

## The Rasawa of Indonesia

There are at least 200 speakers of the Rasawa language who live in the province of Papua, Indonesia. The Rasawa homeland lies along the coast at an elevation of less than 100 meters. Because the airstrip in Rasawa land is not in use, the area is best accessed by boat. It is a six-hour boat trip from Serui Island to the Rasawa homeland.

Most Rasawa people fish or gather from the forest. The people typically eat fish and sago. One resource of the area is its good water supply. The Rasawa have regular contact with the Demisa people, but the Rasawa people use Rasawa at home. The Rasawa language is part of the Aweru language family.

The Rasawa people have no gospel cassettes, films, or videos in their language. Still, eighty percent claim to be Christian, while the remaining twenty percent adhere to the tribal religion. It is not known, whether the approximately 160 people who profess Christianity, worship in a church building or in a home.

**Image  
 Unavailable**

**Primary Religion:**

Christian

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

**Churches:**

**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

No Scripture

**Population (date):**

200 (2002)



# The Rasawa of Indonesia

## Item Name

## Item Note

### Have They Heard The Gospel?

Call Themselves Christian (%)	>50%
Believe In The Local Traditional Religion (%)	20%
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No

## Profile Summary

### Population All Countries

World Population For This People	200
World Population (Date)	2002

## Group Description

### Countries Where People Group Lives

Country Name	Indonesia
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## Group Description

### Geography & Environment

Location	Within the province of Papua, Indonesia.
Country	Indonesia
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest
Geological Type	Coastal
Elevation	100 m
Longitude	136 degrees east
Latitude	2 degrees south
Comments (Geography & Environment)	They can best be accessed by boat. It is a 6 hour boat trip from Serui island and there is an inactive airstrip in Rasawa land.

## Group Description

### Language & Linguistics

Primary Language	RASAWA
Second Languages	Demisa
Comment (Second Language)	The Rasawa have regular contact with the Demisa people but they use Rasawa at home.

## Group Description

### Economics

Subsistence Type	Fishers
Comment (Subsistence Type)	The people eat mostly fish and sago.
Occupation	Most Rasawa people fish or gather from the forest in their territory.
Income Sources	Occupation

## Group Description

### Community Development

Diet (Quality)	Poor
Comment (Diet)	Mostly fish and sago.
Water (Quality)	Good

## Group Description

### Society & Culture

Local Language Broadcasting	None
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## Group Description

### Religion & Response

Attitude To Christianity	Somewhat receptive
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## Status of Christianity

### Scripture

Translation Status	Possible
Available Scripture	None
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature	No
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings	No

## Status of Christianity

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Item Name	Item Note
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos	No