



## The Anjam of Papua New Guinea

The 1,500 Anjam people live on the Rai Coast in Madang Province. They take great pride in their language. Tok Pisin is the main language spoken in the country, but Anjam is the most prestigious language in the area. There are two Anjam villages on the coast, and two inland. The languages spoken in these four villages are virtually identical. However, Anjam bears little resemblance to the nearby languages.

The people maintain their own gardens for subsistence, relying on such things as sago during times of drought. Lack of proper technology keeps them from doing much fishing in spite of their proximity to the Bismark Sea. Their houses are made of wood and have tin roofs. The rainy season is a full six-months. They make bilum bags to carry anything from beetle nut to babies. They walk, use public motor vehicles, or a small boat (dinghy).

Syncretism is widespread among the Anjam. Christianity and Animism are often used as a means to an end. Often witch doctors are sought first to heal sicknesses. Prayer by the pastor comes later when magic does not work. This makes doing statistics on the group difficult because three-fourths of the people come to church, but there are probably less than fifty true believers. Before missionaries came in the 1880s, the people were strictly animists who feared spirits and worshiped ancestors. Still much of this goes on both behind the scenes among the churchd and by unbelievers out in the open.

One need is for good biblical teaching to accompany the newly published Scriptures due to the high levels of syncretism. Literacy is also a need because the people still have difficulty reading at a high enough level to comprehend all that is contained in the Scriptures. One possible solution is to record the New Testament on tape. Robert and Diane Rucker, who translated the New Testament, are currently seeking ways to fulfill this goal.

**Primary Religion:**

Animism

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

3%

**Churches:**

10

**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

New Testament in Anjam

**Population (date):**

1,500 (2003)



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Item Name	Item Note	
<b>Have They Heard The Gospel?</b>		<b>Profile Summary</b>
Call Themselves Christian (%)	>50%	
Comment (Call Themselves Christian)	It is reported that 75% would call themselves Christian.	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	3%	
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	75%	
Believe In The Local Traditional Religion (%)	97%	
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	0%	
Comment (Pastors)	The ratio of pastors to population for this people group is reported to be <1%.	
Number Of Missionaries Working	1	
Comment (Number Of Missionaries)	This is reported to be a national missionary.	
Response To The Gospel	After the Lutheran mission started in 1887 there was a rapid growth of Christianity, which lead to the firm establishment of the first churches. Since then Christianity has become ritualistic in nature. Many people combine the animistic rituals of witch doctors with the prayers of local pastors for healing. Some people have been antagonistic toward Christianity, seeing it as the "white man's" religion. Others have been indifferent to Christianity all together. There are few people who know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.	
Number Of Churches	10	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	They have the New Testament in Anjam, and the whole Bible in Tok Pisin. The Psalms are currently in progress in Anjam.	
<b>Population All Countries</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
World Population For This People	1,500	
World Population (Date)	2003	
World Population (Urban Percent)	<1%	
<b>Countries Where People Group Lives</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Country Name	Papua New Guinea	
<b>Geography &amp; Environment</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Location	Rai Coast in Madang Province	
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest	
Geological Type	Coastal	
Elevation	Sea Level	
Longitude	E 146	
Latitude	S 5	
Climate	Low 70s to the high 90s, and the rainy season is from November to May.	
Comments (Geography & Environment)	There are two villages on the coast and two villages inland.	
<b>Language &amp; Linguistics</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Language)	The language Anjam is the preferred language among the Anjam people. Tok Pisin is used mostly in church, where there is little literature in the Anjam language. It is reported plans are in progress for an language program.	
Comments (Dialect)	Minor differences between coastal and inland dialects, but not significant enough to warrant different Scriptures.	
Percent Monolingual (%)	0%	
Comment (Second Language)	Almost all speak Tok Pisin and some speak English.	
Comment (On Other Mother Tongues)	It is reported that 'Graged' became the church language, but no group uses this as a Mother Tongue.	
Comments (Related Languages)	Songum is reported to be a linguistically related language.	
<b>Literacy</b>		<b>Group Description</b>

