

Chapter

1.

Indonesia's Path to Independence

New topic alert!
How do you feel?



Excited: Nervous

Focus on

- Struggle
- Colonisation
- Independence

Learning Objectives

1. Recount the struggle against the colonisers in their region
2. Recount clearly the chronological moments leading up to the proclamation
3. Recount struggle to defend the independence in various regions



Warm Up

Take a look at ourselves and the people around us. These days, we can go to school, play with our friends, and chase our dreams in comfort.

People around us can do many activities. We can live peacefully at home with our parents and enjoy many facilities such as electricity and clean water.

Imagine if our country were still colonised by other countries. People would suffer. We would not be able to go to school, getting food would be hard, and public facilities like electricity and clean water would not be easily available.

The Indonesian people have also experienced suffering in the past, when they were colonised by other countries. However, thanks to the struggle of the national heroes, our nation became free from the control of the colonisers.



Figure 1.1 - Indonesia's Independence Day ceremony



Now that Indonesia is independent, it is time for us to do our part to build a peaceful, successful, and prosperous society.

As students, we can honour our Independence by studying well. It is the same for workers, business people, civil servants, the military, police, and state officials who serve the country by doing their jobs well.



Figure 1.2 – Boy honouring the Indonesian flag

The Struggle Against the Colonisers

Indonesia was colonised by foreign nations for a very long time. These foreign nations included the Portuguese, Dutch, British and Japanese. The Dutch ruled the longest in Indonesia.

Colonisation in Indonesia caused great suffering to the people. When their land was taken over, they did not stay silent. So, how did the Indonesian people fight against the colonisers in the past?

Let's Find Out

Before learning about Indonesia colonisation periods, answer these questions in your own words.

1. Which four foreign nations colonised Indonesia?
2. Why did the Indonesian people suffer during the colonial period?
3. What did the Indonesian people do when their land was taken by colonisers?

The Portuguese Colonisation Period

Colonisation in Indonesia began when Malacca was taken over by the Portuguese, which was continued by the Dutch. Compared to Portuguese colonialism (1509–1595), British colonialism during the Raffles period (1811–1815) and Japanese colonialism (1942–1945), Dutch colonialism reaching around three and a half centuries, make it the longest than the other three nations.

In the 15th century, the Portuguese were one of the nations that were able to build large ships to explore the world. Because of that, the Portuguese were able to sail across the vast oceans. At that time, spices were the most desirable commodity in the world. Their ability to travel the world made the Portuguese want to control spice producing countries, including the Nusantara (Indonesia) region.



Figure 1.3 – Alfonso D'Albuquerque

The Portuguese exploration began when **Alfonso D'Albuquerque** arrived in **Malacca** in **1511** and then continued to **Maluku** in **1512**. In Maluku, The Portuguese gained the right to monopolise the spice trade from the Sultanate of Ternate. This special treatment was given because the Portuguese army provided warfare skill to Ternate, which was in dispute with Tidore. At that time, Tidore co-operated with Spain, which caused Spain and Portugal to be involved in a conflict between the two sultanate.

The conflict between Portugal and Spain was resolved by **Saragosa Agreement** where Ternate and Tidore became Portuguese territories. This led to resistance from the people of Ternate and Tidore against the Portuguese. The leaders of the Ternate people's resistance to the Portuguese were **Sultan Hairun** (1536–1570) and **Sultan Baabulah** (1570–1583). Meanwhile, the resistance of the Tidore people against the Portuguese was led by **Sultan Nuku**.

The Dutch Colonisation Period

The Dutch first arrived in Nusantara archipelago on **27 June 1596**, specifically in **Banten**. At that time, The Dutch explorers led by Cornelis de Houtman, were evicted by the people of Banten, because they behaved rudely. However, the Dutch explorers still managed to get the spices.

When they returned to the Netherlands, they were welcomed with joy by the Dutch people. After that, Cornelis de Houtman is called the pioneer of the exploration that discovered the sea route to Nusantara.

Then, the Dutch sent another expedition to the archipelago led by Jacob van Neck and Wybrecht van Waerwyck. This second expedition arrived in Banten on 28 November 1598. This time Jacob van Neck crew was welcomed warmly by the locals, because they were polite to the people of Banten. Some of the Dutch explorer also headed to Maluku to find another spice-producing area. At that time, the people of Maluku were in the middle of conflict with the Portuguese, so they were quick to welcome the Dutch.



Figure 1.4 - Cornelis de Houtman

Figure 1.5 - Painting of the Dutch explorer arrival

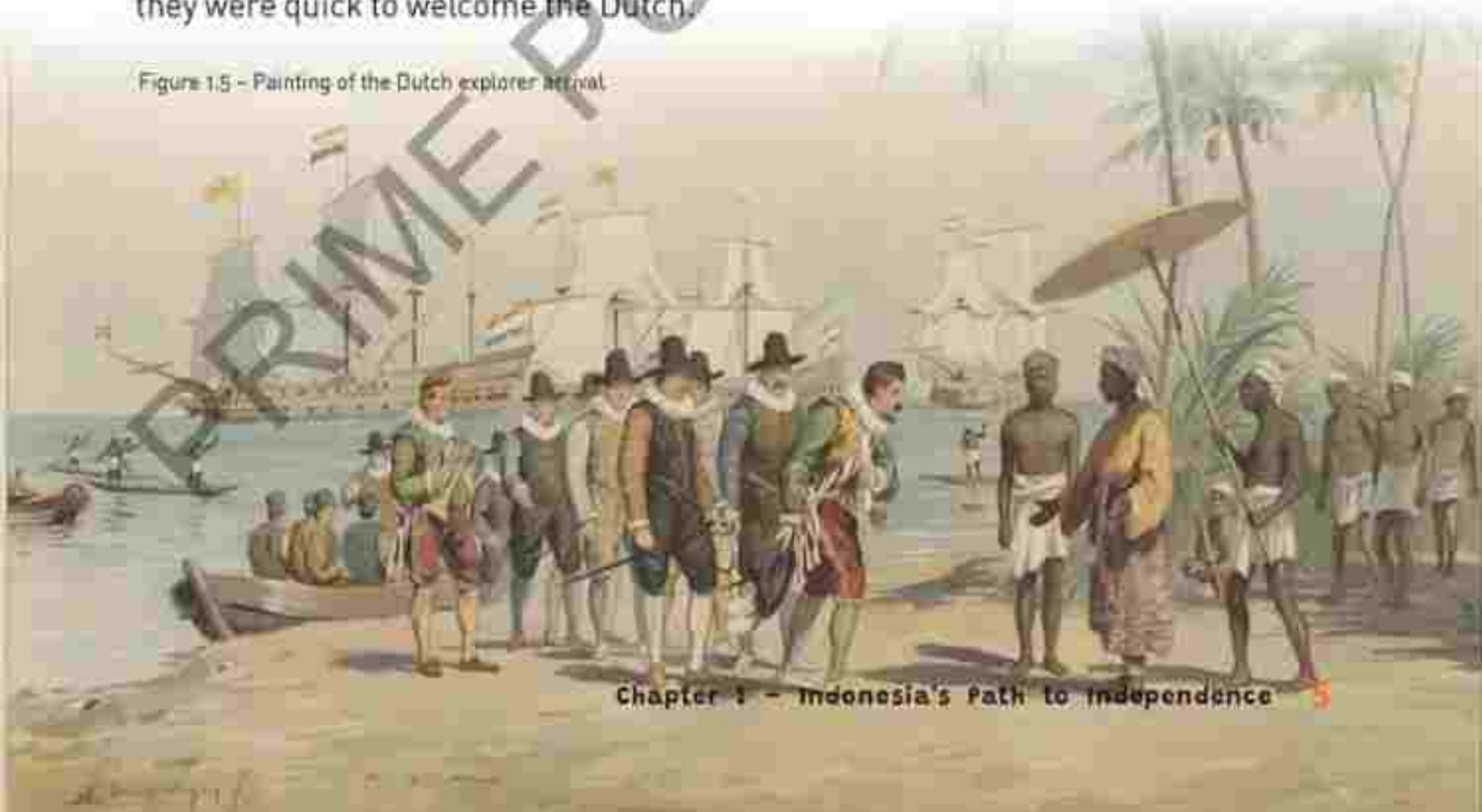




Figure 1.6 - VOC logo

This trade competition among European traders led the Dutch to establish the VOC (*Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* / East Indies Trade Union) on 20 March 1602, to protect their business. Besides, the Dutch government granted the VOC special rights known as *octroi*,

which are as follows.

- Monopolising the spice trade
- Establishing an army
- Waging war
- Building fortifications
- Controlling the area
- Printing and circulating money
- Collecting taxes

Think and Share

Why did the Dutch government give the VOC special rights?

In 1605, the VOC managed to take control of Maluku after attacking the Portuguese in Ambon. After controlling Ambon, the VOC appointed Pieter Both as the first VOC General Governor.

