JOHAN TETERISSA, INDONESIA

Johan Teterissa has spent nearly 10 years in prison for waving a flag.

He's a primary school teacher with a passion for human rights. But right now, Johan Teterissa is serving a 15-year jail sentence for raising a flag banned by the government.

In June 2007, Johan led a group of 22 mainly teachers and farmers in a peaceful protest in front of Indonesia's president. They performed a traditional war dance, before unfurling a "rainbow" flag, a historical symbol of independence for the people of Maluku province.

Police immediately removed Johan and the others, punching and beating them. They took the men to several police stations, at one point forcing them to crawl on their stomachs on hot asphalt, whipping them with electric cables, and beating their ears with rifle butts until they bled. The torture continued during official questioning.

Following a plainly unfair trial, all the men were convicted of "rebellion". Johan was sentenced to life, reduced to a 15-year-sentence. He is still in a prison, thousands of kilometres from his family and friends.

TELL INDONESIA TO FREE JOHAN WITHOUT DELAY

Write to the President of the Republic of Indonesia

Tell him to immediately and unconditionally release Johan and the other protestors. Until John's release, he should be immediately transferred to a prison closer to his family.

President of the Republic of Indonesia
H.E Joko Widodo
c/o Presidential Staff Office (KSP)
Gedung Bina Graha
Jalan Veteran No. 16
Jakarta Pusat 10110
Indonesia

Show Johan that you stand with him
31st of December is Johan's birthday. Send him a special wish and show him he is not alone.

Johan Teterissa
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53213, Cilacap
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