

The Kaure of Indonesia

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There are at least 450 speakers of the Kaure language. The Kaure people are farmers, hunters, and gatherers living in the province of Papua Indonesia. Their homeland is composed of forested hills and swamps between 200 to 850 meters above sea level. The area is best accessed by bus or other vehicle using the road from Jayapura.

Most Kaure wear modern clothing and eat sago, fruits and vegetables, as well as pig, bird, and deer. Women are tasked with preparing sago, getting water and firewood, washing, and caring for their young. Malaria, lung infections, and skin diseases are common in the area.

The government-housing center near the main airstrip was closed in 1973 because of rebel activity. The government supplied aluminum for housing, but some of the people still prefer homes of sago roofs and palm-stem walls.

The people identify themselves by clan. The leaders are often the oldest clan member or village head. Traditionally the women dance (akelik wakela) around men who are also dancing (opi wakela) and holding bows & arrows. Marriage customs dictate that children must marry outside both parents' clan by paying a bride price. A church service funeral is often followed by a meal served in front of one of the village homes. Many Kaure people believe the spirit of a dead person lingers around the village. The Kaure people are known to make decorative drawings on their arrows.

Some Kaure have modern equipment such as a TV, radio, or tape recorder. But the Kaure people have no gospel cassettes, films, or videos in their language.

An overwhelming majority of the Christians belong to the Evangelical Christian Church in Irian Jaya, but there are also some adherents of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Both Indonesian and Kaure are used at church. Seventy-five percent of the people claim to be Christian while the remaining twenty-five percent follow the tribal religion.

Primary Religion:

Christian

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

75%

Churches:

2

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

No Scripture

Population (date):

450 (2002)

KAURE HOMELAND



The Kaure of Indonesia

Item Name

Item Note

Have They Heard The Gospel?

Call Themselves Christian (%)	75%
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	75%
Believe In The Local Traditional Religion (%)	25%
Number Of Churches	2
Comment (Churches)	At least two.
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No

Profile Summary

Population All Countries

World Population For This People	450
World Population (Date)	2002

Group Description

Countries Where People Group Lives

Country Name	Indonesia
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Group Description

Geography & Environment

Location	They live in a swampy, hilly area of Papua, Indonesia.
Country	Indonesia
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest
Geological Type	Swampy
Geological Type	Hilly
Elevation	200-850m
Longitude	140E
Latitude	3S
Comments (Geography & Environment)	Can best be accessed by bus or other vehicle. There is a road into Kaure territory from Jayapura.

Group Description

Language & Linguistics

Primary Language	Kaure
Comment (Language)	They prefer to be called Kaure.
Comment (Language)	Kaure is also considered a trade language.
Alternate Language Names	KAUREH
Second Languages	Indonesian
Comment (Second Language)	Both Kaure and Indonesian are used at church.

Group Description

Economics

Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists
Subsistence Type	Hunter-gatherers
Modernization / Utilities	Some have modern equipment such as a TV, radio, or tape recorder.
Comment (Economy)	Primary tasks for women are preparing sago, getting water and firewood, washing, and caring for their young.

Group Description

Community Development

Health Care (Quality)	Poor
Comment (Health Care)	Malaria, lung infections, and skin diseases are common in the area.
Diet (Quality)	Good
Comment (Diet)	They eat sago, fruits and vegetables, as well as pig, bird, and deer.
Shelter Description	The government supplied aluminum for housing, but some of the people prefer homes of sago roofs and palm-stem walls.
Clothing	Most Kaure people wear modern clothing.

Group Description

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Item Name

Comment (Community Development)

Item Note

The government housing center near the main airstrip was closed in 1973 because of rebel activity.

Society & Culture

Group Description

Family Structures

Marriage customs dictate that children must marry outside both parents' clans by paying a bride price.

Authority / Rule

The leaders are often the oldest clan member or village head.

Social Habits/Groupings

The people identify themselves by clan.

Celebrations

A church service funeral is often followed by a meal served in front of one of the village homes. Many Kaure people believe the spirit of a dead person lingers around the village.

Recreations

Traditionally the women dance (akelik wakela) around men who are also dancing (opi wakela) and holding bows and arrows.

Art Forms

Arrows may be highly decorated.

Local Language Broadcasting

None

Education

Group Description

Secondary Schools

1

Comment (Education)

There is one junior high school in the language area and no high schools. There are already a few books in the Kaure language.

Church Growth

Status of Christianity

Reached Status

Adopted

Reached Classification

Unevangelized

Religion & Response

Status of Christianity

Attitude To Christianity

Somewhat receptive

Scripture

Status of Christianity

Translation Status

Possible

Available Scripture

None

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature

No

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings

No

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos

No

Missions and Churches

Status of Christianity

Organization Name

> UNLISTED Organization #1

UNLISTED Organization Name

Evangelical Christian Church

Number Of Congregations

1

Comment (Number Of Congregations)

At least one

Organization Name

Seventh Day Adventists

Number Of Congregations

1

Comment (Number Of Congregations)

At least one