The VOC then planned to take control of Jayakarta (now Jakarta) in order to supervise trade in the Sunda Strait and Malacca Strait. They succeeded controlling Jayakarta in 1619. VOC then changed the name of Jayakarta to Batavia and made it the centre of its activities under the leadership of *Jan Pieterszoon Coen*.



Figure 1.7 - J.P. Coen

The VOC continued to expand its power throughout Nusantara. It succeeded in controlling various regions in Nusantara because of the following reasons:

- The kings in Nusantara fought each other for power, so they were not united.
- The VOC had more power and advanced weapons.
- The VOC used a divide and conquer strategy (*devide at impera* or *politik adu domba*). The purpose of this was to weaken the power of local kings. This happened when the VOC made Sultan Hasanudin of Makasar fight against Aru Palaka, the King of Bugis.
- The VOC created strict trading rules, including a monopoly system, especially in Java. Anyone who broke the rules would be punished harshly.

Even with its great power, the VOC had poor management within the organisation. This was caused by several problems, such as:

- There was a lot of corruption by VOC officials.
- The VOC had to pay huge costs for wars due to local resistance.
- It faced trade competition from British and French Companies.
- The Netherlands was occupied by French in 1795, which also affected the VOC.

Due to these problems, the VOC was disbanded on 31 December 1799. Starting from January 1800, the Dutch Government took over the VOC's power in Nusantara. They renamed the Nusantara region as the Dutch East Indies, with its own government was called the Dutch East Indies Government. This Government made many rules that caused the Indonesian people to suffer, including forced labour, heavy taxes, and the forced planting system.



Figure 1.8 - VOC building

Forced Labour

The French, led by Napoleon Bonaparte, won the war against the Netherlands in 1808. Napoleon wanted to stop the corruption in the Dutch East Indies Government. So, he appointed Herman Willem Daendels as Governor-General in Batavia.

One of the policies carried out by Governor-General **Herman Willem Daendels** was forced labour. His main project was the construction of the Post Highway, which was about 1,000 km long. It stretched along the north of Java Island, from the western end at Anyer (Banten) to the eastern end at Panarukan (East Java). Daendels built the Post Highway over three years. The purpose of the road was to make it easier to defend Java Island from British attacks. Because of this construction, many of the workers died from exhaustion and malaria.



Figure 1.9 – Herman Willem Daendels



Figure 1.10 – Daendels Road

In 1811, Daendels was replaced by Governor-General Janssens. However, Janssens' leadership period did not last long because the British managed to defeat the Dutch. The transition from Dutch to the British was written in the Tuntang Agreement. The contents of the Tuntang Agreement are as follows.

- All Dutch colonies in Indonesia were handed over to the British.
- All Dutch soldiers became British prisoners of war.
- The British were not the responsible for the Dutch debts.

The British ruled Indonesia for five years (1811–1816). During this time, the Dutch East Indies was led by Governor-General **Thomas Stamford Raffles**. However, in 1814, according to the London Convention the Dutch East Indies was returned to the Dutch government.

Tax Collection

The people were forced to give most of their crops to the Dutch East Indies Government. They also had to pay for everything from planting to harvesting. The people's suffering became worse because they had to pay many taxes, such as land tax, building tax, income tax, occupation tax, sales tax, family tax, moving tax, and even a spectacle tax.



Figure 1.11 – Forced plantation

Forced Planting

The Dutch East Indies carried out a forced cultivation system started by Governor-General Johannes van den Bosch between 1830 and 1870. He ordered each village to set aside part of its land to grow export crops, such as tea, coffee, cocoa, and sugarcane. These crops had to be sold to the Dutch East Indies Government at a fixed price. If villagers did not have land, they had to work for up to 65 days a year on plantations owned by the Dutch East Indies Government.

The Struggle to Fight the Dutch Colonisers

The struggle of the Indonesian people to drive out the Dutch colonisers can be grouped into two periods, before the national awakening and after the national awakening.

The struggles to fight the Dutch colonisers were led by national heroes who had the courage to lead the resistance against the colonisers.

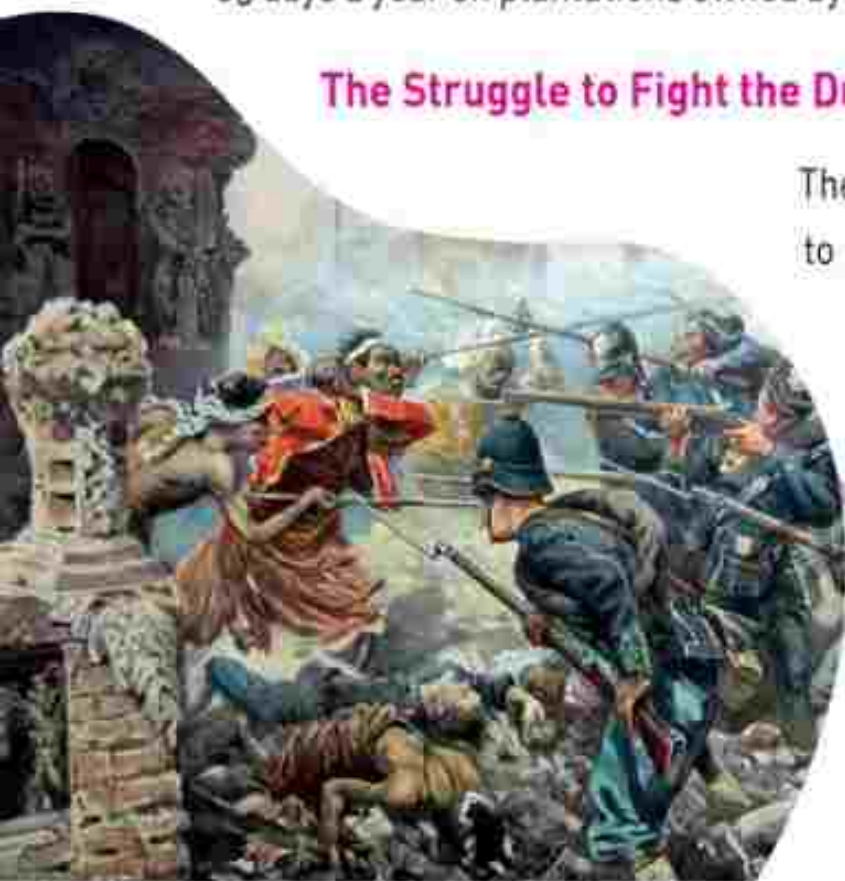


Figure 1.12 – The painting of Dutch assault in Lombok

Let's Find Out

Before learning about the struggle of Indonesian people to fight the Dutch colonisers, answer these questions in your own words.

1. Who was Thomas Matulesy, and what happened to him after the rebellion he led?
2. What was the main goal of Raden Ajeng Kartini's struggle, and how did she try to achieve it?

The Struggle of the National Figures Before the National Awakening

The suffering of the people led to resistance against the colonisers in different parts of Indonesia. The table below shows some of the national heroes who led popular resistance before the national awakening.

