

Jakarta

Three days ago, on June 22, Jakarta celebrated its 493rd anniversary.

Before it was 'Jakarta', it was 'Djakarta' for 30 years. And before that it was Batavia, Jayakarta and Sunda Kelapa. The name 'Jakarta' derives from the word *Jayakarta* which is ultimately derived from the Sanskrit जय *jaya* (victorious) and कृत *krta* (accomplished), thus *Jayakarta* translates as 'victorious deed', 'complete act' or 'complete victory'. The Jakarta you know today is home to over 10 million people, inhabiting five municipalities and one administrative regency within its 255.4 sq. mi. area. And when you talk about Jakarta, there's no escaping the thoughts of crowded roads, fast-moving people, hot and humid weather, street vendors and tall buildings. It is after all, a business hub.

Emporis, a global provider of building information, claims there are 964 high-rise buildings and 244 skyscrapers in Jakarta as per December 2019. 74-meter Sarinah was the first skyscraper in the city. Built in 1963 and inaugurated in 1967 by the country's first President, Soekarno, he had hoped for it to become a modern shopping centre with good quality, affordable goods for the people. Do you know that it was named after the President's nanny by the way?



Bundaran HI in 1969



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Speaking of high-rise buildings and skyscrapers, our very own WTC 3 and WTC 2 are in the Top 100 Tallest Buildings in Jakarta, occupying numbers 15 and 89 respectively.

Sitting on arguably the city's busiest street of Jl. Sudirman, the WTC complex first building was Wisma Metropolitan I (now WTC 5) which was completed in 1976, it was also the first building to apply post-tensioning method in Indonesia. Its twin, Wisma Metropolitan II (now WTC 6), was completed nine years later.

In 1990, the first World Trade Center (WTC) building was erected in-between the twin towers but just slightly behind them. It took two years to finish. But as Indonesia faced one of its darkest chapters in history with the infamous 1998 turmoil and monetary crisis, no other major developments took place until 2008 where Jakarta Land broke ground for WTC 2.

Shortly after, WTC 3 followed and went fully operational in 2018. All five buildings have received **BCA Green Mark Gold Certification**, marking our commitment, dedication and effort in creating a greener environment with excellent energy efficiency that meets the environmental sustainability standards.

Do you have a favourite spot at the WTC complex? Mine is the benches on the WTC 1 roundabout. The breeze, the splashing water on the fountain, the smell of freshly-mowed grass. It really does take your mind off work. Give it a try and while you're there, feel free to write to us to stara.pedro@jakland.co.id.

Yours truly,

the community editor