



# ASIA JUSTICE AND RIGHTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2015





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## **Message from the President**

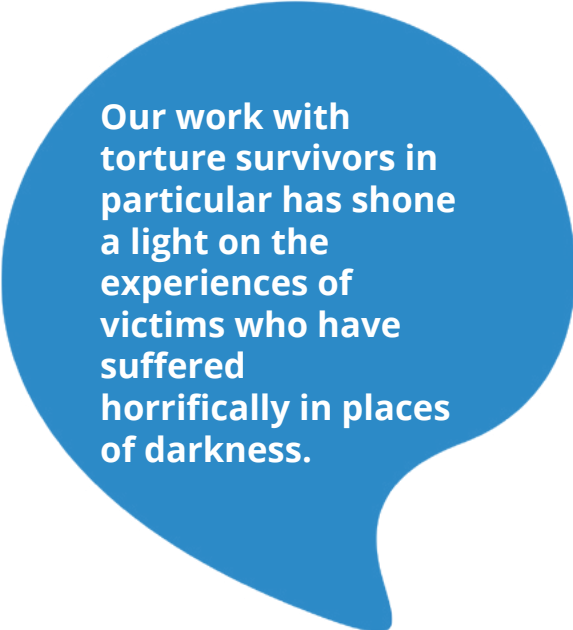
This year has been one of growth for AJAR, moving cautiously outward and engaging more deeply across Asia, building networks and learning which of our strategies are most effective in the range of transitional settings in which we work.

Some of the lessons learned from our 2015 activities have corroborated our earlier approaches and reinforced the need for us to do more. For example, it is clear that sustainable change can only be achieved if there is a large-scale change in the level of awareness of a population. This is particularly true in contexts where information has been manipulated for decades by dictators and authoritarian rulers.

Unless people understand their rights and believe that accountability is possible they will not engage with movements to achieve that goal. If populations have not been exposed to modern trends in relation to gender equality, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedoms relating to sexual identity, etc, they are not likely to join any movement for change in relation to these issues. Moreover, without popular support such movements will not be successful.

Two elements are necessary in order to affect change. First, we need to find ways to spread human rights messages not just to the few participants of training workshops, for example, but to thousands or even millions of people. Second, we need to share examples of change in other contexts, so that people can see that their human rights goals can be achieved, albeit in different forms and via a range of methods. This will provide the inspiration, hope and belief that a life without massive human rights violations, injustice, blanket impunity and powerlessness for the poor is not the only alternative. In transitional settings, where the potential for change is high, we need to sow the seeds of these other possibilities, as people gradually and cautiously become accustomed to their changing realities. Of course, presenting alternatives also needs to be done sensitively in order to manage expectations.

Using audiovisual tools to disseminate human rights related information is an exciting new method AJAR has employed during 2015 to share participatory learning experiences with large numbers of people. Our work with torture survivors in particular has shone a light on the experiences of victims who have suffered horrifically in places of darkness.



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The production of *The Sun, the Moon and the Truth* presents a wide range of rights issues to the TV-viewing public in Myanmar. Short films made in participatory learning workshops with victims are shared on YouTube and through social media. These methods complement the more focused research and policy papers that AJAR produces which, while not necessarily read by most ordinary people, are nonetheless essential for policy makers who require evidence-based research on which to base new policies and laws. Both are required if we want to affect change and garner sufficient popular support to sustain it moving forward. The networks we are creating and supporting, within countries and across the region, are opening minds to the possibility of new strategies based on the experiences of others.

The need for sustained work even in the face of entrenched opposition is also evident from the results of AJAR's work during 2015. The 2005 Timor-Leste truth commission (CAVR) report provided a comprehensive range of lessons relating to rights and violations and specific recommendations for government departments, law enforcement agencies, school administrators, social services departments, etc. The report is a comprehensive resource with significant potential but only if it is used by the Timor-Leste parliament as a base for action. AJAR

has been working consistently with these policy makers over the past five years, and finally in 2015 the Prime Minister has promised to establish a follow-on institution to implement the CAVR recommendations. This is a very positive step forward and we have high hopes for further progress in 2016 and beyond.

The story is somewhat similar in relation to the 1965 violations in Indonesia when at least 500,000 people were murdered. The factors that led to the massive human rights violations of this period, and indeed many of the key actors themselves, are still powerful forces in the country. AJAR is part of a broad coalition of over 50 NGOs that continue to raise awareness of the need for truth as a basis for development and progress in Indonesia.

I would like to thank all our partners, including local, national and regional rights organisations, international partners, donors and the change makers we are working with in governments for the progress and friendship shown during 2015. All of the successes of this year reinforce our firm view that long-term partnerships are necessary for real and sustained change.

**Patrick Burgess**

## ***In 2015, AJAR achieved some important milestones in promoting accountability and strengthening human rights in the region:***

**Torture Survivors Speak Out:** Working with partners in Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Myanmar and Sri Lanka, AJAR has used participatory methods to document the testimonies of more than 200 torture survivors, as part of a campaign to demand accountability, empower survivors and stop torture.

**Long Journey Home:** In May 2015, working with survivors of childhood abductions, we facilitated a reunion of 14 “stolen children” (now adults) with their families in Timor-Leste. During the Indonesian occupation, some 4000 Timorese children were brought to Indonesia by soldiers and state-supported agencies.

**The Sun, The Moon and The Truth:** AJAR wrote the script for a TV series made in Myanmar on the rule of law and human rights. The first season of eight 60-minute episodes was launched in February and already has a strong following. By the end of 2015, the TV show was viewed by three million people in Myanmar.

**Lessons Learned on Crafting Legal Aid Laws:** AJAR participated in drafting a model UN law on legal aid at United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) headquarters in Vienna, drawing on lessons learned from Indonesia, Myanmar and the region. As a member of Southeast Asia Legal Aid Network (SEALAW), AJAR has played a key role in sharing legal aid models across countries, highlighting best practices and gaps.

**Marking 50 Years Since the 1965 Atrocities in Indonesia:** Despite official silence on redress for victims of 1965, survivors and civil society continue to speak out about what happened half a decade ago. AJAR is using multi-media strategies to help amplify their voices.

**Natural Resource Conflict in Transitions:** Bringing a group of 12 environmental activists from Myanmar, we facilitated a learning exchange on natural resource conflict

during transitions in Aceh and Indonesia. The group found common lessons in peace processes, including shifting roles of former combatants to local leaders, and post-conflict natural resource exploitation.

**The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee urges redress for women victims in Timor-Leste:** Based on submissions made by civil society organisations, the CEDAW (Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women) Committee pressed the Timor-Leste government to end impunity for sexual violence during the conflict and provide transformative reparations to women victims.

