

Orang Hilang (The Disappearance)

Alit Ambara



Kembalikan Mereka! (*Bring Back Them!*), The Poster by Agus Suwage, ca. 1999

The 1997/1998 activists kidnapping were abductions of pro-democracy activists which happened between 1997 and 1998. The kidnappings took place in three different phases: before the May 1997 Indonesian legislative elections, two months before the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) session in March 1998 and in the period just before Soeharto's 21 May resignation. None of those abducted during the first and third period have reappeared. Some of the activists who were abducted in the second period have openly spoken about their experiences.

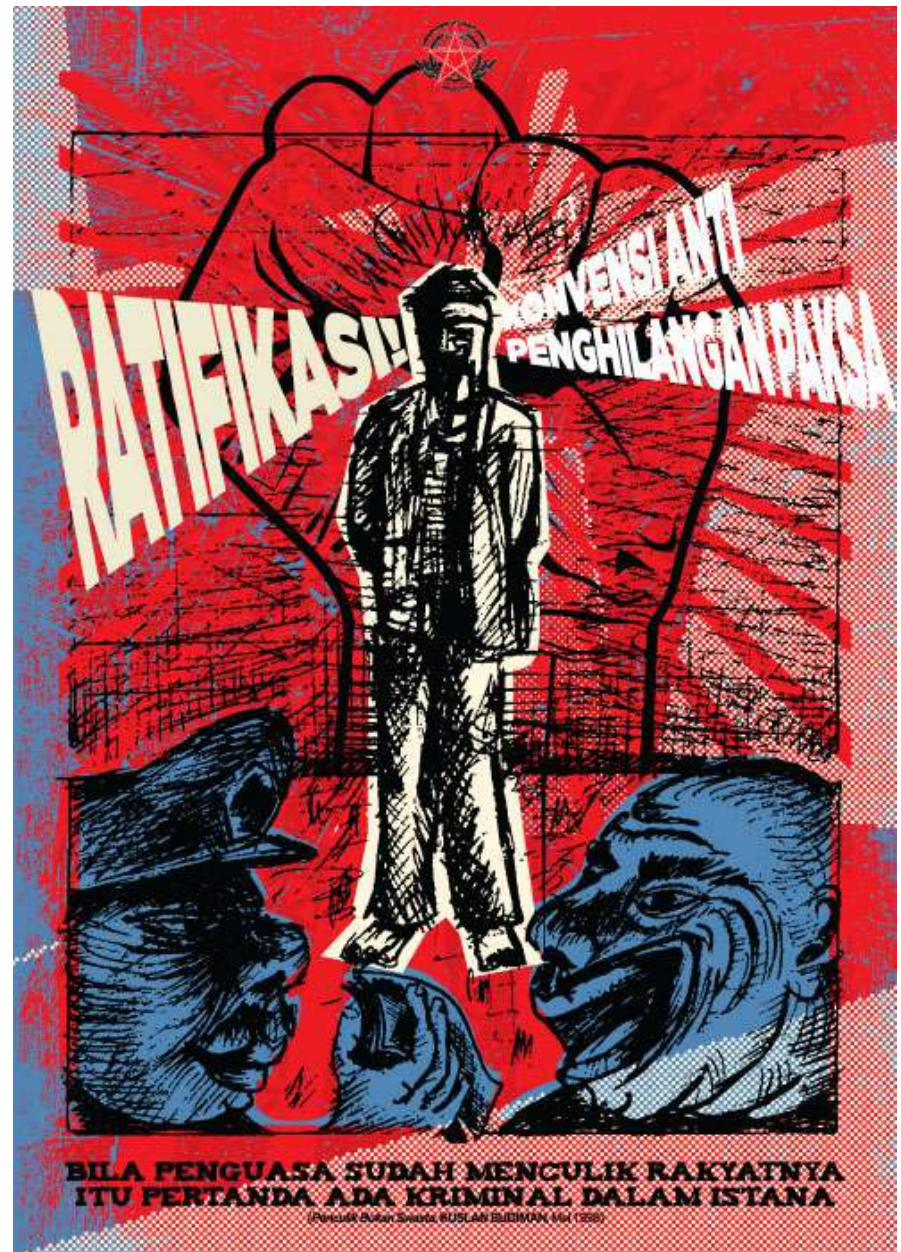
The victims were not only political parties, but also nearly all independent and community-based organizations. NGOs and student movements experienced cooptation and intimidation through increasingly brutal investigations, arrests and detentions. Some were done through "official" channels while others were conducted secretly and arbitrarily

