

Indonesia's Independence Day is on the 17th of August back in 1945 where our first President and Vice President Soekarno and Mohammad Hatta proclaimed a notorious speech of independence after the Japanese retreated from our country during the war. Ever since then, the 17th of August has been marked a special day of celebration and also proclaimed as a national holiday for my country, Indonesia.

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Every August, it has become a traditional custom to hang our red and white flag which is the national symbol of our country in our respective homes as a statement of our people's pride and joy of the freedom gained from 30 decades of struggles, wars, tragedies, rebellions, and countless deaths because, at long last, we are free from the rocks of colonization.

每年八月，所有家庭懸掛國旗已成為一種傳統習俗，以表達我國人民經過三十年的鬥爭、戰爭、叛亂和無數死亡，終於擺脫了殖民的稱號，並獲得了自由。

每年八月，所有家庭悬挂国旗已成为一种传统习俗，以表达我国人民经过三十年的斗争、战争、叛乱和无数死亡，终于摆脱了殖民的称号，并获得了自由。

On this day, the morning usually starts with us watching a live recording aired on national television of the very big and respectable flag ceremony held in the Presidential Palace. In this ceremony, hundreds of students from sabi merauke in the Paskibraka society of their schools were recruited every year to perform the ceremony on presidential grounds. A handful of them are even responsible for raising the very flag that Fatmawati, the wife of our first president, hand sewed by herself. When the flag is being raised, we will hold our stance and raise our arms as a sign of respect towards our forehead while singing our national anthem, Indonesia Raya. And to be honest, while doing this position and singing our hearts out, there is always a sense of overwhelming pride in our hearts as an Indonesian. But this might also be due to the very joyous and overbearing melody of the song Indonesia Raya itself.

這一天，我們早上會觀看國家電視台直播的，在總統府舉行的盛大而莊嚴的升旗儀式。每年數百名來自 Paskibraka 社團的 sabi merauke 學生都會被招募參加在總統府舉行的升旗儀式。其中少數人甚至需負責舉起由首任總統妻子法特瑪瓦蒂親手縫製的旗幟。當國旗升起時，我們會隨著音樂唱起國歌，向國旗敬禮。在印度尼西亞國歌的烘托下，每個人心中都會滋生出一種無限的自豪感。

这一天，我们早上会观看国家电视台直播的，在总统府举行的盛大而庄严的升旗仪式。每年数百名来自 Paskibraka 社团的 sabi merauke 学生都会被招募参加在总统府举行的升旗仪式。其中少数人甚至需负责举起由首任总统妻子法特玛瓦蒂亲手缝制的旗帜。当国旗升起时，我们会随着音乐唱起国歌，向国旗敬礼。在印度尼西亚国歌的烘托下，每个人心中都会滋生出一种无限的自豪感。

After watching the live airing of the flag ceremony, often at times, our neighborhoods will hold our own very similar yet different set of games under the guise of a small festival for people, usually the youngsters, to compete in. Firstly, there's Balap Karung which is essentially a race where you put your feet inside a rice or potato sack and hop towards the finish line. Next, there is a game called Lomba Makan Kerupuk which is also a type of race where people's hands are tied up behind their backs and a big cracker or kerupuk is tied way above their heads on a rope and whoever finishes their kerupuk first or has the tiniest size amongst their peers wins. Next there is also another type of race called Banjat Pinang where sets of gifts are usually tied to a pinang tree that is usually coated with lubricants. And what to do here is to basically climb the tree, pick a gift tied at the top, and snatch the flag. Whoever climbs the fastest wins. Now, the games that I've mentioned are only a small glimpse of every other types of competitions held during our Independence Day celebration.