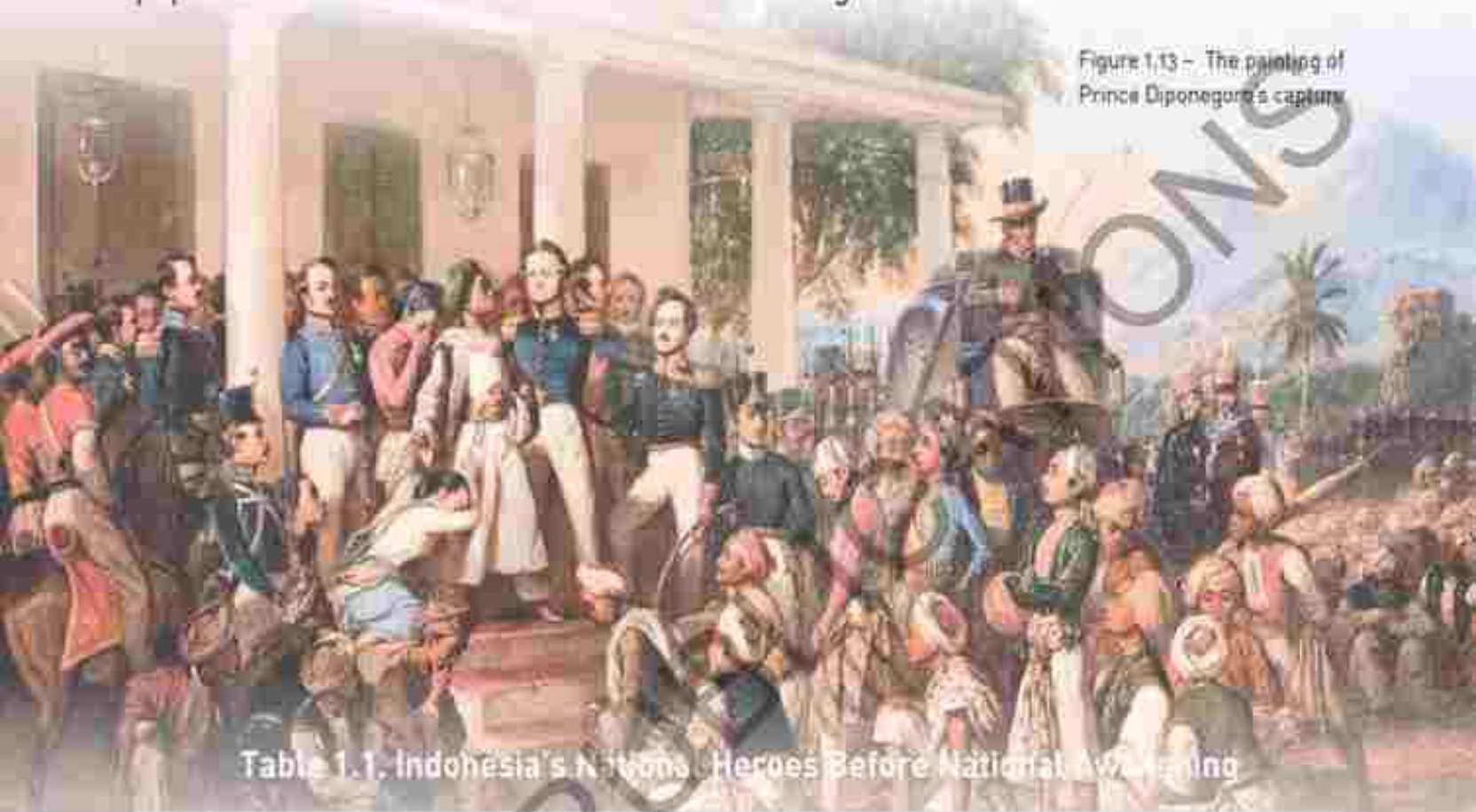


Figure 1.13 – The painting of Prince Diponegoro's capture

Table 1.1. Indonesia's National Heroes Before National Awakening

No.	National Figures	Origins	The Struggle
1.	Sultan Agung [The King of Mataram] 	Central Java	Fought the VOC in Batavia in 1628 and 1629, but was not successful.

No.	National Figures	Origins	The Struggle
2.	Sultan Hassanuddin (King of Gowa) 	South Sulawesi	Fought the VOC because of the spice trader monopoly. Aru Palaka's troops from Bone joined the VOC. He signed the Bongaya Agreement, but it harmed Gowa. He later resisted again. The Dutch called him the Rooster of the East.
3.	Thomas Matulesy (Kapitan Pattimura) 	Maluku	Led a rebellion in 1816 after the Dutch returned and forced people to work. He was caught and sentenced to death by hanging.
4.	Tuanku Imam Bonjol 	West Sumatra	Led the Paderi War (1821–1837). At first, the Dutch took advantage of a conflict between local groups. Later, all the groups united to fight the Dutch together.

No.	National Figures	Origins	The Struggle
5.	Prince Diponegoro 	Yogyakarta	Fought back after the Dutch interfered with the Yogyakarta palace. Conflict peaked when the Dutch marked his ancestors' land for a road. Diponegoro removed the pegs, which led to war. He led the resistance from Selarong Cave. He was captured during a fake negotiation on 28 March 1830 and exiled to Manado, where he later died.
6.	Teuku Umar (upper left), Cut Nyak Dien (upper right), Cut Nyak Meutia (lower left), Teuku Panglima Polem (lower right) 	Aceh	Led the Aceh War (1873–1904), the longest resistance against the Dutch. The Dutch attacked many areas in Aceh. Teuku Umar died in 1899. His wife, Cut Nyak Dien, and cousin Cut Nyak Meutia continued the struggle. Panglima Polem was the last leader to surrender in 1903. The war caused many losses of life and property.

During the 19th century, the Dutch had to face resistances in various regions in Nusantara, such as the resistance of the people of Bali, Lombok, West Kalimantan, Banjarmasin, North Kalimantan, Bone, Jambi, Lampung, Blambangan, and Siak. In Banjarmasin, the Dutch faced the resistance of Prince Antasari. In Tapanuli, North Sumatra, the Dutch had to face Sisingamangaraja's resistance.

The Struggle of the National Figures During the National Awakening Period

Before the National Awakening, the people's resistance was still regional, and it often ended in failure. This became the background of the national movement. At first, the resistance was done with weapons, but later it changed into resistance through organisations. This new period began in 1908, with the founding of the Budi Utomo organisation. Some of the leaders who started the national awakening are shown in the table below.



Figure 1.14 – Budi Utomo organisation

Table 1.2. Indonesia's National Heroes After National Awakening

No.	National Figures	Origins	The Struggle
1.	<p data-bbox="244 319 579 368">Raden Ajeng Kartini</p> 	<p data-bbox="733 319 948 422">Jepara, Central Java</p>	<p data-bbox="1020 319 1476 1686">Raden Ajeng Kartini (1879–1904) was a pioneer of women's awakening in Indonesia. After finishing primary school, she was not allowed by her parents to continue to higher education. However, Kartini kept reading. She learned that European women had more rights and were more advanced than Indonesian women. Kartini got this information from letters with her Dutch friend, Abendanon. After that, Kartini wanted to open a school for women. When she got married, her husband allowed her to set up schools for women in different places. Later, Abendanon collected her letters and made them into a book called <i>Habis Gelap Terbitlah Terang</i> (From Darkness to Light).</p>

No.	National Figures	Origins	The Struggle
2.	Dewi Sartika 	Bandung, West Java	Dewi Sartika (1884–1947) was a pioneer of women’s education, just like Kartini. She wanted to help Indonesian women become more independent through education. In 1904, she started a school for women called Sakola Istri. By 1912, the school had spread to many cities in the Pasundan region (West Java). In 1914, the name was changed to Sakola Kautamaan Istri. In this school, Dewi Sartika taught girls to become skilled and educated housewives.
3.	Ki Hajar Dewantara <i>(Raden Mas Suwardi Suryaningrat)</i> 	Yogyakarta	Ki Hajar Dewantara (1889–1959) was a pioneer of education for all Indonesian people. During the Dutch colonial period, he worked with Douwes Dekker and Cipto Mangunkusumo to form the Indische Partij in 1912. He also founded a school called Taman Siswa National College. In 1945, Ki Hajar Dewantara became Indonesia’s first Minister of Education and Culture. To honour his work, his birthday (2 May), is now celebrated as National Education Day.

No.	National Figures	Origins	The Struggle
4.	Douwes Dekker (Danudirja Setiabudi)	Pasuruan, East Java	Douwes Dekker (1879-1950) was a freedom fighter of Dutch descent. Even though he was part Dutch, he did not want to be called a Dutchman. He fought bravely for Indonesian independence. He helped lead a newspaper called De Express, which spoke out against the Dutch government. He also worked with Ki Hajar Dewantara and Cipto Mangunkusumo to start the Indische Partij organisation. Because of his actions, he was sent to prison many times. Still, he never gave up and continued to work for Indonesia's freedom.



National Movement Organisations

During the National Awakening period, the struggle against the colonisers began to be left behind. Indonesian freedom fighters started to think about fighting the colonialists by forming modern organisations.

Let's Find Out

Before learning about national movement organisations, answer these questions in your own words.

1. Who founded Budi Utomo and when was it established?
2. Which three leaders founded the Indische Partij?
3. What important result came from the Second Youth Congress in 1928?

Budi Utomo

Budi Utomo, also written as *Boedi Oetomo*, was the first modern organisation formed in Indonesia. On the advice of **Wahidin Soedirohuesodo** (an alumnus of STOVIA), **Soetomo** (dr. Sutomo) and his friends at STOVIA (a Dutch medical school at the time in Jakarta) founded Budi Utomo on 20 May 1908. This organisation became the pioneer of Indonesia's national struggle to fight against the colonialists.

Budi Utomo focused more on ideas and education than on physical fighting. It was started by local people who wanted to fight for the right to education and to improve people's lives. Because Budi Utomo marked the beginning of national awareness, the date of its founding is celebrated as National Awakening Day.



Figure 1.15 – Budi Utomo (STOVIA) organisation

Islamic Trade Union and Islamic Union

In 1911, the Islamic Trade Union was founded by **Haji Samanhudi**. This organisation was made up of Muslim merchants in Solo to support cooperation between them. Later, the name of the Islamic Trade Union was changed to the

Islamic Union. Its members were not only Muslim merchants, but also other Muslims who were not merchants.

Figure 1.16 – Islamic Trade Union



Figure 1.17 – Indische Partij

Indische Partij

The Indische Partij was founded on 25 December 1912 in Bandung by three leaders: Ernest Douwes Dekker, Ki Hajar Dewantara, and Cipto Mangunkusumo. This organisation was based on the idea of national unity and did not want to cooperate with the Dutch government.

Indonesia Association

The Indonesian Association was an organisation founded in 1912 by Indonesian youths and students in the Netherlands. The leaders of the Indonesian Association include Mohammad Hatta, Ahmad Subarjo, Sutan Sjahrir, Ali Sastroamidjoyo, and many others.

