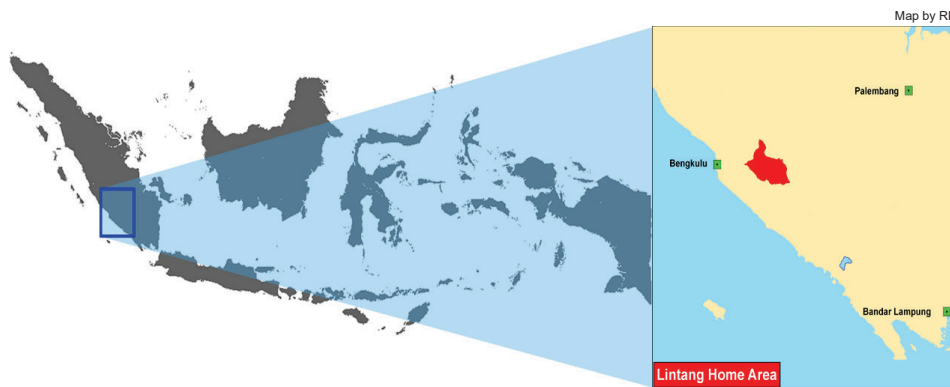


LINTANG



Photo by RD



Demography	Lintang Language	Status
Location: South Sumatera	Bible: No	Believers: 0 ⁽²⁴⁵⁾
Population: 210.000	Jesus Film: No	Engaged: No
Major Religion: Islam	Online Media: No	Indigenous Church: 0

Identity and Location

The Lintang, also called Lintang Empat Lawang (L4L), is a people group that lives in the mountains near the Lintang Kiri and Lintang Kanan Rivers. In fact, the Lintang and Empat Lawang are two different groups who use the same language with slightly different dialects which are mutually understandable. The two groups have a strong feeling of commonality, such that in many areas to which they travel they form one group, the Ikatan Keluarga Lintang Empat Lawang which means “The Family Group of Lintang and Empat Lawang.” Eventually they became one group which is difficult to separate.

They primarily live in the districts of Muara Pinang, Talang Padang Lintang Kanan, Pendopo, Tebing Tinggi, and Ulu Musi in Lahat Regency in South Sumatra Province. They also live along the upper Musi River and the Lintang River.

In their home area, the Lintang live mixed among the Kikim and Lembak people, especially in the Tebing Tinggi area. Lintang houses are made of wood, built on stilts.

Society and Culture

The language spoken by the Lintang is the same as that of groups around them, like the Besemah and Semendo; they just use different dialects. They also understand the Lematang, Kikim, Enim and Palembang dialects. But they don't understand well the language of the Lembak atau Saling people.

Lintang people who do not perform manual labor typically have a long pinky fingernail as a sign of higher social status.

The Lintang make their living from farming rice, coffee, rubber, spices, and vegetables. They also raise goats, water buffaloes, dogs, chickens, ducks, and other animals. Although they live near rivers, they do not catch fish for a living. The economic level of the Lintang is very low. Lintang men work as seasonal farmers. For instance, coffee harvesting only occurs once a year. The women help the men work in the fields and as a result, often leave their children at home without supervision.

Lintang people who do not perform manual labor typically have a long pinky fingernail as a sign of higher social status. When conflict arises, the Lintang solve it through family discussion. If they do not reach an agreement, the problem is brought to the village leaders or elders. If that still does not work, they will bring the problem to the police or the mahkamah (religious court).

Beliefs

The Lintang have a strong Islamic identity and strongly oppose changing to another religion. However, shamans still have an important role in this area. For the most part, religious duties are faithfully observed, as indicated by the constant use of local mosques.

Needs

The infant mortality rate is very high. The community considers it normal when a child dies before the age of four. Most Lintang mothers bear more than five children but some of them die young. The Lintang need improved medical facilities and health education.