

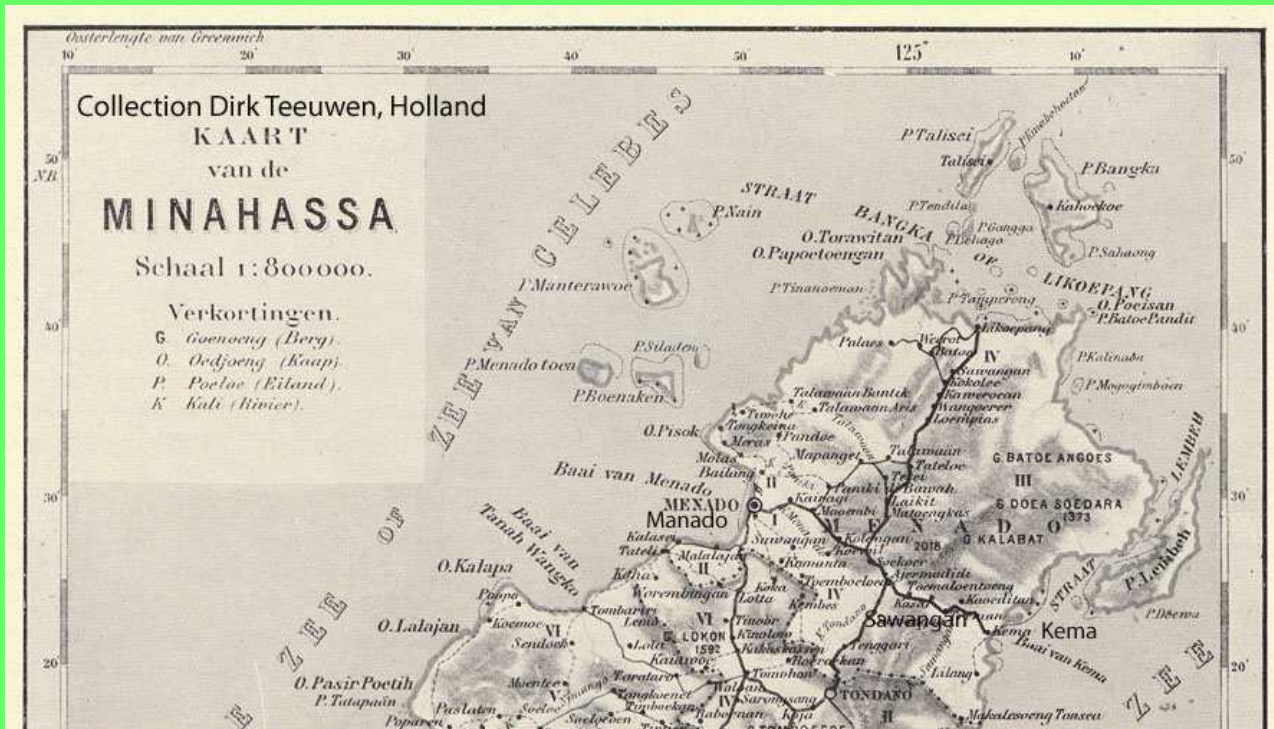
# Sawangan Waruga, Lake Linau Tangkoko, Ranatongo, Lahendong Picture gallery, old and new Dirk Teeuwen MSc