One of the purposes of the organisation was to demand Indonesia's independence. To reach this goal, the Indonesian Association published articles in a magazine called Hindia Putera, which was later renamed Indonesia Merdeka. Through this magazine, the dream of an independent Indonesia was shared with the people back home.



Figure 1.18 - Indonesia Association

Youth Pledge

The youth also had a significant role in the struggle against the colonisers during the national awakening. Several youth associations were established in various regions, such as Jong Java (Javanese Youth), Jong Sumatranen Bond (Sumatran Youth), Jong Ambon (Ambon Youth), Jong Celebes (Sulawesi Youth), and the Betawi Youth.

After the various youth organisations were formed, the youth realised the need for unity in fighting against the colonialists. Therefore, the various youth organisations agreed to hold a youth congress. The purpose of the youth congress was so that each youth organisation would not think of its own region when fighting.

Two youth congresses were held, the First Youth Congress and the Second Youth Congress, both of which took place in Jakarta. What were the outcomes of each congress?

The First Youth Congress took place in 30 April–2 May 1926 in Jakarta. The committee members of the First Youth Congress were as follows.

Chairman : Mohammad Tabrani
Vice Chairman : Sumarso
Secretary : Jamaluddin
Treasurer : Suwarso
Assistant : Sanusi Pane

The purposes of the First Youth Congress:

- To unite various youth associations
- To promote the idea of Indonesian unity
- To strengthen the relationship between youth organisations

Several youth organisations attended the congress, including Jong Sumatranen Bond, Jong Java, Jong Celebes, Sekar Rukun, and other regional youth groups. At the First Youth Congress, Jong Indonesia (Indonesian Youth) was formed. To follow up on the results of the First Youth Congress, the Indonesian Students Association was established in September 1926.

The Indonesian Students Association, which was formed after the First Youth Congress, helped lead the Second Youth Congress. The Second Youth Congress took place on 27–28 October 1928 in Jakarta. One of the most important results of this congress was the Youth Pledge (Sumpah Pemuda).

At the congress, the song Indonesia Raya by **W. R. Supratman** was played for the first time. Later, Indonesia Raya was chosen as the national anthem of Indonesia, with support from Soekarno.

Below is the content of the Youth Pledge.

Sumpah Pemuda

1. Kami putra dan putri Indonesia, mengaku bertumpah darah yang satu, tanah air Indonesia.
2. Kami putra dan putri Indonesia, mengaku berbangsa yang satu, bangsa Indonesia.
3. Kami putra dan putri Indonesia, menjunjung bahasa persatuan, bahasa Indonesia.

Important leaders at the Youth Congress included Moh. Yamin, Sugondo Joyopuspito, Purnomowulan, and S. Mangunsarkoro. Nowadays, 28 October is celebrated as Youth Pledge Day or *Hari Sumpah Pemuda*.

Nifty Insight

Apart from the youth, women also took part in the fight against the colonisers. From 22 to 25 December 1928, the First Women's Congress was held at Ndalem Joyodipuran (now the Office of the Cultural Heritage Preservation Centre in Yogyakarta).

The congress was attended by various women's organisations from Sumatra and Java. Its goal was to unite their ideas and empower Indonesian women. That is why 22 December is now celebrated as Mother's Day.

Later, from 20 to 24 July 1935, the Second Women's Congress was held in Jakarta. One of the results of this congress was the formation of a group to study the conditions of women workers in Indonesia, called the Indonesian Women's Labour Investigation Board.

The Japanese Colonisation Period

On 8 March 1942, the Netherlands surrendered unconditionally to Japan. From that time, Japan began to colonise Indonesia for three and a half years. Although Japan ruled for a short time, the Indonesian people suffered greatly.

Let's Find Out

Before learning about Japanese colonisation period, answer these questions in your own words.

1. Why did the Indonesian people first welcome the arrival of the Japanese army?
2. What was the main purpose of the Three A's Movement created by Japan?
3. Who led the PETA rebellion in Blitar, and what happened to him and his group?

The Arrival of the Japanese Army to Indonesia

During the Second World War, on 8 December 1941 (JST), Japan attacked Pearl Harbour, a US military base in Hawaii. After the attack, Japan began to take control of countries in East Asia and Southeast Asia, including Indonesia. In Indonesia, Japan took control of Batavia and the whole island of Java, which caused the Dutch to surrender unconditionally. The Dutch declaration of defeat to Japan was signed in Kalijati, Subang, West Java.



Figure 1.19 – Japanese Army in Indonesia

At first, the Indonesian people welcomed the arrival of Japan. They hoped that Japan would free them from Dutch oppression. Japan also promised to give independence to Indonesia. However, in reality, Japan behaved like the other colonisers.

Here are the reasons why Japan wanted to colonise Indonesia.

- Indonesia had many natural resources, such as oil and coal.
- Indonesia produced lots of food and crops needed by the Japanese army.
- Indonesia had a large population that Japan could use to support its war efforts.

Organisations Formed by the Japanese

When colonising Indonesia, Japan created movements and formed several organisations, including the following.

- The Three A's Movement, created on 29 April 1942 and led by Syamsudin. Its slogans were "*Jepang Cahaya Asia*," "*Japan Pelindung Asia*," and "*Jepang*

Pemimpin Asia.” Japan created this movement to win the hearts of the Indonesian people.

- The Indonesian Assembly of Muslims (*Majelis A'la Indonesia, MIAI*) or the Indonesian Muslim Shura Council (*Masyumi*), was established on 22 November 1943. Masyumi was an Islamic organisation under Japanese control and was led by K. H. Hasyim Asy'ari.
- Putera (*Pusat Tenaga Rakyat*), was established on 1 March 1943 after the Three A's Movement was disbanded. This organisation was led by four key figures: Soekarno, Mohammad Hatta, Ki Hajar Dewantara, and K. H. Mas Mansyur.
- Java Hokokai (*Himpunan Kebangkitan Jawa*), was formed on 8 January 1944. Soekarno and K. H. Hasyim Asy'ari acted as advisers. Its purpose was to support Japan, especially by helping meet Japan's war needs.
- PETA (*Pembela Tanah Air or Defenders of the Homeland*), was formed on 3 October 1943 at the request of Indonesian leaders such as K. H. Mas Mansyur and Soekarno. In PETA, young Indonesian men were trained in military skills to defend their regions.
- Heiho (*Tentara Pembantu*), was created to help the Japanese army when needed. Like PETA, Indonesian youths who joined Heiho also received military training.

The Resistance to the Japanese Occupation

During the Japanese occupation, Indonesian people were forced to do hard labour, known as romusha. Romusha involved building various facilities for Japan's war needs, such as forts, airfields, and bridges. Natural resources were also taken to support Japan's war efforts. Anyone who resisted was punished severely. Many people suffered from starvation and did not have proper clothing.

The oppression led to popular resistance, including the rebellion of PETA soldiers in Blitar, led by Supriyadi. The Japanese managed to stop the rebellion

by bringing in troops from other areas. On 15 March 1945, the rebellious PETA officers were arrested and punished.

Besides physical resistance, there was also resistance through organisations. Some leaders used Japanese-formed organisations to prepare the Indonesian people for independence. These organisations included Putera, Jawa Hokokai, and MIAI.

In addition, several secret struggle groups (underground movements) also resisted the Japanese. These groups work in a secret and organised way. They included the Sjahrir Group (led by Sutan Sjahrir), the Kaigun Group (led by Ahmad Subardjo), and the Sukarni Group (made up of youths living in the Menteng 31 Dormitory).

The Struggle to Achieve the Proclamation of Independence

The Second Youth Congress of 1928 gave new spirit to the Indonesian nation. Many national organisations were formed to help achieve independence. National leaders encouraged all people to fight for freedom.

The peak of the Indonesian people's struggle was the reading of the Proclamation of Independence. However, before this could happen, the Indonesian people had to go through many important events.

Events Preceding the Proclamation of Independence

The chance for Indonesia to become independent came when Japan surrendered to the Allies. This caused a power vacuum in Indonesia, as the Allies had not yet arrived. National leaders used this opportunity to prepare for the Proclamation of Independence.



Figure 1.20 - PETA troops

Establishment of the Investigating Committee for Preparatory Work for Independence

In early 1944, the Japanese army began to lose ground in the Pacific War. This made it easier for the Allies to attack Japan. Allied troops started arriving in Indonesia, especially in Tarakan and Balikpapan. The fighting spirit of the Japanese army grew weaker. As Japan neared defeat, Prime Minister Hideki Tojo was replaced by Kuniaki Koiso. On 19 September 1944, Prime Minister Koiso promised that Indonesia would be given independence in the future.

On 1 March 1945, Japanese commander Lieutenant General Kumakichi Harada announced the creation of Dokuritsu Junbi Cosakai (*Badan Penyelidik Usaha-usaha Persiapan Kemerdekaan Indonesia*, or BPUPK). This group was formed to prepare for Indonesia's independence. However, Japan also hoped the committee would gain people's sympathy and support for the war against the Allies.