**Ten Years since the Chega! Report:** Since Timor-Leste's truth commission report was submitted to the government in 2005, its key recommendations on justice and reparations have yet to be implemented. In November 2015, AJAR and partners facilitated a seminar with international experts and national stakeholders, which closed with a promise by Timor-Leste Prime Minister, Dr Rui Maria de Araujo, to take action.



***Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR)***, established in 2009, is a non-profit human rights organisation based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

**OUR VISION:**

Governments and civil society in Asia-Pacific are recognised internationally as leading the way in courageously and honestly confronting past violations and combating impunity, using this process to construct new societies based on universal principles of human rights.

**OUR MISSION:**

To increase the capacity of local and national actors, including victims' organisations, in the fight against entrenched impunity, and to contribute to building cultures based on accountability, justice and a willingness to learn from the root causes of mass human rights violations in the Asia-Pacific region.



### **OUR GOALS:**

- Empower local actors to fight for the fulfillment and protection of their rights.
- Increase access to the truth about mass human rights violations, including their root causes, contributing factors and effects.
- Support the healing and empowerment of victims.
- Facilitate positive change through providing safe spaces where people can interact, learn and build bridges.

### **OUR Programmememes ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:**

- Increasing accountability is the single most important factor in promoting sustainable peace and a rights-based culture.
- Sustainable change can only be built from the bottom up.
- Investing in people who have a long-term commitment to the struggle for human rights is a key strategy.
- Organisations supporting the poor and marginalised often develop organically, but they need sustained support to be successful.
- In contexts where reading is limited, learning methodologies need to include person-to-person communications and the use of film, television, social media and other technologies.

### **WHERE WE WORK:**

AJAR's head office is in Jakarta, Indonesia, with field offices in Timor-Leste and Myanmar. Currently its focus countries include Indonesia, Myanmar, Timor-Leste and Sri Lanka, each of which is at a different stage of transition. AJAR also focuses on broader South-South learning opportunities, including regional trainings and learning exchanges.





A black and white photograph of a hand, likely a woman's, with manicured nails. The nails are painted with a light-colored polish and feature a dark, speckled or 'starry' pattern. A ring with several small, round stones is visible on the ring finger. The hand is positioned diagonally across the frame, with the fingers slightly curled. The background is a solid, dark color, creating a high-contrast effect with the hand.

# ***HIGHLIGHTS 2015***





## COMBATING TORTURE

AJAR is nearing completion of a two-year, EU-funded anti-torture programme across four countries: **Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Timor-Leste**. The programme focuses on both prevention of torture and on developing community-based healing methodologies for victims. Strategies implemented as part of the programme include intensive training for frontline workers on torture prevention and trauma support, national anti-torture campaigns, legal aid for survivors, documenting victims' testimonies, high level advocacy with police and government officials, media campaigns, and providing advice on legal redress to victims of torture in their local contexts. We also engage with UN mechanisms to highlight the issues we are working on. For example, in September 2015 we presented a report titled, "The Practice of Torture: Business as Usual in Papua" at a side-event during the human rights council meeting in Geneva and met with officers of the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture.

*Our key partners across the region include:*

**Sri Lanka: The National Peace Council (NPC)** is an NGO that was established in 1995 to promote peace and a permanent resolution to the protracted conflict in Sri Lanka. NPC worked with community-based organisations with strong links with torture survivors in Eastern, Northern, Western and Southern Provinces of Sri Lanka.

**Indonesia: KontraS (Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence)** is a leading human rights NGO working with victims of violence to strengthen human rights and democracy. For this project, KontraS focused its activities on victims of current torture and victims of torture from Aceh; ELSHAM-Papua is one of the main human rights NGOs based in Jayapura.

**Timor-Leste: Assosiasaun Chega Ba Ita (Acbit)** is a sister organisation of AJAR, established to promote the findings and recommendations of Timor-Leste's Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR.) The National Victim's Association (NVA) is a voluntary association of victims and has members across all 13 districts of Timor-Leste.

**Myanmar: Wimutti Volunteer Group (WVG)** is a community-based organisation leading a special programme aimed at strengthening women former political prisoners. Legal Clinic Myanmar (LCM) provides trainings on the prevention of torture and legal aid for victims of torture. Most of LCM's activities for this project were held in Arakan and Kachin States





### *International Day for the Support of Victims of Torture - 26 June 2015*

To mark this important day, AJAR and partners conducted a four-country campaign. We organised a media event highlighting the voices of torture survivors in Asia and the need for governments to take immediate action. We issued a press release titled "Accountability for Acts of Torture is the Key to Preventing Repetition".

In **Sri Lanka**, AJAR partner, NPC held a people's tribunal for victims of torture in Colombo. They conducted a workshop to educate and empower victims of police torture, their families, and the general public on the importance of the Victim and Witness Protection Act in Ekala, Gampaha District (Western Province) and a public event to highlight issues relating to torture in Trincomalee (Eastern Province). We also organised a peaceful protest against the cruel and inhuman treatment of the minority Rohingya community of Myanmar in the Western Province.

In **Dili**, we held a public discussion on torture prevention at a former torture center (now post-truth commission office). Survivors, NGO representatives, students, members of parliament, and the head of the Scientific Criminal Investigation Unit of the police, as well as members of the diplomatic corps, participated in the event.

In **Yangon**, former women political prisoners organised the country's first public event to mark this day. Inspired by an AJAR body mapping exercise, torture survivors organised an exhibition about the practice of torture in the country. Approximately 170 participants attended the public event that was also covered by local media. In a public forum, torture survivors and relatives of victims who were tortured and killed in detention spoke about their experiences and their wishes for justice.

In **Jakarta**, AJAR partner, KontraS cooperated with the Ministry of Law and Human Rights to hold a public discussion titled "Strengthening the Role of Public Discussion of State for Termination Practices and Protection for Victims of Torture" and launch of the annual report on torture in Indonesia, "Delegitimize the Practice of Torture in Indonesia." KontraS also conducted a focus group discussion of the state institutions forum in the Ministry of Law and Human Rights office focused on strengthening the role of state institutions in preventing torture and fulfilling victims' rights.





**Khin Mi Mi Khine, coordinator of Wimutti Volunteer Group, made the following statement on national television:**

*"There are many people who endured inhumane treatment, torture or had their relatives killed. They survived torture because of their belief. We hold this event in order to get the truth that was lost for those people and their families... In the reconciliation and peace process, we have to go through the transitional justice stage. Speaking of the past is not for revenge but for reconciliation."*









## **REUNITING TIMOR-LESTE'S "STOLEN CHILDREN"**

In May 2015, AJAR reunited 14 of an estimated 4000 "stolen children" with their families, after decades of separation. These children were taken from East Timor to Indonesia by Indonesian forces during the military occupation, when most were between five and ten years old. The survivors were gathered from many areas of Indonesia, and AJAR staff in Timor-Leste gradually identified and contacted their families. Some of the Timor-Leste parents had erected gravestones for their lost children, believing them to be dead. Throughout the entire week-long programme, people approached with letters and photographs asking us for help in finding their children. The Prime Minister met with the group in his office, where he emotionally stated that his own sister had also been taken. The programme was front-page news, covered by television and other media in Timor-Leste, as well as in Indonesia and internationally.

