national commercial networks , and provincial networks that compete with public TVRI . Private radio stations carry their own news bulletins and foreign broadcasters supply programs . At a reported 25 million users in 2008 , Internet usage was estimated at 12 @.@ 5 % in September 2009 . More than 30 million cell phones are sold in Indonesia each year , and 27 % of them are local brands .

### == Cinema ==

The first domestically produced film in the Indies was in 1926 : Loetoeng Kasaroeng , a silent film by Dutch director L. Heuveldorp . This adaptation of the Sundanese legend was made with local actors by the NV Java Film Company in Bandung .

After independence , the film industry expanded rapidly , with six films made in 1949 rising to 58 in 1955 . Djamaluddin Malik 's Persari often emulating American genre films and the working practices of the Hollywood studio system , as well as remaking popular Indian films . The Sukarno government used cinema for nationalistic , anti @-@ Western purposes . Foreign film imports were

banned . After the overthrow of Sukarno by Suharto 's New Order regime , films were regulated through a censorship code that aimed to maintain the social order . Usmar Ismail , a director from West Sumatra made a major imprint in Indonesian film in the 1950s and 1960s .

The industry reached its peak in the 1980s , with such successful films as Nagabonar ( 1987 ) and Catatan Si Boy ( 1989 ) . Warkop 's comedy films , directed by Arizal also proved to be successful . The industry has also found appeal among teens with such fare as Pintar @-@ pintar Bodoh ( 1982 ) , and Maju Kena Mundur Kena ( 1984 ) . Actors during this era included Deddy Mizwar , Eva Arnaz , Meriam Bellina , and Rano Karno .

Under the Reformasi movement , independent filmmaking was a rebirth of the filming industry in Indonesia , where film 's started addressing topics which were previously banned such as ; religion , race , love and other topics . Riri Riza and Mira Lesmana were the new generation of Indonesian film figures who co @-@ directed of Kuldesak ( 1999 ) , Petualangan Sherina ( 2000 ) , Ada Apa dengan Cinta ? ( 2002 ) , Gie ( 2005 ) , and Laskar Pelangi ( 2008 ) . Locally made film quality has gone up in 2012 , this is attested by the international release of films such as The Raid : Redemption , Modus Anomali , Dilema , Lovely Man , and Java Heat .

= = = Literature = = =

The oldest evidence of writing in Indonesia is a series of Sanskrit inscriptions dated to the 5th century . Many of Indonesia 's peoples have strongly rooted oral traditions , which help to define and preserve their cultural identities . In written poetry and prose , a number of traditional forms dominate , mainly syair , pantun , gurindam , hikayat and babad . Some of these works are Syair Raja Siak , Syair Abdul Muluk , Hikayat Abdullah , Hikayat Bayan Budiman , Hikayat Hang Tuah , Sulalatus Salatin , and Babad Tanah Jawi .

Early modern Indonesian literature originates in Sumatran tradition . Balai Pustaka , the government bureau for popular literature , was instituted around 1920 to promote the development of indigenous literature , it adopted Malay as the preferred common medium for Indonesia . Important figures in modern Indonesian literature include : Dutch author Multatuli , who criticised treatment of the Indonesians under Dutch colonial rule ; Sumatrans Mohammad Yamin and Hamka , who were influential pre @-@ independence nationalist writers and politicians ; and proletarian writer Pramoedya Ananta Toer , Indonesia 's most famous novelist . Pramoedya earned several accolades , and was frequently discussed as Indonesia 's and Southeast Asia 's best candidate for a Nobel Prize in Literature .

Indonesian literature and poetry flourished even more in the first half of the 20th century . Chairil Anwar was considered as the greatest literary figure of Indonesia by American poet and translator , Burton Raffel . He was among those youngsters who pioneered in changing the traditional Indonesian literature and modifying it on the lines of the newly independent country . Some of his popular poems include Krawang @-@ Bekasi , Diponegoro and Aku . Other major authors include Marah Roesli ( Sitti Nurbaya ) , Merari Siregar ( Azab dan Sengsara ) , Abdul Muis ( Salah Asuhan ) , Djameluddin Adinegoro ( Darah Muda ) , Sutan Takdir Alisjahbana ( Layar Terkembang ) , and Amir Hamzah ( Nyanyi Sunyi ) whose works are among the most well known in Maritime Southeast Asia .

= = = Cuisine = = =

Indonesian cuisine is one of the most vibrant and colourful cuisines in the world , full of intense flavour . It is diverse , in part because Indonesia is composed of approximately 6 @,@ 000 populated islands of the total 18 @,@ 000 in the world 's largest archipelago , with more than 300 ethnic groups calling Indonesia their home . Many regional cuisines exist , often based upon indigenous culture and foreign influences such as Chinese , European , Middle Eastern , and Indian precedents . Rice is the main staple food and is served with side dishes of meat and vegetables . Spices ( notably chili ) , coconut milk , fish and chicken are fundamental ingredients .

Some popular Indonesian dishes such as nasi goreng , gado @-@ gado , sate , and soto are

ubiquitous in the country and considered as national dishes . The official national dish of Indonesia however , is tumpeng , chosen in 2014 by Indonesian Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy as the dish that binds the diversity of Indonesia 's various culinary traditions . Another popular Indonesian dishes like rendang which is one of many Minangkabau cuisine , beside of dendeng and gulai . Fermented food such as oncom , similar in some ways to tempeh but using a variety of bases ( not only soy ) , created by different fungi , and particularly popular in West Java .