

HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDONESIA AND TÜRKIYE

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the evolving historical relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye, from the Ottoman era to the present, emphasising the impact of shared Islamic heritage and anti-colonial struggles. The study traces their interactions, beginning in the 16th century when the Ottoman Empire supported the Aceh Sultanate against European colonial powers. The early 20th century saw a deepening of ties, with Indonesia's nationalist movements drawing inspiration from Türkiye's modernisation under Atatürk. Following Indonesia's independence in 1945, formal diplomatic relations were established, fostering cooperation during the Cold War despite ideological differences. In recent decades, economic, political, and cultural exchanges have intensified, particularly in regional security and multilateral forums. To analyse this relationship, the paper employs a mixed-method approach that integrates historical analysis with primary sources such as Ottoman archival materials, diplomatic correspondence, and government records from both nations. Interviews with experts on Indonesia-Türkiye relations provide additional qualitative insights, highlighting the personal and institutional dynamics behind bilateral engagements. This comprehensive approach reveals the historical foundations of the partnership, which is rooted in shared geopolitical and cultural interests, while also addressing ongoing challenges posed by differing foreign policy priorities. The paper argues that the legacy of Ottoman archives is especially significant in understanding the historical context of Southeast Asia's interactions with the empire, offering new perspectives on the long-standing connection between Indonesia and Türkiye.

Keywords: Indonesia, Türkiye, Ottoman Empire, Turkish Archives, Political Relations

INTRODUCTION

This paper examines the historical relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye, focusing on the diplomatic, cultural, and political exchanges that have shaped their bilateral ties from the Ottoman era to the present. While earlier studies have explored the individual histories of both nations, there is a notable gap in research that comprehensively traces the development of their relationship, particularly through the lens of shared Islamic heritage, anti-colonial struggles, and strategic geopolitical positioning. The existing literature often treats these two countries in isolation, overlooking the deeper historical connections between them, especially during the period of the Ottoman Empire's engagement with Southeast Asia.

By focusing on this under-explored dimension, this research fills a critical gap in understanding the role of Ottoman archives in shaping the political and cultural landscape of Southeast Asia, including Indonesia. These archives contain invaluable records of treaties, diplomatic correspondence, and missions that illuminate the nature of Ottoman diplomatic relations with Indonesia, offering new insights into the dynamics of Islamic governance and cultural exchange in the region.¹

The urgency of this topic lies in the contemporary relevance of Indonesia-Türkiye relations. In the context of global geopolitics, both nations are increasingly playing pivotal roles in regional security, economic cooperation, and multilateral diplomacy. Understanding the historical foundations of their relationship is essential not only for scholars of international relations but also for policymakers seeking to strengthen these ties in the modern era. This paper argues that by revisiting the Ottoman-era exchanges, we can gain a deeper appreciation of the historical forces that continue to shape Indonesia and Türkiye's interactions today.²

METHOD

This paper employs a multidisciplinary methodology combining archival research, historical analysis, and qualitative data to investigate the historical relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye. The core of the methodology revolves around a detailed examination of Ottoman archives, which contain critical records such as diplomatic correspondence, treaties, trade documents, and accounts of cultural exchanges. These primary sources provide invaluable insights into the political, economic, and cultural interactions between the Ottoman Empire and Southeast Asia, including Indonesia.

Archival Research: The primary focus is on Ottoman-era archival materials, particularly documents relating to the Ottoman Empire's diplomatic and trade

¹ Arkhyari Hananto, 'Kunjungan Bung Karno Ke Turki 1959', *Goodnewsfromindonesia.id*, 2016 <<https://www.goodnewsfromindonesia.id/2016/07/16/kunjungan-bung-karno-ke-turki-1959>>.

² Halim Gençoğlu, 'Abu Bakr Efendi: A Report on the Activities and Challenges of an Ottoman Muslim Theologian in the Cape of Good Hope' (University of Cape Town, 2013).

relationships with Southeast Asia. This includes records of Ottoman support for the Acehese resistance against Dutch colonialism and other forms of engagement with Indonesian states during the 16th–19th centuries. These documents offer evidence of the Ottoman Empire's strategic involvement in Southeast Asia, including the spread of Islam, cultural exchanges, and the establishment of trade networks. This archival data is analysed to trace the development of religious and cultural identities in Indonesia, as well as the economic exchanges that shaped the region.