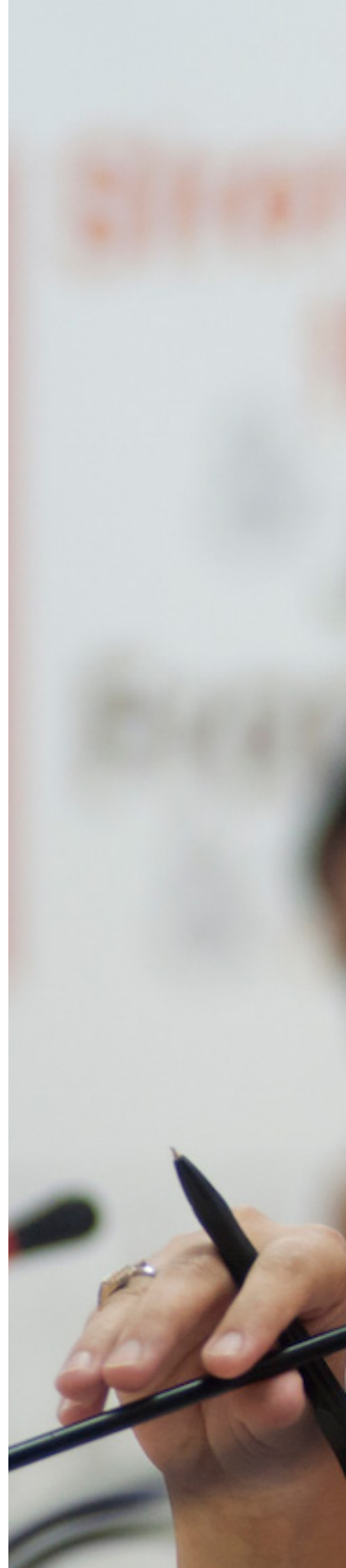
We continue to work with civil society and the national human rights institutions of Indonesia and Timor-Leste to document the stories of the stolen children.



## ***SOUTH-SOUTH EXCHANGES***

### ***Pakistan - Indonesia***

In June 2015, AJAR hosted a group of senior Pakistani government officials and civil society representatives on a week-long learning exchange visit to Indonesia. Participants expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to learn about how Indonesia manages a broad range of key issues, including the pluralist and tolerant form of Islam practiced in Indonesia, the close collaboration between government and civil society, the role of the Constitutional Court, which does not exist in Pakistan, and the role of the National Women's Commission. They were enthusiastic about continued collaboration, citing the similarities between the two nations, including large majority Muslim populations, a history of political violence and regional autonomy issues. The exchange drew on lessons learned from similar exchanges hosted by AJAR Indonesia, including our 2013 exchange visit for Myanmar parliamentarians who represent ethnic groups from conflict areas.











## ***Myanmar - Aceh, Indonesia***

In September 2015, AJAR together with the Burma Environmental Working Group (BEWG) and Karen Environmental and Social Action Network (KESAN) held an exchange visit to Aceh for 12 civil society leaders from Myanmar to share lessons and experiences from the two contexts, with support from Forest Trends.

Participants shared successes and failures in security sector reform and civilian control of natural resource sectors in Myanmar and Aceh/Indonesia. More specifically, participants explored how security sector reform and civilian oversight has progressed in Aceh's natural resources sectors since the end of the conflict, including involvement of police and ex-combatants, and how civil society organisations (CSOs) and communities have pursued reform.

The exchange visit was conducted in two phases. First, participants visited Aceh, Indonesia to learn key lessons about the natural resource conflict before and after the peace process. The second phase comprised workshop sessions held in Bali, Indonesia where participants had the opportunity to discuss in more detail the situations of Myanmar and Indonesia. Participants agreed the five-day exchange visit was highly beneficial, and discussed future plans for exchanges and learning.





## **PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH ON WOMEN AND IMPUNITY**

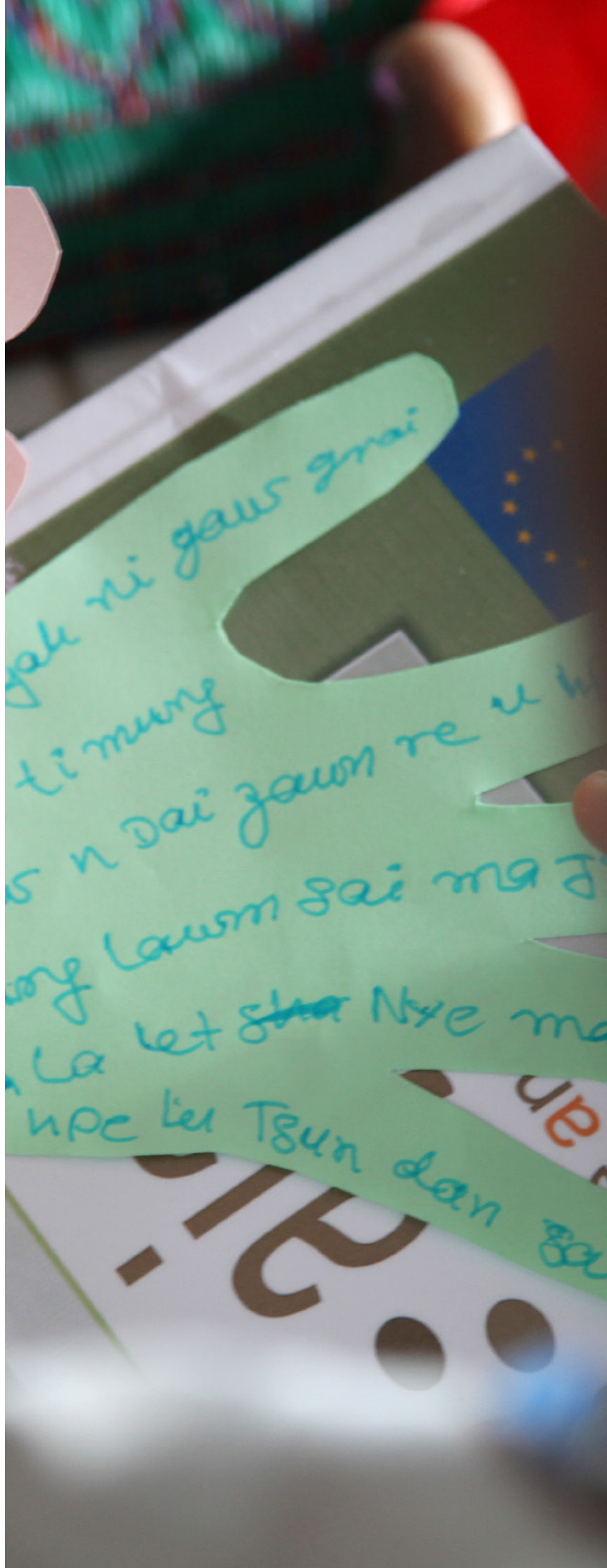
AJAR's work with torture survivors included a participatory action research programme in Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Myanmar focusing on understanding how women victims of gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict settings survive in situations where impunity is the norm. AJAR worked with women survivors of violence and torture, using participatory methods to document their stories and support their own efforts to improve their lives. A series of short videos was produced with the aim of reaching a wider audience. Findings of the research have been shared with the 1325 Global Study team led by UN Expert, Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, and presented during the Beijing Plus 20 Asia-Pacific CSO Forum last year.

