
A wonderful resource for Timor-Leste research: A voz de Timor, now digitised and online

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Issues of the historic Timor-Leste newspaper *A Voz de Timor* from 1973 to 1975 have been fully digitised and are now available for viewing on the National Library of Australia's Trove website <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>. They have been digitised from copies in the National Library of Australia, with some additional issues kindly loaned by Jim Dunn through Melbourne's Clearing House for Archival records on Timor (CHART). Other issues from 1970 to 1972 and 1975, from the collections of the National Library and other Australian libraries, will be gradually added. To see the copies digitised so far, go to <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-title1498> and click on "1970" in the Coverage graph.

A Voz de Timor contains a wealth of information on society, culture and politics in Timor-Leste during this period. There are articles that are of obvious interest for researchers – activities of the Portuguese colonial administration, manifestos and communiques of the first Timorese political parties, discussion of likely timeframe for Timorese independence, reports on local education (and lists of required textbooks for the school year), tourism statistics and Portuguese Timor's relations with its neighbours, notably Indonesia and Australia. But its pages are also a vibrant snapshot of everyday life at the time. You will find advertisements from companies trading there, airline schedules, radio programs, movie screenings, local sports match results, social news and events, and Tetum language features. There are even early poems from some young man called Jose Alexandre Gusmao ...

The Trove website is free for all to use – come and explore! You will see images of the original pages of *A Voz de Timor*, but also searchable text at the side of each page. If your Portuguese is not yet as good as it could be, you can copy and paste this text and run it through an online translator. This searchable text has been generated by automatic optical character recognition, and is not perfect, so we encourage readers to help correct the text and improve it for other users. This can be done easily by clicking the "fix this text" button above the text. Be warned, this can be a surprisingly enjoyable and addictive activity, and you will join a large online community of Trove text correctors. You can search across the digitised *A Voz de Timor* by keywords, or by type of material such as advertisements or articles. You can compile lists of articles, tag them, add comments and automatically generate academic citations. We especially hope that Timorese readers will engage with *A Voz de Timor* on Trove, whether practising their Portuguese through text correcting, looking for mention of members of their families, identifying people and places in the historic photos and tagging them or adding comments – or simply by exploring and enjoying their own history.

There is more information on how to search and use Trove in the "help" section <https://help.nla.gov.au/trove/using-trove> – links to this can be found at the top of each page in Trove. There are also [past](#) and [upcoming](#) webinars introducing Trove, and you can always contact us through our [Ask a librarian service](#). There will also be a session on Trove and digitised Timor-Leste resources at the [Understanding Timor-Leste 2019 Conference](#) (June 27-28) and at a workshop on Saturday June 29, both in Dili.

This National Library of Australia digitisation project was generously supported by the [Canberra Friends of Dili](#). For more information on this and other digitisation projects at the National Library of Australia, or about Trove, or if you have other issues of *A voz de Timor* to share, please contact us at andp@nla.gov.au. You can also follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).



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<http://www.nla.gov.au/content/newspaper-digitisation-program>

<https://help.nla.gov.au/trove/for-digitisation-partners>

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