



Carmelite Friars of Australia and East Timor

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MISSION COORDINATOR UPDATE 01.05.05

Hello again to each person in the Carmelite Mission Support Groups around Australia.

It is time for a second update before I travel to East Timor for the month of May on Sunday. While in East Timor I will visit the Carmelites in Dili in order to hear about their activities and progress. I will then spend (2-3) weeks in Zumalai following up the village projects in Raimea (Wentworthville), Bulo (Cranebrook) and Galitas (Foster).

Two East Timorese Carmelites have visited Australia recently for the annual Carmelite Assembly. They were: Fr Augusto Sampaio da Costa and Br Antonio Olavio Exposto. Their smiling faces and words of thanks were greeted warmly at Coorparoo, Brisbane; Cranebrook, Sydney and Middle Park and Port Melbourne.



Students from each of the year levels at Mt Carmel Coorparoo composed the following:

OUR DESIRE FOR FRIENDSHIP

Mt Carmel, Coorparoo and Mt Carmel, Zumalai

We want to be a friend for you.
We want you to know
We are here for you.
We want to celebrate your riches
of faith, bravery and hope.
We want to learn from your sharing together
and your smiling faces.
We want to be here for you in our thoughts, our
prayers and our actions.

We want you as well
To be a friend for us.
We also have good times
And hard times.
With your riches on the inside,
To be there for us and to help us.

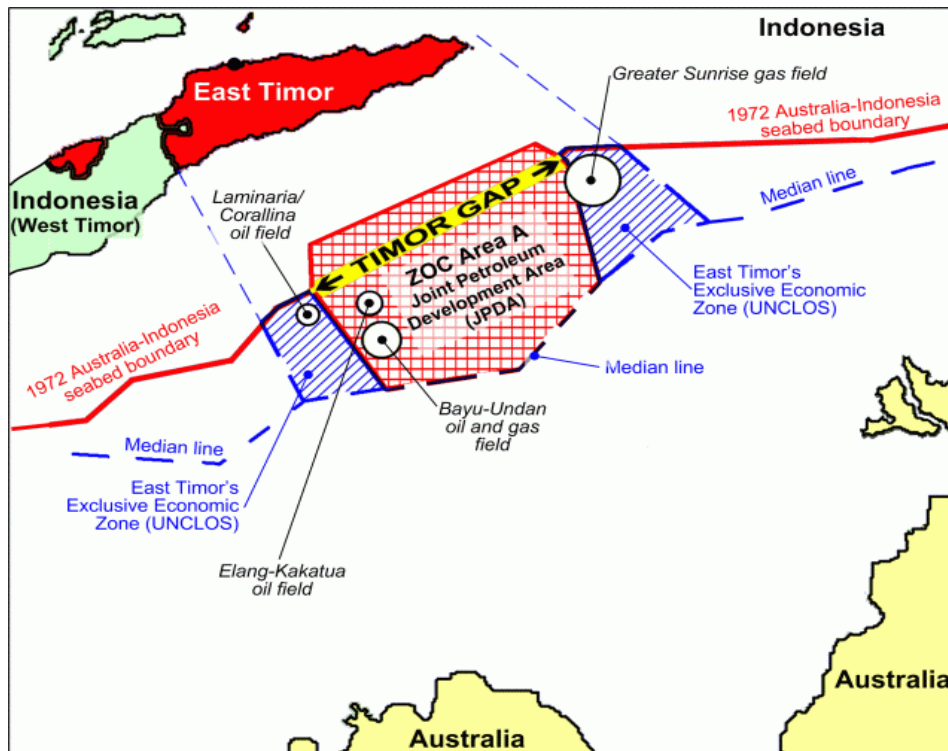
Together, through God's love,
May we grow.



Br Antonio above, working at one of the village clinics in the Zumalai parish.

During the Coorparoo visit to Mt Carmel Primary School, banners were exchanged. Br Antonio and Fr Augusto gave the school a tais. Mt Carmel Coorparoo gave Mt Carmel Zumalai the above banner.

OIL AND EAST TIMOR



Below is a brief History/ Issues re Oil and East Timor.

1972—Australia negotiated the seabed boundary giving Australia a much larger section of the sea than which should rightfully be hers according to the principles of international Law. On the map the median line is the serrated blue one.

1989— Australia and Indonesia signed the Timor Gap Treaty giving Australia a larger share of the oil fields, in exchange for Australia's recognition of its illegal annexation of East Timor.

The Median Line shown on the map shows the half way mark between East Timor and Australia. Two months before East Timor became independent Australia withdrew its co-operation from the International boundary dispute mechanism of the International Court of Law and International Tribunal on the law of the sea.

August 2004—East Timor agrees to a framework that will put demands for a permanent maritime boundary on hold in return for a more equal share of the oil resource.

September 2004—Australian activists point out that Australia has betrayed the spirit of the talks

and has stolen more in disputed revenues than it has given in development assistance during the past five years.

If permanent maritime boundaries were established according to international law, the billions of dollars gained from these oil fields, would transform the lives of thousands of East Timorese who are facing widespread hunger and who are dying daily from preventable diseases. The money would especially help with the infrastructure needed to contain and have access to running water.

For more information and ways to help the situation visit: www.timorseajustice.org

Special Thanks to each Parish Support team for all the hard work and energy that has been put into fundraising for the Carmelites and educating people about East Timor.

Rosemary Patterson, RSM
East Timor Mission Coordinator