在觀看了現場直播的升旗儀式後，社區有時會舉辦小型比賽，通常由年輕人參加。首先是 Balap Karung，參賽者將雙腳放入裝有大米或馬鈴薯袋中，然後向終點線跳躍。接下來，有一個叫做 Lomba Makan Kerupuk 的遊戲，參賽者的手被綁在背後，然後在一根繩子上綁上一個大餅乾或 kerupuk，誰先吃完，或剩的最少的人就是冠軍。接下來還有另一種稱為 Banjat Pinang 的比賽，通常會將成套的禮物綁在塗有潤滑劑的檳榔樹上。參賽者需要爬到樹上，挑一份綁在樹上的禮物，並搶到旗子。爬得最快的人就是獲勝者。這些遊戲比賽只是獨立日慶祝活動的一小部分。

在观看了现场直播的升旗仪式后，社区有时会举办小型比赛，通常由年轻人参加。首先是 Balap Karung，参赛者将双脚放入装有大米或马铃薯袋中，然后向终点线跳跃。接下来，有一个叫做 Lomba Makan Kerupuk 的游戏，参赛者的手被绑在背后，然后在一根绳子上绑上一个大饼干或 kerupuk，谁先吃完，或剩的最少的人就是冠军。接下来还有另一种称为 Banjat Pinang 的比赛，通常会将成套的礼物绑在涂有润滑剂的檳榔树上。参赛者需要爬到树上，挑一份绑在树上的礼物，并抢到旗子。爬得最快的人就是获胜者。这些游戏比赛只是独立日庆祝活动的一小部分。

There are other varieties in the bunch including Tarkik Tambang, Lomba Lari, and many more. In my school, on the other hand, even though the 17th August is supposed to be a national holiday, us students are still required to attend a compulsory flag ceremony held by the school very early in the morning on that holiday. After that, we are sent back home to either watch the live airing of the national flag ceremony or enjoy the rest of the day competing in the small festivals in our respective neighborhoods. The next day, however, schools usually ask us to strip our uniforms and dress up in red and white colors. We will then participate in traditional games such that I have mentioned previously and do a small parade around our school's territory while we're using our small paper or plastic flags and basically celebrate our independence. In the past, I have joined games such as Tarki Tambang, which is basically tug-of-war. Lomba Makan Kerupuk, and Class Decorating where we decorate the class in red and white colors based on our flag. One time, I even got the chance to draw Soekarno,, our first President's portrait and hang it on the class wall as part of the decoration which was a very interesting experience and a story to tell for another time.

其他遊戲比賽還包括 Tarkik Tampang、Lumba Lari 等等。雖然 8 月 17 日是國定假日，但學生還是要參加學校清晨舉行的強制性升旗儀式。之後，我們會回家觀看現場直播的升國旗儀式，或參與各自社區舉辦的小型活動。第二天，學校通常會要求我們穿紅白相間的衣服，並參加我之前提到的傳統遊戲。我參加過 Tarki Tampang 之類的遊戲，基本上都是拔河遊戲。我們還會用紅色和白色裝飾品裝飾班級。有一次，我還為我們的第一任校長蘇加諾，畫了一幅肖像，並作為裝飾掛在班級牆上，這是一次非常有趣的經歷，也是一個值得講述的故事。

其他游戏比赛还包括 Tarkik Tampang、Lumba Lari 等等。虽然 8 月 17 日是国定假日，但学生还是要参加学校清晨举行的强制性升旗仪式。之后，我们会回家观看现场直播的升国旗仪式，或参与各自社区举办的小型活动。第二天，学校通常会要求我们穿红白相间的衣服，并参加我之前提到的传统游戏。我参加过 Tarki Tampang 之类的游戏，基本上都是拔河游戏。我们还会用红色和白色装饰品装饰班级。有一次，我还为我们的第一任校长苏加诺，画了一幅肖像，并作为装饰挂在班级墙上，这是一次非常有趣的经历，也是一个值得讲述的故事。

At the end of the day, 17 August is a day of celebration and a day we're all of Indonesia disregarding our diverse races, cultures, ethnicities, and even religions gather around to celebrate our independence not as different individuals but as proud citizens of our nation. On this day we are united as people who are born, raised and will continue to live in our beloved home, Indonesia.

8 月 17 日是所有印度尼西亞人共同慶祝的一天，不分種族、文化、民族甚至宗教，我們作為自豪的印度尼西亞公民聚集在一起慶祝國家的獨立。我們，深愛著家鄉印度尼西亞的人將永遠團結在一起。

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