Ottoman diplomatic correspondence with Indonesian elites, including the Aceh Sultanate, provides insights into the political dynamics of the time. By examining these letters and official communications, the paper identifies the role of Ottoman support in strengthening local resistance movements against European colonial powers, as well as the broader geopolitical strategy employed by the Ottoman Empire in Southeast Asia.

Historical Contextualisation and Comparative Analysis: The paper places the Ottoman archives within the broader historical context of colonialism, Islamic governance, and regional diplomacy. By comparing Ottoman engagement with Indonesia to that with other parts of Southeast Asia, the study highlights the distinctive nature of the Indonesian-Ottoman relationship, emphasizing the role of Islam as a unifying force and the shared anti-colonial struggles that shaped both countries' political identities.³

In addition to historical analysis, the paper engages with contemporary scholarship and policy discourse on Indonesia-Turkey relations. This component involves interviews with historians and experts in international relations to understand how the historical narratives derived from the Ottoman archives continue to influence modern diplomacy and identity in both countries. By integrating these contemporary perspectives, the research connects historical insights to present-day discussions on bilateral cooperation, trade, and regional security.

This mixed-method approach—combining archival research, historical analysis, and expert interviews—provides a comprehensive framework for understanding the complex historical ties between Indonesia and Türkiye. It not only fills a critical gap in the literature but also offers new perspectives on how Ottoman archives inform both historical scholarship and contemporary policymaking. By revisiting the Ottoman-era exchanges, this research sheds light on the foundational forces that continue to shape the interactions between Indonesia and Turkey in the modern geopolitical landscape.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Ottoman Empire and Early Relations

Indonesian Turkish relations can be traced back to the 12th century, when Turkish Islamic scholars visited Indonesia, significantly contributing to the spread of

³ İsmail Hakkı GÖKSOY, and Zübeyir TETİK. 2019. "Osmanlı Devleti'nin Batavya Başşehbenderi Hacı Rasim Bey'in Hayatı, Faaliyetleri Ve Meclis-İ Mebusan'a Sunduğu Arzuhalı." *Avrasya Sosyal Ve Ekonomi Araştırmaları Dergisi* 6 (5): 211–29.

Islam in the region. Formal interactions with the Ottoman Empire began in the 16th century, specifically with the Ottoman expedition to Aceh, responding to the Aceh Sultanate's request for help against Portuguese forces in Malacca. During the 16th and 17th centuries, the Ottomans also forged diplomatic and military ties with other sultanates, such as Demak, Mataram, and Ternate, in their efforts to counter European imperialism.⁴

The official relationship between Türkiye and Indonesian kingdoms started in 1564, when Sultan Alauddin Riayat Syah al-Kahhar of Aceh sent an envoy to Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent, aiming to strengthen ties for both military support against colonial powers and regional power expansion. Following Suleiman's death in 1566, his son Selim II dispatched ships to Aceh, including soldiers, engineers, and weapons. Although only two of the fifteen ships reached Aceh due to a diversion to quell a rebellion in Yemen, subsequent missions followed, with the first led by Kurtoğlu Hızır Reis. The Acehnese compensated the Ottomans with valuable gems.

The Ottomans imparted their cannon-making techniques to the Acehnese, influencing weaponry across other Southeast Asian kingdoms. In 1853, during the conflict with Russia, the Sultan of Aceh, Aladdin Ibrahim Mansur Syah, provided 10,000 Spanish dollars in war aid to Sultan Abdul Mejid I of the Ottoman Empire. When the Dutch attacked the Aceh Sultanate in 1873, sparking the Aceh War, the sultanate sought military aid from the Ottomans, although help was again diverted to Yemen. In 1883, the Ottomans established a consulate in Batavia, marking the first formal relations on Java.⁵

