Glossary

Abangan religiously syncretic and unorthodox Javanese Muslims.
Adat behavioural patterns, rules and customs left by the ancestors.
Anti-Revolutionaire Partij Dutch political party, neo-Calvinist, conservative.
Assistent Wedono Assistant District chief. See also priyayi, Inlands Bestuur.
Atap split bamboo.
Bahasa Indonesia Indonesian national language, largely based on Malay.
Bangsa people, nation.
Batavia seat of the Dutch colonial government, renamed Jakarta in 1945.
Batig slot budget surplus.
Belanda Dutch, European.
Binnenlands Bestuur Regional Government Service, consisting of a European and an Indigenous Branch. See also: priyayi bupati.
Boedi Oetomo (Budi Utomo) literally, Striving towards the sublime; a Java-centric, national organization of 1908.
Boven Digul concentration camp for Indonesian nationalists and Communists situated at the Upper-Digul river in West Irian (Irian Jaya).
Bouw 7096.5 square metres.
Budjang seasonal labour.
Bupati (or Bupatih) also termed Regent; originally viceroys of the Javanese court, later the highest rank in the Native branch of the Binnenlands Bestuur.
Company refers to the Dutch East-India Company or the Dutch colonial government.
Concordantie The policy of maintaining Dutch metropolitan standards and curricula in Dutch language schools in the Netherlands Indies.
Controleur lowest rank in the European branch of the Regional Government Service.
Darul Islam literally, the area of Islam; a fanatical Muslim movement (1948-63) attempting to establish an Islamic state in West Java.