In Myanmar, as a result of the participatory action research, we produced a video documentary titled, "Don't be afraid, we will be with you", which features interviews with the women survivors who participated in the project. The women spoke about their experiences of violence, their aspirations for justice, their hopes for the future and how solidarity strengthens them. The film was screened at public events in Yangon (Myanmar) and Chiang Mai (Thailand) in May 2015, during which representatives of each organisation involved in the project engaged the audience in a discussion about the situation of women survivors and the meaning of justice in the current political context.

AJAR and partners in Myanmar presented the research results in a report titled "Opening the Box: Women's Experiences of War, Peace and Impunity in Myanmar." The report compiles the stories of 29 women survivors from Burma/Myanmar – former political prisoners from Yangon and internally displaced ethnic minority women from Karen and Kachin State. It also presents the key findings of our research, introduces AJAR's methodology on participatory research with victims and provides a list of recommendations for addressing truth, justice, and reparations for the women survivors of Myanmar. The report was published in English, Burmese, Kachin

and Karen languages. During the launch in Yangon in September 2015, Galuh Wandita, AJAR Director spoke of an atrophy of justice for women victims, noting that “women victims struggle with the socio-economic impact of violence and are not able to access basic services. This further impacts their ability to access justice.”

Based on this research, AJAR’s sister organisation, ACBIT (Assosiasaun Chega Ba Ita) presented a paper, “Where are they now: Women Victims 10 years after the Chega! Report,” highlighting the neglect and discrimination faced by women survivors ten years since the truth commission report. This issue was also raised at the CEDAW Committee hearing in October 2015, resulting in a concluding observation urging the Timor-Leste government to take action.







AJAR launched its final report, **“Enduring Impunity: Women Surviving Atrocities in the Absence of Justice”** in October 2015, capturing the stories of 140 women from across the region. We also published a manual on the action research methodology titled, **“Unlearning Impunity: A Guide to Understanding and Action for Women Survivors.”**

#### **AJAR’s report received very positive reviews:**

**“***I was awestruck. Great work, team! Excellent reports and extremely thoughtful analysis. The sensitivity, care and capability with which you carried out this work came out in each of the publication and in the pictures. It was a pleasure going over the materials, surfing your website for other things and working with you and the team overall. Congratulations on concluding the work successfully.***”**

**Navsharan Singh, Senior Programme Specialist  
International Development Research Center (IDRC)**





*The approach adopted in this research is innovative and inspirational in the way the authors have carefully unpacked the dimensions of impunity experienced by the women. The researchers sought to help women survivors to 'unlearn' the acceptance of impunity, which had become a 'normal' part of their lives. Survivors were supported to think about their experiences, to tell their stories in safe environments, to share survival strategies and to create positive change for their futures.*

*Along the way the team used creative approaches drawing upon feminist psychology and cultural traditions, allowing the women to share their stories and think about the impacts of violence upon them. These included instruments for storytelling and healing such as the stone and flower ceremony, puppet performances, creating timelines and memory boxes and documenting the impact of the violence through resource and body mapping. By adopting a holistic approach the researchers also tried to address the effects of this violence within the family and community and across the generations.*

*For those survivors involved in this project and book, the effects have been profound. As Ibu Kadimiyati (a survivor and participant of the action research) explains in Enduring Impunity, 'Now I feel so much more powerful, and not so lonely anymore, because of the struggle that we must fight to dismantle violence, to get justice*

**Kate McGregor, Inside Indonesia 122: Oct-Dec 2015**



Unlearning Impunity: AJAR Manual Series

# *Stone & Flower*

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING AND ACTION  
FOR WOMEN SURVIVORS



**"Our work with  
womensurvivors  
continues"**

At the end of

**2015 AJAR**

began another cycle of  
participatory action research

with  
in indigenous women

**Papua** a women  
and survivors

in **Timor-Leste**

and **Myanmar"**



## POPULAR MEDIA FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

In May 2015, the first series of eight 60-minute episodes of the TV drama, “The Sun, the Moon and the Truth” was broadcast to large audiences on national television in Myanmar. The writing and production of the legal drama series grew from a collaboration with Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, and was supported by the British, Danish and Swedish governments. The fictional drama, created and written by AJAR, focuses on the work of a young female legal aid lawyer. It combines love stories, family intrigue, a football theme and humour with episodes focused on domestic violence, workers rights, human trafficking, environmental destruction, workers’ rights, free speech and the media, fair trial rights, and elections. The national broadcast received excellent reviews, is being repeatedly screened and will be released as a DVD set. It is estimated that millions of people in Myanmar will watch the series. AJAR recently completed the scripts for a second series of the popular show, and we are also preparing a human rights themed TV series for Timor-Leste next year.



## IN DEFIANCE

VOICES OF TORTURE  
SURVIVORS



FORD FOUNDATION



### ***AJAR also produced seven short videos on its work:***

- Four testimonies of survivors of torture from the 1965 atrocities in Indonesia as part of a series called “In Defiance.” (See below: The Act of Living: Remembering 50 years since the 1965 atrocities.)

- Three videos on our gender justice programme:

***“Stone and Flower”*** highlights the story of three women from Yogyakarta, Aceh and Timor-Leste who participated in our participatory action research.

### ***“Like the Sun Shining on the World”***

is a five minute video of AJAR’s healing workshop with survivors, using victims’ stories and artistic expression facilitated by Papermoon Puppet Theater.

### ***“Don’t be Afraid, We Will be with You”***

captures the stories and hopes of women survivors from Myanmar.