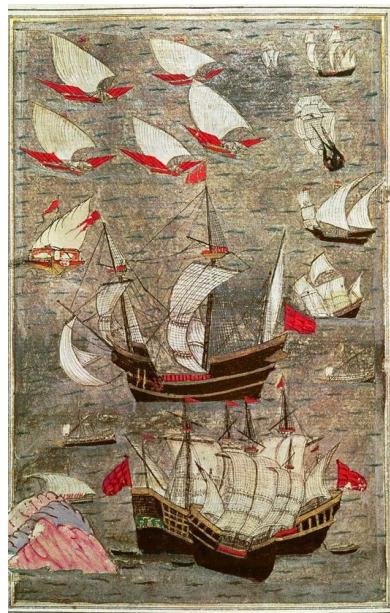


Figure 1. Ottoman fleet in the Indian Ocean 16th century
Sources: Topkapı Palace Library

⁴ Anthony Reid, 'The Ottomans in Southeast Asia', *ARI Working Papers*, 36 (2005).

⁵ Giancarlo Casale, 'Salih Özbaran, Ottoman Expansion towards the Indian Ocean in the 16th', *Ler História*, 58, 2010, pp. 235–38, doi:10.4000/lerhistoria.1267.

The relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye can be traced back to the 16th century during the Ottoman Empire. Although direct diplomatic relations were limited, the Ottomans and the Aceh Sultanate in present-day Indonesia established significant contact due to their shared Islamic faith and mutual interest in countering European colonial powers. The Aceh Sultanate sought help from the Ottomans in the face of Portuguese expansion in the region. In response, the Ottoman Empire, under Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent, sent military aid and support to Aceh, marking one of the earliest instances of interaction between these regions (Gallop, 2004). This relationship was not merely strategic; it was also religious and cultural. The Ottomans saw themselves as protectors of the Muslim world, and their support for Aceh was an extension of their broader policy of supporting Muslim states against European encroachment. This early interaction laid the foundation for a sense of solidarity between the two regions, despite the lack of sustained contact over the following centuries.⁶

Colonial Era and Nationalist Movements

The relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye entered a new phase in the early 20th century, as both regions were deeply affected by the forces of colonialism and the rise of nationalist movements. Indonesia, under Dutch colonial rule, and Türkiye, grappling with the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire, found themselves in similar predicaments, which fostered a sense of empathy and mutual respect.⁷

The fall of the Ottoman Empire and the subsequent establishment of the Republic of Türkiye in 1923 under Mustafa Kemal Atatürk was a significant event for nationalist movements worldwide, including Indonesia. Atatürk's efforts to modernise and secularise Türkiye inspired Indonesian nationalists, who were looking to chart their own path to independence. The Indonesian nationalist leader, Sukarno, was particularly influenced by the Turkish model of a secular republic, although he envisioned a different role for Islam in Indonesia's national identity.

During this period, Turkish publications and ideas circulated among Indonesian intellectuals, contributing to the broader discourse on independence and nation-building. This intellectual exchange, though indirect, played a role in shaping the ideological foundations of Indonesia's independence movement.⁸

As the Dutch extended their territory in Sumatra, the Acehnese increasingly feared an imminent confrontation. Despite a treaty signed in 1859, mutual distrust persisted. Dutch expansion in eastern Sumatra during the 1860s encroached on territories claimed by Aceh, prompting new diplomatic efforts from the Acehnese towards Britain in 1862 and the Ottomans in 1868, seeking Ottoman recognition of their sovereignty. Mansur Shah's brief letter to the Ottoman Sultan reiterated claims of

⁶ Casale, 'Salih Özbaran, Ottoman Expansion towards the Indian Ocean in the 16th'.

⁷ Nicholas Tarling, *The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia, Volume 2, Part 2: From World War II to the Present* (Cambridge University Press, 1999).

⁸ Azyumardi Azra, *Islam in the Indonesian World: An Account of Institutional Formation* (Mizan, 2006).

ancient Ottoman suzerainty and highlighted the Dutch's hostile stance, contrasting it with the respect shown by the British and French for Aceh's independence. Notably, he referenced a sword and medal given to him by Sultan Abdulmecid as gratitude for a \$10,000 contribution to the Ottoman war effort during the Crimean War (1853-56), indicating ongoing relations post-1849-52 missions. However, the absence of any mention of an Ottoman envoy's visit suggests that plans from 1852 never materialized, as the Ottomans shifted focus towards Yemen for mediation.⁹

In 1868, another letter from Mansur Shah to Sharif Abdullah showed that the Sharif was seeking details about Aceh's relations with European powers and its potential tax contributions to the Ottoman treasury. Mansur Shah affirmed that while Aceh had friendly relations with multiple nations, it was not under their protection, even though the Dutch had subjugated some territories. He emphasised that the land still under his control was rich in resources and potential revenue for the Ottoman treasury.