Desa village.
Desa Lumbung village rice bank.
Digul see Boven Digul.
Doctorandus (Drs.) Master of Arts.
Doekoen (Dukun) soothsayer, medicine man, herbalist.
Dogcar horsedrawn carriage.
Dokter-Djawa School school for the training of indigenous vaccinators (1851); later a medical school.
Duit brass coin.
Gerakan Rakjat Indonesia (Gerindo) Indonesian People’s Movement, a radical nationalist party (1937).
Goeroe (Guru) teacher.
Guilder approximately 3.30 $A in 1976.
Hadj (Haji) a person who has completed the pilgrimage to Mecca.
Hadj Mandoer money lender.
Haram contravening the Islamic law, unclean.
Hoofdenscholen special schools for the training of sons of the nobility planning to enter the colonial service (1870).
Hormat signs of respect and submission which commoners were required to show their superiors.
Ingenieur (Ir.) Master of Engineering.
Indier person living in the Netherlands Indies.
Indische Partij Party of the Indies; a radical multi-racial organization (1912).
Indo-Europees Verbond Indo-European Union; organization of Eurasians loyal to the Netherlands (1919).
Indonesia Muda Young Indonesia; radical-nationalist youth organization; also a journal of the same name.
Indonesia Raja (Raya) Greater Indonesia; Indonesian national anthem.
Inlands Bestuur indigenous branch of the Regional Government Service. See also: priyayi, bupati.
Insulinde from Latin, meaning Islands of the Indies; Eurasian political organization (1914-20).
Jong Islamieten Bond (J.I.B.) Union of Young Muslims; student organization set up to counteract the secularizing influence of Western education.
Jong Java Young Java; youth organization affiliated with Budi Utomo.
Kafir non-Muslim; unbeliever.
Kain long piece of cloth, to be draped around the body.
Kati 625 grams.
Kemerdekaan freedom.
Kiyayi Islamic scholar; see also ulama.
Kota town.
Kraton Javanese royal palace complex.
Langgar small mosque; a prayer house also used as a school.
Lebaran celebration after the ending of the fast.
Lumbung rice storage shed.
Mandoer (Mandur) foreman.
Mantri low rank in the Indigenous branch of the Regional Government Service.
Meester in de Rechten (Mr.) Master of Laws.
Merdeka free.
Muhammadiah reformist Muslim organization (1912).
Nahadatul Ulama Association of Scholars (1926); Muslim organization to counteract the Reformists.
Nationale Indische Partij (N.I.P.) successor to the Indische Partij (1912-23).
Nederlandse Handel Maatschappij Dutch Trading Company (1824).
Ngelmu magical knowledge.
Orang menumpang landless villager.
Padi dalem slowly maturing rice.
Padi gendjang quickly maturing rice.
Padri fanatical, puritanical Muslim reformers in Minangkabau (1800-1837).
Pandita mystic.
Partai Kommunis Indonesia (P.K.I.) Indonesian Communist Party (1920).
Partai Indonesia (Partindo) Indonesian Party (1931); radical nationalist.
Partai Indonesia Raja (Parindra) party of Greater Indonesia (1936); moderate nationalist.
Partai Nasional Indonesia (P.N.I.) Indonesian Nationalist Party (1927); radical-nationalist.
Partij Penjedar literally, party to increase consciousness; splinter group from Partai Sarikat Islam (1936).
Partai Persatoean Indonesia (Parpindo) Party of Indonesian Unity.
Pasar market.
Pasoendan Sundanese organization (West Java); mainly culturally orientated.
Pembela Islam journal published by Persatuan Islam.
Pendidikan Nasional Indonesia Indonesian National Education; radical-nationalist (1932).
Penghulu official in charge of Muslim religious affairs.
Pentjak Indonesian art of self-defence.
Perang Sabil holy war.
Perhimpunan Indonesia Indonesian Association; (1922); radical Indonesian students in the Netherlands.
Permufakatan Perhimpunan Politiek Kebangsaan Indonesia (P.P.P.K.I.) literally, Unanimous Consensus of the Political Organizations of the Indonesian People; (1927); nationalist federation.
Persatoean Goeroe Goeroe Agama Islam Islamic Teachers' Union.
Persatoean Katholiek Indonesia Indonesian Catholic Union.
Persatoean Minahasa Minahasan Union (North Sulawesi).
Persatoean Oelama Seloeroeh Atjeh Union of Islamic scholars of Aceh.
Persatoean or Persatuan Islam (Persis) Islamic Unity; reformist movement centred in Bandung.
Persatoean Soepir Indonesia Indonesian chauffeurs Union.
Persatuan Bangsa Indonesia (P.B.I.) Union of the Indonesian People; (1925); moderate nationalist.
Persatuan Tarbijahtoel Islamiah (Perti) Islamic Education Party.
Pesantren Islamic school; type of seminary.
Picul Measure of weight; varying according to produce; e.g. one picul of coffee is 255 lbs.
Poeasa (puasa) period of the Fast.
Politieke Inlichtingen Dienst (P.I.D.) Dutch Political Intelligence Service.
Pondok living quarters, Islamic school.
Priyayi class of aristocratic government administrators; sometimes also is used for Javanese upper-class.
Raad van Nederlands Indie Council of the Indies; supreme executive and legislative body headed by the governor-general.
Ratu Adil literally, a just King, who was popularly believed to inaugurate a millenium of justice and prosperity.
Regent see bupati.
Resident highest rank in the European branch of the Regional Government Service.
Roede (r) 3.767 metres.
Rukun Tani farmers' cooperatives; affiliated to the Parindra.
Santri pious, orthodox Muslims; also students in pesantren.
Sarekat Islam (Sarikat Islam) Islamic Association (1912).
Sarikat Rakjat People's Association; local branches of the Indonesian Communist Party.
Sate skewered roasted meat.
Sawah irrigated rice land.
School Tot Opleiding Van Inlandse Artsen (S.T.O.V.I.A.) school for the training of Native doctors; medical school in Jakarta. Evolved from the Dokter-Djawa school.
Sembahjang daily Muslim prayers.
Sirih betel nut.
Slametan festive meal on special occasions.
Swadeshi Hindi word for indigenous; Gandhi-led movement urging Indians to buy only locally produced goods.
Tegalan non-irrigated farm land.
Toean (Tuan) sir; lord; used only for non-Indonesians.
Oelama (Ulama) Muslim scholar, scribe.
Volksraad People's Council; proto parliament (1918).
Wajang Traditional Javanese puppet or shadow play.
Warong (Warung) small store.
Wilde Scholen literally, Wild Schools; schools run by Indonesians outside the official government system.
Zakat religious tax.
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Beginning in the 1830’s, these documents show first the colonial Dutch debating among themselves the fate of their “East Indian” subjects, and then — gathering assurance with the growth of nationalist sentiment — Indonesians debating the shape of their future nation. In this sense Indonesia: Selected Documents presents a century-long drama of ideas, coloured by the personalities and movements of the times. The book ends on the eve of the Japanese occupation and the shattering of the colonial image that followed.

This is the first published collection of documents for the period, and as such provides an invaluable range of primary sources. Students denied access to archives in Holland and Indonesia by barriers of language and distance can now come face to face with original material from Dutch and Indonesian, most of it translated by Dr Penders himself.

The book is divided into eight sections, covering the Culture System, liberal colonial policy, ethical policy, anti-colonial movements in the nineteenth century, the genesis of the modern Indonesian nationalist movement, the Islamic movement, the Communist movement and the Indonesia-centric nationalist movement. The sources include the correspondence and reports of colonial administrators, the statistical findings of economists, parliamentary debates of the Netherlands government, Javanese folklore, and political propaganda. In all, there are seventy-two documents from a wide range of sources, including material written by such key figures as General van den Bosch, van Hoevell, and Brooshoof in the nineteenth century, Tan Malaka, Sukarno, and Hatta in the twentieth.

Chris Penders was born at Cuyk (Netherlands) in 1928. He migrated to Australia in 1950; and later graduated from the Australian National University, Canberra, with an M.A. and Ph.D. on aspects of Indonesian history. Since 1965 he has been teaching at the University of Queensland, where he is now Reader in History. His main research interests are the history of colonialism, nationalism, and revolution in S.E. Asia, particularly Indonesia. In 1972–74 he spent prolonged periods in the Dutch Colonial Archives at The Hague researching this selection of documents as well as his own planned history of colonial Indonesia.

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