



## The Uyajitaya of Papua New Guinea

The Uyajitaya people live in Madang Province of Papua New Guinea. Most Uyaji villages are located just inland of Astrolabe Bay near where the Rai Coast and Madang-Lae highways meet. Speakers of Amowe, a dialect of Uyajitaya, live along the Ioworo River.

The Uyajitaya people cultivate gardens, consuming much of the produce themselves and selling any excess at markets. Their primary crops are sweet potato, taro, bananas, pineapple and peanuts. Cash crops include cacao and vanilla.

The Lutherans first came to work in the area in the 1930s. Three of the four local mission stations were abandoned around the time of the Second World War, but the Lutheran churches remained active. In the mid-late 1990s some disputes arose, resulting in one church being disbanded and another burned. These disputes have yet to be resolved and there are currently no Lutheran church services held in any Uyajitaya villages.

The Lutheran Renewal Church, Four Square, and Revival Centres of PNG are active in Uya village. There is also a small Four Square Church in Buai, but no churches exist in any of the other Uyajitaya villages. There has been talk of re-establishing Lutheran churches in some of the villages, but residents are resistant to church planting by other denominations.

**Primary Religion:**

Christian

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

10 - 15%

**Churches:**

4

**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

None

**Population (date):**

1,044 (2003)



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Item Name	Item Note	
<b>Have They Heard The Gospel?</b>		<b>Profile Summary</b>
Call Themselves Christian (%)	35-40%	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	10 - 15%	
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	Many Uyajitaya would call themselves Christians, but don't reflect a lifestyle suggesting they believe Jesus is their only Savior. Traditional religions and magic are commonly practiced in addition to Christianity.	
Believe In The Local Traditional Religion (%)	80-90%	
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	None	
Number Of Pastors	7	
Number Of Missionaries Working	None	
Response To The Gospel	Some are very receptive and others are resistant to Christianity. Their attitude to religious change is somewhat indifferent. Over the last decade, many people in the area have become resistant toward the gospel and the church. However, there are still many believers in the Uyajitaya area.	
Number Of Communities	4	
Comment (Number Communities)	4-22 (There are 4 larger villages that the other 18 belong to. One could say there are 4 villages with surrounding smaller villages or one could say there are 22 villages.)	
Number Of Churches	4	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	There is no Scripture translation for this people group.	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	Education levels are low in the Uyajitaya area. Schools are several kilometers away, and most children are not attending. Most adults are illiterate.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	Outside assistance would be required for a Bible translation and literacy program to be successful.	
<b>Population All Countries</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
World Population For This People	1,044	
World Population (Date)	2003	
<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	Most Uyaji villages are located between 6 and 15 km inland (west) of Astrolabe Bay near where the Rai Coast and Madang-Lae highways meet. Speakers of Amowe, a dialect of Uyajitaya, live just south of the Uyajitaya area, along the Ioworo River.	
Country	Papua New Guinea	
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest	
Geological Type	Interfluvial	
Elevation	0-100 Altitude	
Longitude	E145 38.947 Didiwala Village	
Latitude	S5 23.833 Didiwala Village	
Climate	Warm and humid. Rainy season November-March. In the Amowe dialect area, rivers flood frequently during rainy season, making travel difficult to impossible.	
<b>Language &amp; Linguistics</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Primary Language	Duduela	
Comment (Language)	Primary language name should be listed as 'UYAJITAYA' instead of 'DUDUELA', as formerly listed.	
Comment (Alternate Names)	In the report for this people group, 'DUDUELA' is listed as an alternate name.	
Comments (Dialect)	'AMOWE' is reported to be the dialect for this people group but is not listed in the Ethnologue.	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Very receptive	
Percent Monolingual (%)	10-20% Some of the older people may be monolingual in Uyajitaya. Some of the younger people may be monolingual in Tok Pisin.	