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Active Literacy Program	Plans are reported to be in progress.	
Publications In Vernacular	New Testament and Bible study helps.	
<b>Economics</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists	
Occupation	Subsistence farming.	
Income Sources	Coconut and vanilla.	
Products / Crafts	Bilum (string bags), baskets, mats, and sago.	
<b>Community Development</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Health Care)	There are Aid posts in villages, and a health centre about 4 miles down the coast.	
Comment (Diet)	This people groups' diet consists of root vegetables, greens, fruits, and a small amount of meat.	
Comment (Water)	Fresh spring water is available. The pump in village is broken.	
Shelter Description	Houses are made from local timber.	
Electricity	None	
Comment (Energy)	Wood and kerosene are used for fuel.	
Clothing	Used clothing is bought in town.	
Transportation	Transportation is by PMV, foot, and a few bicycles.	
Life Expectancy	Early to mid fifties.	
Leading Cause Of Death	Respiratory illness, malaria related, and anemia.	
<b>Society &amp; Culture</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Family Structures	Patrilineal	
Neighbor Relations	This people group participates in community events with other language groups.	
Authority / Rule	Each village has a counsel and committee (which is one man each).	
Social Habits/Groupings	Family groups form clans.	
Cultural Change Pace	Slow	
Comment (Cultural Change Pace)	The cultural change of pace is reported to be slow. However, mining to enter area soon which may change things.	
Celebrations	Weddings, funerals, harvest, and circumcisions.	
Recreations	Soccer, Christmas and Easter singsings, games and speeches for Independence Day.	
Art Forms	Carvings	
Comment (Local Language Broadcasting)	Anjam Hour; reading of Scripture.	
Comment (Attitude To Outsiders)	Ex-patriots are seen as an opportunity to get things.	
Comment (Attitude To Change)	Desire to improve lifestyle/standard of living.	
<b>Youth</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Youth)	There are insufficient funds to get good supplies.	
<b>Education</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Primary Schools)	It is reported primary education is available in Bom, and in Male down the coast. However, the report does not list how many primary schools there are.	
Comment (Language Of Instruction)	English is the language of instruction.	
Comment (Language Of Textbook)	English is the language of textbook usage.	
Comment (Education)	Secondary School education is provided in Madang town after 6th grade.	
<b>Church Growth</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Reached Status	Reached	
Reached Classification	Evangelized	

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Item Name	Item Note	
Bible Schools	0	
Comment (Bible Schools)	None in area.	
Comment (Church Growth)	It is reported that 3% of this people group are Believers. Many claim to be Christian, but animistic practices are still prevalent within society.	
Religion & Response		Status of Christianity
Religious Practices & Ceremonies	Christmas and Easter sing sings.	
Attitude To Christianity	Somewhat receptive	
Comment (Attitude To Christianity)	After the Lutheran mission started in 1887 there was a rapid growth of Christianity, which lead to the firm establishment of the first churches. Since then Christianity has become ritualistic in nature. Many people combine the animistic rituals of witch doctors with the prayers of local pastors for healing. Some people have been antagonistic toward Christianity, seeing it as the "white man's" religion. Others have been indifferent to Christianity all together. There are few people who know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.	
Attitude To Religious Change	Somewhat resistant	
Comment (Attitude Religious Change)	Some are antagonistic toward Christianity because they see it as the "white man's" religion.	
Resistance / Receptivity	There are those who are indifferent to Christianity altogether.	
Religious Analogies & Bridges	"Heart of Man" stories.	
Spiritual Climate And Openness	Indifferent	
Comment (Religion)	Many people accept Christianity but are syncretistic. It is reported there is one national missionary, but no expatriate missionaries.	
Items For Prayer	Pray for more effective preaching, more evangelists, break from syncretism, and strong literacy programs and Scripture use implementation..	
History Of Christianity In Group		Status of Christianity
Year Began	1887	
By Whom	Lutheran	
Scripture		Status of Christianity
Available Scripture	New Testament	
Form Of Scripture Available	Printed	
Comment (Form of Scripture Available)	They have the New Testament in Anjam, and the whole Bible in Tok Pisin. The Psalms are currently in progress in Anjam.	
Scripture Use	Individuals & some churches	
Comment (Scripture Use)	50% of the population can read Tok Pisin, but few can read Anjam. This is a hindrance to distribution and understanding Scripture. Literature in the mother tongue is limited, and men are more literate than women.	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature	Yes	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings	Yes	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos	Yes	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Radio	Yes	
Missions and Churches		Status of Christianity
Organization Name	Evangelical Brotherhood Church (PNG)	
Main Ministry	Evangelism	
Comment (Main Ministry)	Discipleship is also reported to be a main ministry.	
Year Started	1990's	
Number Of Adherents	50	
Number Of Congregations	2	
Language Used By Workers	Tok Pisin	

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Item Name	Item Note
Organization Name	Lutheran
Main Ministry	Evangelism
Comment (Main Ministry)	Discipleship is another main ministry.
Year Started	1887
Number Of Adherents	250
Number Of Congregations	7
Number Of Local Workers	20
Number Of Workers Using Local Language	10

### Christian Literature And Media Status

### Status of Christianity

Literature Available	Bible study helps in Anjam and Tok Pisin.
Audio Recordings Available	In progress with New Testament.
Films Available	Jesus film
Radio Programs Available	'Anjam Hour' Scripture reading, Tok Pisin more frequently.