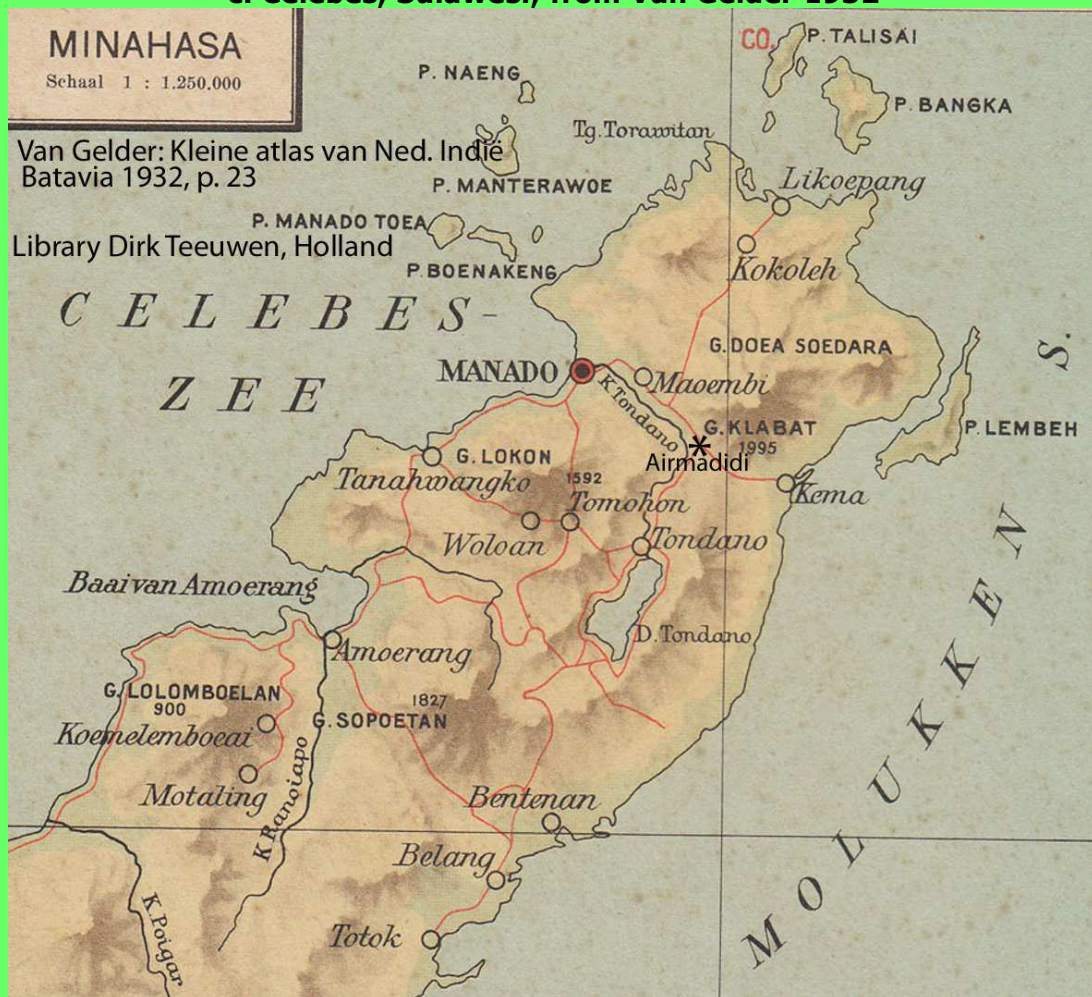
a. Celebes, Sulawesi; from Van Gelder 1932

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland





**b. From the magazine Tropisch Nederland, volume 1929-30**  
**c. Celebes, Sulawesi; from Van Gelder 1932**



Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



## Sawangan Archeological Park Waruga-Waruga

On the road from Manado to Airmadidi is Taman Anggrek (see map c, not far from Maoembi). Taman Anggrek is a garden, open to the public, showing a lot of orchids in gardens and green houses from the different parts of North Celebes/Sulawesi. Driving further, from Airmadidi to the south - to Tondano and only 60 km from Manado - the road leads to Sawangan Village. Sawangan is the site of a large collection of about 140 ancient sarcophagi, so-called waruga (plural: waruga waruga in Indonesian, actually) as well as a small museum. Most sarcophagi are from the ninth century after Christ, but - visiting the cemetery - it feels like looking into the Stone Age. Minahassa was typhus- as well as cholera-infested during the nineteenth century. As it turned out, in 1862 the Dutch government forbade by local law the habit of the aboveground burials in waruga.

One could find waruga all over Minahassa, but in 1976 most of the waruga were moved to Sawangan. Each waruga is decorated with carvings denoting the occupation: characteristics of the dead man, woman or child. All waruga face the east, face the rising sun. A Sawangan official leads a ceremony every night of the full moon.