BPUPK was officially formed on 29 April 1945. The opening ceremony was held on 28 May 1945 at the Chuo Sangi In Building (now the Pancasila Building or Ministry of Foreign Affairs Building) in Jakarta. The members of BPUPK were mostly Indonesians, with a few Japanese. It was led by K. R. T. Radjiman Wedyodiningrat.

Figure 1.21 - Pancasila Building is the place where BPUPK officially formed.



Formulation of the State Foundation and Constitution

The first session of the BPUPK was held at the Chuo Sangi In Building in Jakarta from 29 May to 1 June 1945. The speakers at the session were Supomo, Soekarno, and Moh Yamin. Each of them gave a proposal for the foundation of the Indonesian state. Below are the proposals given by each of these national figures.



Figure 1.22 – Moh. Yamin (left), Supomo (middle), Soekarno (right)

Moh. Yamin's Proposal for the Constitution of Indonesia:

- Nationality
- Humanity
- Belief in God
- Democracy
- People's welfare

Supomo's Proposal for the Constitution of Indonesia:

- Unity
- Kinship
- Consensus and
democracy
- Deliberation
- Social justice

Soekarno's Proposal for the Constitution of Indonesia:

- Indonesian
nationality
- Internationalism
or humanity
- Consensus or
democracy
- Social welfare
- Belief in the one
and only God

The first session of the BPUPK agreed to use the state foundation proposed by Bung Karno (Soekarno). This foundation is called **Pancasila**. Because of this, **1 June** is celebrated as the day Pancasila was born.

To help write the state foundation clearly, the BPUPK formed a group of nine members called the **Committee of Nine**. The members were Soekarno, Moh Hatta, Moh Yamin, Ahmad Subarjo, A. A. Maramis, Abdul Kahar Muzakir, Wachid Hasyim, H. Agus Salim, and Abikusno Cokrosuyoso. The committee met in Jakarta on 22 June 1945 and created **the Jakarta Charter (Piagam Jakarta)**.

The Jakarta Charter included the following points as the foundation of the state.

- Belief in God with the obligation to follow Islamic law for its followers
- Just and civilised humanity
- Indonesian unity
- Democracy guided by wisdom through discussion and representation
- Social justice for all Indonesian people

Later, from 10 to 17 July 1945, the second session of the BPUPK was held. In this session, the Committee of Nine reported the results of the Jakarta Charter and discussed the draft of the Constitution and the form of the state. During this session, a Constitution Drafting Committee was formed. Its members were



Figure 1.23 – Jakarta Charter

Supomo, Wongsonegoro, Ahmad Subarjo, A. A. Maramis, R. P. Singgih, H. Agus Salim, and Sukiman. The results of the Committee of Nine's work were submitted to this session.

Formation of Indonesian Independence Preparation Committee

After the BPUPK finished its work, the *Dokuritsu Junbi Inkai*, or Indonesian Independence Preparation Committee (*Panitia Persiapan Kemerdekaan Indonesia* or PPKI), was formed on 7 August 1945. The main task of the PPKI was to prepare everything needed for the soon-to-be independent Indonesian state. The committee was led by Soekarno.



Figure 1.24 – PPKI session

Independence Proclamation Preparation

On 12 August 1945, General Terauchi, the Japanese military leader in Southeast Asia, held a meeting with Indonesian leaders in Dalat, South Vietnam. These

leaders were Soekarno, Moh Hatta, and Radjiman Wedyodiningrat. At the meeting, General Terauchi agreed to give Indonesia the opportunity to become independent.



Figure 1.25 – Soekarno (left), Moh. Hatta (middle), and Radjiman Wedyodiningrat (right)



Figure 1.26 – Depiction of atomic bomb explosion

Earlier, on 6 August 1945, the Allies dropped the first atomic bomb on the city of **Hiroshima**. Then, on 9 August 1945, another bomb was dropped on the city of **Nagasaki**. This led to Japan's unconditional surrender to the Allies on **14 August 1945**. The news of Japan's surrender was heard by Sutan Syahrir.

After receiving this news, starting from 15 August 1945, Indonesian youth held secret meetings led by Chaerul Saleh. In these meetings, they decided that Indonesia must proclaim its independence as soon as possible.

The youth sent Wikana and Darwis to meet with the older leaders, Bung Karno and Bung Hatta, at Pegangsaan Timur street Number 56. They urged Bung Karno and Bung Hatta to immediately declare Indonesia's independence. However, Bung Karno wanted to wait for official news from the Japanese government. The youth were not satisfied with this. They held another meeting and decided that Bung Karno and Bung Hatta should be taken out of Jakarta to force them to proclaim independence.



Figure 1.27 – Wikana (left) and Darwis (right)

The Rengasdengklok Incident

On 16 August 1945, at 04.00 Western Indonesian Time (WIB), a group of young people, including Sukarni, went to pick up Bung Karno and Bung Hatta. They were taken to the PETA troops' headquarters in **Rengasdengklok**, Karawang, West Java.



Figure 1.28 – Rengasdengklok incident.

Later that day, at around 16.00 WIB, Ahmad Subarjo came to Rengasdengklok to meet Bung Karno and Bung Hatta. **Ahmad Subarjo** acted as a mediator between the older group and the youth. As a result of the discussion, they agreed that the Proclamation of Independence would take place on 17 August 1945 in Jakarta.



Figure 1.29 – Ahmad Subarjo

Drafting the Proclamation Script

On 16 August 1945 at 23.00 Western Indonesian Time, Bung Karno and Bung Hatta's group arrived in Jakarta. They then went to **Admiral Tadashi Maeda's** house on Imam Bonjol street Number 1, Jakarta, to draft the Proclamation of Independence. Admiral Maeda was a high-ranking Japanese Navy officer who supported Indonesia's independence.

The drafting of the proclamation text was done at Admiral Maeda's house to avoid supervision by the Japanese government. The national figures who helped

write the proclamation were Soekarno, Moh Hatta, Ahmad Subarjo, Sayuti Melik, Sukarni, Sudiro, and B. M. Diah.



Figure 1.30 – Sayuti Melik, Sukarni, Sudiro, and B.M. Diah (from left to right)

On 17 August 1945 at 03.00 Western Indonesian Time, the proclamation text was completed by Soekarno, Hatta, and Ahmad Subarjo. After some changes and improvements, the final text was given to Sayuti Melik to be typed. By morning, the Proclamation of Independence was ready.

Important Events Leading to the Proclamation of Independence of the Republic of Indonesia

After the text of the proclamation was completed, the drafters met with other national figures who were present at Admiral Maeda's house. The proclamation was then discussed together. Soekarno (Bung Karno) suggested that the proclamation be signed by all the national figures present. However, this idea was rejected.



Figure 1.31 – Proclamation script handwritten (left) and typed (right)

Sukarni then suggested that the proclamation be signed only by Soekarno and Hatta, on behalf of the Indonesian people. Everyone agreed with this proposal. The national figures also agreed that Indonesia's independence would be declared that day, at 10 a.m., at Pegangsaan Timur street Number 56.



Figure 1.32 – Soekarno-Hatta Monument in Jakarta



Figure 1.33 – The first newspaper announcing Indonesia's independence

Before returning home, Bung Hatta asked B. M. Diah, a journalist, to copy the text of the proclamation and help spread the news to the world. Meanwhile, the youth prepared for the reading of the proclamation. All tools for communication—such as pamphlets, loudspeakers, and cars—were prepared to share this historic event across the city.

In the morning, people came eagerly and gathered at the house on Pegangsaan Timur street Number 56. To help keep the area safe, Muwardi asked Latief Hendraningrat to stand guard. Mayor Suwiryo asked Wilopo to prepare equipment like loudspeakers, and Sudiro asked S.

Suhud to set up the flagpole and the flag. The red and white flag had been sewn earlier by **Fatmawati**.

On Friday, 17 August 1945, at exactly 10.00 Western Indonesian Time, Bung Karno and Bung Hatta read the text of the proclamation. After that, the red and white flag was raised by **Latief Hendraningrat** and **S. Suhud**, while the national anthem Indonesia Raya was played. Then, Suwiryo gave a speech, followed by Muwardi. The event ended at 11.00 Western Indonesian Time. To protect Bung Karno and Bung Hatta, Muwardi asked several members of Barisan Pelopor to guard them.