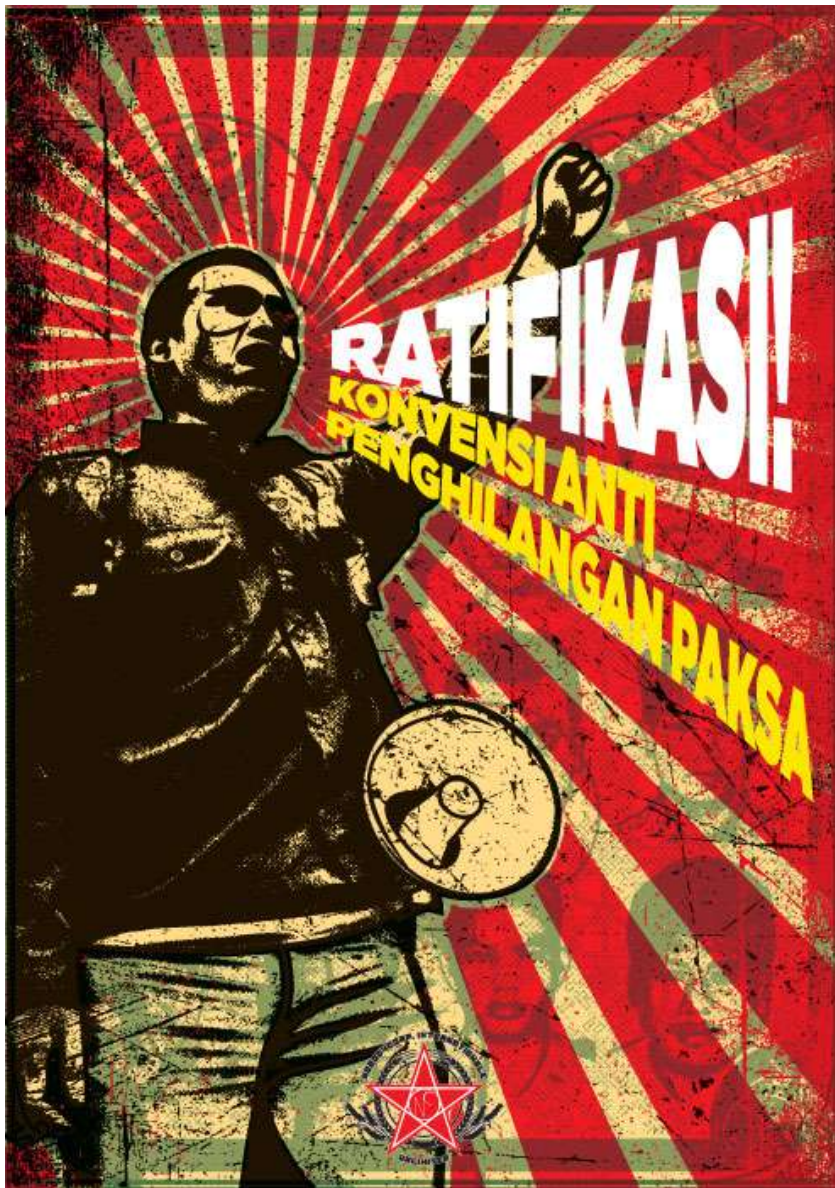
During the period 1997/1998, KONTRAS (Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence) reported that 23 people had been abducted by the state. Out of those 23 activists, one person was found dead (Leonardus Gilang), 9 released by their captors and 13 others are still missing to this day.