Although it appeared that Sharif Abdullah was conducting his own diplomacy, documentation indicates that Hejaz authorities were keeping the Porte informed and acted under its directives. The questions posed by Sharif Abdullah reflected concerns the Porte had since the earlier missions.

When new Acehnese appeals reached the Porte, its Foreign Ministry instructed Muammer Pasha, the Hejaz governor, to verify Mansur Shah's claims. He did so using a written testimony from Ali bin Umar al-Junaid Ba Alawi, a Hejaz resident who had lived in the archipelago until 1863, asserting that the Acehnese were independent, ruled by their own dynasty, and that their land was rich in resources.

During the 1849-52 mission, the Ottoman court had hesitated about asserting sovereignty based solely on a royal letter and an envoy. The Acehnese, aided by Ottoman officials, reinforced their requests with a petition from sixty-five notables to Governor Muammer Pasha, detailing Dutch encroachments and asking for an imperial firman to declare Ottoman suzerainty and military protection.¹⁰ They noted the previous mission's failure, which had yielded only a letter from the Grand Vizier and an imperial decoration.

⁹ Tetik, Zübeyir, 1993. *Osmanlı Devleti'nin Batavya başşehbenderleri ve faaliyetleri (1883-1908) = Batavia consul-generals of Ottoman Empire and their activities (1883-1908)* thesis advisor Göksoy, İsmail Hakkı,; Süleyman Demirel Üniversitesi. Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü. İslam Tarihi ve Sanatları Anabilim Dalı.

¹⁰ İ. Hakkı Göksoy. 1999. "Malay-Endonezya Kaynaklarına Göre Türkler Ve Osmanlı-Açe İlişkileri." *Tarih İncelemeleri Dergisi* 1 (14): 175–87.



Figure 2. An Ottoman Map of Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore), 1908
Sources: Ottoman State Archives

The Ottomans appeared conflicted, caught between the potential benefits of asserting control over Aceh and the risks of antagonising Western colonial powers. They sought information from the Dutch Legation in Istanbul, asking R.J. Keun, the legation's counselor, to determine whether Aceh was under Dutch rule. In December 1868, the Legation reported that the Porte had indicated military intervention was not feasible due to their lack of naval resources in the Indian Ocean.¹¹

Although Ottoman officials and some public figures expressed sympathy for Acehese resistance, the realities of global politics and geopolitical pragmatism ultimately dictated the boundaries of cooperation between Aceh and the Porte. The Acehese, despite their public rhetoric, viewed the Ottomans not as their sole ally against the Dutch but actively sought partnerships with various Western powers as well. They framed their alliance with the Ottomans as a religious obligation while also using secular arguments, such as their historical ties to the Ottomans and their refusal to accept the suzerainty of any other nation. They often emphasized Aceh's natural resources and wealth to appeal to the Porte's pragmatic concerns. Additionally, the success of Acehese missions to the Porte relied heavily on the personal connections between the Sayyids in Southeast Asia and Ottoman Sayyid officials in the Hejaz, who helped amplify their voices in Istanbul.¹²

Post-Independence Era and Cold War Dynamics

Following Indonesia's independence in 1945, diplomatic relations with Türkiye were formally established in 1950. Both nations, now sovereign states, sought to navigate the complexities of the Cold War era. Indonesia, under Sukarno, pursued a

¹¹ Casale, 'Salih Özbaran, Ottoman Expansion towards the Indian Ocean in the 16th'.

