



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Products and producers of social and political change: elite activism and politicking in the Mentawai Archipelago, Indonesia
Eindhoven, M.

Citation

Eindhoven, M. (2019, May 16). *Products and producers of social and political change: elite activism and politicking in the Mentawai Archipelago, Indonesia*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/73421>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)
License: [Leiden University Non-exclusive license](#)
Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/73421>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/73421> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Eindhoven, M.

Title: Products and producers of social and political change: elite activism and politicking in the Mentawai Archipelago, Indonesia

Issue Date: 2019-05-16

Propositions (Stellingen)
Relating to the dissertation

Products and Producers of Social and Political Change
Activism and Politicking in the Mentawai Archipelago, Indonesia
By Myrna Eindhoven

1. The invasive development and civilisation programmes of the postcolonial state have caused the Mentawaians to perceive themselves as second-class citizens not worthy of partaking within the modern Indonesian nation state (this thesis).
2. With the core of their identity eroded, Mentawaians experience difficulties combining development and modernity with their identity as Mentawaians (this thesis).
3. The egalitarian clan structure, which is at the base of Mentawaian society, severely complicates widely accepted political representation (this thesis).
4. Local NGOs in Mentawai serve more as income generating institutions rather than as truly civil society organisations (this thesis).
5. International donor institutions often incorrectly assume local NGOs to be pre-eminently capable of implementing programmes due to their alleged proximity to local communities.
6. The upsurge of predatory local political elites that ensued after the introduction of regional autonomy in Indonesia has once more underlined Barth's (1969) idea that leaders who solely pursue a (personal) political enterprise do not necessarily represent the popular will.
7. Despite Article 14 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (adopted by Indonesia in September 2007) stating that 'indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning', local governments in Indonesia have done little to nothing to promote indigenous education.
8. In their search for nation building, modernization and economic development, nation states wish for a unified legal system. Research at the local level in Indonesia, however, shows that ordinary citizens rather avoid the abstract legal system and instead enter into clientelistic relations with known individuals to obtain legal certainty.
9. The redefinition of *masyarakat terasing* into *masyarakat adat* has led to a tremendous increase in people categorising themselves under the latter.
10. Conducting anthropological field research in a context like the Mentawai Archipelago is not only a methodological quest, but simultaneously a psychological encounter with least expected and sometimes highly annoying personal characteristics of both the researcher and the researched.
11. The completion of a PhD research project is quite similar to the accomplishment of an equine endurance ride: to finish is to win!
12. Probably no other animal has been as important for humankind as the horse. It is time for breeders, riders, trainers, veterinarians and associations world-wide to honour this historic bond by eradicating current day abuse in the equestrian top sport by placing the horse's physical and mental welfare above their personal interests.