The 13 activists who are still missing:

Wiji Thukul
Petrus Bimo Anugrah
Herman Hendrawan
Suyat
Yani Afri
Sonny
Dedi Hamdun
Noval Al Katiri
Ismail
Mundandar Ucok Siahaan
Hendra Hambali
Yadin Muhidin
Abdun Nasser

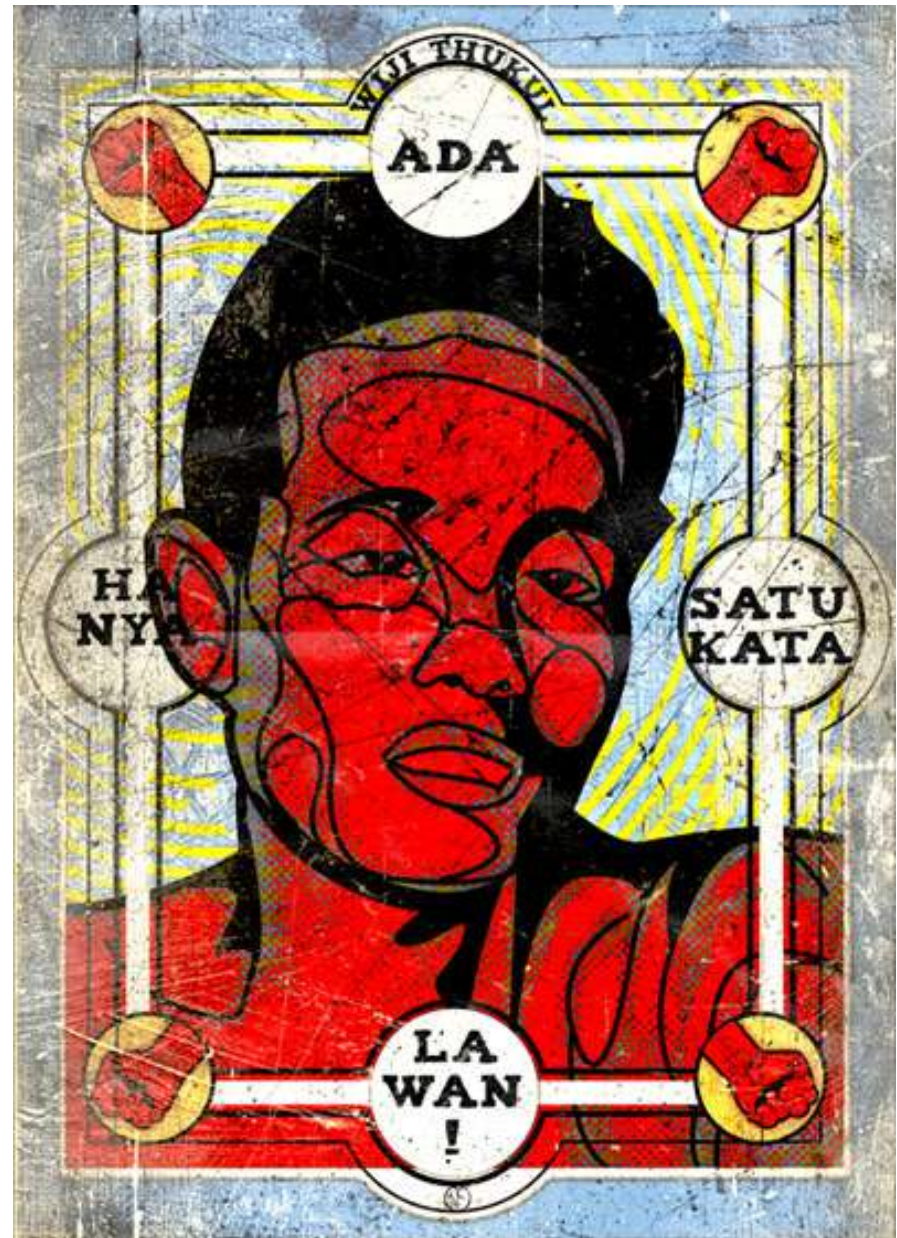
Ratified International Convention
Against Enforced Disappearances!,
2010

