

The Kanan of Myanmar



Most of the Kanan people live in Banmauk Township. The Kanan live along the Mu River, to the southwest of the Kadu area. A few Kanan also live in Pinlebu Township, but this area is not connected to the Kanan majority area. It is not known how many Kanan live in Pinlebu Township or how long they have lived there. Information gathered indicates that there are 1,730 Kanan households. Assuming an average of four to six people per household, a population estimate for the Kanan would be about 7,000 to 10,000 people.

Kanan language varieties are reported to be similar to one another, with only slight differences in accent or speed. Nanza and Hoyaw varieties are reported to be Kanan prestige dialects.

Kanan people frequently travel to other Kanan villages for business and visiting. There is also much intermarriage between geographically close Kanan villages.

The Kanan and Kadu report that they are similar in many ways, in their language, cultural traditions and everyday life. The traditional skirt for Kanan women is completely black. Other differences include housing and animistic beliefs and practices. However, the Kadu and Kanan also express a sense of separate ethnolinguistic identity.

Primary Religion:

Christianity

Disciples (Matt 28:19):

0%

Churches:

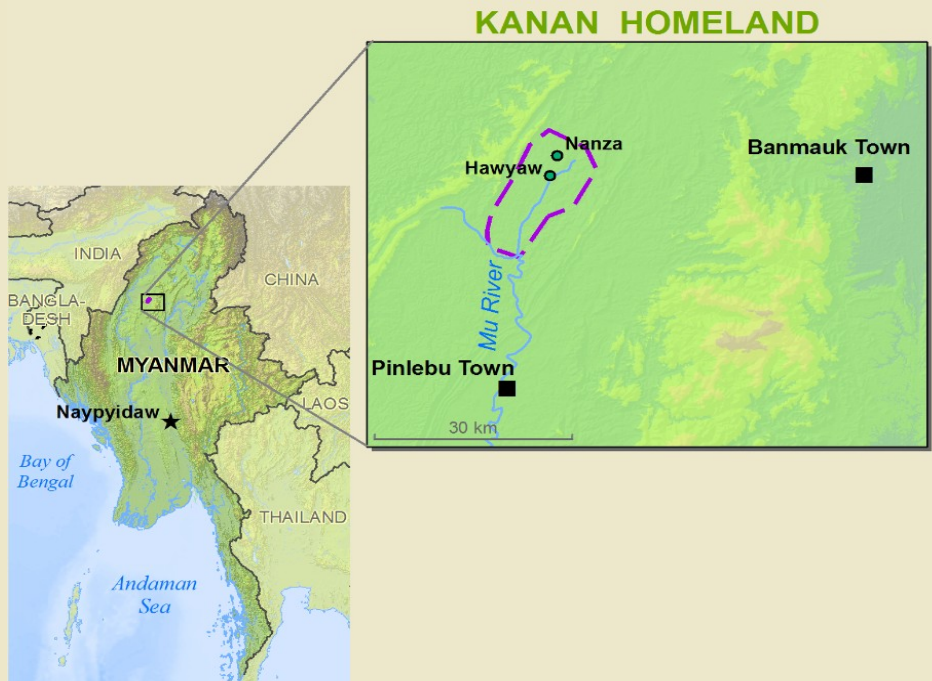
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Scripture Status (Matt 28:20):

No Scripture

Population (date):

9,000 (2007)



The Kanan of Myanmar

Have They Heard The Gospel?

Number of Missionaries	Local evangelists from other people groups within Myanmar
Call Themselves Christian	0%
Believe In Jesus As God And Only Savior	0%
Attitude to Christianity	Very resistant
Attitude to Religious Change	Very resistant
Number of Churches	0
History of Christianity Significant Event	Local evangelists from other ethnic groups within Myanmar have done outreach and evangelistic activities among the Kanan people.
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No, although they could use Burmese [mya] materials, since their Burmese bilingual ability is very high. However, it would be beneficial to produce evangelistic materials (audio-visual, songs, etc.) in the Kanan language.
What Other Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available?	
Recordings	No
Literature	No
Films/videos	No
Radio	No
TV	No
Comment	There are a wide variety of materials available in Burmese that could possibly be used among the Kanan people

The Kanan of Myanmar

Group Description

Economics

Subsistence Type

Agriculturalists

Education

Language of Instruction Early Years

Burmese

Language of Textbooks Early Years

Burmese

Language of Instruction Later Years

Burmese

Language of Textbooks Later Years

Burmese

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Status of Christianity

Religion Population

Religion 1	Buddhism
Adherents	99%

Religion and Response

Resistance/Receptivity	Very resistant
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Scripture

Scripture Use	
Comment	

For written materials, the Kanan people should be able to use Burmese [mya] materials adequately, since their Burmese bilingual ability is very high. However, for evangelistic and outreach purposes, it would be very beneficial to have materials (such as audio-visual materials, songs, etc.) produced in the Kanan language.

Missions and Churches

Organization #1	Local evangelists
Country of origin	Myanmar
Main ministry	Evangelism