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Item Name	Item Note
Second Languages	Tok Pisin
Second Languages	Marik
Comment (Second Language)	Most everyone, with the exception of a few older people, are fluent in Tok Pisin. Didiwala village also reported that most people in that village are bilingual in Marik, a neighboring language.
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	TOK PISIN
Comment (On Other Mother Tongues)	It is reported some of the young children are learning Tok Pisin as their first language.
Linguistically Related Languages	RERAU
Linguistically Related Languages	OGEA
Comments (Related Languages)	Other linguistic related languages are reported to be: AMONG and WAUBE which did not show up on the 'Select List'.
Neighboring Languages	OGEA
Neighboring Languages	ANJAM
Neighboring Languages	GIRAWA
Neighboring Languages	Marik
Comments (Neighbor Languages)	'WAUBE' is also reported as being a 'Neighbor Language'.
Language Stability	Pre-school aged children primarily speak Tok Pisin. Uyajitaya is the primary language of adults and is spoken frequently by school aged children and teenagers.
Corrections To Ethnologue Entry	Language name should be listed as UYAJITAYA (formerly listed as Duduela) with one dialect, AMOWE. Population should be increased to 1044. In addition, 'AMONG' and 'WAUBE' should be noted as 'Linguistically Related' languages. Also, 'WAUBE' should be listed as a 'Neighbor Language' according to report dated 2004

### Literacy

### Group Description

Adult Literacy Percentage	Approximately 40% (Census 2000)
Comment (Attitude to literacy)	Uyajitaya residents reported that schools are too far away and that most children did not attend. There were no adult literacy programs.
Percent Literate For Men	46%
Percent Literate For Women	34%
Literacy Attitude	Somewhat resistant
Active Literacy Program	No
Publications In Vernacular	None

### Economics

### Group Description

Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists
Comment (Subsistence Type)	It is reported that this people groups' subsistence type is: 'swidden agriculturalists'.
Average Annual Income	It is reported to be 'self-sustaining'.
Occupation	Cultivate vegetable gardens.
Income Sources	cacao, vanilla, garden produce
Products / Crafts	woven string bags
Trade Partners	None
Modernization / Utilities	A few houses in each village had tin roofs; some people owned various tools and lamps. There was no electricity or running water.

### Community Development

### Group Description

Health Care (Quality)	Fair
Comment (Health Care)	There is a health centre in Tire and an aid post in Erima. Villages in the Amowe dialect area are a few hours or less walk from Tire, and Uya village is under an hour walk from Erima. Other Uyajitaya villages along the Lae-Madang highway reported going to the town hospital, which is approximately 30km away and requires taking public transportation. Some Uyajitaya speakers reported practicing traditional medicine.
Diet (Quality)	Fair

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Item Name	Item Note
Comment (Diet)	The Uyajitaya diet consists mainly of sweet potato, taro, bananas, yams, pineapple, papaya and peanuts. Meat is a treat, served at special events.
Water (Quality)	Good
Comment (Water)	Various rivers and streams in the area serve as good spots for bathing and washing, and there are many springs used for drinking water. World Vision has piped water into a few villages, allowing residents to collect clean drinking water from a faucet in the centre of the village.
Shelter Description	Homes are made primarily of traditional materials. Houses are raised off the ground on stilts. Extended families often occupy one house. Young men may build their own houses where they live with siblings or friends.
Electricity	None
Energy/Fuel (Quality)	None
Clothing	Second-hand western style clothing
Transportation	Most travel is done on foot by bush trails. Public transportation is available at the highway, which is easily accessible for most Uyaji villages. However, Public Motor Vehicles (PMV's) are often full once they reach this part of the highway and people may wait for hours in vain.
Leading Cause Of Death	It is reported that malaria is the leading cause of death.
<b>Society &amp; Culture</b>	
	<b>Group Description</b>
Family Structures	Extended family; patrilineal
Neighbor Relations	Amiable
Authority / Rule	Clan leaders
Social Habits/Groupings	Clans/Family
Cultural Change Pace	Slow
Identification With National Culture	Similar
Comment (Identification with National Culture)	Similar, but they do have a sense of uniqueness and value their history, language and culture.
Self Image	Neutral
Judicial / Punishment System	Disputes in the village are decided in a village court, led by clan leaders. Larger issues or disputes between language groups can be brought before the national judicial system.
Celebrations	Weddings, Christian holidays, and national holidays
Recreations	Chew betel nut, cooking, and hunting
Art Forms	Woven string bags
Media	None
Local Language Broadcasting	None
Attitude To Outsiders	Somewhat receptive
Comment (Attitude To Outsiders)	Receptive but guarded and cautious.
Attitude To Change	Somewhat receptive
<b>Youth</b>	
	<b>Group Description</b>
Labor and tasks (6-12 year olds)	Young girls help with caring for younger siblings, cooking, working in the garden. Young boys are allowed more free time.
<b>Education</b>	
	<b>Group Description</b>
Primary Schools	3
Primary School Enrollment	131
Comment (Primary School Enrollment)	Some villages reported that none of the children there were attending school. In villages closer to schools, many of the children were attending, but drop-outs and truancy were common. Overall estimate: 20-30%.
Secondary Schools	None
Secondary School Enrollment	5