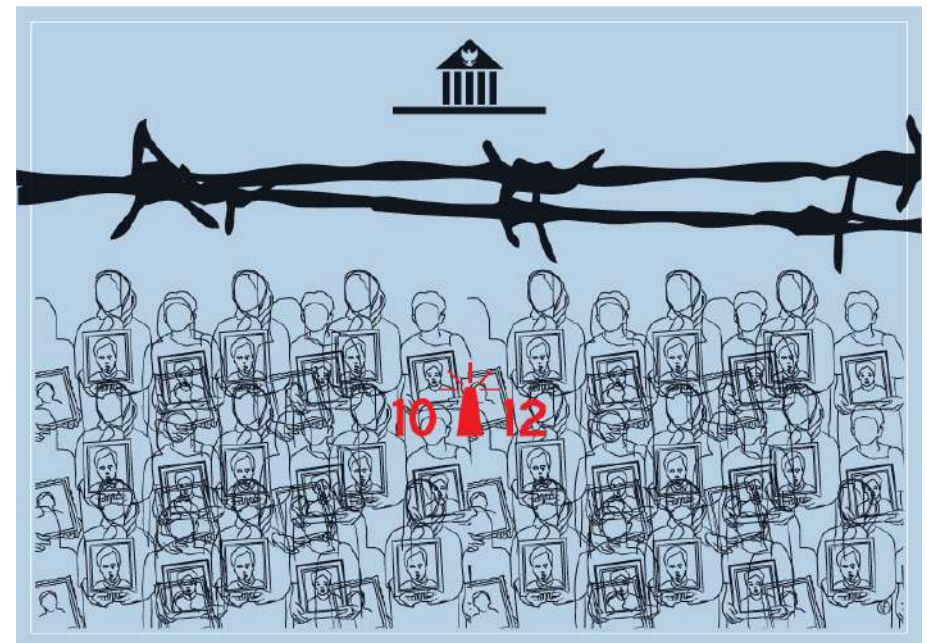
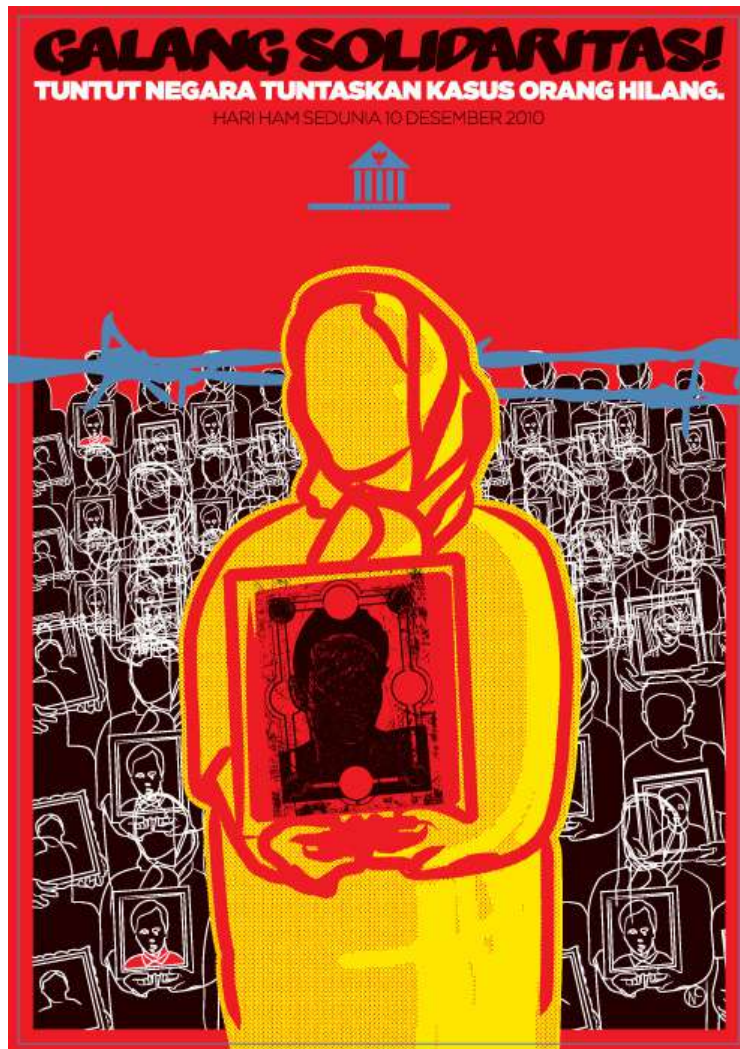




