

My name is Sudirman Talib, I was born and raised in a rural area in about 1772 km from Jakarta, with my family. In 2001 I travelled to Jakarta with dreams of getting a good job, study at the university and to support my family. My dreams came true when I was employed as a security guard at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta.

On the 9 September 2004, I was working out the front of the Australian Embassy, ensuring only authorised Vehicles entered the Embassy compound.

Around 10.30am, I noticed a small white truck stop in front of the Embassy. At the time I didn't know it contained a very large explosive device. I heard someone yell out and my work mate started to run toward the truck to tell the driver to move away immediately. I was only a few metres from the truck when it exploded.

It was deafening and the shock wave so strong that it bounced my body across the ground several metres. Everything happened in a flash. Somehow, I was still alive and conscious, I was in shock. I knew my left eye had been injured. I laid there on the ground and felt that I will die. I couldn't feel any pain. I started to yell out for someone to help me. Eventually some men brought me to hospital.

I was hospitalised for six months. I had serious injuries to my eye, head, hands and legs. I had injuries all over my body and I had dozens of operations. I continue to suffer from the bombing - I have permanent nerve damage due to the head injuries I received, and I must take medication for the rest of my life. In 2010, I lost my fight to keep my left eye and now wear a prosthetic eye.

Terror attacks continued in Indonesia for a long time, more terrorist groups formed, and bombings and murders continued. Hundreds have died and thousands of lives have been destroyed. More young people were becoming radicalised. I felt I really needed to get involved and I wanted to do something to help terrorism victims and save other people's lives.

Since **2013** myself and my colleagues from the Indonesia Survivors Foundation collaborated with AIDA for peace within Indonesia. We tell people our stories. We campaign in schools to educate young people not to be influenced by radical ideologies. We provide training to journalists, religious leaders, and teachers so they can use their position to help prevent radicalisation.

We work with the Government and the General Director of Prisons. Together with religious leaders, we spend time speaking with convicted terrorists who are in prison, with the sole purpose of deradicalizing them. We have had success, sometimes they become emotional, they apologise and show regret for what they did.

We speak with students and convicted terrorists and together we are making a difference. This is our Counter Terrorism strategy. I will fight terrorism with dialogue, not with violence. If violence is responded to with violence, new violence will come, and injustice cannot be repaid with injustice because it will only cause more problems for all of us.

I want to prevent violence. I want victims of terrorism to find their peace. Our methods can save lives and I will continue my peaceful fight against terrorism for the rest of my life. I don't want there to be more bombing victims like me. I don't want others to suffer like I have.

I hope all the government, civil society, victims of terrorism and all communities can work together to prevent terrorism. I believe that our collaboration is extremely important to counter terrorism acts.

I would like to say thanks to the Indonesian government for supporting to victims of terrorism, thanks to the Australian government for supporting victims of the Australian Embassy Jakarta bombing and thank you to UNOCT for inviting me here to speak to you today.

May our pain and our sacrifice as bomb survivors lead to a more peaceful world.