



The Waube of Papua New Guinea

The Waube people live in Madang Province of Papua New Guinea. Most Waube speakers live in mountain villages off the coast of Astrolabe Bay. Some Waube settlements have been established along the Madang-Lae Highway. The Waube 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. Before the Second World War, the Lutheran Church established a mission station at Keku, which is on the border between the Waube and Amowe language areas. The Lutherans translated a liturgy book into the Waube language, but there are no longer any copies available. Around the time of the Second World War, the Lutheran station was closed. The denomination no longer has a presence in the area. Currently, Evangelical Brethren Church (EBC) is the most active church in the area, with churches in 8 of the 9 Waube villages. There are also three Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) churches, two South Seas Evangelical (SSEC) Churches and one New Apostolic church.

Primary Religion:

Christian

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

10 - 20%

Churches:

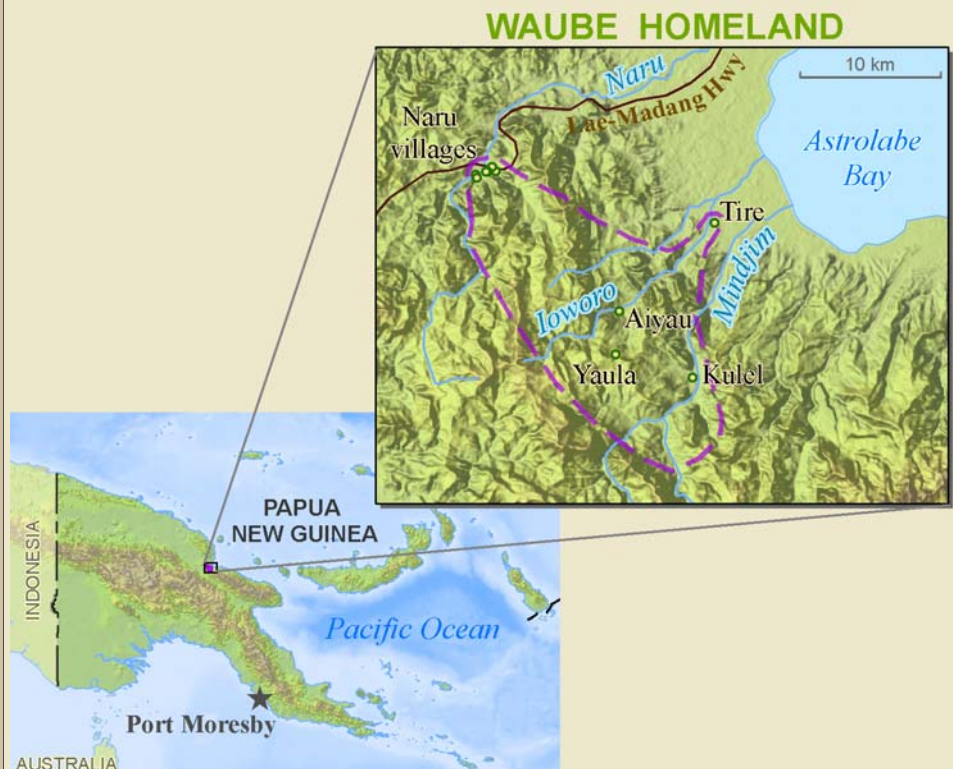
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Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

None

Population (date):

1,645 (2003)



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Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Call Themselves Christian (%)	>50%	
Comment (Call Themselves Christian)	In this people group, it is reported that 80-90% would call themselves Christian.	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	10 - 20%	
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	Most Waube speakers identify themselves as Christians, but many do not reflect a lifestyle suggesting they believe Jesus is their only Savior. Traditional religion and magic are commonly practiced in addition to Christianity.	
Believe In The Local Traditional Religion (%)	80-90%	
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	0%	
Number Of Pastors	It is reported that there are 2 trained pastors for this people group.	
Number Of Missionaries Working	0	
Response To The Gospel	The Waube church is stronger in some villages than in others. There are many believers actively involved in church events, evangelism and teaching. However, most Waube are nominal Christians, as reported by local pastors. In almost every village, pastors reported that there were people involved in traditional religion and sorcery. Syncretism is common.	
Number Of Communities	There are 9 Waube villages.	
Number Of Churches	11	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	Education levels are low in the Waube area. There is now a local school and most children are learning to read. However, most adults are illiterate.	
Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary)	There are no forms of Gospel presentations available in the MT for this people group.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	Outside assistance would be required if a Bible translation program were to be successful.	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	1,645	
World Population (Date)	2003	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Papua New Guinea	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Location	Located 10-15km southwest of Astrolabe Bay in Madang Province, Papua New Guinea. Most Waube villages are located between the Mindjim and Ioworo Rivers.	
Country	Papua New Guinea	
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest	
Geological Type	Mountain, Slope	
Elevation	0-650 meters	
Longitude	Kwato Village: E145 38.603	
Latitude	Kwato Village: S5 33.003	
Climate	Warm and humid. Rainy season is November-March. Note that rivers flood frequently during rainy season, making travel difficult to impossible.	
Language & Linguistics		Group Description
Comment (Language)	Language name should be listed as WAUBE instead of KWATO.	
Alternate Language Names	WAUPE	
Comment (Alternate Names)	'Kwato' is reported to be an alternate name for this people group.	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Very receptive	
Percent Monolingual (%)	10-20%. Some of the older people may be monolingual in Waube. Some of the younger people may be monolingual in Tok Pisin.	
Second Languages	Tok Pisin	

