

The Buol of Indonesia



The Buol people live in the districts of Biau, Momunu, Bunobugu and Paleleh, in the regency of Toli-Toli Regency, in the northern part of Central Sulawesi Province. Formerly mountain dwellers, the Buol now live in scattered villages on the central part of the northern peninsula of the island, to the northwest of the Gorontalo people.

Sometimes, the Buol are treated as a subgroup of the Gorontalo due to cultural and linguistic similarities. They speak the Buol language, which is very close to the language of their Toli-Toli neighbors.

Even though the various Buol villages are limited in their contact, they still maintain a sense of unity as a people group. They are united by language and cultural practices. Most Buol people make a living through irrigated and unirrigated rice farming. Along the coastal regions the Buol are fishermen. There are also those who work as traders.

In former times the Buol people lived under the authority of Buol Kingdom. As a result, there were several classes in the society. The former class structure now appears to have changed as a result of the influence of Islam and the advancement of education. Advances in the economy have also influenced the lifestyle of the Buol people. At the present time, status is based upon one's position as a government or religious leader, as well as educational achievement. Even so, cultural leaders and those considered elders continue to be honored.

Most of the Buol people have embraced the Islamic religion and this greatly influences their lives. Despite this, traditional animistic beliefs are still strong in daily life. They still believe in the power of unseen spirits that inhabit sacred places.

Forestry and fishing have the greatest potential for greater economic development of the Buol region. The tourism sector also has potential to develop as the coastal areas of the Buol District contain many exotic locales.
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Primary Religion:

Islam

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

0.007%

Churches:

0

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

Population (date):



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Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	0.007%	
Number Of Churches	0	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Indonesia	
Economics		Group Description
Occupation	Most Buol people make a living through irrigated and unirrigated rice farming. They also plant coconut groves and cloves, which are export commodities. The tropical rain forest in the area also supports them with harvests of rattan, resin, cinnamon, and brown sugar. Along the coastal regions the Buol are fishermen. In addition to these occupations, there are also those who work as traders.	
Community Development		Group Description
Transportation	There is not a good road system in this area, so most contact between the Buol people is by sea as the area is bordered by the Sulawesi Sea.	
Society & Culture		Group Description
History Of People Group	<p>The history of the region is one of the rise and fall of small kingdoms and their occasional confederation into larger entities for defense and conquest. It seems likely that the region was inhabited originally by people of Toraja stock, with a gradual shaping of a Buol ethnic identity through linguistic diversion and the institutions of territorial rulers.</p> <p>In former times the Buol people lived under the authority of Buol Kingdom. As a result, there were several classes in the society. There was the class made up of the king's family (tan poyoduiya); the nobility that had close ties with the king (tan wayu); the class that had distant ties with royalty (tan wanon); the common class (taupat); and the slave class made up of people who had broken traditional laws or were captives as a result of war. In earlier times, every class was distinct and could even be recognized in their everyday dress.</p>	