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

**Waruga (sarcophagus) Cemetery, Sawangan in District Airmadidi; 1996  
Graves date from the Megalithic age.  
(Dirk and one of his Indonesian friends.)**

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



**Sawangan, 1996**

**Until 1862 the deceased were placed into this kind of graves: into the hole, into the lower part. Before doing so some possessions of the deads - could be jewelry, spoons, machetes, etc. - were thrown in the grave. The faces of the dead were exposed to the north. Heaven was supposed to be located in that direction and the Minahassans were convinced that their ancestors came from the north. The roofs were necessary to prevent the ghosts from leaving the graves and from wandering about.**

**A stone waruga is a (Minahassan) sarcophagus, but waruga means home as well.**

**Dirk Teeuwen, Holland**



Visit: <http://indonesiavisit.info/2013/02/05/waruga-sawangan-airmadidi-minahasa-ancient-stone-tomb/> (source)

Visit: <http://www.thearoengbinangproject.com/mural-waruga-sawangan-minahasa/> (source)

In this second site you may find wonderful information about ancient Minahasan burials



**Dirk Teeuwen, Holland**



**Sawangan 1948**





Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

**Sawangan, 1996**

**The roofs of the old graves were necessary to prevent ghosts from leaving the graves and from wandering about**

**Dirk Teeuwen, Holland**





Tropenmuseum of the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT)  
Wikimedia Commons  
Photo C. J. Taillie

**Sawangan 1948, friendly Dutch military man visits sarcophagi.**



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

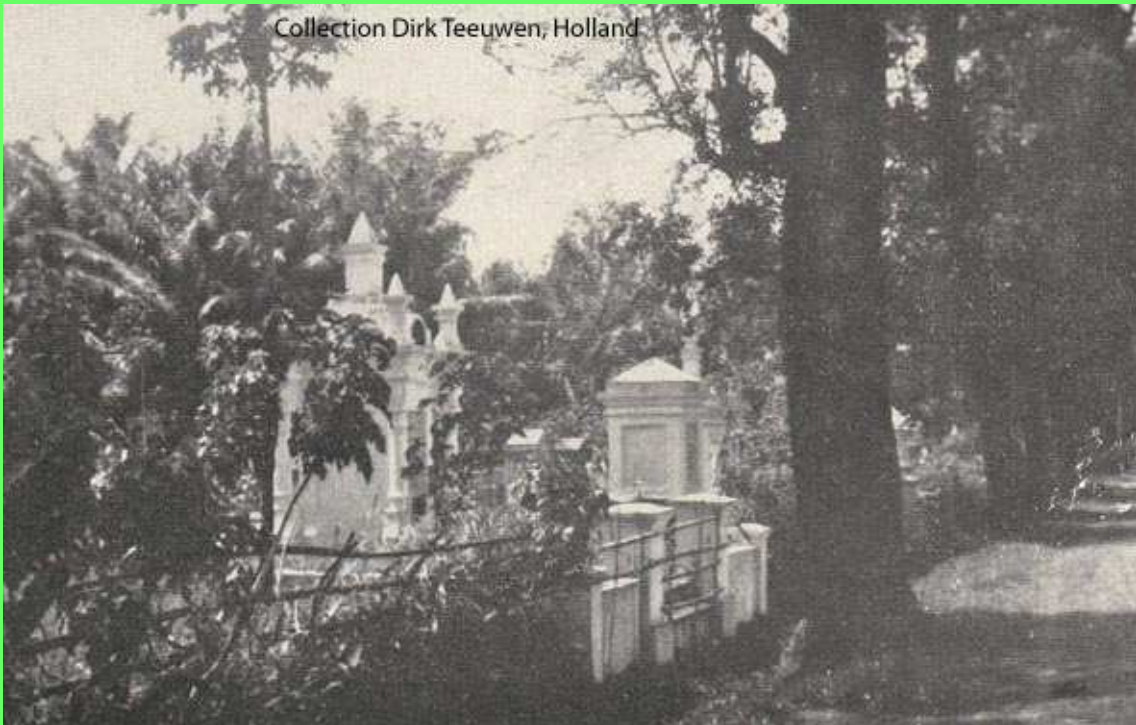
**More modern tombstone, from 1944, in Sawangan cemetery 1996  
Final resting place ("hier rust" in Dutch) of Theodorus Ewangke 1874-1944  
Military and Civil Head (Hukden Tua) of Sawangan District 1910-1939**

