

The Yaqay of Indonesia

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There are at least 12,300 speakers of the Yaqay language. They reside within the province of Papua, Indonesia. They live primarily by hunting, gathering & fishing. But the Yaqay people also plant trees and gather sandalwood, gaharu & frankincense in the swampland surroundings. With their land at an elevation of less than 100 meters above sea level, the Yaqay people can best be visited by boat. There is an airstrip in Kepi and a road is being built to Mur. Some motorcycles are available for local travel.

The Yaqay people inter-marry with the nearby Auyu people. Upon death, they are often buried in shallow graves after a church funeral. The clothing people wear is generally modern, but some children wear sago leaves or nothing at all. The people eat sago, fish, bananas, coconut, rice, noodles and canned items. The Yaqay have knives, steel axes, bows & arrows; some also have generators, chain saws and boat motors. Some houses are on stilts off the ground and made from sago trees in a hexagonal or square shape. Some are made of cement construction. In Wanggate, there are at least two generators. Kepi has electricity, but there are no telephones in the language area except in Mur. The leaders are village, religious and school heads. The people get their drinking water generally from the river, but sometimes from rain. A midwife or health worker is assigned to each village, but some don't live there. Malaria, leprosy and TB are common. There are three junior high schools in the language area and one high school. There are already a few books & catechisms in the Yaqay language. There are at least eight Catholic churches in the language area and a Catholic and a Protestant fellowship church in Kotup. Both Indonesian and Yaqay are used at home and at church. The total number of people who claim to be Christian is not known.

Primary Religion:

Unknown

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

Churches:

9

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

None

Population (date):

12,300 (2002)



YAQAY HOMELAND



20 km

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Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Number Of Churches	9	
Comment (Churches)	There are at least 1 Protestant and 8 Catholic churches in the area.	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	12,300	
World Population (Date)	2002	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Indonesia	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest	
Geological Type	Swampy	
Elevation	<100 meters	
Longitude	139E	
Latitude	7S	
Literacy		Group Description
Publications In Vernacular	There are already a few books & catechisms in the YAQAY language.	
Economics		Group Description
Subsistence Type	Fishers	
Subsistence Type	Pastoralists	
Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists	
Occupation	Hunting and fishing	
Income Sources	Occupation	
Modernization / Utilities	Some own generators, chain saws and boat motors	
Community Development		Group Description
Health Care (Quality)	Poor	
Comment (Health Care)	A midwife or health worker is assigned to each village but some don't live there.	
Diet (Quality)	Fair	
Comment (Diet)	The people eat sago, fish, bananas, coconut, rice, noodles and canned items.	
Water (Quality)	Poor	
Comment (Water)	The people get their drinking water generally from the river, but sometimes from rain.	
Shelter Description	Some houses are stilted off the ground and made from sago trees in a hexagonal or square shape Some are made of cement construction.	
Electricity	In Wanggate there are at least 2 generators, Kepi has PLN electricity but no telephones are in the language area except in Mur.	
Clothing	The clothing people wear is generally modern, but some children wear sago leaves or nothing at all.	
Transportation	Boat to reach the villages, but motorcycles are used locally.	
Society & Culture		Group Description
Neighbor Relations	The YAQAY people inter-marry with the nearby Auyu people.	
Authority / Rule	The village, religious or school head person.	
Local Language Broadcasting	None	
Education		Group Description

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Item Name

Secondary Schools

Item Note

4

Comment (Education)

Three of the secondary schools are junior high schools and one is a high school.

Church Growth

Reached Status

Adopted

Reached Classification

Unevangelized

Status of Christianity

Religion & Response

Religious Practices & Ceremonies

Upon death the YAQAY people are often buried in shallow graves after a church funeral.

Attitude To Christianity

Somewhat resistant

Status of Christianity

Scripture

Translation Status

Definite

Available Scripture

None

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings

No

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos

No

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Radio

No

Status of Christianity

Missions and Churches

Organization Name

Roman Catholic Church

Number Of Congregations

8

Organization Name

> UNLISTED Organization #1

UNLISTED Organization Name

Protestant Church

Number Of Congregations

1

Status of Christianity