

You are in: [World: Asia-Pacific](#)[Front Page](#) Thursday, 7 December, 2000, 06:59 GMT[World](#)**Moluccas Christians bombed**[Africa](#)[Americas](#)[Asia-Pacific](#)[Europe](#)[Middle East](#)[South Asia](#)[From Our Own Correspondent](#)[Letter From](#)[America](#)[UK](#)[UK Politics](#)[Business](#)[Sci/Tech](#)[Health](#)[Education](#)[Entertainment](#)[Talking Point](#)[In Depth](#)[AudioVideo](#)

BBC SPORT >>



Thousands have died in the last two years

One person has been killed and at least seven injured after home-made bombs were thrown into a Christian procession in Indonesia's troubled Moluccan islands.

A Muslim man was also killed and four others wounded during clashes that broke out after the bombing, Antara news agency said.

The violence in the provincial capital Ambon follows reports of a massacre of more than 50 Christians on an outlying island two weeks ago.

The bomb attack occurred as the Christians were singing hymns on their way to church.

Reports say a hostile crowd of Muslims gathered on the route, drawn by the sound of the singing.

They were being held back by local security forces, when two bombs exploded among the Christians.

One soldier was killed, and several other soldiers and civilians were injured.


A doctor at the state Haulussy



Indonesia has declared a civil emergency

Search BBC News Online

[Advanced search options](#)
[Launch console for latest audio/video](#)
[BBC ONE TV NEWS](#)[WORLD NEWS SUMMARY](#)[BBC NEWS 24 BULLETIN](#)[PROGRAMMES GUIDE](#)**More news and analysis****Key stories**[Behind the violence](#)[A troubled history](#)[Who are the Laskar Jihad?](#)**Features**[Refugees' flight from terror](#)["God on our side"](#)[INTERACTIVE MAP](#)[The fragile archipelago](#)**See also:**[05 Dec 00 | Asia-Pacific
Hundreds flee Moluccas violence](#)[01 Dec 00 | Asia-Pacific
50 dead in Moluccas clash](#)[27 Sep 00 | Asia-Pacific
Moluccan Christians stage
embassy protest](#)[25 Sep 00 | Asia-Pacific
Aceh truce extended](#)[02 Jul 00 | Asia-Pacific
Analysis: Behind the Moluccan
violence](#)

Baroness Caroline Cox, member of UK's House of Lords "Christians have received threats that there will be no church bells ringing in Ambon this Christmas"  real [28k](#)

hospital said one person was wheeled in with his right foot blown off at the ankle, while another had splinters in his backbone.

'No Christmas bells'

Indonesia imposed a state of emergency in the Moluccas in June, in an attempt to rein in the religious violence which has left thousands dead in the past two years.

The conflict intensified earlier this year with the arrival of volunteers from the Muslim paramilitary Laskar Jihad group, which is based in Java.



Violence in the Moluccas has left widespread devastation

Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a human rights organisation, says Muslim militant forces have threatened that "there will be no church bells ringing in Ambon by Christmas".

'Forced conversions'

The bomb attack comes amid reports that hundreds of Christians have fled Kasiui island in the east of the Moluccas following a massacre.

On Tuesday a Christian lawyer, Sammy Weileruni, said nearly 100 people had been killed in late November after refusing to convert to Islam.

Mr Weileruni said the attacks were carried out by the Laskar Jihad.

He said a man who had just escaped from Kasiui told him hundreds of islanders were converting to Islam out of fear for their lives.

There was no independent confirmation of this account.

However, a government spokesman said the Laskar Jihad had raided two Christian villages on 24 November, killing 54 people and burning churches and houses.

He said extra troops had been despatched to Kasiui to prevent further violence.

20 Jan 00 | Asia-Pacific
[Thousands flee Lombok](#)

Internet links:

[BBC Indonesian Service \(with Indonesian news in audio\)](#)

[Indonesia Online](#)

[Indonesian Government](#)

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

Other top Asia-Pacific stories:

[Bombs target Indonesian churches](#)

[Japan boosts military might](#)

[Stand-off in Korean bank protest](#)

[Chinese robbers face shoot-to-kill policy](#)

[Philippines reflects during trial recess](#)

[Australian flights hit by delays](#)

[Whales swim to freedom](#)

[Fears over Japan's ageing population](#)

Links to top Asia-Pacific stories are at the foot of the page.

Links to other Asia-Pacific stories



[^^ Back to top](#)

[News Front Page](#) | [World](#) | [UK](#) | [UK Politics](#) | [Business](#) | [Sci/Tech](#) | [Health](#) | [Education](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [In-Depth](#) | [Talking Point](#) | [Audio/Video](#)

[>To BBC Sport](#)