## **TEN YEARS LATER: TIMOR-LESTE TRUTH COMMISSION REPORT**

AJAR continues to widely distribute and promote *Chega!* the excellent and far-reaching report of Timor-Leste's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. AJAR's activities include distribution, media events, discussion groups and work with universities across Indonesia, including in Banda Aceh, Medan, Jakarta, Semarang, Yogyakarta, Surabaya, Malang, Bandung and Denpasar. The report is the most comprehensive account of the background of, reasons for and contributing factors to the mass violations conducted by the Indonesian military forces in Timor-Leste. It is highly relevant for other conflict areas such as Aceh and Papua in Indonesia, and also to the ongoing struggle against impunity in Indonesia.

In 2015, AJAR held a session with schoolteachers and university lecturers to encourage them to integrate the *Chega!* Report into their curriculum. Fifteen lecturers from universities in Indonesia and Timor-Leste attended a workshop in Malang

to discuss the module of *Chega!* and transitional justice. Two of the lecturers visited Dili to participate in the seminar commemorating 10 years since the *Chegar!* Report.

In November 2015, AJAR and partners in Timor-Leste facilitated a seminar to reflect on achievements and gaps in the ten years since the *Chega!* Report was submitted to the Timor-Leste government. Co-hosted by the Secretariat of the Post-CAVR, the seminar provided an opportunity for victims to voice their disappointment to policy makers about the lack of special programmes or mechanisms to follow-up the CAVR recommendations. Timor-Leste's Prime Minister closed the session with a promise to take action.

AJAR continues to work closely with the Prime Minister's Office, and will participate in a working group convened to develop a draft law for follow-up.



## **SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALING SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS**

In Timor-Leste, AJAR working with its sister organisation, ACBIT, is facilitating a process that is opening the door for victims to receive some form of social assistance. Victims are often marginalised in their own society and excluded from basic services. Workshops across six districts brought together survivors and government officials, resulting in 50-60 victims in each district being registered to receive government assistance.


Through this programme, ACBIT has directly helped more than 280 survivors across Timor-Leste to access various forms of assistance including material, medical and socio-economic support. Comprehensive needs assessments were carried out and survivors were assisted with support to rebuild homes, start a small business or raise livestock, and open personal bank accounts, for example. Others received much-needed help to access medical care including transportation to hospital and financial support for basic necessities and children's school supplies.

AJAR also facilitated a congress of Timor-Leste's National Victim's Association in Dili, in partnership with ACBIT and Asosiasaun Hak

Azasi dan Kemanusiaan (HAK). More than 60 survivors from 13 districts across Timor-Leste participated in this event, where they discussed priorities and elected office-bearers for their 2015-2020 programme. Improving victims' access to much-needed services was one of their agreed priorities.

In Indonesia, AJAR is part of a coalition of

***"As a follow-up to its Year of Truth campaign held in the previous year, KKPK held a national meeting, where they launched a comprehensive multi-dimensional effort, under the title "Six Pillars," to urge the government to fulfill its obligation to redress past human rights violations"***



50 NGOs working for justice and truth (Koalisi Keadilan dan Pengungkapan Kebenaran, KKPK). KKPK is working to end discrimination against victims and assist survivors in accessing basic services in Indonesia, including health care, financial assistance, and local recognition. As a follow-up to its Year of Truth campaign held in the previous year, KKPK held a national meeting, where they launched a comprehensive multi-dimensional effort, under the title “Six Pillars,” to urge the government to fulfill its obligation to redress past human rights violations. Hundreds of survivors have subsequently been able to access basic health care via LPSK (Witness and Victims Protection Agency) and Dinas Kesehatan (local health care agency).

In Sri Lanka, the NPC and its partners have established ‘befrienders’ communities in the Southern, Northern, and Eastern provinces. Befrienders are trained volunteers who can support healing and strengthening programmes for victims in their communities. We trained 78 volunteers of all ages, including 23 youth, to become counsellors in their community.



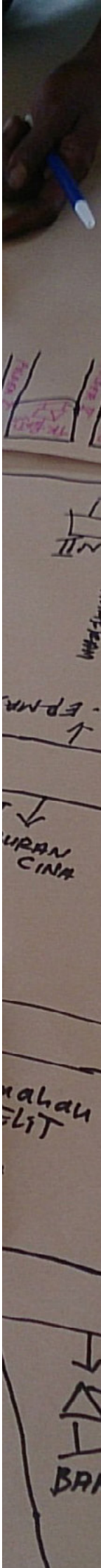


## DEVELOPING COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRES

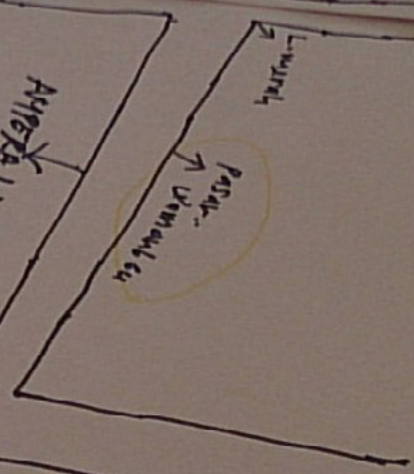
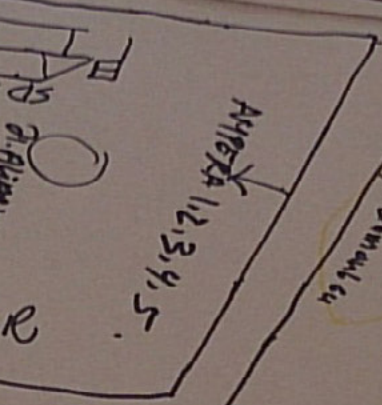
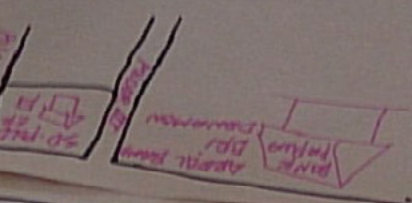
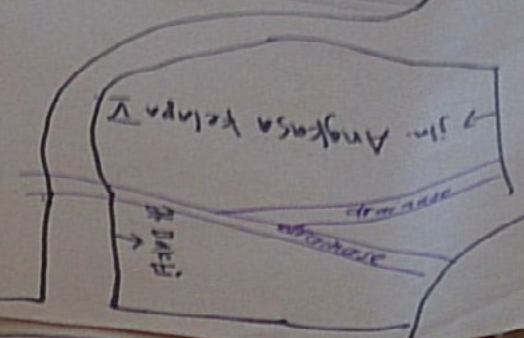
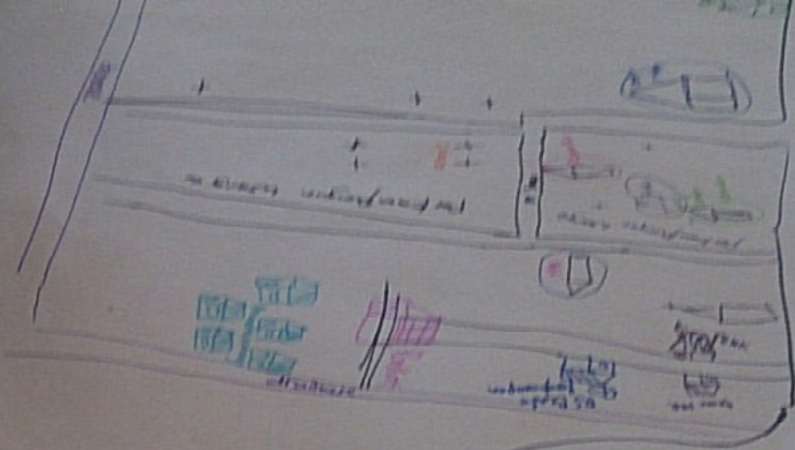
In early 2015, AJAR commenced a two-year programme to support victims of serious violations in Indonesia by establishing community-based learning centres (CLCs) focused on human rights education and capacity building. Participants in the initial workshops began to identify the needs of their communities, decide on the primary purpose of the CLCs, and develop plans to create them, recognising that CLCs must be sustainable if they are to be successful. Survivors were trained in problem solving and analysis, using a critical education approach and trauma healing methods.

