

INDONESIA

Date of Elections: 4 May 1982

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the elective seats in Parliament on the expiry of the normal term of office for members. The last elections were held in May 1977.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of Indonesia, the House of Representatives (*Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat*), has 460 members. Of these, 364 are popularly-elected and 96 - members of the armed forces and non-military functional groups - are appointed by the President of the Republic. All Representatives have 5-year terms of office.

Electoral System

All Indonesian citizens who at the time of registration of electors are at least 17 years old or married are qualified to vote. Disqualified are the insane, ex-members of the prohibited Indonesian Communist Party or affiliated mass organizations, persons directly or indirectly involved in the attempted Communist coup of 1965, and persons serving a sentence of imprisonment or confinement of at least five years' duration. Members of the armed forces cannot exercise their right to vote as long as they remain in service.

Electoral registers are revised at least 105 days prior to election day. Voting is not compulsory.

A candidate for the House of Representatives must be a qualified voter of at least 21 years of age who speaks the Indonesian language and is able to read and write Latin characters, who has graduated from a secondary high school or has equivalent knowledge and experience in social and governmental activities, and who is loyal to *Pancasila* as the basic ideology of the State.

Nomination is made by political parties or functional organizations, the nomination form to be signed by at least two members of the leadership of the organization concerned.

Voting in the country's 27 electoral constituencies is based on the party-list system with proportional distribution of seats, each organization obtaining as many seats as its total number of votes contains the local "electoral quotient"; voters indicate their selections by piercing party symbols on a ballot paper identical throughout Indonesia. Thereafter, the party winning the seats itself selects the Representatives to fill them.

A successor is chosen by the former Representative's party to fill a seat which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The 1982 general elections were the fourth since Indonesia became independent in 1945.

Forty-five days of campaigning were allowed. The system provided for public rallies and exclusive campaigning days for each of the three main parties on a three-day cycle. While there were some disturbances and incidents of violence during the campaign, the polling was quiet and orderly throughout the country, with a voter turnout of over 90%.

The ruling *Golkar*, which again won an overwhelming majority of seats, is not officially regarded as a political party; it is rather a "functional group", or alliance of more than 200 trade, professional and regional organizations, ranging from civil servants, teachers, journalists and students to village chiefs, farmers and fishermen.

All of the candidates to the House of Representatives had been approved beforehand by the Government. *Golkar's* overall share of elective seats and votes obtained showed improvement as compared to the previous (1977) general elections.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the House of Representatives

Number of registered electors.	82,132,263
Voters.	74,930,875 (91.23%)

Political or Functional Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained		Number of Seats	Number of Seats won at the 1977 Elections
<i>Golkar</i>	715	48,334,724	58.44	246	232
United Development Party.	592	20,871,880	25.54	94	99
Indonesian Democratic Party.	438	5,919,702	7.24	24	29
				364*	360

* The other 96 members are appointed by the President of the Republic, with the composition as follows:

Armed Forces.	75 seats
Professional Group.	21 seats

The 21 members of the Professional Group joined the *Golkar* so that the distribution of seats in the forthcoming House of Representatives became:

<i>Golkar</i>	267 seats
United Development Party	94 seats
Indonesian Democratic Party	24 seats
Armed Forces.	75 seats

2. *Distribution of Representatives according to Sex*

Men	422
Women	38
	460