¹² Tarling, *The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia, Volume 2, Part 2: From World War II to the Present*.

policy of non-alignment, while Türkiye, as a member of NATO, aligned itself with the Western bloc.¹³

In the modern era, Türkiye officially recognised Indonesia on December 29, 1949, becoming the tenth country to acknowledge Indonesia's independence. Diplomatic relations were established in 1950, and the Turkish Embassy in Jakarta opened on April 10, 1957.¹⁴ Despite these differences, the two countries maintained cordial relations. Indonesia's leadership in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and Türkiye's strategic position in the Middle East allowed for a degree of cooperation on international issues, particularly in advocating for the rights and sovereignty of newly independent nations.¹⁵

Economic and cultural exchanges began to increase during this period. Türkiye viewed Indonesia as a key partner in Southeast Asia, while Indonesia saw Türkiye as a gateway to the Middle East and Europe. However, the ideological differences stemming from their respective alignments during the Cold War limited the depth of their bilateral relationship.¹⁶

Contemporary Relations

In the post-Cold War era, the relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye has seen significant growth, driven by shared economic interests, political cooperation, and cultural exchanges. Both countries, as emerging economies with substantial Muslim populations, have found common ground in various international forums, including the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the G20.¹⁷

Economic ties have strengthened considerably, with bilateral trade and investment seeing substantial growth. Turkish companies have invested in various sectors in Indonesia, including infrastructure, construction, and energy. Conversely, Indonesian businesses have found opportunities in the Turkish market, particularly in the textile and agricultural sectors.¹⁸

Politically, both nations have cooperated on issues such as Palestine, where they share a common stance advocating for the rights of the Palestinian people. This cooperation extends to other areas of mutual concern, including combating terrorism and promoting peace and stability in the Muslim world.¹⁹

¹³ Tarling, *The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia, Volume 2, Part 2: From World War II to the Present*.

¹⁴ Terzi, Mehmet Akif, Ahmet Ergün, and Mehmet Ali Alacagöz. 2017. *Osmanlı Endonezya İlişkileri Osmanlı Belgeleri Işığında*. İstanbul: Hitay.

¹⁵ Azra, *Islam in the Indonesian World: An Account of Institutional Formation*.

¹⁶ Reid, 'The Ottomans in Southeast Asia'.

¹⁷ Meirison and Yelmi Eri Firdaus, 'THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE RELATIONS WITH THE NUSANTARA (SPICE ISLANDS)', *Majalah Ilmiah Tabuah: Ta'limat, Budaya, Agama Dan Humaniora*, 24.2 (2020), doi:10.37108/tabuah.v24i2.313.

¹⁸ Terzi, Mehmet Akif, Ahmet Ergün, and Mehmet Ali Alacagöz. 2017. *Osmanlı Endonezya İlişkileri Osmanlı Belgeleri Işığında*. İstanbul: Hitay.

¹⁹ Azra, *Islam in the Indonesian World: An Account of Institutional Formation*.

Cultural exchanges have also played a vital role in deepening the relationship between Indonesia and Turkey. The popularity of Turkish television series in Indonesia, as well as the growing interest in Indonesian culture in Turkey, reflects the increasing people-to-people connections between the two countries.²⁰

However, the relationship is not without challenges. Differences in foreign policy approaches, particularly concerning issues in the Middle East, have occasionally strained relations. Additionally, the evolving political landscapes in both countries, with Türkiye under President Erdoğan and Indonesia under President Joko Widodo, have introduced new dynamics that both sides must navigate.²¹

Turkish - Indonesian Relations After the Decline of the Ottoman Empire

Turkish Indonesian relations have evolved significantly since the decline of the Ottoman Empire in the early 20th century. Initially, both nations shared a common Islamic identity, which fostered a sense of solidarity, particularly during the colonial era when Indonesia was under Dutch rule. After the fall of the Ottoman Empire in 1922, Türkiye emerged as a secular republic under Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. This shift influenced Türkiye's foreign policy, steering it towards modernisation and secularism. Despite these changes, Türkiye continued to support Indonesia's independence movement, particularly after World War II.²²

The Turkish archival documents reference various diplomatic events and interactions between Türkiye, Indonesia, the Netherlands, and other nations, reflecting the evolving geopolitical landscape in the mid-20th century. Key themes include recognition of independence, diplomatic visits, and negotiations regarding sovereignty and representation as below:

1. *Ottoman State Archives*, M-27-07-1910: Discriminatory and oppressive treatment of Ottoman subjects in the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia).
2. 30.06.1923: Article from *Vakit* newspaper about Dutch government's Christian propaganda in Java (Indonesia)
3. 24.11.1946: Agreement signed between the Netherlands and Indonesia.
4. 23.01.1946: Note regarding the situation in Greece referred to the Security Council by the Soviets, and the situation in Indonesia referred by Ukraine.
5. 24.01.1949: Request from the president of the Indonesian Association in Malaya to sever trade relations with the Netherlands.
6. 14.12.1951: Permission for the establishment of a Turkish-Indonesian Friendship Society based in Istanbul.
7. 02.12.1952: Report by the Turkish Representation and Liaison Delegation concerning various military and social issues in Indonesia.

