

Kendeng

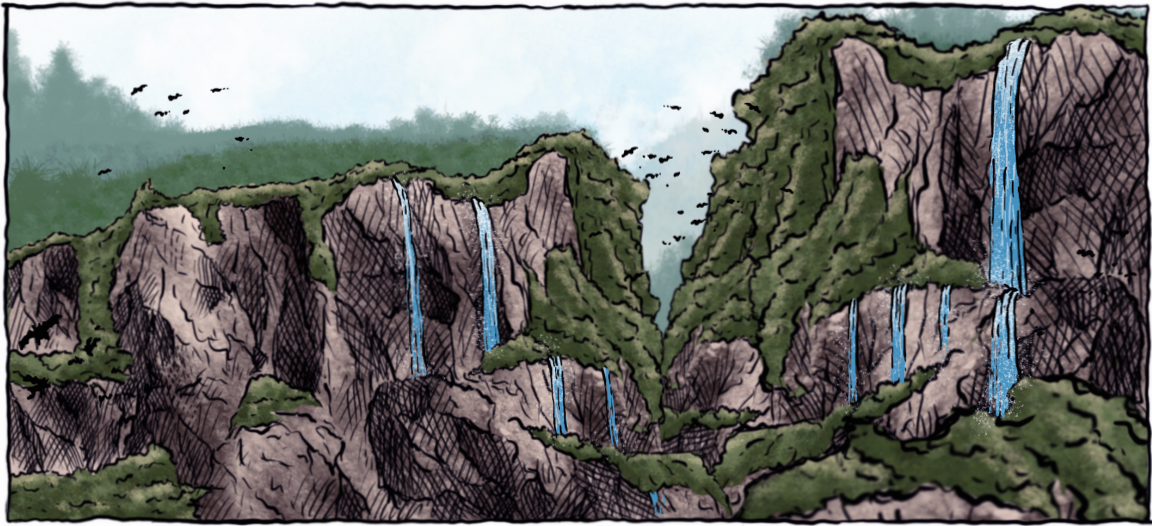
Resistance to limestone quarrying in Java

Jatra Palepati
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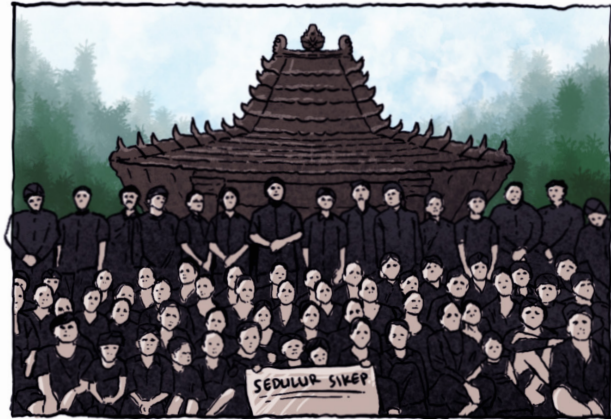
Thorsten Volberg/Fransiskus Tarmedi

■■■ HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG
SOUTHEAST ASIA





"Life at the Kendeng Mountains was undisturbed. From many mountain springs flowed water in streams into the valley. We lived in peace and balance."



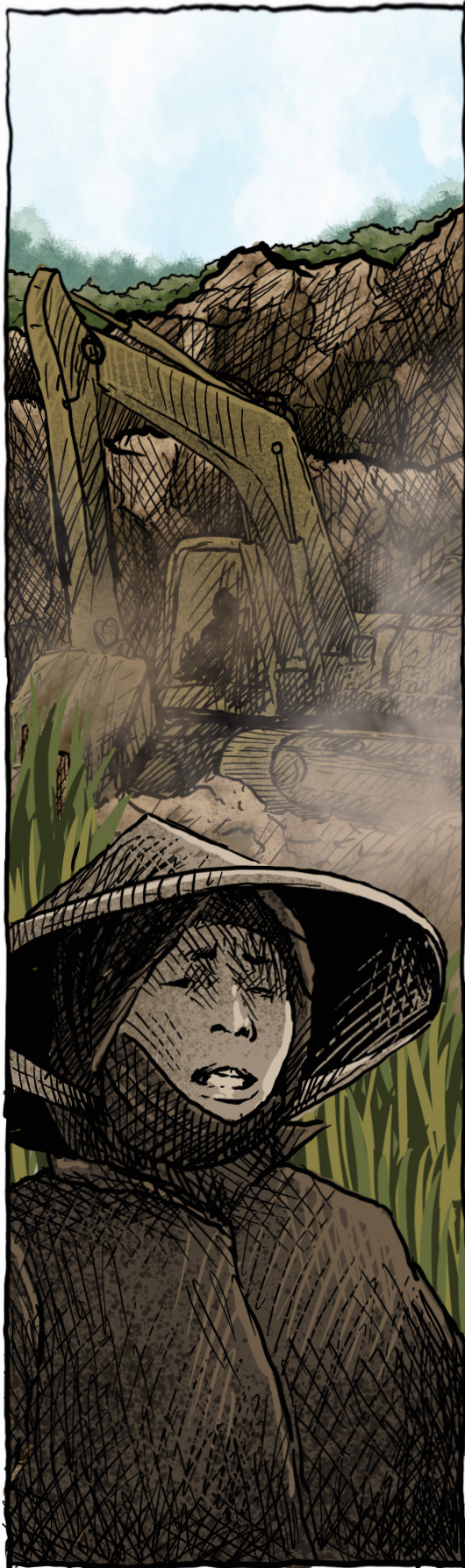
"The women in the villages started the day by fetching water. They cooked the food that they would later take to the fields. Families with children and their neighbors walked side by side. Their laughter could be heard loudly when someone made a joke. They were accompanied by cows and goats, which they drove to graze."