Ratified International
Convention Against
Enforced Disappearances!
2010

**'There is only one word:
Resist!'** (Word taken from
Wiji Thukul's poem. The poet
who disappeared in 1998),
2010



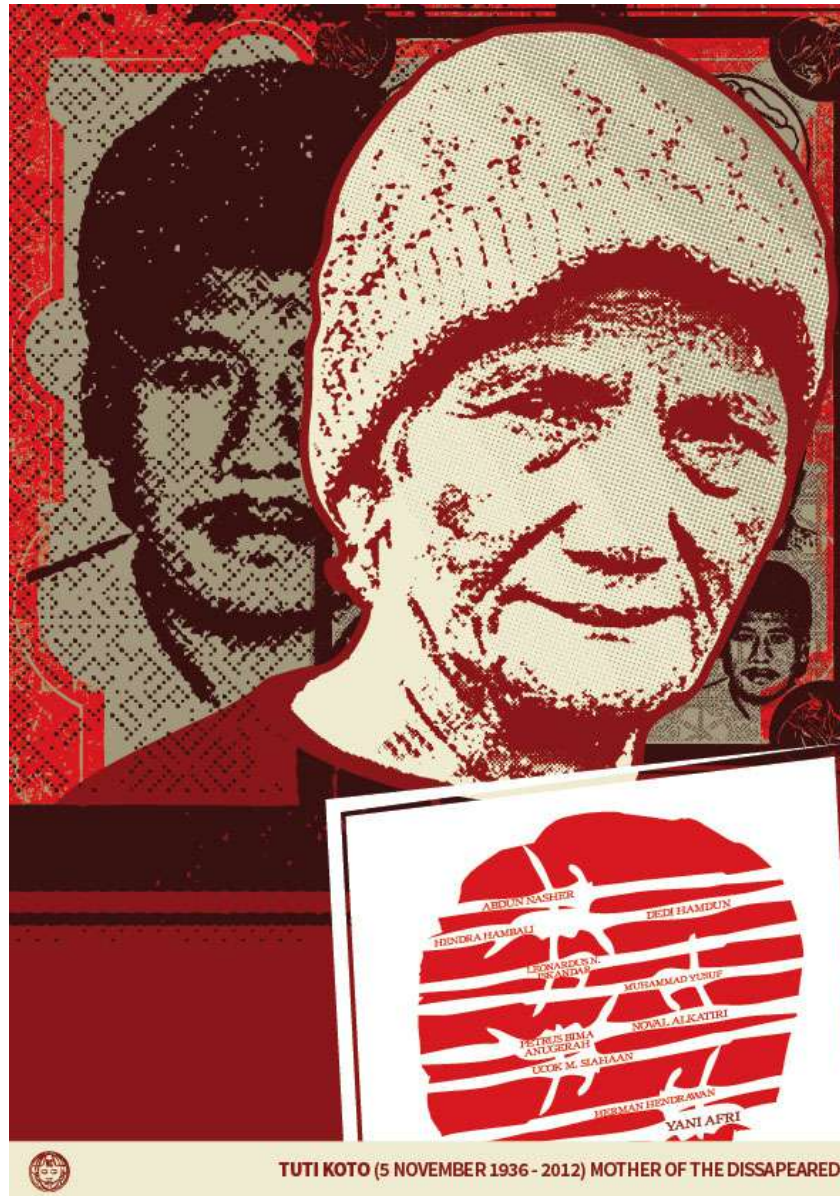


Build Solidarity!
Demand the state resolve
enforced disappearance
cases,
2010



**G-13 (13 activists still
missing)
2011**

**In Memoriam, Tuti Koto (5
Nov. 1936 - 2012) Mother of
the Disappeared
2012**





Refuse to Forget!
Present and Resist!
30 August:
International Day of the
Disappeared.
2012



