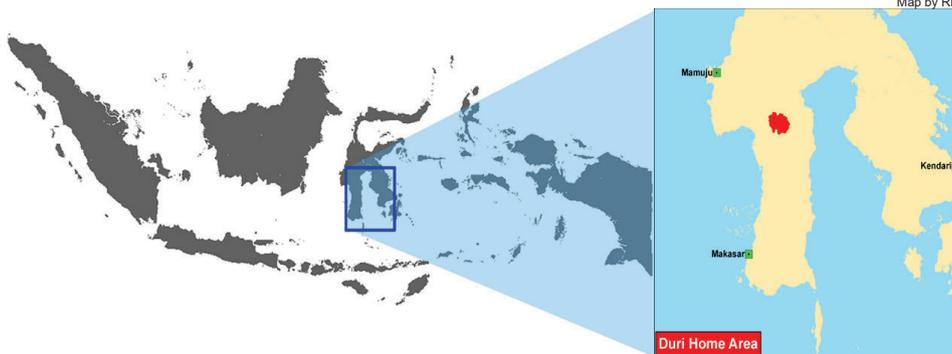


DURI



| Demography | Duri Language | Status |
|--|---|--|
| Location: South Sulawesi Population: 140.000 Major religion: Islam | Bible: New Testament Jesus Film: Yes Online Media: No | Believers: <50 Engaged: Yes Indigenous Church: 0 |

Identity and Location

The Duri people (also called Massenrempulu) live in Enrekang Regency, a mountainous area with a cool climate in the middle of South Sulawesi Province bordering the territory of the Toraja people.

The Duri area consists of 17 villages spread among the districts of Baraka, Alla and Anggareja. This area is close to a road passable by cars. Most Duri people live in the interior, but several groups live in the high mountainous areas. Some Duri, primarily men, have migrated to other places and are then known as “nomads.”

They Duri language has two dialects: Cakke and Kalosi. The Duri language is part of larger linguistic grouping called the Masserempulu which also includes the Enrekang, Maiwa and Maliwang.

Society and Culture

The majority of the Duri live by farming, tending fruit orchards, raising livestock, and making handicrafts. Their main crops are red onions, coffee, rice and vegetables. The Duri also make traditional cheese called dangke. Cow or water buffalo milk is boiled and combined with sap from the papaya fruit or papaya leaves and then poured into small coconut shells. The resulting cheese is sold in the traditional market, packaged in banana leaves. The traditional market is held in specific locations once or twice a week.

In society, social status is determined by education and/or wealth

The Duri prioritize family and practice gotong royong (mutual help and cooperation). In the past, they had layers of society, known as nobility, commoners, and slaves. Those differences are no longer seen today.

In society, social status is determined by education and/or wealth. Wealth is measured in terms of ownership of

water buffalos, land, gold and nice houses. Education is measured by the level of school completed. Generally those who are educated move to the city.

The Duri are very open minded toward education and other things that can raise their standard of living. The Indonesian language is taught in school. Both adults and children enjoy reading, though only a few books are available in their language.

Beliefs

Almost all Duri are Muslim, however they still embrace traditional animistic beliefs and combine them with Islamic practices. This can be seen from their worship of spirits.

They trust in a dukun (shaman/healer/occultist) to heal sicknesses and cast out evil spirits. A small number of Duri still identify themselves as animists and practice a formed called Alu’ Tojolo.

Needs

The Duri harvest various crops, but none that bring significant profit. They need transportation infrastructure to expedite the distribution of crops to be sold. Around 60% of villages do not possess sufficient transportation infrastructure, the result being that the distribution of their goods is expensive, slow and inefficient.

Investment capital would also help their agricultural efforts. Further training is needed for farming soil that is not fertile. The sale of dangke cheese could be expanded through industrial processing and more attractive packaging. In addition, health and nutrition for children needs attention. Because of their interest in reading, literature in the Duri language would be beneficial

