



JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME
PROGRAMA DE MONITORIZASAUN DO SISTEMA JUDICIAL

Press Release

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The families of victims and victims themselves continue to pursue truth and justice as important principles in their struggle

The families of victims and victims themselves see truth and justice as an important principle in their struggle. The struggle of Timor-Leste to achieve independence is full of bitter experiences that occurred at different times during the occupation.

For the people of Timor-Leste the month of September marks a dark period of history because at that time (September 1999) prior to and after the ‘referendum’ massacres occurred across the entire territory of Timor-Leste causing human rights violations against innocent people.

These massacres occurred almost everywhere. They included massacres in dark September that took place in Suai, the Liquiça church, Tumin, Passabe, Maquelab in Oecusse, Lautem, Maliana, the residence of Bishop Dom Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, the Dili Diocese of the Bishop and included sexual violence against Ana Lemos in Ermera District.

“These events in history will never be forgotten from the memories of the Timorese people, especially for the families of victims and the victims themselves who directly experienced these events”, said the Executive Director of JSMP, Luis de Oliveira Sampaio.

In conferences, meetings and a number of other opportunities we continue to hear the cries for justice from the families of victims and the victims themselves.

In order to preserve and value the sacrifice and suffering of victims, JSMP recommends for the State of Timor-Leste to commemorate important and historic days from the national level down to the district level.

In addition, JSMP also requests for the State of Timor-Leste to include these history days and tragic events in the history of the national struggle, to be passed on to future generations.

For more information, please contact:

Luis de Oliveira Sampaio
Executive Director of JSMP
Email: luis@jsmp.minihub.org
No Mobile: + 670 77 29 57 95
Landline: 3323883