

Taking a stand: The New Zealand Baptist Union and West Papua



Rachel Tallon, Kerry Tabuni

6/12/18 DevNet

Christchurch, 2018

Kerry and Rachel's backgrounds



Kerry Tabuni

I am from the Central Highlands of West Papua. I'm in my final year at Law School, doing an LLM program, majoring in International Human Rights Law and Indigenous Issues at Te Piringa - Faculty of Law, at the University of Waikato.



Rachel Tallon

I'm from Te Awakairangi/Lower Hutt. Currently I'm lecturing in the Bachelor of Youth Development at WelTec. I'm part of the Baptist Union's Justice Initiative which is a group that seeks to encourage the Baptist Church to speak into and act on issues of injustice in our society. E: Rachel@sqrl.net

West Papua





By Ahibut, CC license, Wikipedia



Wayag Island, Raja Ampat, By Elias Levy,
CC License, Wikipedia



McMoRan Mine, Atimes.co



Tailings from the Grasberg Mine,
By Mangiwau, Flickr

Baptist Churches in New Zealand



Mt Roskill Baptist



Dunedin City Baptist

240 churches in the Baptist Union, approx. 53,000 New Zealanders identify as Baptists.

The relationship link



David Moko



Socrates Yoman

A meeting at Waitangi between David Moko and Socrates Yoman in 2017

West Papua: Media ban + complex issues



Current Development



New construction of Youtefa Bridge



First time ever new highway, from Jayapura to Wamena



Jokowi, at the Papuan Markets

Ongoing Human Rights Concerns

State Violations and Papuans Resistance

- Military presence in West Papua is Increasing
- Indigenous West Papuans are living under constant fears and intimidations
- Slow Motion Genocide
- Destruction of Indigenous Identities
- Constantly demanding for fair referendum



“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter”





Search Go

Home

News & Events

About

Give

Contact Us

Leaders' Registration



Home » News & Events » West Papua

West Papua position statement

We the New Zealand Baptist Union, as followers of Jesus Christ and his ministry of justice, hold the expectation that the New Zealand Government will recognise the sovereignty of the indigenous people of Western Papua and uphold their Human Rights as set out in international declarations it has signed. These include, for example, the United Nations' (1948) Declaration on Human Rights and the United Nations' (2007) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Therefore we have drafted the following statement: **West Papua position statement**

Go back

Like this? please share   

Upcoming Events

EASTER CAMPS 2019

18 - 22 April

BAPTIST HARVEST

RETREAT 2019

14 - 15 May

LEAD 2019

24 - 26 June

HEB 2019

7 - 8 November

About Us

News & Events

Give

Find a Church

Vacancies

Postal Address

National Resource Centre, PO Box 11 149,
Ponsonby, Auckland 1067

Physical Address

173 Great South Road, Ponsonby, Auckland

Phone: 079 505 0033

Email: info@baptist.org.nz



The Statement of Affirmation

Begins with a rationale for why Baptists, as Christians, should care and take action about the situation in West Papua and then argues that:

“Therefore, we the New Zealand Baptist Union, as followers of Jesus Christ and his ministry of justice, *hold the expectation that the New Zealand Government* will recognize the sovereignty of the Indigenous peoples of Western Papua and uphold their Human Rights as set out in international declarations it has signed. These include, for example, the United Nations’ (1948) Declaration on Human Rights and the United Nations’ (2007) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.”

STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATION

Given the content of the introduction above, the New Zealand Baptist Union has developed the following statement with the intention of encouraging the whānau of New Zealand Baptist churches, to actively lobby:

- (a) the New Zealand Government;
- (b) corporations with vested interests in West Papua; the Government of Indonesia;
- (c) other neighbouring Pacific nations; fellow Christians and;
- (d) the wider international community to recognize the sovereignty of the Indigenous peoples of Western Papua and uphold their Human Rights

Say No To Kwila protest: Midday, Saturday the 2nd of October Meet outside Bunnings Warehouse, 46 - 56 Tory Street

NEW ZEALAND SUPPORT FOR WEST PAPUA GROWS AFTER 'HISTORIC DECLARATION' SIGNED May 30, 2017



The Statement of Affirmation encourages Baptists of Aotearoa to Speak up, join up and support West Papuans in whatever way possible.

...been glimmering... might move independently of its... support for West Papuan self-determination. The... short-lived initiative sponsored by Prime Minister Walter... Foreign Minister Phil Goff made a... in the early 2000s. Papuans... ability that New Zealand could... with the Ind... Zealand gover... support self-det... happen. It must h... eadbetter



Where to from here?

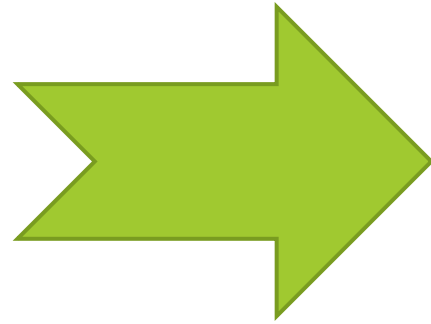
Greater awareness
by Baptists

Attention/Space
given in the
Baptist media

Support for local
events/campaigns

Solidarity with WP

Furthering of
relationships



Continual public
pressure on New
Zealand's involvement
with Indonesia, at all
levels. Pressure on
keeping the Indonesian
Government accountable
to upholding human
rights.

Example: SWBC

<https://www.swbc.org.nz/about-us/our-teams/elders/west-papua-concern/>

Acknowledgements

Kerry and Rachel acknowledge the support of the New Zealand Baptist Union, in particular, Ruby Duncan, David Moko and Craig Vernall.

The Statement of Affirmation was written by: Richard Manning, in collaboration with the Justice Initiative group of the Baptist Union of NZ, and David Moko (Kaihautu - Manatū Iriiri Māori).

Kerry and Rachel are publishing a paper to support this presentation in the near future. Contact Rachel for details E: Rachel@sqrl.net

We acknowledge those who have gone before us and continue to raise the flag.
Kia kaha, kia manawa

<https://www.facebook.com/freewestpapua/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/westpapuaaction/>