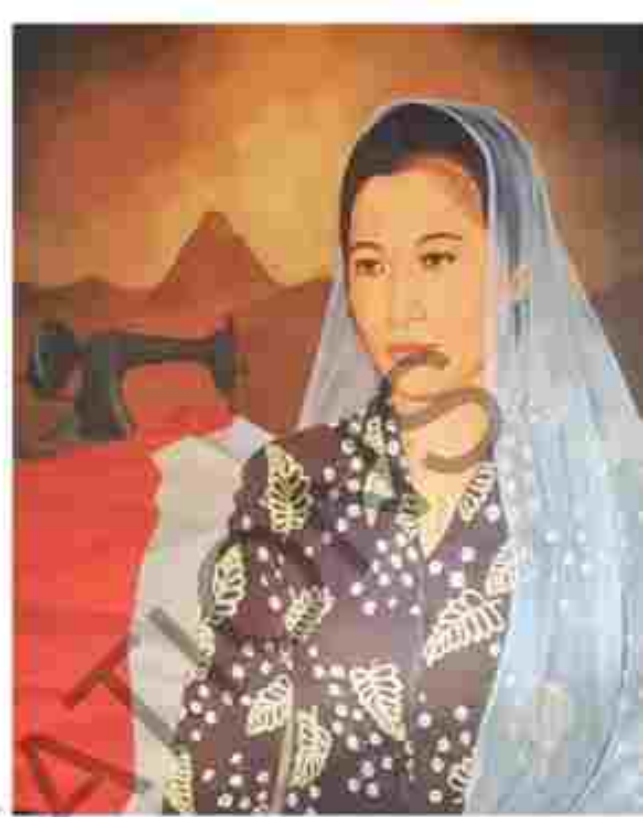


Figure 1.34 – Fatmawati who sewed Indonesia's National Flag

Figure 1.35 – Depiction of Sukarno reading the proclamation scene



It was important that the news about the reading of the proclamation reached all parts of Indonesia, so everyone would know. The national leaders realised that spreading the news was very important. In addition, the news was shared through radio and newspapers. It was sent across Indonesia and to other countries, so that Indonesia's independence would be known and recognised by the world.

The Struggle to Defend Independence

The Proclamation of Independence on 17 August 1945 was the peak of the Indonesian people's struggle. After a long fight, the Indonesian people finally reached their long-awaited goal: a free and independent country, no longer under foreign rule.

Independence was the result of the struggle of all Indonesians. They had sacrificed their lives, bodies, and belongings to achieve it. The Indonesian people did not want to lose the independence they had worked so hard to gain. That is why they defended their independence in many ways.



Figure 1.36 – Depiction of the raising of Indonesia's National Flag

Let's Find Out

Before learning about the struggle of Indonesian people, answer these questions in your own words.

1. When was the Proclamation of Indonesian Independence declared?
2. What sacrifices did the Indonesian people make to achieve independence?
3. What was the main goal of the Indonesian people's struggle?

Armed Struggle

Not long after Indonesia's independence was declared, Allied forces arrived in Indonesia to disarm the Japanese army. The arrival of the Allied forces was followed by Dutch troops, who were part of NICA (Netherlands Indies Civil Administration).

This led to resistance from the Indonesian people, who wanted to defend their independence. Battles took place in many parts of Indonesia.

The Battle of 10 November 1945 in Surabaya

On 25 October 1945, the Allied forces, known as AFNEI (Allied Forces Netherlands East Indies), landed in Tanjung Perak, Surabaya, led by Brigadier General A. W. S. Mallaby. AFNEI was an Allied group specially assigned to Indonesia. However, it turned out that AFNEI also brought Dutch troops from NICA (Netherlands Indies Civil Administration).

On 27 October 1945, the Allies ordered all people in Surabaya to hand over Japanese weapons to them. The people of Surabaya refused, and a battle began.

To calm the situation, on 29 October 1945, Soekarno and other national leaders came to Surabaya. Their arrival helped to stop the fighting for a short time. But soon after, the Allies attacked again, and the battle continued.

On 31 October 1945, a major battle took place near Jembatan Merah (especially around the International Building), where Brigadier General A. W. S. Mallaby was killed. His death caused strong protests from the Allies. The situation in Surabaya became tense and dangerous.

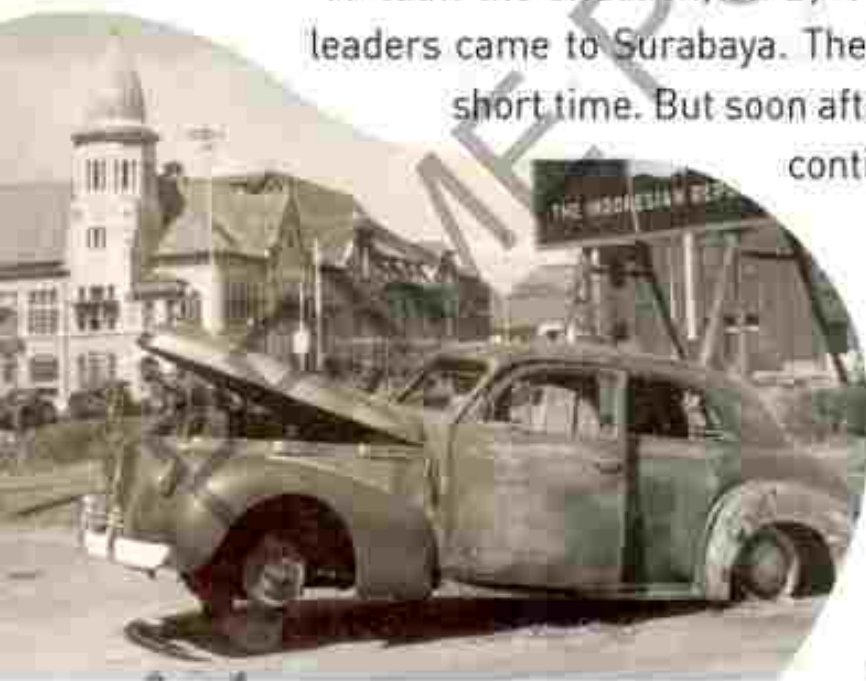


Figure 1.37 – A.W.S. Mallaby burned car

On the morning of 10 November 1945, Bung Tomo gave a speech over the radio, calling on the youth of Surabaya to stay strong. He told them to always be ready. Fighting started again in Tanjung Perak, and the Allies took control of that area. Surabaya was attacked from land, sea, and air.



Figure 1.38 - Historical reenactment of Yamato Hotel incident, which is now known as Majapahit Hotel.

Even though the people of Surabaya only had simple weapons, they managed to defend the city for nearly three weeks. During the battle, Bung Tomo continued to raise the people's spirit. To honour the bravery of the people of Surabaya, 10 November is celebrated every year as National Heroes' Day.

The Five Days Battle of Semarang

On 14 October 1945, Japanese forces still in Indonesia turned the Cepiring sugar factory, west of Semarang, into a weapons factory. While moving to Semarang, they attacked the Indonesian police who were escorting them.

On 15 October 1945, a battle took place between Japanese forces, the People's Security Army (*Tentara Keamanan Rakyat* or TKR), and student youth. The battle lasted for five days, from 15 to 20 October 1945. It ended after the TKR leader held talks with the leader of the Japanese forces.

Peace came quickly because the Allied forces arrived in Semarang on 20 October 1945. Their goal was to disarm the Japanese troops and take them as prisoners. To honour the bravery of the people of Semarang, Tugu Muda (The Youth Monument) was built as a memorial in the city centre.

The Battle of Ambarawa

On 20 October 1945, the Allied forces, led by Brigadier General Bethell, arrived in Central Java, specifically in the city of Semarang. The Allies were armed, and a battle began in Magelang. The fighting grew worse when the Allies freed Dutch prisoners in Magelang and Ambarawa. After negotiations, on 21 November 1945, the Allied forces pulled back to Ambarawa. However, the Indonesian army continued to chase them.

The final battle took place in Ambarawa and was led by Colonel Soedirman (who later became General Soedirman). After nearly four days of fighting, the Indonesian army succeeded in pushing the Allied forces out of Ambarawa and forcing them to retreat to Semarang.



Figure 1.39 - General Soedirman

The Battle of Medan Area

On 9 October 1945, Allied forces, accompanied by Dutch troops (NICA), arrived in Medan. The forces were led by Brigadier General T. E. D. Kelly. The youth of Medan quickly formed the People's Security Army (TKR) to prepare for any possible attacks.

On 13 October 1945, the first battle between the youth of Medan and the Allied forces took place. This event known as the Battle of Medan Area. On 10 December 1945, the Allied forces attacked Medan again using warplanes and warships.

The people of Medan fought back bravely, and many lives were lost on both sides. Even though their weapons were limited, the spirit of the people never faded as they continued to defend Indonesia's independence.

The Bandung Sea of Fire

On 21 November 1945, the Allied forces gave their first order for the northern part of Bandung to be vacated by the Indonesian side before 29 November 1945. This order was ignored by the freedom fighters. After that, armed clashes often happened between the Allies and the freedom fighters.



Figure 1.40 – Bandung Sea of Fire Monument

The second order was given by the Allies on 23 March 1946. After this, the freedom fighters left the city of Bandung. However, before leaving, they attacked the Allies and set fire to the southern part of Bandung. This event became known as the Bandung Sea of Fire.

