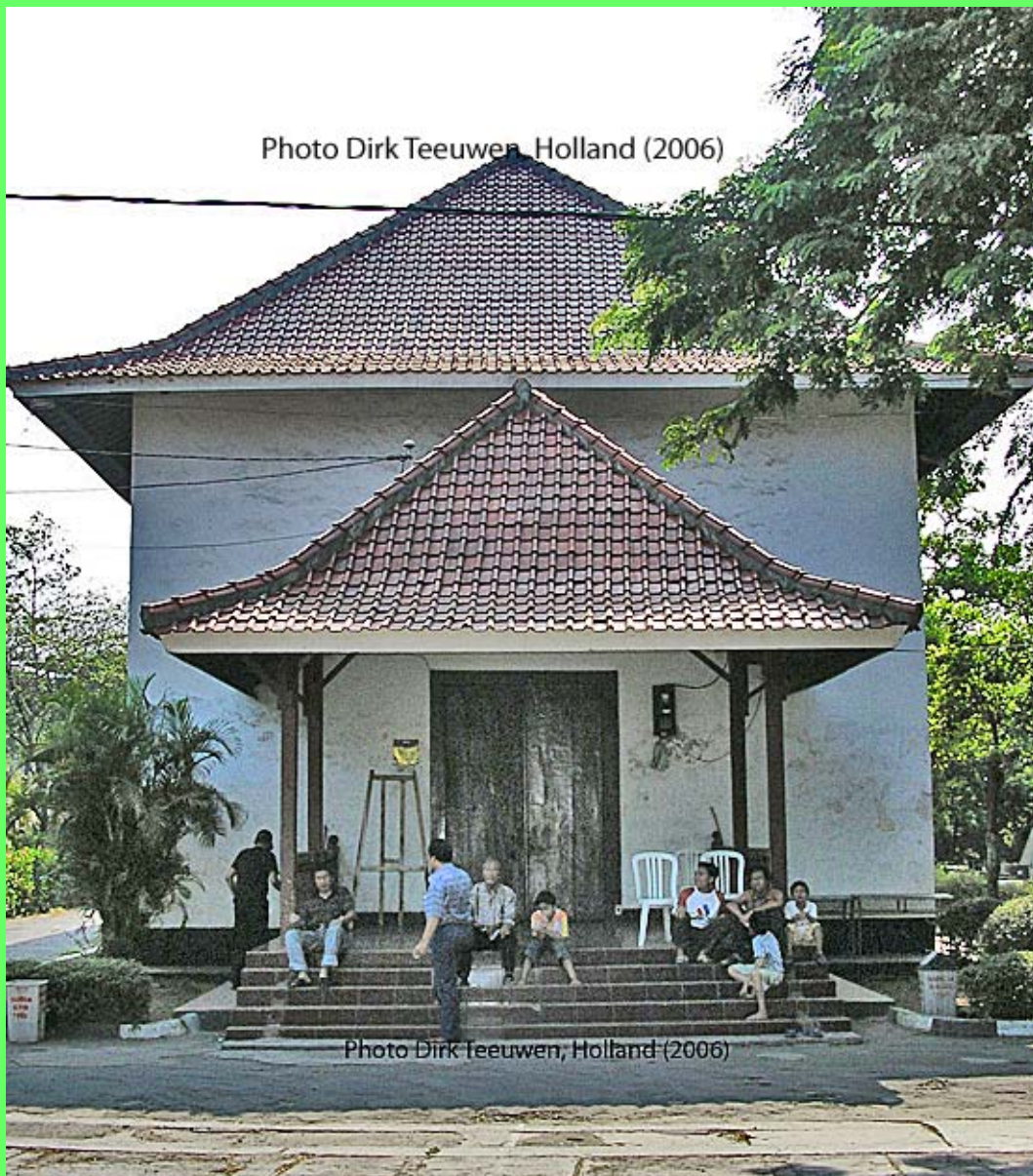


Jakarta heritage, Kampung Tugu drs Dirk Teeuwen MSc



1. Front of Tugu Church, 2006

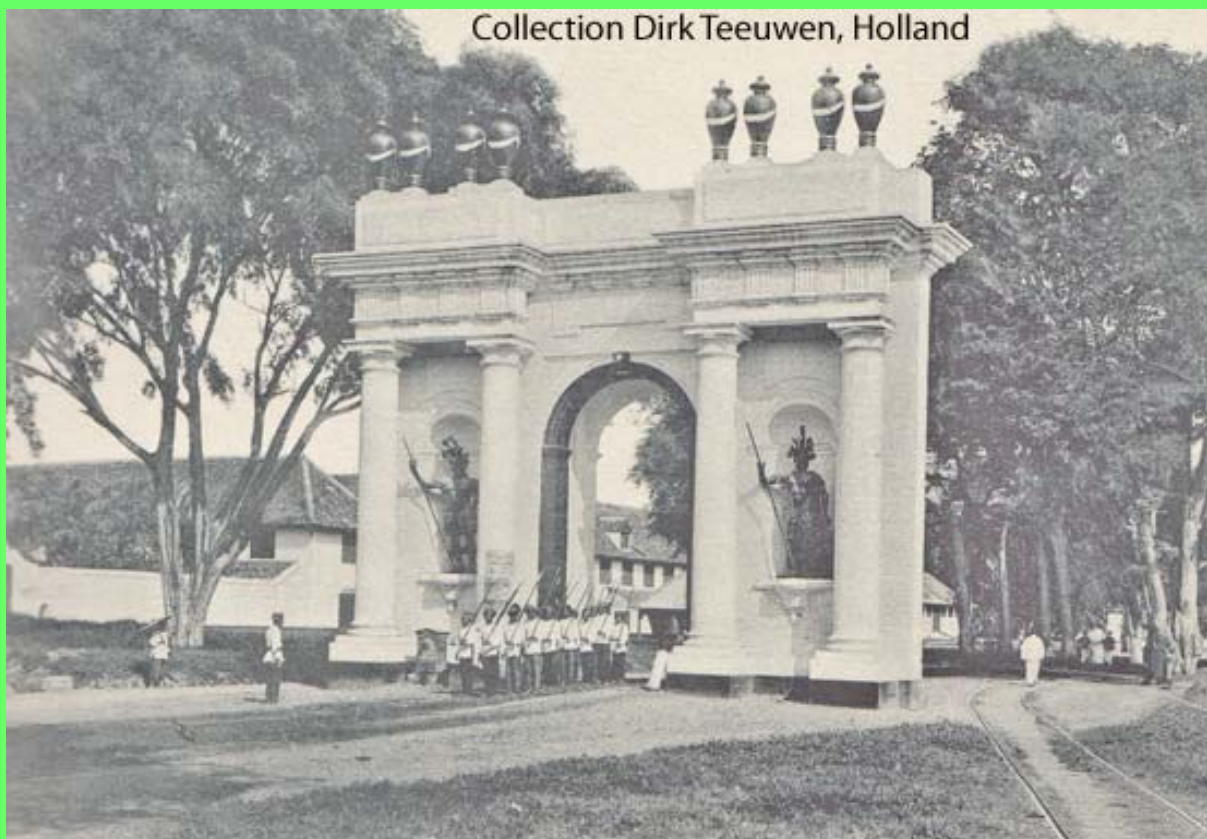
Kampung Tugu is located south from Tanjung Priok Port in the District of Cilincing Jakarta, formerly Batavia. The Dutch founded modern Jakarta in 1619, named it Batavia on March 13th, 1619.

Tugu Village is a community of Portuguese descendents. Because they were, or became, of mixed blood, the Dutch called them "Black-Portuguese". These Portuguese were taken prisoner of war in India, Malaysia and Ceylon, now Sri Lanka, during the seventeenth and eighteenth century. At first they were kept as slaves by the Dutch. But - after accepting the Christian protestant faith and after expressing their loyalty to the Dutch government - they could become free citizens.

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

Like I said, after doing so they got their merdeka, which means freedom. Because of that those Black Portuguese were also called "Mardijkers", free people. A corruption of this Bahasa Indonesia word "merdeka".