"We were content with our lives. We lived in prosperity, we had enough of everything we needed. We had Fellowship, harmony, peace and serenity. We were far away from problems and threats. But soon after, everything began to change. Beloved Mother, where has your smile gone, where has your peace and serenity gone? Where has the harmony of your community gone?"

"I see Mother Earth, I see her exhaustion, her sadness. I see her crying. The wind is not as refreshing as it used to be. The water is not as clear as it used to be. The sky is not as blue as it used to be. And the Kendeng Mountains are not as thickly vegetated as they used to be. So many animals can no longer find a home there. Who is responsible for all this?"

- Gunarti (Kartini Kendeng/Women of North Kendeng Movement)





"The earth is entrusted to us, so we must maintain it for our inheritance. We cemented our feet in front of the palace, marched long ways, and demonstrated many times to show that we were serious."

- Giyem (Larangan Village, Tambakromo District)



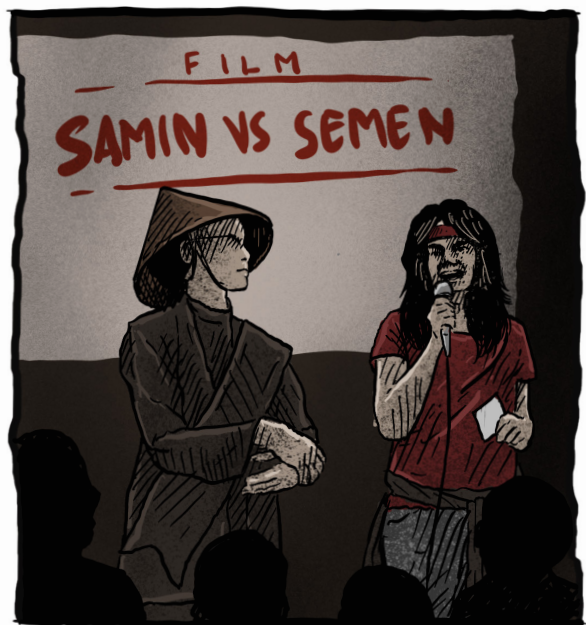
There are experiences of victory and defeat that I have felt. But I always hope that what we want to achieve will be reached."

- Siti (Baturejo Village, Sukolilo District)



"I reject the establishment of a cement factory. We will forever fight the plan to destroy the North Kendeng Mountains. This will be a legacy that I can give to my children and grandchildren."

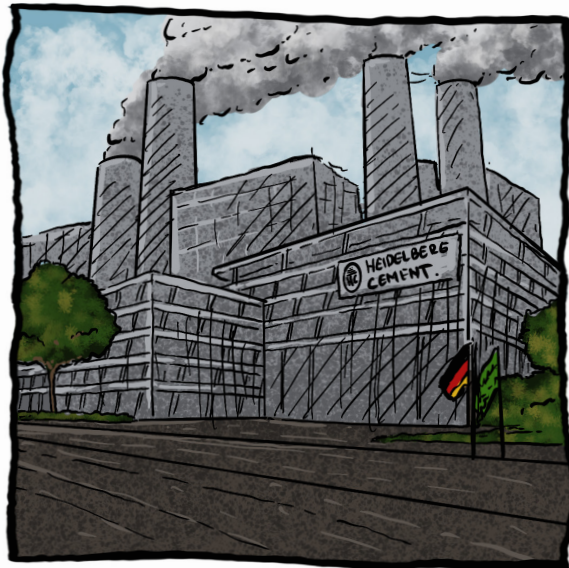
- Sudarto (Kedumulyo Village, Sukolilo District)



"You HeidelbergCement shareholders, are you able to imagine the threat, the sadness, the crimes we face? Are you able to imagine them as if they were happening to your own families? The government is hurting us, the people are being oppressed, and you shareholders are enjoying your wealth built on the suffering of us women, the women of the Kendeng Mountains. On the suffering of Mother Earth. Didn't you all come from the womb of a mother?"
 - Gunarti (Kartini Kendeng/Women of North Kendeng Movement)

"As one of Germany's largest publicly traded companies, HeidelbergCement must abide to an even higher standard of due diligence in ensuring that its own operations and that of its subsidiaries worldwide respect human rights and ecological justice. Filing an OECD complaint against HeidelbergCement will test Germany's seriousness in holding a German company accountable over its economic behavior through the OECD mechanism."

- Barbara Unmüßig, Co-president of Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung





"Indigenous communities have lost all control over their natural resources to powerful corporations and are often subject to serious human rights violations. I urge companies to abide by the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and to ensure that business activities do not lead to the violation of people's rights. Relevant projects must be carried out in an open dialogue and with the involvement of the affected communities in a free, fair and informed process."

- Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights