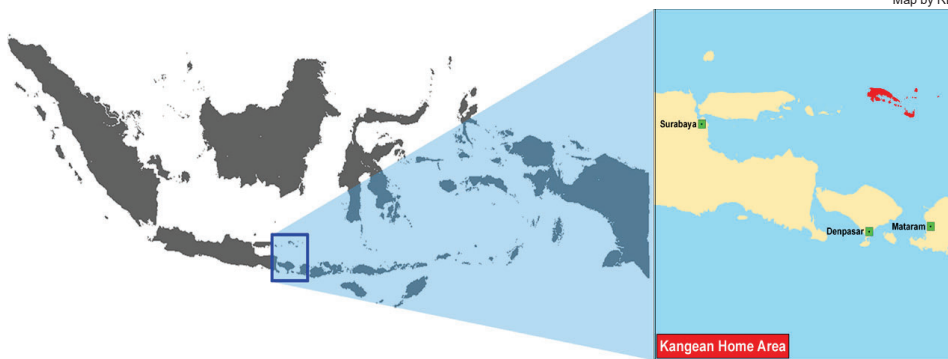


KANGEAN



Photo by RD



Map by RD

Demography	Kangean Language	Status
Location: East Java Population: 120.000 Major Religion: Islam	Bible: No Jesus Film: No Online Media: No	Believers: 0 Engaged: No Indigenous Church: 0

Identity and Location

The Kangean people live mainly on the Kangean island cluster, which consists of about 60 islands spanning 487 square kilometers. The largest islands are Kangean (188 square kilometers), Pilat and Sapanjang. The Kangean Islands are situated about 120 kilometers east of the island of Madura and 120 kilometers north of the island of Bali.

Society and Culture

People on the Kangean islands are known to be very friendly, polite and religious. The community speaks multiple dialects of the Madura language in informal day-to-day interactions. Education on these islands has begun to advance somewhat. Many alumni of schools on these islands move to other islands such as Java, Sumatra or Kalimantan to continue their studies or seek employment. These islands now have a private Middle School with a curriculum similar to a government school.

At present, many Kangean people work in other countries, especially Malaysia. In fact every family has at least one member working elsewhere (merantau). Although economic growth can be considered high, the most common forms of public transportation are bicycle taxis and motorcycles. Fishermen use small carts to transport their catch to traditional markets. Everyday needs are bought in Banyuwangi. Travel from Kangean to Kalianget (in Sumenep Regency, Madura) takes about 1-2 hours, while travel from Kangean to Banyuwangi

(East Java) requires 4-9 hours.

Most of the main village roads on the island of Kangean have been paved or asphalted. It is not difficult to buy food normally sold on Java, such as Padang rice, soto and sate Madura, and common Javanese foods. But sadly, but the electricity usually is on only from late afternoon until dawn.

Beliefs

Islam was brought to Kangean by religious teachers taught by Sunan Giri in Gresik (East Java), but the Kangean people possess a culture quite different from Java and other surrounding islands (Bawean and Madura). Because of this, the Islam expressed here looks quite different from the Islam practiced in other places. Many of the people practice cultural rituals, believe in supernatural numbers, and in a variety of spirits and supernatural powers. Their form of Islam is mixed with these beliefs and practices.

Needs

Only some of the community is wealthy enough to afford their own generator or battery, so they can have electricity 24 hours a day. Like the island of Lombok, the Kangean Islands have tourism potential that could be developed, especially since this area is not far from Bali (Indonesia's central tourist location). Adventures in the wild are a tourism opportunity that could be offered, from West Kangean to East Kangean, most of which is still pristine and natural, without human development. (RD)



Photo by RD