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



Collection Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

**Sawangan, ignored sarcophagi; from the magazine "Tropisch Nederland" volume 1934-35**



Collection Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

**Minhassan cemetery on the road from Kakas to Langoan; from the magazine "Tropisch Nederland" volume 1934-35**

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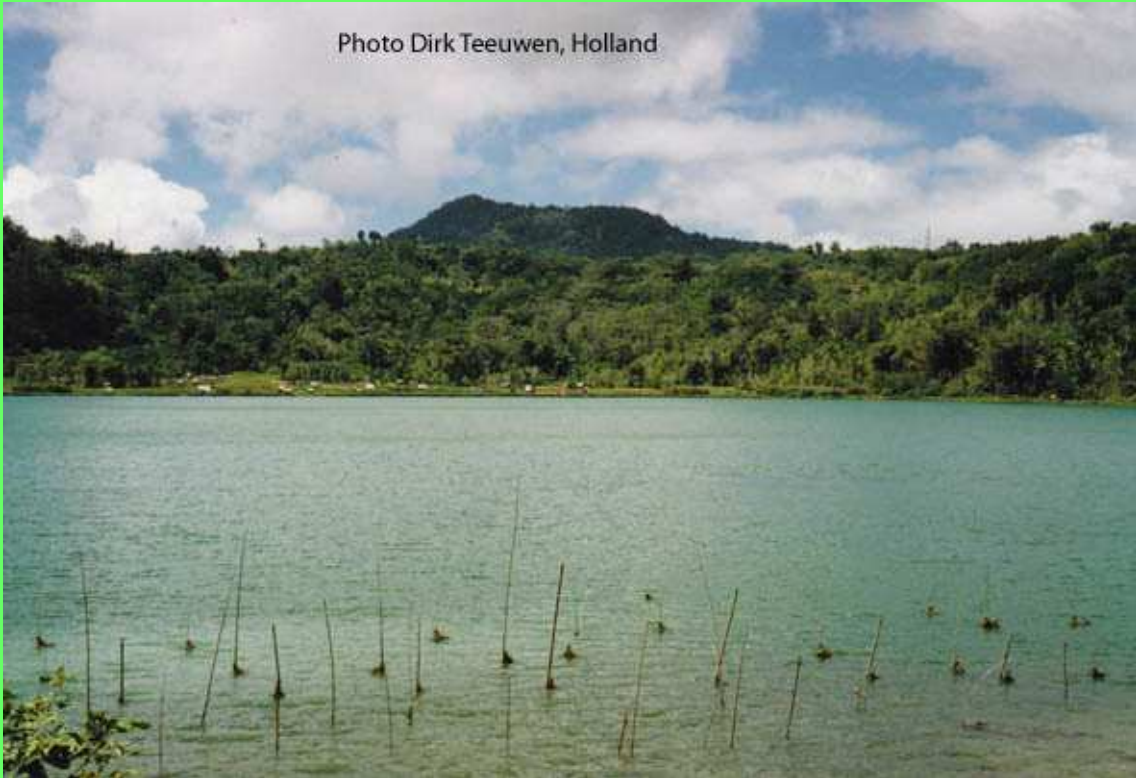


Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

**Christian tombstones with a roof! Sawangan, 1996  
Christian or not, these roofs are necessary to prevent the ghosts from leaving  
the graves and from wandering about. Even today.  
Dirk Teeuwen, Holland**



# Lake Linau, Tangkoko, Ranatongo and Lahendong



**Lake Linau, Minahasa; 1996**



**Tangkoko National Park, 1996**

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fotostock IFA Bilderteam



**Tangkoko National Park, 1996**  
**In 1996 we have seen a lot of hornbills.**

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



**Ranatongo, Minahassa; 1996**  
**Wonderful!! Prefab house, typical Minahassan style: always one floor, one upper floor. Beautiful architecture.**

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



**Lahendong, Minahasa; 1996**

**Dirk Teeuwen, Holland  
End**