

The Embassy of Indonesia
in Washington DC
cordially invites you to attend
the US launch of *The Jungle School*
and meet the author
Butet Manurung



Tuesday, April 10, 2012
4:30 to 6:00 pm

The Embassy of Indonesia
2020 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036

*Books available for sale and signing
Proceeds benefit SOKOLA*

Please respond by April 5 to
Dara or Gaby
dyusilawati@embassyofindonesia.org
gaby@embassyofindonesia.org

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Parking available at the Embassy Row Hotel
Save the jungle and take the Metro - Red Line to Dupont Circle

The Jungle School

by Butet Manurung

***A People in Crisis . . . A Young Woman's Adventure . . .
A School for Life***

The Orang Rimba (People of the Forest) are nomadic tribes living in the rainforests of Sumatra, Indonesia as hunter-gatherers. Today, the outside world has arrived at their doorstep. From illegal loggers chain-sawing the jungle to transmigrants working in palm oil plantations, the outsiders are encroaching upon the rainforest. While they have the skills needed to preserve their jungle, the Orang Rimba are ill prepared to deal with land contracts or sale of rainforest products. What can be done to help them?

Butet Manurung shares the journal she kept during her first year in the jungle. She tells of her adventures with stinging bees, prowling bears, and motorbikes. Most touchingly, she describes how her relationship with the Orang Rimba develops as she transforms from an outsider to a trusted teacher within the community. Her trials and errors are familiar to anyone who has ever been a teacher, even though her students often wear loincloths and trap animals for lunch. Will learning to read and write be enough to help the Orang Rimba save their rainforest?

Butet tells the story of her journey from anthropologist to educator to activist. She explains how and why she founded SOKOLA to bring literacy to indigenous people in areas too remote to access education. The work of this foundation and its adventurous volunteers is an excellent example of how a small number of individuals can effect change.

About the Author

Butet Manurung was born in Jakarta, Indonesia in 1972. She earned her degrees in anthropology and literature from Padjajaran University, Bandung, Indonesia. As an educator and activist, she has received international recognition - UNESCO's "Man and Biosphere Award" in 2001, TIME Magazine's "Hero of Asia" in 2004, Ashoka Fellowship in 2006, "Asia Young Leader" in 2007 and World Economic Forum "Young Global Leader" in 2009.

The Jungle School is Butet's first book, originally published in Indonesian as *Sokola Rimba* in 2007. All proceeds from book sales benefit the SOKOLA foundation -- bringing literacy to indigenous Indonesians in remote areas.