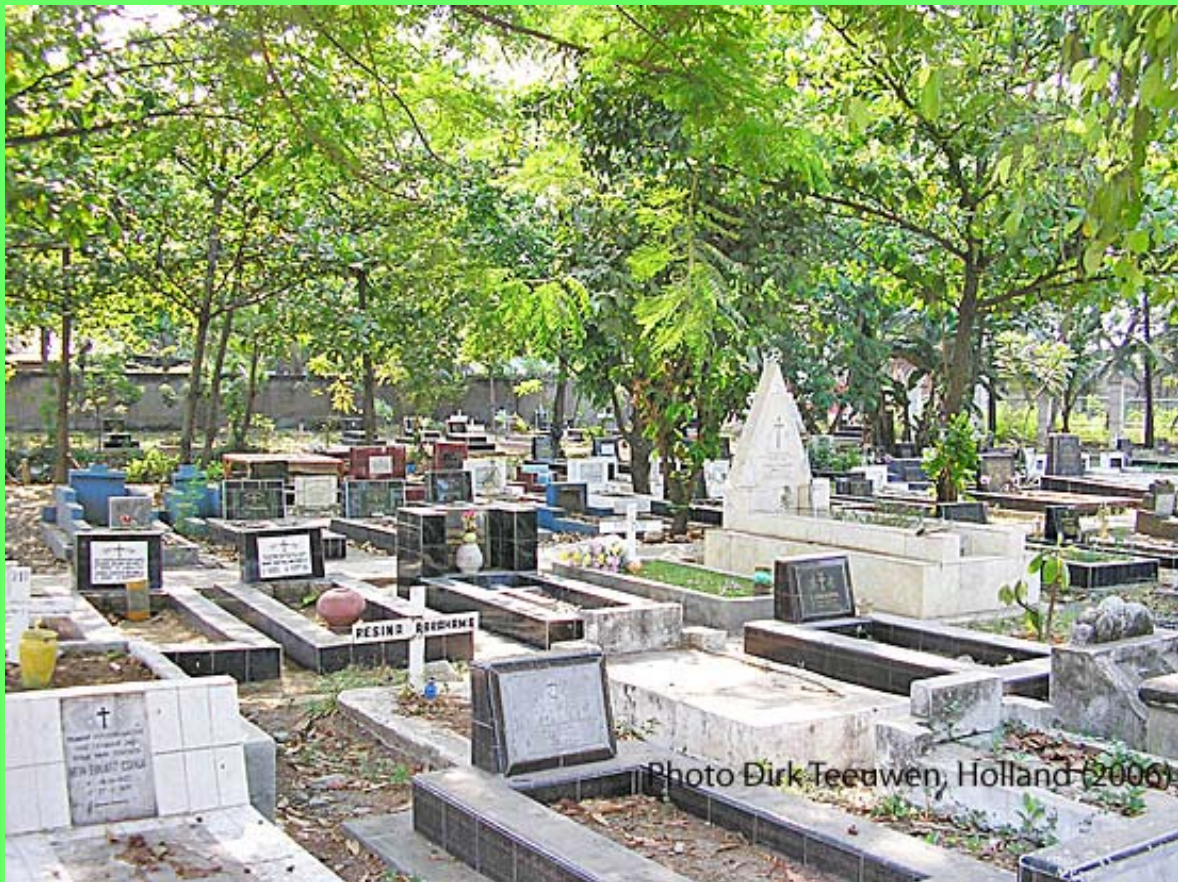
The Mardijkers were not the only prisoners of war category in those days in and around Batavia. The Dutch took prisoner "black Spaniards" from the Philippines, from districts north from Manilla. They served mostly as soldiers, so-called Papangers, in the army of the Dutch East-Indian Company and specially as soldiers, encamped in the Company's Batavia Castle (demolished about 1800, the castle I mean). After 1800, until 1907, Papangers served as ceremonial military guards in front of the Amsterdam Gate. This gate was only castle gate left from the olden days. Papangers merged more with the Batavian population than Mardijkers did.



2. Papangers from the Batavia Militia in front of the Amsterdam Gate, 1905
Source: Amsterdamsche Maatschappij van Levensverzekeringen: Gezichten uit Nederlandsch Indië; Haarlem Holland (Emrik & Binger) 1907, p. 8

Soon after 1625 some Mardijkers were allowed to establish themselves in, what became later, Tugu Village, originally a swampy affair with malaria problems east from Dutch Batavia. The Dutch wanted to see area around Batavia more cultivated. The city of Batavia itself, with a swamp problem also, had an enormous death-rate because of malaria. Such until the creation of a "new Batavia", called "Weltevreden" (means lit. "Satisfaction") or "Batavia Centre": around what is now Medan Merdeka, Harmoni, Lapangan Banteng, etc..

