



JACOB RUMBIAK

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Launch, *Paradise Betrayed, West Papua's Struggle for Independence*
John Martinkus, Quarterly Essay, Issue 7, 2002. Photo—Latupeirissa



PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM 2016. with Emele Duituturaga (Executive Director, Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations) and Meg Taylor (Secretary-General, Pacific Islands Forum)

UNITED LIBERATION MOVEMENT FOR WEST PAPUA, Honiara, 19 June 2015. Rex Rumakiek, Benny Wenda, Octo Mote, Leonie Tangghama, Jacob Rumbiak. Also Emele Duituturaga (PIANGO) and Hon. Ezekial Alebura (Prime Minister, Solomon Islands, 1986-89; MSG founding member)





With Xanana Gusmao, Cipinang Prison, 21 May 1998

With Xanana Gusmao, Melbourne, May 2000
Launch, Xanana's biography *To Resist is to Win*.



JACOB RUMBIAK was born in Yabon in the highland district of Ayamaru in Dutch New Guinea. His parents are from BIAK-NUMFOOR Island on the north coast. Both were primary school teachers, his father also a Protestant pastor. His mother died during childbirth in 1982 while he was studying in West Java.

After the Indonesian occupation, Daniel Rumbiak moved his family from the village to the jungle with the freedom fighters, where Jacob, then about ten, was taught to hunt and harvest and feed the families. When conditions worsened after the Act of Free Choice in 1969, he led a platoon, of thirty-seven men, in the CASSOWARY BATTALION.

Jacob lived in WEST JAVA for a decade (1977—1987), completing high school, then a Bachelor of Arts (1982) and *Doctorandus* (Masters) in Geography (1987) at the Institute for Teachers Training and Educational Sciences (IKIP) in Bandung. His studies and experiments with NON-VIOLENCE inspired the generation of Indonesians who brought down President Suharto in 1998.

In 1987 he was teaching at the Indonesian National Scientific Institute, and working at the Physical Geography Research Institute for East Indonesia as well as the Environment Resource Institute of Indonesia, when the Indonesian government appointed him head of the Physical Science Department at Cenderawasih University in JAYAPURA (West Papua).



Wewak (PNG) Feb 2002, Prime Minister Somare with United West Papua National Front for Independence (fore-runner of West Papua National Authority)



right—Canberra, January 2002. 30th Anniversary Tent Embassy. With Rex Rumakiek, and Kevin Buzzacott (Arabunna Nation). Photos—Margaret Gilchrist



RMIT University President Professor Ruth Dunkin. Induction as Senior Research Associate as a leading scholar on Indonesia and West Papua' at Globalism Institute, 1 August 2002. *Photo*—Tommy Latupeirissa



Port Vila, Vanuatu, 4 Aug 2004, with Prime Minister Vohor and OPM's Andy Ayamiseba



Kava Ceremony, 1st Melanesian culture festival in Holland, 25 April 2007. *Photo*—Tommy Latupeirissa

right—Royal Library, The Hague, 15 Nov 2005, with Richard Samuelson and Benny Wenda for launch of Professor Pieter Drooglever's *Review of Act of Free Choice*

At CENDERAWASIH UNIVERSITY, Jacob taught Papuan intellectuals, students, and former political prisoners NON-VIOLENCE in accordance with NEW TESTAMENT principles and the cultural-political persuasions of the WEST MELANESIA COUNCIL (fore-runner of the West Papua National Authority and the declaratory Federal Republic of West Papua).

In 1989, he was charged with subversion with a life sentence; incarcerated in eight military and four civilian prisons, then TANGERANG PRISON at the top of a thirty-foot stone tower, and finally CIPINANG PRISON alongside Xanana Gusmao. (He described Cipinang in Xanana's autobiography as a 'first-class Indonesian jail'). In 1999, he escaped to EAST TIMOR to report on the referendum for Xanana, and from there was flown to Australia on a RAAF Hercules with Bishop Belo. He accepted Australian citizenship in 2006.

Jacob was part of West Papua's delegation to the PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM in Fiji (2002), New Zealand (2003), Fiji (2006), PNG (2015); and the MELANESIAN SPEARHEAD GROUP in PNG (2005), Kanaky (2013), Solomon Islands (2015). In 2006 he met the UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DECOLONIZATION in Fiji. In 2007, he signed the ground-breaking UNITARY DAY PORT VILA DECLARATION with the Maraki Vanuariki Council of Chiefs and Port Vila Council of Chiefs.

In 2003 he was in the West Papua delegation to the EUROPEAN UNION in Brussels. In 2004 he presented to JAPAN'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS Department in Tokyo. In 2006 he attended the International Solidarity Movement meeting in CANADA, and organized the first MELANESIAN Cultural Festival in HOLLAND.

In 2011, Jacob was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs in the FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF WEST PAPUA, and in 2012 he participated in executive-level talks in Jakarta with Indonesian President Yudhoyono.

In December 2014, during the Reconciliation and Unity Summit for West Papuan Leaders in Vanuatu, Jacob was elected an Executive Officer of the UNITED LIBERATION MOVEMENT FOR WEST PAPUA, the committee charged with drafting and presenting West Papua's (successful) application to join the Melanesian Spearhead Group and Pacific Islands Forum.





PORT VILA, West Papua Summit, 16 November–1 December 2007

Jacob Rumbiak, Paramount Chief, Malvatumaui Council; Moana Carcasses Kalosil MP receiving Unity Day Declaration; West Papua National Authority—Frans Kapisa, Jacob Rumbiak, Gwas Gwas, Abraham Kareni, Dominggus Arrongear. Photos—Tommy Latupeirissa



**KANAKY
18–22 November 2010**

Labour Party Congress
Parti Travailleiste, Iaai Island

Photos—Tommy Latupeirissa (RMS)



PORT VILA, 30 Nov–4 Dec 2014.

Reconciliation and Unity Summit for West Papuan Leaders. Some of the delegates with Francois Pihataae (General-Secretary, Pacific Conference of Churches)

Photo—Tommy Latupeirissa (RMS)



**TIMOR LORO SA'E, 21 May 2012
President Taur Matan Ruak**

10th anniversary of independence
Photo—Robert Neal