## A private visit to South Sulawesi / Celebes in 1998 and 2000

Two trips put together by drs (MSc) Dirk Teeuwen

Nine pictures, five pages. Most photo's are available on request.



These trips - limited reported in a combination - were as follows.

- Amsterdam – Denpasar: Bali hotel Bali Hyatt, six nights

- Denpasar via Lombok to Ujung Pandang on Sulawesi

Flight with Merpati: flights with small Indonesian airlines are horrible and raise your hair permanently.

- Ujung Pandang: hotel Golden Makassar, four nights in a seaside cottage
- From Ujung Pandang via Maros and Batimuru to Sengkang: hotel Apada, two nights
- Lake Tempe
- From Sengkang to Rantepao (Toradja) via Palopo: hotel Toradja Prince, four nights
- From Rantepao to Parepare: hotel Nurlina
- From Parepare to Ujung Pandang, one night
- From Ujung Pandang to Bali: hotel Bali Hyatt, four nights

Makassar / Ujung Pandang is the provincial capital of South Sulawesi. Ujung Pandang was a fortress just outside the town in pre colonial times. See our Photo Gallery and Indonesian History dept. The population nowadays is about two million. The Portuguese were the first settlers from Europe in the sixteenth century. In those days Makassar was a very important trading centre in the area. The Dutch, in the seventeenth century, tried to establish a trade monopoly and succeeded. The Dutch were religious tolerant and Islam became the dominant faith in the region. The colonials made Makassar their key centre in their spice trade in the eastern part of the archipelago.

In 1667 the Dutch East India Company, together with the Buginese prince Arung Palakka of the Bone Sultanate on Celebes, captured Makassar and made an end to its independency. To stimulate the economic role of Makassar the Dutch established a free port in 1848.



The Dutch built Fort Rotterdam (seventeenth century), which has been tastefully restored. The seaside of Makassar with its wonderful boulevard counts a couple of harbours. These are worth a visit very much. So is the orchid garden of Clara Bundt. Hotel Golden Makassar is a topper.

Tana Toradja, Land of the Toradjas, is mountainous and scarcely populated. Most Toradjas are Christian. The Dutch took over the area in 1909. Toradjas are renowned for their funeral rites such as mass slaughters of bentengs (see our slide show), burial sites in rocks, peaked roof traditional houses and wood carvings. Toradja society changed a lot: from agricultural to a large Christian and tourist oriented society. During my first visit hotel staff showed a very spontaneous attitude, later the lounge of hotel Toradja Prince was dominated by stupid "baby baby, I love you" crying "music" groupies.



Fort Rotterdam 1911