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3. Tugu churchyard, 2006

Most Mardijkers stayed inside Batavia town. They had their own churches there. The Inner Portuguese Protestant Church and the outer Protestant Church. Outer means outside town. The last one, the outer one, is still there. Walk from Stasiun Kota (Jakarta Kota Railway Station in Old Batavia) to the east. You can not miss it.

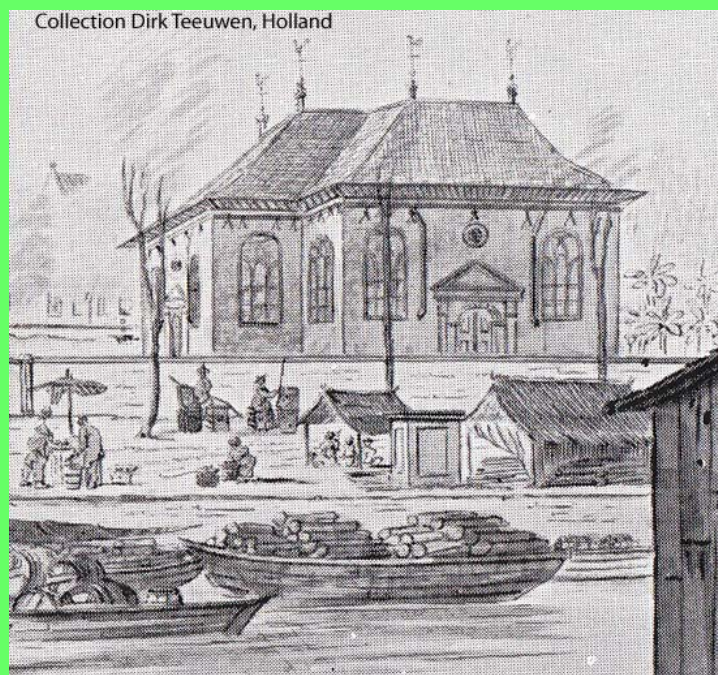
Tugu Church was founded around 1670 by Melchior Leidecker, a doctor/surgeon and a full blooded Dutchman, as the centre of a Christian protestant community. the first one outside Batavia. More or less the Mardijkers developed themselves in their own way until today. Their traditional music is Krontjong: (a lot of) guitar, light string bass, flute, violin, and singer(s). Krontjong is well-known in the Jakarta area, but very, very well-known also in the old mother country The Netherlands. Here this music is played and is on disc available in shops and during Pasar Malams, organized regularly all over The Netherlands.

Melchior Leidecker was buried in the cemetary around Tugu Church. I took a picture, but I lost it. Which is very regrettable.

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



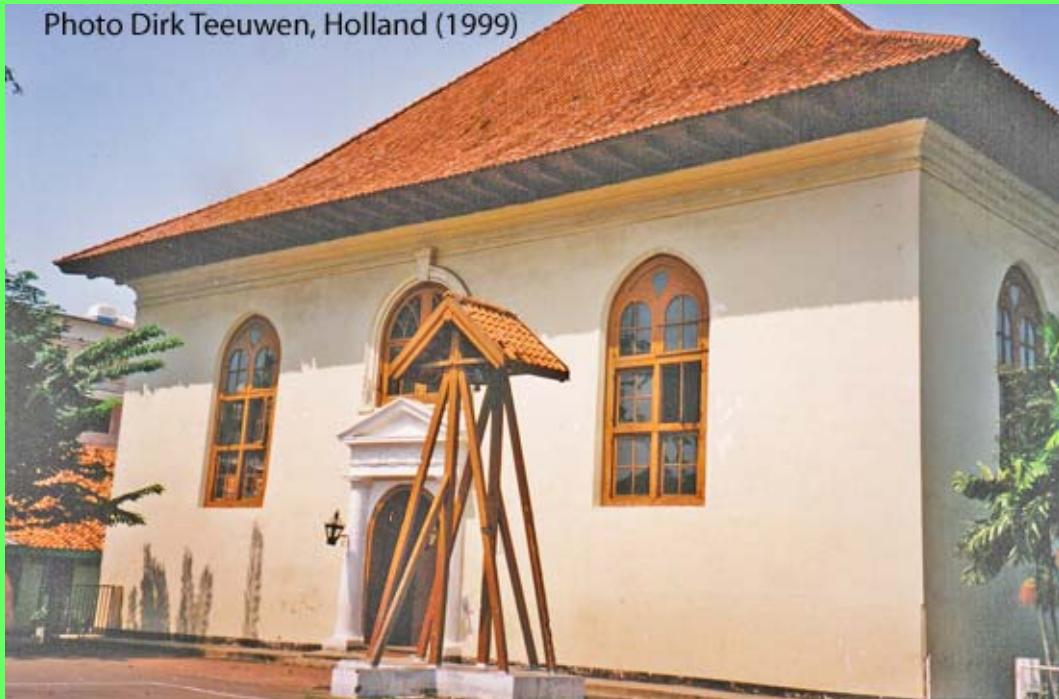
4. The Inner Portuguese Church, Batavia-Jakarta 1770
 Drawing by Johannes Rach. He worked on Kali Besar East and looked into the
 Utrechtse Straat, now Jalan Kopi in Jakarta Kota. He looked to the west. The
 church is the building right from us, so right from the bridge.



5. Detail of 4. The Inner Portuguese Church in 1770

Source: *Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen: Johannes Rach en zijn werk; Batavia-Jakarta (Kolff & Co) 1928, p. 87*

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6. Northern entrance of Gereja Sion, the Outer Protestant Portuguese Church built in 1695, Jakarta-Batavia 1999

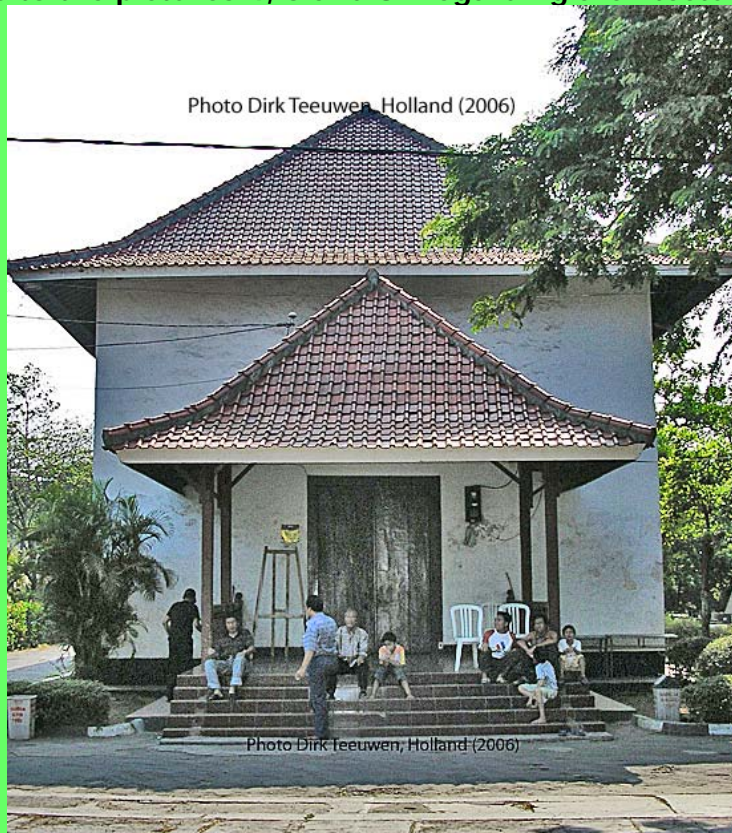


7. The northern entrance in close-up, 1999

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Tugu Church again on 8. (up) 9 (below). Maybe you could see some resemblance / similitude to the pictures 4, 5 and 8. Regarding architecture I mean.



