

The Dondo of Indonesia



The Dondo people live in the districts of Baolan Dondo, Galang, and North Dampal, in the regency of Toli-Toli in the Province of Central Sulawesi. They tend to live in groups spread throughout these areas. Generally speaking, they prefer to dwell on riverbanks in the jungle. These groups usually take their name according to the name of the rivers where they live, such as the Salungan, Ogomolobu, Oyom and Kambuno.

The Dondo speak Dondo language. According to the Dondo, this language is different from the Toli-Toli language. This occurred because the Dondo are separated from the Tomini area. The people of Oyom village are the most traditional and isolated Dondo subgroup.

The principle livelihood of the Dondo people is farming and fishing. They practice migratory agriculture (shifting from one field to another), mainly because they cannot maintain the soil's fertility. New farmland is opened by cutting down trees and burning the underbrush. They tend to plant rice in unirrigated fields and have several secondary crops such as bananas, coconut, chocolate and coffee. The jungle is noted for its harvest of rattan, lumber and resin. They also hunt kijang (small deer), pigs and wild chickens. They hunt with spears, traps, bow and arrow and are helped by hunting dogs.

The Dondo people have generally embraced Islam. Some still hold to animism, especially those who still live in the highlands. Historically, the Dondo kept the body of a deceased person inside a sago palm trunk that had been scraped out. The burial took place in the yard of the family residence and the family members bid farewell to the spirit of the deceased by sleeping around the grave for several days.

Agricultural training and help in the utilization of appropriate technology would help the Dondo people increase their harvests. Apart from this, they also need significant help in improving the system of formal education in their area. used by permission © 2001 PJRN Indonesia

Primary Religion:

Islam

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

0%

Churches:

0

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

Population (date):



DONDO



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Item Name

Item Note

Have They Heard The Gospel?

Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	0%
Number Of Churches	0

Profile Summary

Countries Where People Group Lives

Country Name	Indonesia
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Group Description

Community Development

Shelter Description

The traditional house of the Dondo people is built on a raised platform and made from wood, bamboo and rattan. Houses are raised off the ground as high as 2 meters. The houses are rectangular, usually about 5 by 7 meters. Usually they have only one door and a ladder at the front of the house. Roofing is made from the leaf of the sago palm.

Group Description

Society & Culture

Family Structures

At sixteen years of age, a Dondo person is considered an adult. This is symbolized by having their teeth filed in a community ceremony. After marriage, the newlyweds may choose to live with either the husband's or the wife's family. According to Dondo custom, a man may have more than one wife. Divorce is permitted if the couple is no longer compatible. However, the divorce has to be witnessed by a traditional leader (Kapitalau).

Group Description

Authority / Rule

In earlier times, Dondo was a sultanate. The sultan, along with his aides were chosen through the ancestral line. During those times there were four classes among the people: royalty, nobility, commoners and slaves.