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Item Name	Item Note	
Percent Of Eligible Students Enrolled	Probably around 10% or less. Very few have gone to secondary school. Most have gone to a few years of primary and come back to the village.	
Comment (Education)	Grades 7 and 8 are offered at Erima School (Ogea language area). There are no high schools in the Uyajitaya area.	
<b>Church Growth</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Reached Status	Engaged	
Reached Classification	Evangelized	
Total Baptized	198	
Lay Leaders	2	
Bible Schools	None	
Christian Clinics/Hospitals	None	
Christian Literacy Centers	None	
<b>Religion &amp; Response</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Attitude To Christianity	Very receptive	
Comment (Attitude To Christianity)	Some are very receptive and others are resistant.	
Attitude To Religious Change	Indifferent	
Resistance / Receptivity	Over the last decade, many people in the area have become resistant toward the gospel and the church. However, there are still many believers in the Uyajitaya area.	
Recommended Approaches	Work with existing churches. There are disputes between the various denominations in Uya village and although the Lutheran church was burned in Didiwala village, the people there and in neighboring villages are resistant to any denomination besides Lutheran. The church situation in the Uyajitaya language area is quite complex and will require great patience and sensitivity. But the people are interested in hosting a language team and report that they could work together on a translation.	
<b>History Of Christianity In Group</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Year Began	1930's	
By Whom	Lutheran	
Significant Events	Church burning in Didiwala Village in 1997.	
Comments (History of Christianity)	<p>The Lutherans first came to work in the area in the 1930s. Three of the four local missions stations were abandoned around the time of the Second World War, but the Lutheran churches remained active. In the mid-late 1990s some disputes arose, resulting in one church being disbanded and another burned. These disputes have yet to be resolved and there are currently no Lutheran church services held in any of the Uyajitaya villages.</p> <p>The Lutheran Renewal Church, Four Square, and Revival Centres of PNG planted churches in Uya village throughout the 1990s. There is also a small Four Square Church in Buai, but no churches in any of the other Uyajitaya villages. There has been talk of re-establishing Lutheran churches in some of the villages, but residents are resistant to church planting by other denominations.</p>	
<b>Scripture</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Translation Status	Definite	
Available Scripture	None	
Comment (Scripture Use)	There is a hindrance to Scripture use. Education levels are low in the Uyajitaya area. Most adults are illiterate.	
Uncertain Need Explained	Pre-school age children primarily speak Tok Pisin. Uyajitaya is the primary language of adults, and is spoken frequently by school aged children and teenagers. Possibility of language shift. Language vitality should be further investigated before a language program is started.	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature	No	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings	No	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos	No	
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Radio	No	

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Item Name	Item Note	Status of Christianity
<b>Missions and Churches</b>		
Organization Name	Papua New Guinea Revival Church	
Comment (Organization)	The name of this organization is reported to be 'Revival Centres of PNG'.	
Main Ministry	Church Planting	
Year Started	2000	
Number Of Adherents	22	
Number Of Congregations	One in Uya.	
Number Of Expatriate Workers	None	
Number Of National Workers	None	
Number Of Local Workers	3	
Number Of Workers Using Local Language	The pastor reported using the vernacular and Tok Pisin in the community. He reported using a mixture of the vernacular and Tok Pisin during services.	
Organization Name	Lutheran	
Comment (Organization)	The organization name is reported to be 'Lutheran Renewal Church'.	
Main Ministry	Church Planting	
Year Started	1993	
Number Of Adherents	50	
Number Of Congregations	One in Uya.	
Number Of Expatriate Workers	None	
Number Of National Workers	None	
Number Of Local Workers	3	
Number Of Workers Using Local Language	The pastor reported using the vernacular and Tok Pisin in the community. He reported using a mixture of the vernacular and Tok Pisin during services.	
Organization Name	Four Square Church	
Main Ministry	Church Planting	
Year Started	1987	
Number Of Adherents	110	
Number Of Congregations	2	
Comment (Number Of Congregations)	One in Uya and one in Bual	
Number Of Expatriate Workers	None	
Number Of National Workers	None	
Number Of Local Workers	4	
Number Of Workers Using Local Language	The pastor reported using the vernacular and Tok Pisin in the community. He reported using a mixture of the vernacular and Tok Pisin during services.	