Establishing these CLCs is a response to the culture of impunity that has taken root in Indonesian society. We hope to create a space where survivors can speak out about their experiences and related issues, connect with the younger generation and other members of their community, and unite in their resolve to strengthen human rights in their lives.

Working with survivors in Flores, Buru Island and Yogyakarta, AJAR has developed ways to engage community members in dialogue about their past, present and future, using community-based methods for documentation and healing, including a “walking tour” to remember the unmarked sites of conscience still officially denied today.





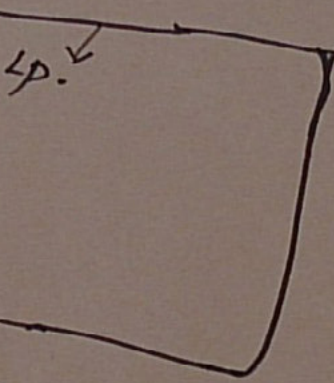


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Banyuwangi (Libra)



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GEREJA KATEDRAL. ?

PERTOKOAN

UK MANDIRI

SUMBER





## ***LEGAL AID***

AJAR works closely with legal aid and human rights organisations in the countries where it operates, linking victims with legal remedies and contributing to law reform efforts. In June 2015, AJAR President, Patrick Burgess, participated in the Expert Group drafting of a model UN law on legal aid at UNODC headquarters in Vienna. On 4-5 June, he spoke about the contribution of legal aid to the rule of law, as a keynote speaker at the Asia Institute for International Law inter-sessional conference held in Bangkok, Thailand. In May and June 2015, he participated in two working sessions on drafting a national legal aid law with the Bill Committee of the National Parliament of Myanmar. He is also International Advisor to the South East Asia Legal Aid Network (SEALAW.)





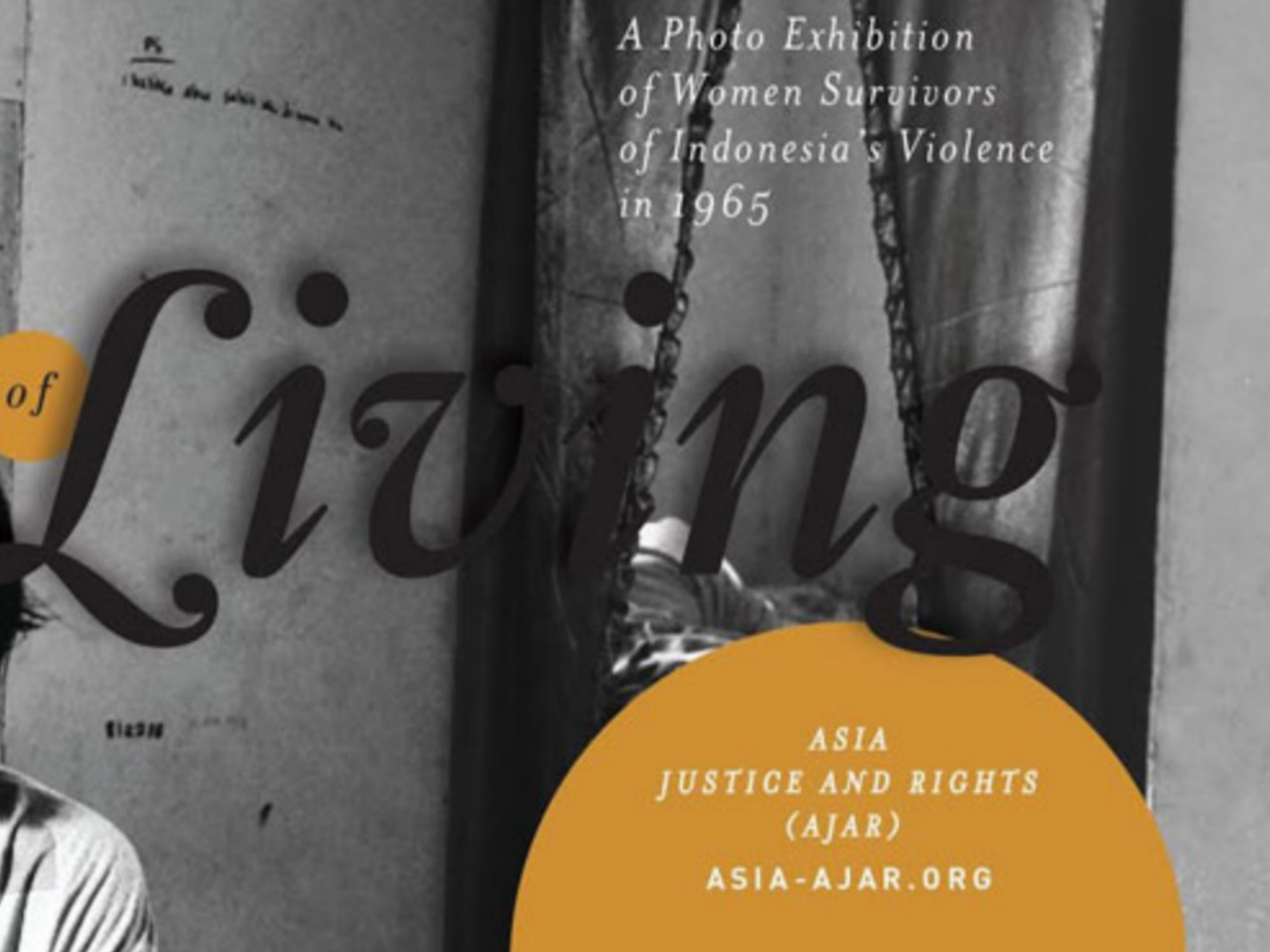
# THE Act

## ***THE ACT OF LIVING: Remembering 50 years since the 1965 atrocities***

To commemorate 50 years since the 1965 violence, AJAR and partners produced a series of video testimonies by four survivors of torture. The short video series, called “In Defiance” has been seen by more than a thousand viewers via social media.

Although Indonesia’s national human rights commission found that crimes against humanity were committed against the victims of 1965, there has been little progress towards truth and justice for survivors and their families. Campaign promises made by President Joko Widodo to deal with the past remain unfulfilled.

During 1965-1966, an estimated 500 thousand to one million people were killed across Indonesia, and hundreds of thousands more tortured and detained without trial for decades.



AJAR is working together with six partners to write a submission to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture to highlight the situation of the thousands of torture survivors in Indonesia, now elderly and many indigent, still living with stigma and discrimination.

A photo exhibition of women survivors of 1965 was curated and exhibited in four cities in Germany, in cooperation with Watch Indonesia. AJAR spoke at various venues across Europe to raise awareness of the issue. The Act of Living exhibition showcased the strength and dignity of women survivors from Buru Island, Yogyakarta, and West Timor.



## ***Thank You to Our Partners***

*We would not be able to carry out this work without the support and cooperation of our partners.*

### ***Donor List 2015***

1. Open Society Foundation
2. European Union
3. United States Agency (US-Aid)
4. Ford Foundation
5. Tifa Foundation
6. Hivos
7. Institute Development Research Center
8. The Asia Foundation
9. MAMPU (AusAid)
10. Norwegian Human Rights Fund
11. United Nation Fund for Victims of Torture
12. Foundation for Just Society
13. Forest Trend
14. The British Embassy
15. Fransiscan International
16. Royal Norwegian Embassy

### ***Timor-Leste***

1. Asosiasaun HAK
2. PDHJ (Provedoria dos Direitos Humanos e Justiça)
3. ACBit (Asosiasaun Chega! Ba Ita)
4. Asosiasaun Viktima “Konflikto Politiku” 74-99
5. FONGTIL (East Timor NGO Forum)
6. Fokupers
7. Luta Hamutuk

### ***Myanmar***

1. WFG (Wimutti Volunteer Group)
2. Partner Asia
3. Former Political Prisoner
4. Women’s Organisation Network of Myanmar
5. KWEG (Karen Women Empowerment Group)
6. Women’s League of Burma
7. Legal Clinic Myanmar
8. Educational Initiatives
9. KWAT (Kachin Women Association Thailand)
10. Ta’ang Women Organisation

### **Indonesia**

1. KontraS (Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence)
2. KontraS (Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence) Sulawesi
3. KontraS (Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence) Aceh
4. IKOHI (Indonesia Association of the Family of the Dissappeared)
5. Insist Press
6. LAPPAN (Women & Children Empowerment Group – Ambon)
7. PBH Nusa (Legal Aid Association of East Nusa Tenggara)
8. SKP HAM Palu (Survivor of Human Rights Crime Solidarity Palu)
9. PASKA Aceh
10. KIPPER Yogyakarta (Women's Action Yogyakarta)
11. Humi Inane Wamena
12. KKPK (Coalition of Justice & Truth Reconciliation)
13. Yayasan Indonesia untuk Kemanusiaan (Indonesia for Human Rights Foundation)
14. Indonesia Ministry of Foreign Affairs
15. Indonesia National Commission on Violence Against Women
16. Indonesia National Commission of Human Rights
17. International Coalition of Papua
18. Aceh Legal Aid for Children and Women (LBH APIK Aceh)

### **Regional**

1. National Peace Council of Srilanka
2. Ubud Writer's Festival
3. Alola Foundation
4. University of Melbourne
5. Monash University
6. Tapol



## **GOVERNANCE**

AJAR's Governing Board is responsible for guiding the policy work of AJAR and for the governance of the organisation. This includes providing a focused and informed voice on matters of policy in Indonesia and internationally, providing leadership and strategic direction in relation to policy and operations; oversight and monitoring of the policies and operations of AJAR; and making decisions on governance and finance matters in the best interests of AJAR.

### ***AJAR's Governing Board***

#### ***Chairperson:***

Ifdhal Kasim: lawyer and former chair of Indonesia's national human rights commission (2008-2011)

#### ***Members:***

- Putu Oka Sukanta, writer and accupunturist, Jakarta
- Zandra Mambrasar, human rights worker, Papua
- Tati Krisnawaty, women's rights advocate, West Java
- Fr. Leo Kleden SVD, educator, Flores
- I Gede Artika, businessman, Bali
- Isna Marifa, environmentalist, Jakarta
- Prihatin Asmidy, business manager, Jakarta
- Rev. Dr. John Campbell-Nelson, educator, Kupang

### ***AJAR's International Board of Advisors***

- Ian Martin, UN expert and former secretary general of Amnesty International, New York
- Priscilla Hayner, expert on truth and reconciliation commissions and peace processes, New York
- Somchai Homlaor, jurist, member of the Law Reform Commission of Thailand, and former member of Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Bangkok
- U Kyaw Mint, lawyer and founder of the Myanmar Legal Aid Network, Executive Director of the Yangon Justice Centre, Yangon
- Dr Jacqueline Hayden, expert on the protection of children in conflict areas, former Head of the Faculty of Early Childhood Education at Macquarie University, Australia
- David Mc Quoid Mason, expert on legal aid, founder of Street Law Programme, Professor of Law Durban University, Durban
- Tati Krisnawaty, former member of National Commission for Violence Against Women, leading campaigner for women's rights and migrant workers, West Java

- Kieran Dwyer, expert in human rights communications, New York
- Rosalia Sciortino, formerly senior staff of Ford Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation, expert on ASEAN, Bangkok
- Saku Akmeemana, international lawyer and access to justice specialist, Washington DC
- Howard Varney, expert on investigation and prosecution of mass crimes, advisor to a broad range of TRCs and transitional justice processes, Cape Town
- Dr Jehan Perera, expert on reconciliation and transitional justice, Colombo
- Mandira Sharma, founder and Executive Director of the Advocacy Forum of Nepal, expert on transitional justice, combating torture, London/Kathmandu
- Lewis Tyndall, Barrister and founder of Climate Roundtable, Sydney
- Pat Walsh, former Advisor to the President of Timor Leste on reconciliation issues, Dili/Melbourne



## ***Our Team***

In 2015, many hands, hearts and minds contributed to keeping AJAR's programme on-track.

Patrick Burgess, *President*

### ***Regional***

Galuh Wandita, Director

Atikah Nuraini, Institutional Learning Coordinator

Indria Fernida, Regional Programme Coordinator

Karen Campbell-Nelson, Institutional Learning and Gender Advisor

Sorang Saragih, Programme Officer

Citra Dwi Ayu, Finance Coordinator

Prabha Gulati, Institutional Development & Donor Liaison (Australian Volunteers International)

Andy Liem, Finance Advisor (Australian Volunteers International)

Yenny Satriyadini, Grant Finance Officer

Rizky Affiat, Communications Officer

### ***Indonesia***

Dodi Yuniar, Country Manager

Selviana Yolanda, Programme Officer

Neneng Kurnia, Finance Officer

### ***Timor-Leste***

Jose Luis de Oliveira, Country Director

Inocencio Xavier, Programme Officer

Leonardo Soares, Outreach Officer

Nela Correira, Finance Officer

### ***Myanmar***

Laetitia Bonnet, Country Manager

Hkawng Seng Pan, Programme Officer

Seng Pri Moon, Programme Assistant

### *Volunteers and Consultants*

Tegan Molony, New Zealand  
Anyu Olsen, USA  
Lisa Houston, UK/Thailand  
Matthew Easton, USA  
Alexandra Scrivner, USA  
Lee-Anne Henfry, Australia  
Elly Kent, Australia/Indonesia  
Pia Conradsen, Australia  
Mayra Walsh, Australia  
Ria Papermoon, Indonesia  
Muhammad Syafari Firdaus, Indonesia  
Anne-Cecile Esteve, France  
Sigit Pratama, Indonesia  
Pat Walsh, Australia  
Tati Krisnawaty, Indonesia  
Herizal Arifin, Indonesia  
Gery Paulandika, Indonesia  
Ellena Ekarahendy, Indonesia  
Janu Wibowo, Indonesia  
Sriyanto, Indonesia  
Polly Dewhirst, USA/Myanmar  
John Patrick Kelleher, New Zealand  
Ian Finch, England



## ***LIST OF ACTIVITIES OF 2015 (and number of participants)***

### January

1. Reclaiming Indonesia Launch in Jogjakarta, (30 approx)
2. Bilateral Seminar held in Dili, "How to Develop Ultimate Leadership Mentality", (30)

### February

1. AJAR participated in Capacity Development Workshop by UN Women in Morocco
2. Legal Clinic Myanmar Training for Advocacy, Yangon (15)
3. AJAR's TV series The Sun, The Moon, and The Truth first airing on Myanmar TV in Yangon
4. Truth-telling Symposium in Yangon (20)

### March

1. Workshop on Documentation in Yogyakarta dan Maumere (18)
2. Psycho-social care trainings, Yangon (16)

### April

1. Liquica Massacre Memorialization, Dili (200)
2. 1965 Victims hearing with Mayor and local authorities (20 approx)

### May

1. Second Stolen Children Reunion, Dili (13)
2. "Don't Be Afraid, We Will be With You" public film screening in Yangon & Chiang Mai (100 approx)
3. AJAR's TV series The Sun, The Moon, and The Truth first airing on Myanmar national TV in Yangon

### June

1. International Day of Support for Victims of Torture commemoration in Dili, "Comara Balide" exhibition (70)
2. International Day of Support for Victims of Torture commemoration in Yangon (120)
3. Marabia Massacre Memorialization, Marabia (500 approx)
4. South-South Exchange with Pakistan on Freedom of Religious Beliefs, Jakarta (200)
5. Online launch of four digital narratives of torture survivors

### July

1. Workshop on Strengthening Survivors to Promote Accountability in Yangon (20)
2. Online The Act of Living Photo Exhibition in coopera-



tion with Watch Indonesia (Berlin), published on Deutsche Welle

#### August

1. Community-Based Documentation Training, Buru Island (18)

#### September

1. "Practice of Torture: Business as Usual in Papua" paper presented at 30th Human Rights Council Meeting in Geneva (50)
2. Training for organizing victims community in nine place (Aceh, Medan, Buru Island, Jakarta, Maumere, Palu, and several regions in Papua) (50)
3. Maliana Massacre Memorialization, Maliana District,(60)

#### October

1. "Opening The Box" launching in Yangon and "Don't Be Afraid, We Will Be With You" film screening in Yangon (80)
2. "Enduring Impunity" photo book launch, Bali (70 approx)
3. "Bertahan dalam Impunitas" photo book exhibition in Jakarta (100 approx)
4. Online exhibition of The Act of Living AJAR website
5. Online exhibition of The Act of Living plus articles published on Deutsche Welle

#### November

1. 1965 Victims Hearing with Queen Hemas of Yogyakarta (10)
2. Victims of Torture hearing with local authorities in Maumere (15)
3. Workshop on research analysis in Yogyakarta & Maumere (18)
4. Academic workshop for Chega! Experts, Malang (10 approx)
5. Chega! 10th Year International Seminar, Dili (50 approx)

#### December

1. Papuan Women Workshop on Natural Resources in Sorong (15)
2. Papuan Women Workshop on Village Mapping, Merauke (14)
3. Memory Recollection photo exhibition, Jakarta (120)
4. Local Organizer Training for Community Learning Center, Buru Island (12)
5. Papuan Women Workshop on village mapping, Wamena (12)
6. Chega! Workshop for High School teacher, Dili (50 approx)

**ASIAN JUSTICE AND RIGHTS FOUNDATION**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

(in USD)

	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
- Cash and Cash Equivalent	264,486	181,632
- Account Receivables	-	771,715
- Advance For Program Partners	84,222	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>348,708</b>	<b>953,347</b>
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>		
Fixed Assets ( Net of accumulated depreciation per December 31, 2015 and 2014 amounting to USD 6,167 and USD 4,625 )	-	1,542
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,542</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>348,708</b>	<b>954,888</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
- Unearned Income	-	769,740
- Accrued Expense	259	74
	<b>259</b>	<b>769,814</b>
<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>		
- Unrestricted	(19,246)	(8,728)
- Temporary Restricted	367,696	193,802
	<b>348,449</b>	<b>185,074</b>
<b><u>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u></b>	<b>348,708</b>	<b>954,888</b>

Note: 1 USD = 13,500 IDR

*See accompanying note to financial statement  
which are an integral part of these statement*

