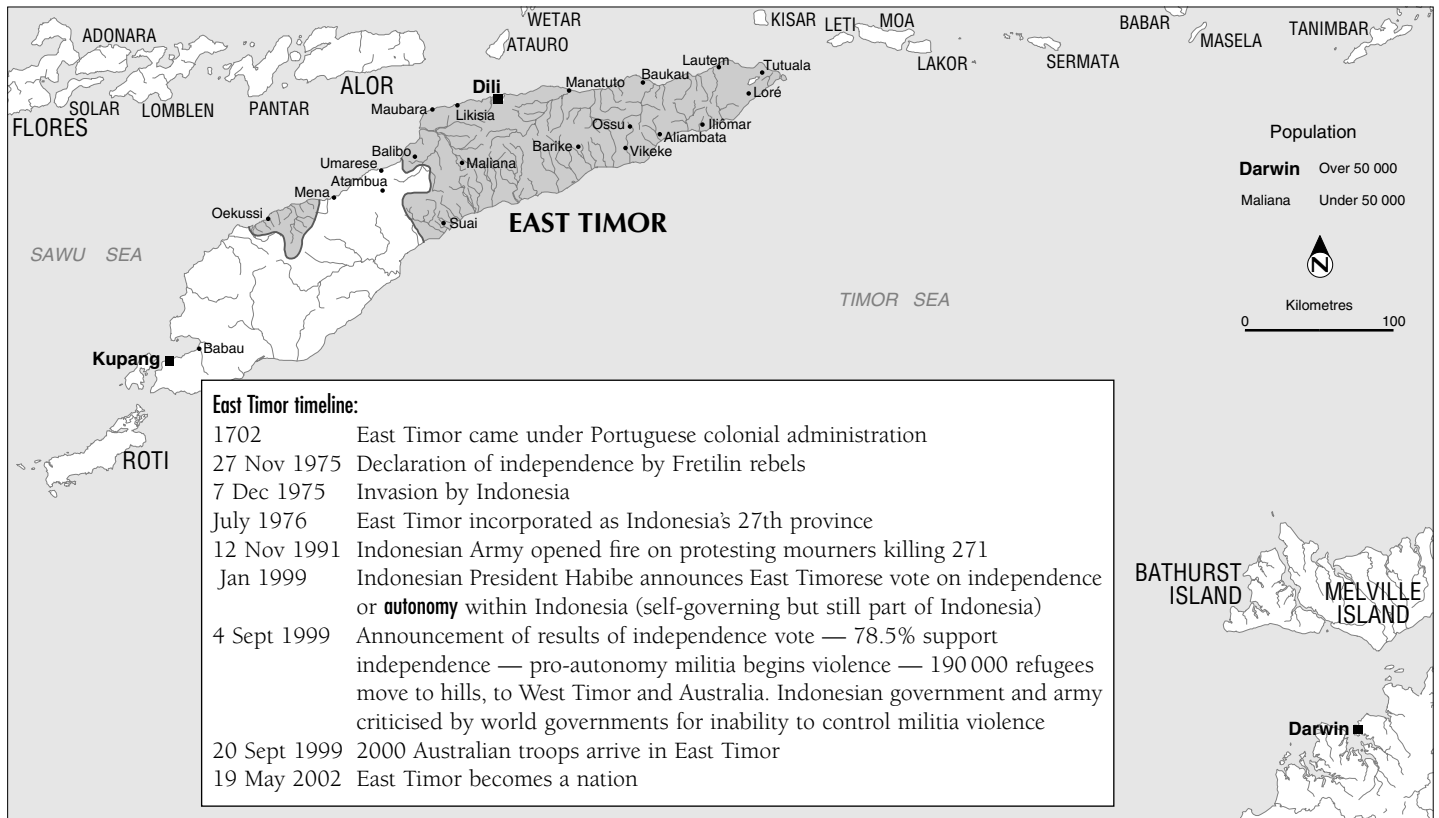


DATELINE: At midnight on 19 May 2002 East Timor became the world's newest nation with an estimated population of 740 000. Xanana Gusmao will be its first President. A scaled-down UN peace-keeping force will remain in East Timor in the early post-independence period. An Australian-led United Nations peace-keeping force was sent to East Timor in September 1999 after East Timor voted for independence from Indonesia. The new nation faces many problems including poverty and a literacy rate of only 30 per cent.



East Timor map and timeline of events

- Using the map and cross-section of South-east Asia on pages 144–145 and the Countries of the World map on pages 22–23 of the *Jacaranda Atlas*, answer the following questions:
 - Which country is East Timor's nearest neighbour?

 - Geographically, would you consider the island of Timor to be part of the Indonesian archipelago? Why?

 - How far is East Timor from Portugal in a straight line?

- Using the map of Papua New Guinea on pages 132–133 of the *Jacaranda Atlas*, estimate the distance from Darwin to Dili.

- Using the map of East Timor above, list the places in East Timor that have fewer than 50 000 people and the places with more than 50 000 people.
Fewer than 50 000 _____
More than 50 000 _____
- Use the World Statistics database at www.johnwiley.com.au/school/jacatlas/worldstatistics.cfm to look up the following statistics:
 - the literacy rate of Indonesia _____
 - the literacy rate of Australia _____
 - What statement could you make about the relative literacy rates of Australia, Indonesia and East Timor?