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Item Name	Item Note
Comment (Second Language)	Most everyone, with the exception of some of the older generation, are fluent in Tok Pisin.
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	TOK PISIN
Comment (On Other Mother Tongues)	Some of the young children are learning Tok Pisin as their first language.
Linguistically Related Languages	RERAU
Linguistically Related Languages	OGEA
Comments (Related Languages)	It is reported that 'Among', 'Amowe', and 'Uyajitaya' are also related languages.
Neighboring Languages	RERAU
Comments (Neighbor Languages)	'Kou', 'Kobuga', 'Amowe', 'Uyajitaya', 'Among', and 'Anjam' are also reported to be neighboring languages. 'Anjam' is found in Ethnologue 14th Edition, but is not on the drop down 'Select List' in PPS. 'Kou', 'Kobuga', 'Amowe', 'Among' and 'Uyajitaya' are not shown in Ethnologue 14th Edition nor on the drop down 'Select List' in PPS. However, 'UYA' (Eth. code USU) appears in both areas. Would this be a shortened version of 'Uyajitaya'?
Language Stability	Pre-school age children primarily speak Tok Pisin. Waube 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 WAUBE. Population should be increased to 1,645.
Literacy	Group Description
Adult Literacy Percentage	40% (Approximate) as reported in the 2000 Census.
Comment (Attitude to literacy)	The Waube value education and literacy. They encourage their children to go to school, but reported that many children lose interest and drop out.
Literacy Attitude	Very receptive
Active Literacy Program	No
Comment (Active Literacy Program)	At the time of the survey, there were no active literacy programs in the Waube area. However, there were some literacy programs offered through EBC churches in 2002. These courses were designed for adults learning to read in Tok Pisin, the trade language. Local church leaders hoped to resume the courses in the near future.
Publications In Vernacular	None
Economics	Group Description
Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists
Comment (Subsistence Type)	It is reported that this people group are 'Swidden Agriculturalists'.
Average Annual Income	Self-sustaining
Occupation	Cultivate vegetable gardens.
Income Sources	Cacao, vanilla, garden produce
Products / Crafts	woven string bags
Trade Partners	Anjam (neighboring language group)
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.
Comment (Economy)	The annual income for all of PNG is reported to be \$930 (USD).
Community Development	Group Description
Health Care (Quality)	Fair
Comment (Health Care)	There are 2 clinics in the Waube area, as well as a health centre at Tire, several hours walk from most Waube villages. There is a hospital in Madang town, approximately 40 km from the Waube area. There are also some Waube speakers who practice traditional medicine.
Diet (Quality)	Fair
Comment (Diet)	The Waube 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)	The Ioworo and Mindjim Rivers are used for washing, and there are many small springs used for drinking. 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.

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Item Name	Item Note
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	During the Second World War the Japanese built a road from the highway to Yaula. However, at the time of the survey, the road was overgrown and most bridges have been washed away. Most travel is done on foot by bush trails. There is public transportation available for those who walk to the highway. Some Waube villages are within an hour's walk of the highway while others are several hours' walk.
Infant Mortality Rate	55 deaths for every 1,000 births (for all of PNG)
Life Expectancy	Male: 62 ; Female: 66 (for all of PNG)
Leading Cause Of Death	Malaria

Society & Culture

Group Description

Family Structures	Extended family; patrilineal
Neighbor Relations	Amiable
Authority / Rule	Clan leaders
Social Habits/Groupings	Clans and 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; national holidays
Recreations	Chew betel nuts; cooking; hunting
Art Forms	Woven string bags
Media	None
Local Language Broadcasting	None
Attitude To Outsiders	Somewhat receptive
Comment (Attitude To Outsiders)	They are receptive, but guarded and cautious.
Attitude To Change	Somewhat receptive