The Battle of Margarana in Bali



Figure 1.41 – I Gusti Ngurah Rai

On 2 and 3 March 1946, the Dutch landed their forces on the island of Bali. According to the Linggarjati Agreement, Indonesia's territory only included the islands of Sumatra, Java, and Madura. This meant that Bali was not considered part of Indonesia at that time. This made Lieutenant Colonel I Gusti Ngurah Rai, the leader of the Indonesian army in Bali, feel deeply saddened.

On 18 November 1946, I Gusti Ngurah Rai's troops began an attack on the Dutch headquarters in Tabanan.

Then, on 20 November, the Dutch fight back by sending more troops to fight back. This battle is known as the Puputan War (an all-out battle), and it took place in Margarana. Due to a lack of weapons and soldiers, I Gusti Ngurah Rai and all of his troops died in the battle.

Struggle Through Diplomacy

Through the Proclamation of Independence on 17 August 1945, Indonesia declared itself as an independent nation. However, the Netherlands did not recognise Indonesia's independence and still considered it part of the Dutch state called the Dutch East Indies.

As a result, battles took place between Indonesia and the Netherlands in various regions. To settle these conflicts, Indonesia carried out several negotiations and diplomatic efforts.

Let's Find Out

Before learning about Indonesian people struggle through diplomacy, answer these questions in your own words.

1. How many times did the Netherlands launch military aggression?
2. What was the purpose of Linggarjati agreement?
3. What were two results of the Round Table Conference held from August to November 1949?

The Linggarjati Agreement

After about a year of Allied forces being in Indonesia, a ceasefire was agreed on 14 October 1946. This ended the fighting between Indonesia and the Allies. The British then suggested that negotiations be held between Indonesia and the Netherlands. As a result, the Linggarjati Negotiation took place.

This negotiation was held in Linggarjati area of West Java. Indonesia was represented by Prime Minister Sutan Syahrir, Mohammad Roem, Susanto Tirtoprojo, and A. K. Gani. The Dutch side was represented by Professor Schermerhorn. The negotiation was guided by Lord Killearn from Britain.

The Linggarjati Agreement was signed on 25 March 1947 with the following results.

- The Netherlands recognised the territory of the Republic of Indonesia, which included Sumatra, Java, and Madura.
- Indonesia and the Netherlands would form the United States of Indonesia.
- The Netherlands had to leave Indonesian territory by 1 January 1949.



Figure 1.42 – Linggarjati Agreement

The First Dutch Military Aggression

On 20 July 1947, the Netherlands declared that it was no longer bound by the Linggarjati Agreement. A day later, on 21 July 1947, the Netherlands launched its First Military Aggression in major cities across Java.

The First Dutch Military Aggression was done to control areas rich in natural resources, especially oil fields. During this attack, the Dutch tried to occupy several cities, including Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, Semarang, and Yogyakarta. Yogyakarta was the main target and was bombed from the air, which caused many civilians to become victims.



Figure 1.43 – First Dutch military aggression

After the First Dutch Military Aggression, Australia and India asked for the issue to be discussed at the United Nations (UN).

At the suggestion of the United States, the UN set up the Committee of Good Offices to help solve the conflict between Indonesia and the Netherlands. This committee, also called the Three-State Committee, included Belgium, Australia, and the United States. The committee encouraged both sides to hold the Renville Negotiation to resolve the conflict.

The Renville Agreement

The Renville Negotiation was held on 17 January 1948 on the deck of the US warship, USS Renville. The Indonesian delegation was led by Prime Minister Amir Syarifuddin, while the Dutch delegation was led by R. Abdul Kadir Wijoyoatmojo. The negotiation was mediated by the Three-State Committee.



Figure 1.44 – Renville Agreement

The Renville Negotiation resulted in the following outcomes.

- The Dutch only recognised Central Java as Indonesian territory.
- The Indonesian National Army had to withdraw from Dutch-controlled areas (West Java and East Java).
- The Van Mook Line was approved to separate Indonesian and Dutch territory.

The Renville Agreement was very unfair to Indonesia. Even after the negotiations, the Dutch continued to use divide and conquer tactics.

The Second Dutch Military Aggression

The Renville Agreement did not stop the Netherlands from using divide-and-rule tactics. In addition to facing the Dutch, Indonesia also had to deal with a rebellion by the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI).

On 19 December 1948, the Second Dutch Military Aggression took place. The Dutch attacked Yogyakarta, by land and air, which was the capital of Indonesia at the time. President Soekarno instructed the Minister of Prosperity, **Syafruddin Prawiranegara**, to form the Emergency Government of the Republic of Indonesia (*Pemerintah Darurat Republik Indonesia* or *PDR*) in **Bukittinggi, West Sumatra**. General Soedirman, although sick, was also ordered to lead guerrilla warfare.

The Second Dutch Military Aggression was brought before the United Nations Security Council. On 28 January 1949, the UN passed a resolution ordering the Dutch to stop all military actions in Indonesia.

The Roem – Royen Agreement

The Committee of Good Offices (*Komite Tiga Negara* or *KTN*) for Indonesia continued its efforts to solve the conflict between Indonesia and the Netherlands. On 7 May 1949, the Roem–Royen Negotiation was held. This



Figure 1.45 – Second Dutch military aggression



Figure 1.46 – The Roem-Royen Agreement

negotiation was guided by the United Nations Commission for Indonesia (UNCI). The Indonesian delegation was led by Moh Roem, while the Dutch side was led by Jan Herman van Royen.

The negotiation led to an agreement, including the following points.

- The Government of the Republic of Indonesia would return to Yogyakarta.
- The Round Table Conference would be held soon.

The Round Table Conference



Figure 1.47 – Round Table Conference

To follow up on the Roem–Royen negotiations, a Round Table Conference (RTC) was held from 23 August to 2 November 1949 in The Hague, Netherlands. This conference was attended by Indonesia, the Netherlands, and the BFO (Federal Consultative Assembly — a group of states in Indonesia formed by the Netherlands).

The Round Table Conference was chaired by Dutch Prime Minister Willem Drees. The leader of the Indonesian delegation was Moh Hatta. The Dutch delegation was led by Johannes Henricus van Maarseveen, who served as Minister for Colonial Affairs. The BFO was represented by Sultan Hamid II. The United Nations representative for Indonesia (UNCI), Chrithley, was also present.

On 2 November 1949, the RTC agreement was ratified with the following results.

- The Netherlands recognised Indonesia, in the form of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, as an independent state.
- The West Irian issue would be discussed again one year later.
- A Dutch–Indonesian Union would be established.
- The Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia would be formed, made up of Indonesian National Defence Forces and former KNIL [*Koninklijk Nederlands Indisch Leger* or Dutch East Indies Royal Army] soldiers.

Recognition of Independence

To follow up on the results of the Round Table Conference, the Republic of the United States of Indonesia was formed. Soekarno was elected as President, and the first cabinet was formed with Mohammad Hatta as Prime Minister.

On 23 December 1949, the Republic of the United States of Indonesia sent a delegation, led by Mohammad Hatta, to the Netherlands to sign the agreement for Dutch recognition of Indonesia's Independence. The signing ceremony was held on 27 December 1949. At the same time in Jakarta, Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono IX and Deputy Crown Prince A. H. J. Lovink also signed the agreement. This officially ended the conflict between Indonesia and the Netherlands.

KERAJAAN NEDERLAND MENYERAHKAN
KEDAULATAN ATAS INDONESIA YANG SEPENUHNYA
KEPADA REPUBLIK INDONESIA SERIKAT DENGAN
TIDAK BERSYARAT LAGI DAN TIDAK DAPAT DICABUT

MAKA STATUS OUDJ DARI KIKESIDENAN
IRIAN BARAT TETAP BERLAKU SERAYA DITENTUKAN
BAHWA DALAM WAKTU SETAHUN SESUDAH TANGGAL
PENYERAHAN KEDAULATAN KEPADA REPUBLIK INDONESIA

POENJA: TOTTERRAAN KEDAULATAN
TOTTERRAAN: 21 DECEMBER 1949

Figure 1.4B – The charter that recognised Indonesia's independence

However, the final result of the dispute was not what the Indonesian people had hoped for. At that time, Indonesia became the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, which included the Republic of Indonesia and the BFO (*Bijeenkomst voor Federale Overleg* or Federal Consultative Assembly), instead of a single united country.

Because of this, many of the BFO member states wanted to join the Republic of Indonesia. After a long process, the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia was re-established on 17 August 1950.

From this history, we can learn that the struggle of national heroes to defend Indonesia's independence was priceless. They fought with courage and without selfishness for the good of the country. Their efforts included both armed resistance and peaceful negotiations.

How Can We Honour the Service of Our National Heroes?

We can honour them by helping to build the nation through the roles we have today. As students, the best way to do this is by studying hard for a better future, because learning is your duty.

You should also build a good personality, attitude, and character. With knowledge and good morals, you can continue the heroes' struggle by helping to improve the country. You can also follow their examples—such as never giving up when defending what is right, being brave, determined, and having a strong fighting spirit.



Figure 1.49 – Being active student is a way to honour our independence.

