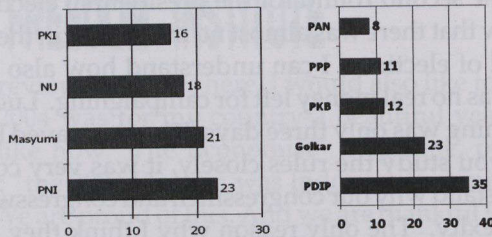
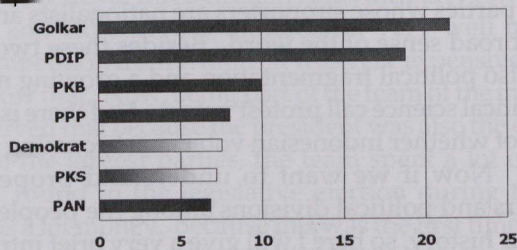


The tale of two elections:
1955 dan 1999 (%)



Before 2004 there have been only two honest, open general elections in the history of the country. This happened in 1955 and again in 1999. So there is almost 50 years separating these two elections but you see the similarity in composition in terms political Islam (green) and the secular or nationalist parties (red). You see the names are different and the leaders are different but after 50 years of political history, after three different types of government – parliamentary, the autocratic government of Soeharto and also the early years of what we have called reformasi - there are divisions among the people that remain basically the same. Even the number of the people voting for these secular parties and Islamic parties were more or less the same. So you can say that at least until 1999, though changes might happen at the level of elite politics, the basic nature of national politics or the national polity remained the same. This was the view before 2004.

Legislative election 2004:
7 major parties



Now you see the outcomes of the legislative election of April 5th, 2004. The green bars represent the Islamic parties and red ones the