

## The Indonesian military and the 2004 elections

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### Abstrak

Legislative and presidential elections were conducted respectively on 5 April, 5 July and 20 September 2004, in the new emerging democracy, Indonesia. Aside from its imprecise preparation and implementations, compared to the previous general elections in the country, it can be said that the legislative elections were conducted in a more democratic way than in the past. After more than four decades, for the first time Indonesians went to the poll and directly choose their representatives through a combination of an individual candidate and party list systems, by which people had an alternative choice of parliamentary candidates from every party to be elected. More importantly, was the first time the people directly elected their president and vice president after more than a half century since the country proclaimed its independence from the Dutch colonial government.