Remember and Recall

1. Indonesia declared its independence on _____ 1945.
2. The Japanese surrendered to the Allies on _____ August 1945.
3. The first youth congress was held from _____ to 2 May 1926.
4. The second Dutch military aggression took place in the city of _____
5. The VOC was granted special rights known as _____ by the Dutch government.

Key Terms



Affairs	: important matters or events that need to be taken care of, usually in a country
Airfields	: open areas of land where planes can take off and land (like small airports)
Ceasefire	: a temporary stop to fighting
Colonisation	: the act of going to a new place and setting up control there
Colonialism	: practice where a country takes control of other lands
Guerrilla warfare	: type of fighting done in small groups using surprise attacks instead of big battles
Policies	: rules or plans made by a government or group to manage things
Power Vacuum	: when no one is in control, so people might fight to become the new leader

Points to Reflect

- Indonesia was colonised by several nations: the Portuguese, Dutch, British, and Japanese. The Dutch ruled the longest—for 350 years.
- The Dutch created the VOC (Dutch East India Company) to protect their business.
- Japan took over Indonesia after defeating the Dutch. Japan surrendered to the Allies on 14 August 1945 after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- The proclamation text was written at Admiral Tadashi Maeda's house. Sayuti Melik typed the final version, and Soekarno and Hatta signed it on behalf of the Indonesian people.
- Soekarno read the Proclamation of Independence at Jalan Pegangsaan Timur Number 56, Jakarta.
- After independence, the Dutch tried to take control of Indonesia again. They joined the Allied forces, but the Indonesian people refused to be colonised again.
- Many national heroes helped defend Indonesia's independence, including Soekarno, Mohammad Hatta, Sultan Hamengku Buwono IX, General Soedirman, Bung Tomo, and Sutan Syahrir.
- We must honour our national heroes. One way to do this is by studying hard and showing good behaviour.

A. Cross (X) the right answer

- In the beginning, the purpose of European nations came to Indonesia was _____.
 - to look for new colonies
 - to trade spices
 - to get to know Indonesian people
 - to prove that Europeans were good sailors
- The Indonesian people oppose all forms of colonisation because _____.
 - it leads to war
 - it promotes progress
 - it masters knowledge
 - it is not in line with humanity and justice
- Wars against the Dutch colonisers during the 16th to 19th centuries was failed because _____.
 - there was a lack of unity between regions in Indonesia
 - each region wanted to rule Indonesia alone
 - many resistance leaders were captured or killed by the Dutch
 - the fighting spirit of Indonesians was weaker than the Dutch forces
- The Paderi resistance against the Dutch took place in _____.
 - North Sumatra
 - West Sumatra
 - West Kalimantan
 - East Java

5. The Second Youth Congress in Jakarta on 28 October 1928 resulted in the _____.
- a. Indonesian National Anthem
 - b. Proclamation of Independence
 - c. Youth Pledge
 - d. Pancasila
6. Laksamana Maeda's house was chosen to draft the Proclamation text because _____.
- a. he had a high military rank
 - b. it was free from Japanese surveillance
 - c. it was not watched by the Allies
 - d. his house was large and comfortable
7. Fatmawati played an important role during the preparation of the Proclamation. Her role was _____.
- a. helping to write the Proclamation text
 - b. helping take Soekarno and Hatta to Rengasdengklok
 - c. leading the youth meeting
 - d. sewing the Indonesian red and white flag
8. The purpose of Indonesia joining the Round Table Conference in the Netherlands was _____.
- a. to take a rest
 - b. to gain recognition
 - c. to receive payment
 - d. to surrender unconditionally
9. This national hero kept fighting the Dutch invaders even though he had to be carried on a stretcher during guerrilla warfare. The hero is _____.
- a. Bung Tomo
 - b. General Soedirman
 - c. I Gusti Ngurah Rai
 - d. Lt. Col. Isdiman


10. One way to honour the service of national heroes is to _____.
- join military training
 - give them money
 - show heroic behaviour
 - read their biographies


B. Fill in the blanks.

- During the Japanese colonial period, the 'Three A' Movement was formed with the purpose of _____.
- Bung Karno, Bung Hatta, Ki Hajar Dewantara, and K.H. Mas Mansyur were the four national figures who founded the _____ organisation.
- The youth leader who led the meeting to bring Soekarno and Hatta to Rengasdengklok was _____.
- The group that successfully created the Jakarta Charter was called _____.
- Puputan War is an _____ battle.
- There are two people who raised the red and white flag, they are _____ and _____.
- The proclamation script is signed by _____ and _____.
- _____ is the result of The Second Youth Congress.
- On 16 August 1945, Ahmad Subarjo met Soekarno and Hatta to _____.
- Japan surrendered to Allies on _____ 1945, after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

C. Complete the table below.

Write the origin and role of each hero based on the pictures shown.

No.	National Figures	Origins	Role
1.	Sisingamangaraja XII 		
2.	Prince Antasari 		
3.	I Gusti Ketut Jelantik 		

No.	National Figures	Origins	Role
4.	Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa 		
5.	Martha Christina Tiahahu 		
6.	Prince Diponegoro 		

D. Answer these questions.

1. What was the purpose of the VOC?

2. Which hero led the guerrilla war while being sick?

3. Who are known as the Dwi Tunggal figures of Indonesia?

4. What was the name of the flag sewn by Fatmawati?

Social Emphaty

Our heroes fought for our independence by giving their whole lives to make sure the people of Indonesia could live well.

As students, we should honour them by doing our best for the country. We can do this by studying hard, getting good marks, and representing the sacrifices they made to give us our freedom.

A. Cross (X) the correct answer.

- In ____ VOC manage to take control of Maluku after attacking the Portuguese in Ambon.
 - 1602
 - 1605
 - 1619
 - 1799
- Panglima Polem was the last leader to surrender in the Aceh War. This happened in _____.
 - 1899
 - 1903
 - 1904
 - 1873
- The organisation that was started by Haji Samanhudi in 1911 _____.
 - Budi Utomo
 - Indische Partij
 - Islamic Trade Union (Sarekat Dagang Islam)
 - Indonesia Association
- The PETA rebellion in Blitar was led by _____.
 - Soekarno
 - Mohammad Hatta
 - Supriyadi
 - K.H. Mas Mansyur
- The European country that ruled Indonesia the longest is _____.
 - Portuguese
 - British
 - Dutch
 - French

6. _____ led the first Dutch explorers to arrive in Banten in 1596.
- a. Jacob van Neck
 - b. Pieter Both
 - c. Cornelis de Houtman
 - d. Jan Pieterszoon Coen
7. The "VOC" stand for _____.
- a. Dutch Overseas Company
 - b. Very Old Company
 - c. Dutch East India Company (Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie)
 - d. Victory Over Colonies
8. The battle in Surabaya where Brigadier General A.W.S. Mallaby was killed happened near _____.
- a. Tanjung Perak
 - b. The Cepiring sugar factory
 - c. Jembatan Merah (Red Bridge)
 - d. Tugu Muda
9. _____ was the name of the all-out battle in Margarana, Bali, led by I Gusti Ngurah Rai.
- a. The Bandung Sea of Fire
 - b. The Five Days Battle
 - c. The Puputan War
 - d. The First Military Aggression
10. The Proclamation of Independence was read on 17 August 1945 at _____.
- a. Admiral Tadashi Maeda's house
 - b. The Chuo Sangi In Building
 - c. Jalan Pegangsaan Timur Number 56, Jakarta
 - d. Rengasdengklok

B. Tick (✓) the correct statement.

1. The Portuguese ruled Indonesia for the longest period, reaching three and a half centuries.
2. The Proclamation of Independence was read by Soekarno and Hatta on 17 August 1945 at Jalan Pegangsaan Timur Number 56, Jakarta.
3. The Jakarta Charter was drafted by the Indonesian Independence Preparation Committee (PPKI).
4. The Dutch East India Company (VOC) was disbanded on 31 December 1799 due to financial problems.
5. The Budi Utomo organisation was founded on 20 May 1908, and this date is now celebrated as National Awakening Day.

C. Fill in the blanks.

1. The British ruled Indonesia for five years, from 1811 to _____.
2. During the Japanese occupation, Indonesian people were forced to do hard work, known as _____.
3. The news of Japan's surrender to the Allies on 14 August 1945 was first heard by _____.
4. The Allies dropped the first atomic bomb on the city of _____ on 6 August 1945.
5. The red and white flag used during the proclamation was sewn by _____.

D. Write the Youth Pledge script in the box below.

E. Answer these questions.

1. Explain what the VOC was and list two special rights it was given by the Dutch government.

2. Why did the people of Banten kick out Cornelis de Houtman and his Dutch explorers on their first visit?

3. What was the "forced planting system" (cultivation system) started by Governor-General Johannes van den Bosch?

4. What was the Youth Pledge, and why was it important for Indonesian unity?

5. What was the main outcome of the Linggarjati Agreement regarding the territory of the Republic of Indonesia?
