

## Is Indonesia Next?

**Remember the country that Multiply's management thought was such a golden opportunity for online commerce that it dumped us social network users? Yep, that was Indonesia.**

Sure, there's a "growing economy" there. This article describes just how it's growing, and why. It is not the kind of growth that we, or anyone, should envy.

### [Meet the Next Country That Might Explode into Protests Against Corporate Plunder and Slave Labor Working Conditions](#)

American and multinational corporations- the same ones that have a stranglehold on our own democracy, that threaten our own environment, cause our increasing income inequality, and are largely responsible for our aggressive foreign policy, affect places like Indonesia many times worse.

"In a country of 240 million people, roughly 120 million live on [less than \\$2 per day](#), though the government maintains that only 12% of the population – 30 million – live in poverty (which it defines as less than 86 cents U.S. per day), while 40% of children under the age of five suffer from moderate to severe 'stunting' due to malnutrition."

Perhaps the Multiply management finally realized the limitation of that customer base. The reason they dumped social networking is clear enough. The government there was not about to allow another forum for free speech and debate. They have a hard enough time trying to keep a lid on labor and environmental protests as it is.

"A Human Rights Watch researcher noted that with the "routine" trampling of rights for religious and ethnic minorities in Indonesia, along with brutal repression of peaceful protests, the imprisoning of political prisoners, along with torture and denial of medical care for prisoners, "[the country is by no means a bastion of tolerance.](#)"

For those of us who protest the environmental threats of fracking and oil pipelines in this country (as well we should), it is almost impossible to imagine the environmental devastation to rain forests, water, and air that predatory corporations are wreaking in Indonesia. The people there have little recourse but to keep organizing until they are finally strong enough and angry enough to throw their enemies out.

The question is, are we mere victims of the same enemy, or are we its apathetic enablers?

*--cosmic rat July 9, 2013*