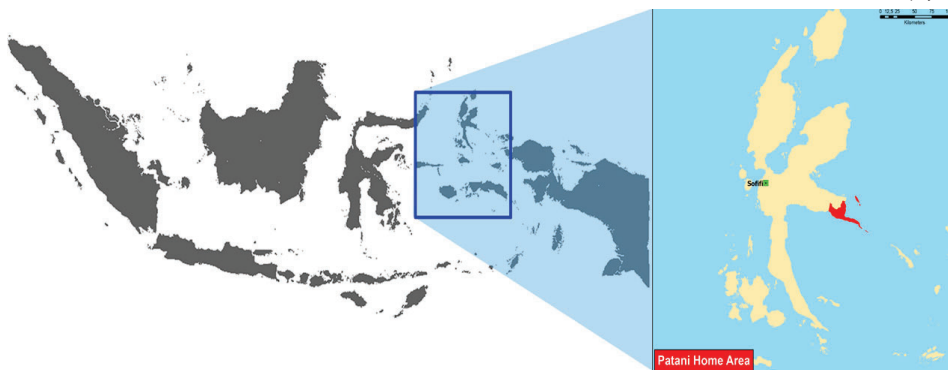




Photo by RD

One of Patani Leaders



Map by RD

Demography	Patani Language	Status
Location: North Maluku	Bible: No	Believers: 0
Population: 16.000	Jesus Film: No	Engaged: No
Major religion: Islam	Online Media: No	Indigenous church: 0

Identity and Location

The Patani people live in three districts: Patani, West Patani and North Patani which are located in East Halmahera Regency on the island of Halmahera in North Maluku Province. In past ages, the Patani and Maba were known as pirates who were feared by the peoples of Maluku and North Maluku. The Patani people of Indonesia are different from and have no connection with the Pattani of Thailand who live in the province of Pattani.

The Patani people use the Patani language in everyday life and Indonesian as a trade language. Patani language is also used by the Sawai (Weda) people who live in the Maba and East Gane districts. Patani language is part of the language cluster used in East and South Halmahera which includes Buli, Maba and Sawai.

Society and Culture

Several traditions are held by the Patani people, including Coko Iba, a traditional celebration held every year over three days, with its peak coinciding with Maulud (the birth of the Prophet Muhammad). In essence, the celebration is about brotherhood and the strengthening of community. The heads of families exchange a cake called Fanten. Fadingding is another cultural practice which involves praying (zikir) for 44 nights. Women in the community prepare a variety of

food to celebrate during this time. This includes serving chicken and taking it house to house or serving it on the table at the house where the praying (zikir) is taking place. Cakalele is a custom to celebrate the climax of the ritual.

According to traditional folk stories the Patani, Maba and Weda (Sawai) peoples originated from siblings who were later separated. The eldest, Wobon, became the Weda people. The second, Fyatani (which means kiss or middle) became the Patani people. The third was named Boworo (which means the end) and became the Maba people.

Beliefs

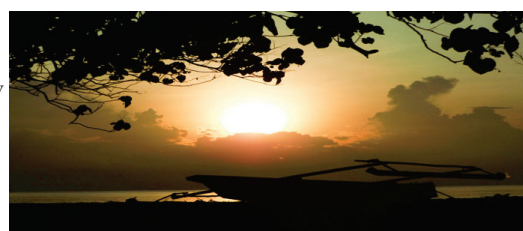
As Muslims, the Patani people practice circumcision, worship at the mosque and fasting during the month of Ramadhan. The Patani blend Islam with cultural and traditional beliefs.

Needs

The relationship between Muslim and Christian groups in this area continue to be under strain as a result of past conflict.^(RD)



The first mosque in Patani



The beauty of Patani beach