

FRETILIN supporters rally in Same

From correspondents in Timor Leste



FRETILIN supporters gather in Same, Timor-Leste
Photo provided by the Department of Information and Mobilization of FRETILIN

DILI, 14 February 2007

FRETILIN staged a mass pre-election rally in the southern central town of Same on 10 February 2007. The rally was attended by more than 5000 FRETILIN supporters and demonstrated FRETILIN's continuing strong support throughout Timor-Leste.

The Same rally follows the Baucau rally held on 27 January 2007 which was attended by more than 8000 supporters and which was Timor Leste's biggest public meeting since FRETILIN supporters staged a counter-demonstration against coup plotters in Dili in June last year.

TimorTruth correspondents understand that the Same rally was held even though rebel leader and key player in the May 2006 crisis, Major Alfredo Reinado, was believed to be in the Same area. Major Reinado had relocated from Gleno where international forces were reported to have set up road blocks to control his movements. Reinado is meant to be under investigation for his role in the May 2006 crisis, especially in relation to the killing of government troops in Fatu Ahi, but he has so far refused to submit himself to the judicial process.



FRETILIN supporters arrive at the rally
Photo provided by the Department of Information and Mobilization of FRETILIN



FRETILIN supporters dressed in the traditional East Timorese dress known as "tais" attend the rally in Same
Photo provided by the Department of Information and Mobilization of FRETILIN



Mari Alkatiri, General Secretary of FRETILIN (pictured in the white shirt), addresses the rally
Photo provided by the Department of Information and Mobilization of FRETILIN