

The Jair Awyu of Indonesia

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The 2,300 Jair Awyu speakers live in Papua Indonesia. The largest town in the area (Getentiri) is located at the edge of the Digul River and can be reached by motorized or paddled canoe. The Jair Awyu area is often swampy (it is less than 100 meters above sea level). Boat service from Merauke takes about 5 days, but floatplanes can easily land on the Digul River.

The women plant gardens (of vegetables and tubers) and gather food from their surroundings. The men hunt and fish. The main food of the Jair Awyu people is sago. Sago worms, pig meat or hunted game serve to supplement their diet. The Jair Awyu people frequently use machetes, steel axes, bows and arrows. They also make (from wood) and use a tool for getting the sago from the felled sago trees.

Indonesian is the language of instruction in the schools, but at break times the elementary students use both Jair Awyu and Indonesian. A majority of the Jair Awyu people are Catholic as the Roman Catholic church has served in the area for more than 45 years.

Primary Religion:

Christian

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

Churches:

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

No Scripture

Population (date):

2,300 (2002)



JAIR AWYU HOMELAND



The Jair Awyu of Indonesia

Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Call Themselves Christian (%)	>50%	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	The Word of God is not translated.	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	2,300	
World Population (Date)	2002	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Indonesia	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Location	Papua Indonesia	
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest	
Geological Type	Swampy	
Elevation	<100 meters	
Longitude	140 degrees east	
Latitude	7 degrees south	
Language & Linguistics		Group Description
Primary Language	Awyu, Jair	
Active Language Programs	No	
Economics		Group Description
Subsistence Type	Hunter-gatherers	
Occupation	Logging	
Community Development		Group Description
Diet (Quality)	Poor	
Shelter Description	Stilted houses with triangle shaped roofs are the norm. Those that can afford and get zinc, use it for roofing. Floors are made from palm stock or wooden planks. Walls are made from either wood slates or sago palm branches.	
Electricity	Towns provide electricity at night. Some people have generators powered by diesel engines.	
Transportation	Boat or floatplane.	
Education		Group Description
Language Of Instruction Early Years	Indonesian	
Language Of Textbooks Early Years	Indonesian	
Language Of Instruction Later Years	Indonesian	
Language Of Textbooks Later Years	Indonesian	
Church Growth		Status of Christianity
Reached Status	Adopted	
Reached Classification	Unevangelized	
History Of Christianity In Group		Status of Christianity
Year Began	1957	
By Whom	Roman Catholic Church	
Scripture		Status of Christianity
Translation Status	Possible	

The Jair Awyu of Indonesia

Item Name

Available Scripture

Item Note

None

Missions and Churches

Status of Christianity

Organization Name

Roman Catholic Church

Year Started

1957

Number Of Adherents

>1,150