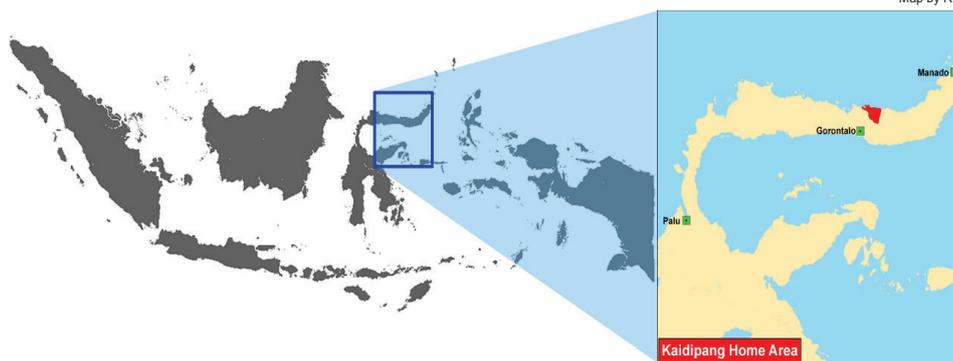


# KAIDIPANG



Demography	Kaidipang Language	Status
Location: North Sulawesi Population: 11.000 Major religion: Islam	Bible: Parts Jesus Film: No Online Media: No	Believers: <50 Engaged: Yes Indigenous church: 0

## Identity and Location

The Kaidipang people live on the outskirts of the Bolaang Mongondow area of North Sulawesi Province.

Sulawesi is a vast and mountainous island that some say is shaped like a crab or an orchid. The island has a coastline of approximately 5000 kilometers, four large peninsulas separated by deep bays, with two peninsulas extending southward and two others to the northeast.

To the east of Kaidipang is the province of North Sulawesi, to the west the province of Gorontalo, to the north is Sulawesi Sea, and to the south is Tomini Bay. In the past, Kaidipang was a kingdom of its own. In 1910 Kaidipang joined the kingdom of Bolaang Itang. This great kingdom ended in 1950 when it joined the newly independent Republic of Indonesia.

Kaidipang or Bolaang-Kaidipang people are one of the groups who speak the Bolaang Mongondow language.

## Society and Culture

The Kaidipang were traditionally a society of migratory farmers. New fields were cleared and planted, then abandoned after becoming infertile and unproductive. After three to five years, the soil became fertile again and could be replanted. This method is called “slash and burn” farming because in clearing the land they cut down large trees and burn the underbrush below. This method is often blamed for being the main cause of deforestation, as well as forest fires which often rage out of control. After farming an area the people would move on to new areas and repeat

the cycle.

Currently the Kaidipang people have adapted to a more settled lifestyle, resulting in an increase in their population. Kaidipang villages are usually found along roadways in the highlands. Many of them have become rice farmers, fishermen, day laborers and small shop owners. They also raise livestock such as cattle, goats, and chickens.

Kaidipang genealogy is bilateral (traced through both parents). Inheritance is handled in the same way for both male and female descendants. Unlike other groups in Indonesia, in the Kaidipang community, males receive no special treatment or privileges.

## Beliefs

Traditional law (adat) is still in use, but it has become combined with Islamic law. As Muslims, the Kaidipang believe that they will be judged based on their knowledge of the Islamic Holy Book (the Qur’an) and their deeds; therefore they strive to be devout Muslims.

Despite this, many of the Kaidipang still believe in animism and various superstitions. These beliefs are most clearly found in ceremonies performed to control good and evil spirits in order to secure protection.

## Needs

Creating new job opportunities is one of the most urgent needs of the Kaidipang people. Many Kaidipang young adults move to cities like Manado, Makassar and even Jakarta in search of work.

