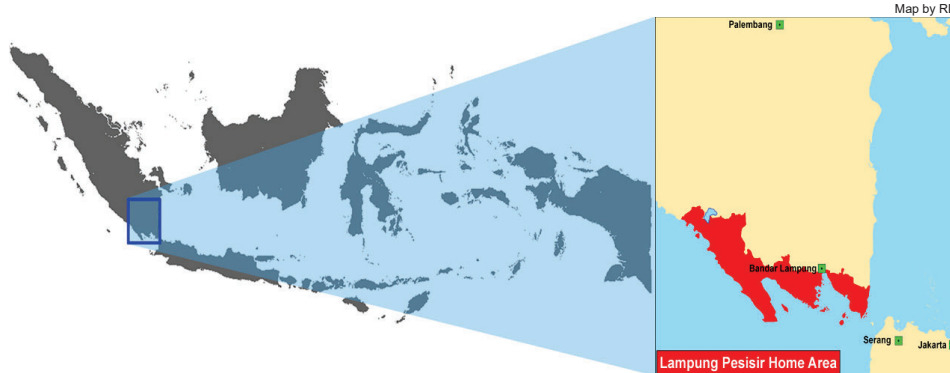


LAMPUNG PESISIR



Demography	Lampung Api Language	Status
Location: Lampung Population: 550.000 Major Religion: Islam	Bible: NT Jesus Film: Yes Online Media: No	Believers: <30 Engaged: Yes Indigenous Church: 0

Identity and Location

The indigenous people who live primarily along the coastline of Lampung Province are called the Lampung Pesisir (Coastal Lampung), or also sometimes the Lampung Peminggir (peMINGgir has the connotation of “outskirts”). They are also called by other names, according to their location, such as Belalau, Krui, Semaka (Semangka), Kalianda, Melinting and Teluk. They live in the districts of Lampung Selatan, Tanggamus, and Lampung Barat, and in the city of Bandar Lampung. The Lampung Pesisir are divided into four groups: 1) Peminggir Melinting Rajabasa in Labuhan Meringgai and around Rajabasa Kalianda; 2) Peminggir Teluk in the Teluk Betung area; 3) Peminggir Skala Brak in the areas of Liwa, Kenali, Pesisir Tengah, Pesisir Utara and Pesisir Selatan; 4) Peminggir Semangka in the areas of Cukuh Balak, Talangpadang, Kotaagung, and Wonosobo.

Society and Culture

They speak a dialect of the Lampung Api language. The word api means “what?”. There are two lines of cultural tradition within Lampung, namely Pepadun and Saibatin (which means “one leader”). The Lampung Pesisir follow the Saibatin cultural tradition. Each subgroup of Lampung Pesisir has only one autonomous leader—a Prince or Sultan.

Most of the Lampung Pesisir work as farmers. Although they live on the seashore, very few work as fishermen. Lampung Pesisir homes have already begun to shift from the traditional, long elevated wooden homes built on thick poles to the concrete homes built at ground level typically found throughout Indonesia. Family structure for the Pesisir is still very strong with many regulations and formal relationship obligations. The definition of a family for the Pesisir has in view a large family made up of a father, a mother, children and grandchildren. The father is the leader of the home. The Lampung Pesisir are

fairly open to interacting socially with outsiders. There are some who say that they would even adopt a child from another people group because they like to have large families.

One of their life principles is Piil Pesenggiri, or “status/prestige must be guarded above all else.” They generally live very simply, but they also enjoy receiving praise or recognition. They are not afraid to put out a lot of money for cultural festivals. They also often use prestige titles; for example, after marriage, men receive the title Adok and women receive the title Inai.

Beliefs

The Lampung Pesisir are followers of Sunni Shafi’I Islam. Even so, some people believe that certain graves and other spots are sacred places and hold magical powers, like the well at Pitu. Some people also place certain symbols, like a cross mark made using lime chalk, above their doors, windows and gates. They believe that these symbols can scare away evil spirits. For example, these symbols are especially used when a woman in the home is in late-term pregnancy, in order to chase away spirits called kuntilanak (a female zombie-like creature believed to be a woman who died in childbirth). Changing to a different religion is strongly influenced by a person’s extended family. If a person converts to another faith, their family will usually ostracize them. But after a while, they usually are accepted again by the family even though they are Christians.

Needs

Opportunities for education and work are the greatest needs for the Lampung Pesisir people. They also need to be better prepared to enter the industrial era, especially to desire to make themselves competitive and be able to live among a diverse population.^(E-RD)