

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996198737603316
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Titolo	De garoeda en de ooievaar : Indonesië van kolonie tot nationale staat / / Herman Burgers
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden : , : KITLV Uitgeverij, , 2010
ISBN	9789061783475
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xvi, 807 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Verhandelingen van het Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde De garoeda en de ooievaar
Disciplina	959.8/02
Soggetti	Regions & Countries - Asia & the Middle East History & Archaeology East Asia Indonesia History 1798-1942 Indonesia History Japanese occupation, 1942-1945 Indonesia History Revolution, 1945-1949
Lingua di pubblicazione	Olandese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Sommario/riassunto	The second and updated edition of this new study of the genesis of the Indonesian national state is based on the notion that the birth of that nation grew out of not only the liberation movement but also from the Dutch rule that the nationalists agitated against. The book places a clear emphasis on the ways in which Dutch rule was established in the Indonesian archipelago in the course of three centuries and examines the developments of Dutch colonial policies. This feeds into chapters that focus on the Indonesian nationalist movement and the Japanese occupation of the colony in 1942-1945. The occupation helped to enable the proclamation of Indonesian independance and the creation of the Republic in August 1945. The conflict that erupted between the Republic and the Netherlands was brought to an incomplete 'solution' in 1949, but the dispute about West-Irian led to a sequel that lasted for another thirteen years. More than half of this book is dedicated to the conflict and its aftermath. Much attention is paid to the sentiments and ideas that informed Dutch policy. Various issues that have received

scant attention in the historiography are now discussed. The author based his study on Dutch and international literature, contemporary newspapers and policy documents, and his own memories. In the book's title, the stork represents the Dutch and the garuda functions as a symbol of Indonesia. J. Herman Burgers (1926) worked at the Dutch Department of Foreign Affairs. He studied Law in Amsterdam and Political Science at Stanford University. He was deeply interested in the conflict between the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia, as it broke out in 1945. This fascination has never left him, and he has continued to study the conflict and its aftermath, especially during the years 1948-1950 when he was in Indonesia for his Dutch military service.
