Week 2

Sumatra & West Sumatra
Minangkabau Culture & *Pusaka* Heritage

Fall 2013 Class Notes:
An Introduction to Traditional Indonesian Dance of West Sumatra
Cooperative Arts & Humanities High School
International Silat Federation of Indonesia & America
Director Leonardo J. Stoute *Bapak Waleed*
Sixth largest island in the world: area = 475,000 km² (New England + NY is 325,000 km²; CA is 425,000 km²)

Diverse range of people: Batak, Nias, Acehnese, Mentawi...
Plains on the Coast; Mountains inland

Mount Sinabung in North Sumatra

Recent eruptions: 1912, 2010...
West Sumatra

• One of 34 provinces in Indonesia

• 5 million people (CT has 3.6); 42,000 km$^2$ (3x CT)
West Sumatra

- Capital is Padang (2008 earthquake)
- “Cultural Capital” Bukittinggi
Minangkabau culture

- Minang language close to Malay language
- One of oldest/largest matrilineal societies
- Known for *merantau* = men traveling abroad for work

“Rumah Gadang” = big house
Minangkabau people: “Happy Water Buffalo”
Beef Rendang

“most delicious food in the world”
-CNN International Poll, 2011