²⁰ Tarling, *The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia, Volume 2, Part 2: From World War II to the Present*.

²¹ Meirison and Firdaus, 'THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE RELATIONS WITH THE NUSANTARA (SPICE ISLANDS)'.

²² Reid, 'The Ottomans in Southeast Asia'.

8. 01.04.1955: Presentation by Veli Kajum Khan at the Asia-Africa Conference in Indonesia.
9. 08.04.1955: Participation of a delegation in the Africa-Asia Conference in Indonesia.
10. 29.08.1955: The issue of New Guinea brought to the UN by Indonesia regarding the dispute with the Netherlands.
11. 13.10.1955: Political relations between the Netherlands and Indonesia.
12. 19.01.1956: Indonesian Parliament member Hamed El Kadri' s visit to Tunisia and subsequent travel to Saudi Arabia.
13. 05.04.1956: Permission granted to establish an embassy in Jakarta at the request of the Indonesian government.
14. 14.03.1956: Request for agrément for General R.H. Abdulkadir to the Indonesian Embassy in Ankara
15. 24.08.1959: Request for agrément for M. Raden Subjakto' s appointment to the Ankara Embassy.
16. 24.12.1959: Confirmation of letters signed under the Turkey-Indonesia Trade Agreement.
17. 31.12.1962: New Year' s greeting from Indonesian Ambassador Raden Subijakto to Prime Minister İsmet İnönü.
18. 03.10.1963: Congratulatory letter from Indonesian Ambassador Raden Subijakto on Prime Minister İsmet İnönü's birthday.
19. 07.09.1957: Request for agrément from the Indonesian government for Dr. Sultan Muhammad as ambassador.
20. 13.12.1957: Acceptance of Dutch citizens deciding to leave Indonesia into Brazil.
21. 14.12.1951: Permission for the establishment of a Turkish Indonesian Friendship Society.
22. 02.12.1952: Report concerning various military and social issues in Indonesia.
23. 22.03.1960: Correspondence addressed to M. Raden Subjakto, the Indonesian ambassador in Ankara.
24. 28.12.1963: Request for agrément for Ambassador Raden Sugiarto S.H.
25. 12.01.1978: Participation of Ambassador Vahap Aşıroğlu in the Senate delegation's visit to Indonesia.
26. 09.02.1978: Approval of the Cultural Agreement signed on 18.8.1973 in Jakarta between Turkey and Indonesia.
27. 14.01.1985: Participation of a delegation led by Mustafa Akşin in the inaugural meeting of the Joint Commission established under the Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement.
28. 30.10.1985: Participation of a delegation led by Aydın Alacakaptan in negotiations of the Turkey-Indonesia Air Transport Agreement.
29. 15.06.1987: Participation of a delegation in the Turkey-Indonesia Air Transport Agreement negotiations.

- 30.22.01.1988: Participation of a delegation led by Necati Utkan in the second meeting of the Turkey-Indonesia Joint Economic Commission.
- 31.20.11.1992: Visa exemption for Indonesian citizens visiting Turkey for tourism.
- 32.12.02.1993: Minister of Foreign Affairs Hikmet Çetin' s delegation sent to Indonesia for talks.
- 33.31.08.1993: Tourism Minister Abdulkadir Ateş leads a delegation to the World Tourism Organization's 10th General Assembly in Bali, Indonesia
- 34.24.09.1993: Authorization of Abdulkadir Ateş to sign the memorandum of understanding on tourism cooperation.
- 35.06.12.1993: Turkish delegation participation in the third term meeting of the Turkey-Indonesia Joint Economic Commission.
- 36.07.01.1994: Approval of the minutes of the third meeting of the Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation.
- 37.22.02.1994: General Doğan Güreş leads a delegation to Indonesia for discussions on cooperation in defense industry.
- 38.08.01.1996: Chief of General Staff İsmail Hakkı Karadayı' s delegation visit to India and Indonesia.
- 39.09.08.1996: Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan visits Indonesia.
- 40.27.04.1998: Approval of the Agreement on the Promotion and Protection of Investments.
- 41.01.03.1999: Approval for the establishment of the Association of Producers of Concrete, Mortar, and Cement Additives and the Indonesia Promotion Friendship and Cooperation Association.

This classification organises the documents chronologically, providing a clear timeline of events and discussions related to Indonesia and its interactions with Türkiye from the early 20th century to the late 1990s. The documents listed above contribute significantly to the literature in the fields of international relations, diplomatic history, and Southeast Asian studies. They provide primary sources that document the evolution of Türkiye-Indonesia relations, offering insights into diplomatic strategies and foreign policy developments during the mid-20th century. The documents highlight the political motivations and contexts behind Türkiye's engagement with Indonesia, particularly in the context of the Cold War and the rise of post-colonial nations. The records on economic agreements and technical cooperation reflect the economic dimensions of bilateral relations, valuable for understanding trade dynamics and developmental aid practices. By detailing visits and exchanges between ministers and delegations, the documents reveal the societal impacts of these diplomatic relationships, particularly in terms of tourism and labour migration. Briefly, these documents serve as essential resources for scholars, providing a nuanced understanding of Türkiye's foreign policy and its implications for broader regional dynamics in Asia.²³

²³ Ottoman State Archives, ref. 30-18-1-2 772 550 3.1994

CONCLUSION

The historical relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye is a testament to the enduring bonds that can be formed through shared religious, cultural, and political experiences. From the early interactions during the Ottoman era to the contemporary period of growing economic and political ties, the relationship has evolved in response to changing global and regional dynamics.

As both countries continue to play influential roles in their respective regions and on the global stage, the relationship between Indonesia and Türkiye is likely to grow stronger, shaped by mutual interests and the ongoing efforts to address usual challenges. While differences remain, the historical ties and the potential for future cooperation provide a solid foundation for a sustained and productive partnership.

The article discusses the complexities of the relationship between the Acehnese and the Ottoman Empire during a time of conflict with the Dutch. While there was some support for Acehnese resistance from Ottoman officials and parts of the public, the actual cooperation between Aceh and the Ottomans was limited by broader political realities and strategic interests. The Acehnese sought alliances not only with the Ottomans but also with various Western powers. This indicates a pragmatic approach to their struggle against Dutch colonialism, as they recognised multiple avenues for support. While they portrayed their alliance with the Ottomans as a religious duty, the Acehnese also backed their requests with practical, secular arguments. They highlighted their historical connection to the Ottomans and emphasised that they had not accepted control from other nations, thereby framing their situation in a way that appealed to Ottoman interests. The Acehnese frequently pointed out their region's wealth and resources to attract Ottoman attention and support, aligning their economic advantages with the Porte's strategic goals. The success of the Acehnese missions to the Porte depended significantly on personal relationships between local Sayyids in Southeast Asia and Ottoman officials. These connections helped ensure that the Acehnese voices were heard in Istanbul, illustrating the importance of interpersonal diplomacy in their efforts.

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- Devlet Arşivleri Başkanlığı Cumhuriyet Arşivi*, Reference: 30-18-1-2 465 569 8, 1982 Visit by President Kenan Evren to several countries including Indonesia.
- Devlet Arşivleri Başkanlığı Cumhuriyet Arşivi*, Reference: 30-18-1-2 478 54 2, 1983 Approval of the Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement between Turkey and Indonesia.
- Devlet Arşivleri Başkanlığı Cumhuriyet Arşivi*, Reference: 30-18-1-2 523 309 7, 1985 Participation of a delegation in the first meeting of the Turkey-Indonesia Economic and Technical Cooperation Commission.
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- Devlet Arşivleri Başkanlığı Cumhuriyet Arşivi*, Reference: 30-18-1-2 597 699 7, 1988: Approval of the joint agreement from the second meeting of the commission.
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