

" INDONESIA MINI DAY 2018." TANGERANG, INDONESIA
Featuring many Classic Minis owned by members of the
Indonesia_coopret_registry.

*** Saturday 15 December 2018 finally arrived. I had been looking forward to go to Tangerang for the first bi-annual Classic Mini Event ever since it was announced. We took a Blue Bird Taxi from Jakarta to Tangerang. Hit the road at about 09.30 am that day. The usual Ever Indonesian congested traffic, (gravitated another notch to a mind boggling level) including the ka-zillion "Sepeda Motor" motor scooters skillfully doing their "thing" to make things even more exciting. To shorten travel time we paid extra taking the "Jalan Tol", Toll road. Out of nowhere a maroon Classic Mini skillfully zapped by in the fast lane. H I L A R I O U S ! The tiny "Beastie" showed what changing lanes without indicator lights was all about., None of the other drivers got excited or honked horns in dis pleasure.

Unconventional passing by any & all cars is accepted behavior in Indonesian traffic. It's passed on from father to son & daughter, thus historic. All of us, including our taxi driver, just smiled. In response they just kept maintaining their own speed between 100 & 120 km per hour. The Mini, for the less than 2 minutes in sight, showed no brake lights at any point. Perhaps they did not work ?

We arrived at a super modern, state of the art, huge shopping center in Tangerang. Requesting where the Minis were staged, a friendly security guard gave hand signs & in perfect English added: " Mini Cooper over there."

We were met by some of the owners of the more than 40 Minis on display. Added by a few "Bimmer Minis." None of them dirty, in compromised shape or marked. ALL of them in state of the art condition & perfectly painted. I asked for an owner who spoke English. Ariosoeto got up and with the ever, taken for granted, smile we got used to be greeted with by people in Indonesia we exchanged pleasantries. He asked me to follow him. He led us to the maroon Mini that passed us on the Toll-road on our way from Jakarta to Tangerang. With pride he said this was his priced possession. I was dumbfounded & taken back. He looked at me & asked: "Apa yang salah?" (what's wrong?)

I stammered: "Was that you that drove on the Toll-road half an hour

ago at excessive, above the limits, high speeds?" He smiled again, showed some signs of shyness: "Yes. No problem, no Highway Patrol on the Toll-road today."

Arioseto then answered some questions. The Jakarta Headquarter "Indonesia_coopret_registry" has, Arioseto explained, 155 members. The other large contingent of this club is the city of Bandung with 128 members. Then other cities have less than 5 members each. The "Indonesia_Coopret_Registry" used this location showing off their prides & joy. Arioseto's Mini was imported, like many others, from Japan. Some are imported from Australia & the UK. They prefer the right hand steering because of the Left traffic in Indonesia. The "Indonesia_Coopret_Registry" started way back in 1972.

Another pleasant, complete surprise, Arief Goenadibrata tapped me on my shoulders & we hugged. I met Arief about a year ago when we were stationed in Surabaya. At that time he was restoring an original 1960s Mini he imported from Australia. Arief has a collection of special Automobiles that fancy him. He took me to his perfectly & to original specs restored Classic Mini. Then he showed an AZ maroon Personalized License plate, positioned behind the rear window. Arief lived in Glendale, AZ in the 1990s when he attended a Business College there. He is now a very respected and successful business man in Indonesia, with an Office in Jakarta. He owns interests in a series of companies here & in other Asian countries. Arief shipped his Classic Mini from Surabaya to Tangerang for this occasion.

Not to much added talk. Other than, I bought an official AZ "Personalized" License plate with the name of my wife Hedy's birthplace in Indonesia; the city of Bandung stamped in red. Only 7 digits allowed. My birthplace Sukabumi was declined (No Copy Right protection here on many, many products made in Asian countries. Watches, movies, music, fashion & much more) I bought a Rolex made in China for less than \$15.00 US.

So, the pictures will do the rest of the talking. Enjoy. Hans & Hedy Schmid

Jakarta traffic a 24/7 nightmare for those visiting here for the first time.

A 15 minute taxi ride is NEVER 15 minutes.
More likely double or even extended to 45 min - 1 hour."

Traffic most of the time, with a few exceptions on less busy roads, moves at an average speed of 10 -15 MPH.

Unless you ride a "Sepeda Motor" (motor scooter) Than you are always on a friendly form of "road rage". Meaning You and in many cases 2 - 4 passengers, skillfully "slalom style" move forward between the cars. 2 Official lanes are craft fully increased to 4, painted lines always ignored. When you change lanes, most of the time, NO indicator lights. Just swiftly use the tiniest option of space between cars & cut in.