



CENTRO NACIONAL CHEGA! I.P

Da Memória A Esperança



CHILDREN AND CONFLICT

Children and conflict:

This class of documents relates to the human rights violations inflicted upon children in the period 1974-1999. According to a myriad of documents preserved in the Historical Archives of Centro Chega!, minors encountered many types of violations, including enforced military logistic support recruitment (TBO), sexual abuse, detention and tortures, enforced disappearances, hunger, malnourishment and killings

Labarik no Konflitu:

Iha kategoria ne'e akumula dokumentu sira kolia kona-ba violasaun direitu umanu neebe akontese ba labarik sira iha periodu 1974-1999. Dokumentu sira relata tipu violasaun hasoru labarik sira mak hanesan rekrutamentu obrigatoriu (TBO), abuzu seksual, detensaun, torturasaun, dezaparesimentu forsada, hamlaha, malnutrisaun, hetan oho no violasaun sira seluk tan.



Aida Maria dos Anjos

Several weeks after that they told me about my father's grave. Why did they have to kill my father? My father didn't know anything about politics. He was a simple farmer who kept himself busy every day in his garden and fields. My brother was involved in politics, not us!

When the uprising in Kraras (Viqueque) occurred, I was only 14 years old. I did not know anything about politics, but I had to bear its' risks. At that time I lived with my brother, Joao Baptista dos Anjos in Viqueque city. My father, mother and other brothers and sisters lived in the village of Kraras. My brother, Virgilio dos Anjos, alias Commander Ular (meaning: snake) and Taur Matan Ruak were doing an operation there. A week before the Kraras event, there was a short note from brother Paul which said that it would be better for my older brother Joao to flee to the forests because *Nanggala* (code-name for Kopassandha/Kopassus) were after him. When he heard this news, he immediately left for the forest. A few days thereafter two of my grandmothers came to Viqueque. I told them about this news.

One day I had left for school to attend classes. Not long thereafter there was a car parked in front of the school office. My guess was that *Nanggala* (code name for Kopassandha [Kommando Pasukan Sandhi Yudha - Secret Warfare Command 1971 -1986] /Kopassus [Komando Pasukan Khusus - Special Forces Command 1986 - present] deployment) - was meeting with the school principal in order to arrest me. Several minutes thereafter *Nanggala* came walking towards my class and at the door of the class asked, "Who was the person by the name of Aida Maria dos Anjos?" I answered that it was I, whose name that was. *Nanggala* ordered me out to go to Viqueque. Upon arrival, there were already two of my older siblings there in detention, Teresa dos Anjos and the other one I forgot. I saw them when I entered the detention place. They had been beaten, interrogated and tortured by *Nanggala*. *Nanggala* did not put me into the same room with the two of them because we were so closely related. We stayed in a detention center that was mostly filled with female friends. I still remember several names of these friends. They were: Teresa, Etelvina, Adelgisa Ximenes, Cipriana, Domingas and Mariana. We were constantly interrogated at all times, sometimes from 12 o'clock at night until 3 in the morning when we were finally let go. Sometimes the interrogations were in groups and sometimes individually.

During the interrogations *Nanggala* forced me to give information about the whereabouts of Commander Ular. The interrogations were always undertaken by five *Nanggala* members. At that time, Martinho Fernandes held the office of sub-district administrator of Viqueque, whereas Joao Daniel Baptista worked as secretary to the sub-district administrator. They actively attended each interrogation session held with me. One day sub-district administrator Martinho said that I should go and change my clothes and that we would go to the *Kodim* - District Military Command Office. After 15 minutes sub-district administrator Martinho came and took me to the *Kodim* office. We entered the office for Section Head I for work. Not long thereafter the *Nanggala* commander said that I shouldn't be afraid that he would help me.

Transkrisaun. Parte dahuluk husi Vitima Aida M dos Santos nia estetementu kona-ba Masakre Kraras 1983 . [2003]

knew that my whole body was injured. They couldn't do anything because the ones who had done it were all army. I only felt really free when I started to continue my studies in Indonesia.



Julieta Jesuirina dos Santos
(accompanied by her mother, Isabel dos Santos)

"I saw my father die alongside many people inside the church, but I do not know exactly how many people died at that time, on 5 - 6 April 1999 in the Liquica church".

On 5 - 6 April 1999 at 9 o'clock in the morning, I witnessed a killing in the Liquica church. At that time I was nine years old. My mother and I and many others entered the church in Liquica to seek refuge from the militia attack. At that time my father was not with me. My father had joined another pro-independence group at a different place. On 5 April at noon my father entered the church and said to us that there were two militia members, which were XX and XX, who were also members of *Kodim* - the district command office of Liquica who had threatened to kill him. When my father told us that there was militia who wanted to kill him, I became silent and started to cry. Then my father gave the same information to the priest, but I and my mother and the other community members stayed in the church. During that day it was already chaotic in Liquica and the situation was not able to be kept under control. They started to destroy the people's things.

But then the militia became vicious and started moving towards the church. Then I and a grandfather ran from the church back home. We hid in the house of Mama Yanti (a Javanese). There we heard screaming voices and I guessed that these were screams of people who were being killed by the militia. Then that grandfather and I ran again to the parsonage. At that time the militia were looting things from people's houses around our house. The priest told the police who were patrolling, but the police answered that this wasn't their responsibility. And the police went and didn't bother. The militia who stole the things of the people came from Maubara. They were the *Besi Merah Putih* - Red and White Iron group. I still remember well that in the evening of 5 April 1999, the people who had already ran to the forest wanted to take my father to the forest with them. But not long thereafter Uncle Jacinto, the head of the village of Dato, wanted to go to the forest also; but my father reprimanded him. In the end Uncle Jacinto did not go. That night we were unable to sleep because of the sound of gunfire from militia and military. On 6 April 1999 the militia started entering the homes of civilians and taking out things. The militia started to speak in a rough manner to the people who had sought refuge in the church, including myself and family. Because I couldn't stand it in the church any longer, I dared to run to another place. When I ran out of the church towards the house of the district administrator. I saw many dead bodies lying around in the church.

In the parish office, the situation was the same and when I left that place I stepped over dead bodies, just like that. There were some I knew but many whom I did not know. At that time the military and militia began to pick up the bodies and place them on a military truck (*Hino*). There were around seven vehicles. I do not know in what direction they were taken, because others and myself, who were still alive, started to run as fast as we could to survive. When I fled

Transkrisaun. Parte dahuluk husi Julieta J. dos Santos nia estetementu kona-ba nia experensia iha masakre Liquica 1999. [2003]