Youth

Group Description

Labor and tasks (6-12 year olds)	Young girls help with caring for siblings, cooking, and working in the garden. Young boys are allowed more free time.
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Education

Group Description

Primary Schools	It is reported there is one primary school in the language area.
Primary School Enrollment	It is reported of the 11 villages visited, (according to the residents) 135 children are enrolled in school.
Comment (Primary School Enrollment)	In villages closer to schools, up to 70-80% of students may be enrolled in school. In villages further from schools, as little as 10-20% may be enrolled. Several villages reported that many children drop out due to lack of motivation or lack of funds to pay school fees.
Secondary Schools	None in the area of this people group.
Secondary School Enrollment	14
Percent Of Eligible Students Enrolled	Probably around 10-20%. Very few have gone on to secondary school. Most have gone to a few years of primary and come back to the village.

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Item Name	Item Note	
Comment (Teacher to Pupil Ratio)	It is reported that there is one teacher for every 40 students in primary school.	
Language Of Instruction Early Years	English	
Language Of Textbooks Early Years	English	
Church Growth		Status of Christianity
Reached Status	Engaged	
Reached Classification	Evangelized	
Total Baptized	25	
Comment (Total Baptized)	10-20% of 1,645 are reported to be Believers.	
Lay Leaders	25	
Bible Schools	None	
Christian Clinics/Hospitals	None	
Christian Literacy Centers	None	
Religion & Response		Status of Christianity
Recommended Approaches	Work with existing churches. There are some disputes between SDA and EBC, but they reported they could work together in Bible Translation.	
Current Needs	Pre-school age children primarily speak Tok Pisin. Waube 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.	
History Of Christianity In Group		Status of Christianity
Year Began	1920's or 1930's	
By Whom	Lutheran	
Comments (History of Christianity)	The Lutheran Church opened a local mission station in the 1920's or 1930's. The station was closed around the time of the Second World War. There are no longer any Lutheran churches in the Waube area. The Evangelical Brethren Church came to the area in the early 1980's, followed by the Seventh Day Adventists in the early 1990's and South Seas Evangelical Church in the late 1990's. The New Apostolic Church had just begun a church in one Waube village in 2003.	
Scripture		Status of Christianity
Translation Status	Definite	
Available Scripture	None	
Comment (Scripture Use)	Hindrances to Scripture Distribution: Education levels are low in the Waube area. There is now a local school and most children are learning to read. However, most adults are illiterate.	
Uncertain Need Explained	Pre-school age children primarily speak Tok Pisin. Waube 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.	
Comment (Scripture)	Most Waube speakers are fluent in Tok Pisin and have access to the Scriptures in Tok Pisin.	
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	
Missions and Churches		Status of Christianity

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Item Name	Item Note
Organization Name	New Apostolic Church
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Year Started	2003
Number Of Adherents	15
Number Of Congregations	1
Number Of Expatriate Workers	None
Number Of National Workers	None
Number Of Workers Using Local Language	The lay leader reported that they use Waube for prayer, announcements, and explanation of the sermon. Use of Waube was not observed when the survey team attended a church service.
Organization Name	South Seas Evangelical Church
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Year Started	1999
Number Of Adherents	12
Number Of Congregations	1
Number Of Expatriate Workers	None
Number Of National Workers	None
Number Of Local Workers	1
Number Of Workers Using Local Language	The lay leader in the area reported that they use Waube for prayer, announcements, and explanation of the sermon.
Organization Name	Evangelical Brotherhood Church (PNG)
Main Ministry	Evangelism
Comment (Main Ministry)	While evangelism is the main ministry, church planting, literacy, and community development are also ministries.
Year Started	1983
Number Of Adherents	300 (estimate)
Number Of Congregations	6
Number Of National Workers	1 national missionary from Western Highlands Province.
Number Of Local Workers	17 lay workers and 1 pastor
Number Of Workers Using Local Language	Most of the lay leaders and one pastor reported using the local language for prayer, announcements and some singing. Sermons are usually in Tok Pisin.
Organization Name	Seventh Day Adventists
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Year Started	1989
Number Of Adherents	60-70
Number Of Congregations	3
Number Of Expatriate Workers	None
Number Of National Workers	None
Number Of Local Workers	5
Language Used By Workers	Tok Pisin
Language Used By Workers	English