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Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland (2006)



**10. The western entrance of Gereja Sion, the Outer Protestant Portuguese Church, Jakarta-Batavia 2006
Left and right from the footpath the remains of the old churchyard.**

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Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland (2006)

11. The churchyard of Tugu Church, 2006

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



12. Interior of Tugu Church, 2006

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland (2006)

**13. Detail of the interior, 2006
I am not able to remove the inconvenient white spot.**

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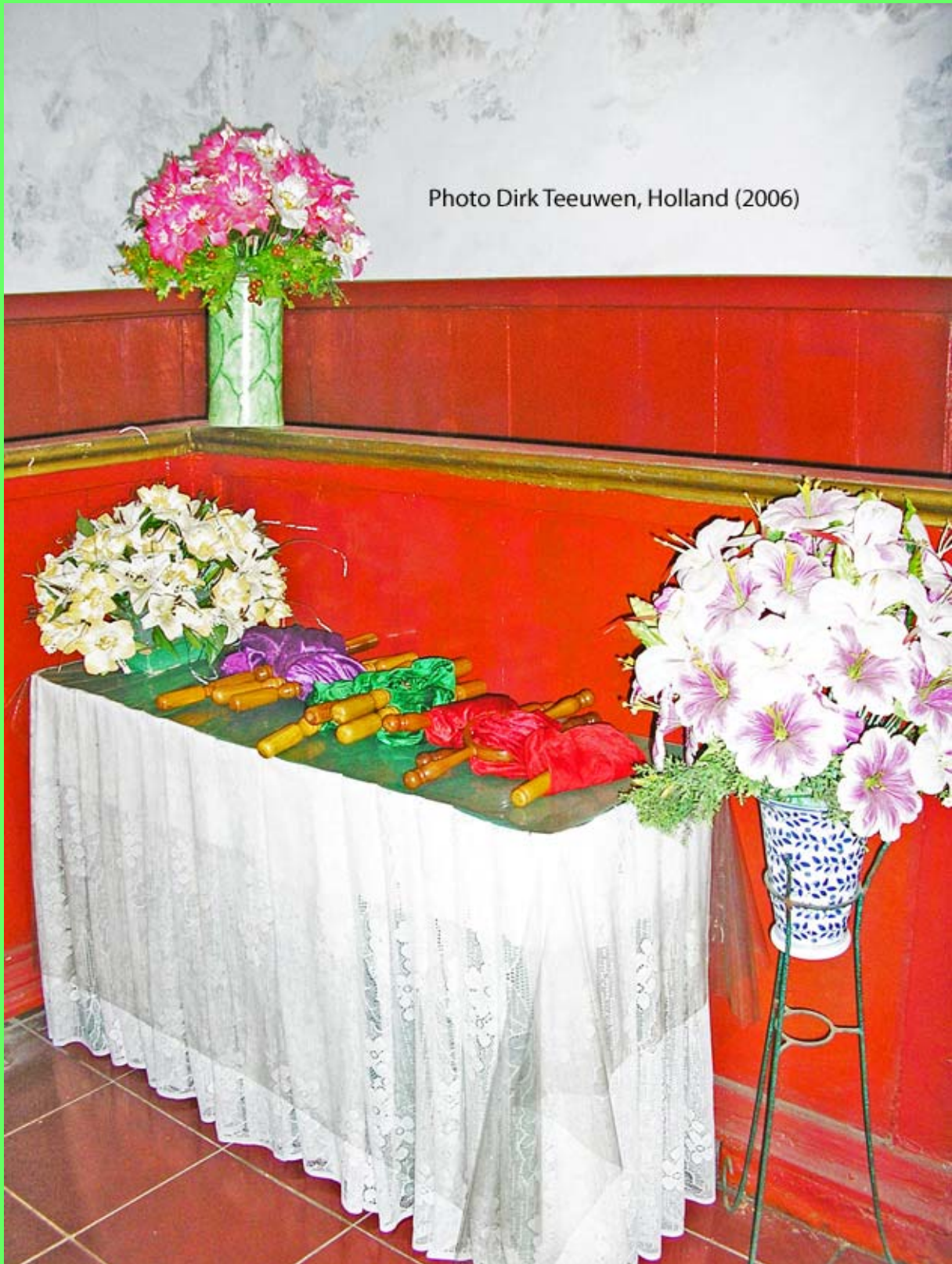


Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland (2006)

14. Collecting bags in Tugu Church, 2006

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland (2006)



15. We wqere not the only visitors, Tugu Church 2006

Dirk Teeuwen, Holland