



**IV CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**

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**Dili, 31 August 2011**

**Declaration by the Prime Minister – Idul Fitri**

The celebration of Idul Fitri reminds us once again of the importance of family and friends, as well as of the highest values of solidarity, unity and tolerance.

The Government of Timor-Leste has declared today a national holiday, so as to allow our People to take part in the prayers and festivities along with their Muslim brothers and sisters.

Idul Fitri gives us the opportunity to strengthen friendship and respect ties with other peoples, cultures and religions, as well as to reflect on the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation in order to contribute to a more just and peaceful world.

Today we are also reminded of the friendship and solidarity that tie us to our neighbour Indonesia. As the people of the great nation of Indonesia celebrate Idul Fitri, we can also celebrate the strong bonds we have with our neighbour and acknowledge the progress made by the Indonesians in terms of efforts for increasing peace, tolerance and democracy throughout the region and the world.

On this date, we Timorese can also reflect on our errors and, in a true spirit of promise, assume a new commitment of sharing, harmony and reconciliation.

Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão