



## We petition for freedom for **FILEP KARMA**

To: President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono  
c/o Embassy of Indonesia  
2020 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036



Filep Karma  
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Dear President:

We respectfully urge you to take swift action to free prisoner of conscience Filep Karma, who was sentenced to a long prison term for simply raising a flag.

While hundreds of others looked on, some 200 people took part on 1 December 2004 in the raising of the Morning Star flag, a symbol of Papuan independence. In response, Indonesian police advanced on the crowd, firing shots and beating people with batons. Police arrested Filep Karma, and reportedly beat and stomped on him during transport to the police station. A group of people were later arrested at the police station when they went to protest over Filep Karma’s arrest. This group was subsequently released, except for Yusak Pakage. Filep Karma and Yusak Pakage were convicted of treason in May 2005 for their role in the flag-raising and sentenced to 15 and 10 years in prison, respectively. Yusak Pakage was released in July 2010 following a presidential pardon.

In calling for the release of Filep Karma, we do not seek to advocate a particular position on the political status of Papua. But we do believe that it is a basic human right to peacefully express one’s political or religious beliefs, and it is an obligation of all governments to uphold and protect that right. Amnesty International considers Filep Karma to be a prisoner of conscience who has been imprisoned solely for the peaceful expression of his beliefs. We ask you to bring about his immediate and unconditional release from prison. Thank you.

**YOUR SIGNATURE**

**PRINTED NAME**

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Send completed petition to the AIUSA Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, 600 Pennsylvania Ave SE, 5<sup>th</sup> Fl, Washington DC 20003.