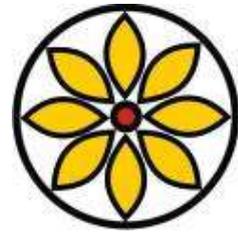


Newsletter

For more information, please visit www.museum.pusaka-nias.org
Comments, donations, questions, registration and deregistration of
the newsletter please contact: info@museum-nias.org



MUSEUM PUSAKA NIAS

Please forward this newsletter/quarterly report to friends and lovers.

Mei 2015

News of Pusaka Museum

Curatorial Course in Jakarta



We are happy this month [April] since a staff member of Museum Pusaka Nias Faozisökhi Laia attended a short course of curatorial in Jakarta. This course is was joined by museum curators in Indonesia. This training gave them opportunity to have skill in managing and handling collection in the museum. We hope Faozisökhi Laia will be able to implement the knowledge in the Museum Pusaka Nias.

Thieves of Gems stone



Indonesia is being hit by gems fever. The semi-precious stones, called *Batu Akik* are found in the rivers and then to be sanded. On the island of Nias, fingers of parents and youths are adorned with agate rings. Stone that has a vein and images of animals and others, the price becomes more expensive. In our museum over a hundred ordinary stones on the size of goose eggs were torn

out from the cement. Even in the Church of St. Mary Gunungsitoli the crown of Altoetting -Madonna that was decorated with gems stone were stolen. Finally, 3 young men who were seeking for gems stone in a cave in Lahewa (North Nias), with the electrical machinery were killed. They were killed from gas from the machine.



Baby Boar in museum zoo



On February 24, 2015, we received two small baby of wild pig, beautifully striped piglets. In a sweet potato field, 11 piglets were found and two of them were caught by a farmer and then gave it to the museum. They are caught because they will be harmful pest on farmers crop when they are growing up. They are now brought up with milk and potatoes.

Minor Health Problems

It happens to Pastor Johannes [the chair person of the Nias Heritage Foundation]. He cannot long sitting on the computer, but he must keep moving because his left coronary artery calcification had been formed by two constrictions. For now, he is trying to take drugs treatment.

News from Nias

Appreciation of Local Culture



The Catholic Junior School "SMP Bunga Mawar" (Rose Blossom) organized a cultural evening in the Gunungsitoli town. The students offered some cultural events, for example, traditional dances from many regions in Indonesia becoming core of events. It is a way to appreciate local culture

heritage and to encourage students to have creativity, innovation and cultural personality.

Developing Tourism

On March 29, 2015, the Minister of Human Right and Law Yasonna Laoli [originally from Nias] visited the island of Nias as well as the museum with the Minister of Tourism. It is to develop the tourism of Nias. Therefore, the runway of the airport will be extended by 700 m long.

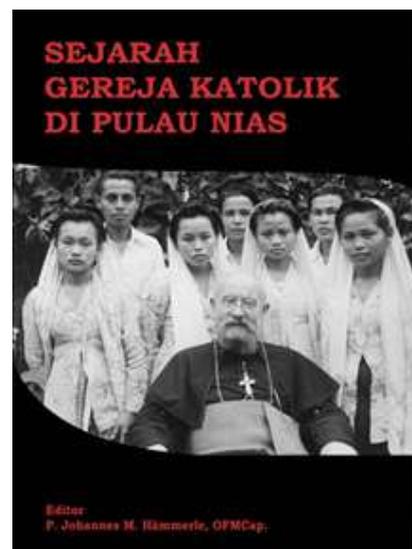
Coconut plantation in North Nias

This plantation had been built by a Switzerland named Arz during the Dutch colonial period. Even in the 1970s of the last century, the coconuts of these known plantations were brought to Bogor, Java to hybridization with the coconuts from the Ivory Coast. After World War II, the plantation was nationalized and increasingly dissolute. Now the plantation was bought by PT. Yuki Abadi and this company will develop it again. Is there any implication to Nias?

Publications

>> The book of *Asal Usul Masyarakat Nias* [the origin of the of Nias] appears in a second edition. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Guntur Santoso in Jakarta. He also helped us with the publication of a small book, *Jalan Salib Nias* [Cross Procession], where we represent the carving in Nias hard-rock, therefore this is called Nias Megalithic crossroads. The reliefs are in Nias ornamentation. In this case, the inculturation is successful.

>> The second edition of *Sejarah Gereja Katolik di Pulau Nias* [The History of the Catholic Church in the island of Nias] will be launched this month. It mainly contains a series of documents from in the past. To be included an article by Edward McKinnon, an archaeologist, over the actual Barus, the place where Nestorian churches in the 7th century existed. He convinced that the second Barus not located in the diocese of Sibolga, as previously thought, but at the North part of Sumatra, in wich the region was sunk by an earlier tsunami.



>> Skeletal dysplasia in a consanguineous clan from the Iceland Nias/ Indonesia, Published online: 19 April. This is a very scholarly articles by Prof. Dr. Ingo Kennerknecht the Human Genetics Institute in Münster. For more information, please contact Prof. Ingo at: ingo.kennerknecht@uni-muenster.de.

