

# *INDONESIA*

*Selected Documents on Colonialism  
and Nationalism, 1830-1942*

*Edited and translated by  
Chr. L. M. Penders*



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**To my daughter Monica**



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## *Preface*

As basic source materials on modern Indonesian history are almost entirely in Dutch and Bahasa Indonesia, the vast majority of English-speaking students taking courses in this field are severely handicapped. This is particularly true of the Dutch colonial era and the genesis and evolution of the Indonesian nationalist movement, periods in which students are almost totally dependent on a few often-outdated textbooks in English, usually based on secondary sources, and on an even smaller range of more specialized works.

The aim of this book is to reduce the deficiency somewhat by providing tertiary and upper-grade high school students with a representative selection of mainly primary sources. A single volume of this kind, which tries to cover more than a century of rather eventful history, has to be highly selective and, of course, can hardly do more than present a glimpse of the immense wealth of primary material, as yet largely untapped, that is stored in the various archives and libraries of the Netherlands and Indonesia. Yet it is hoped that the authenticity of this material will enable students to gain a more vivid picture and a deeper understanding of some of the more important events, movements, and personalities.

With the exception of documents 41, 56, and 66, all extracts were translated by myself. I should like to thank Dr. Subardi of the Australian National University for his help with some of the translations from Javanese and Indonesian. Indonesian words in the documents have kept their original spelling.

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