No More Impunity!
The Disappeared
2012

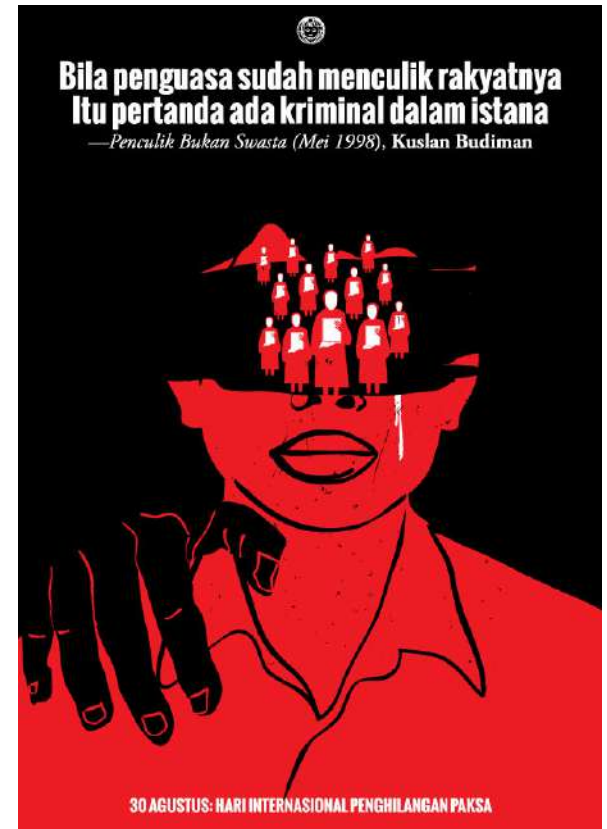
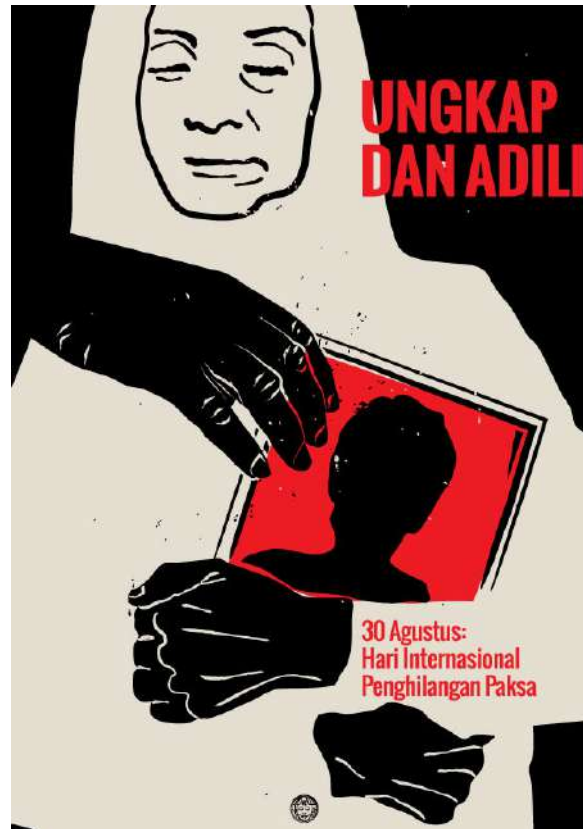


Wiji Thukul (*The poet who
disappeared in 1998*)
2013



**Demand the state resolve
enforced disappearance
cases
2013**





30 August:
International Day of the
Disappeared.
2016

13 Activists still
missing.
2016



Longing
2017



In front of the
state palace
2017



Thank You.