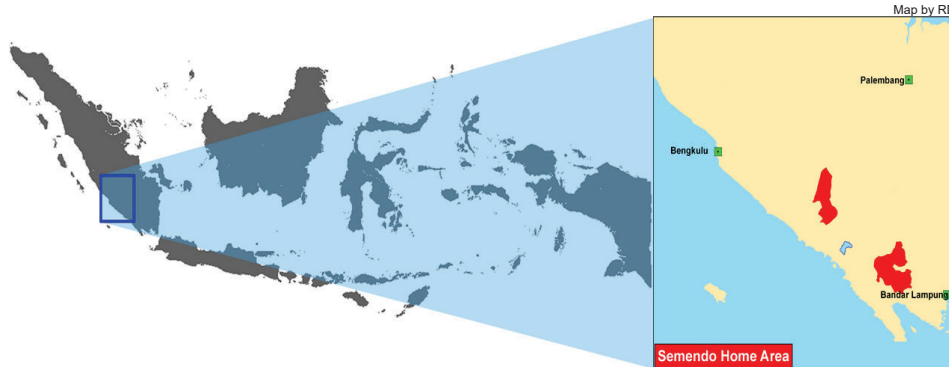


# SEMENDO



Create



Demography	Semendo Language	Status
Loc: Sumsel, Lampung Population: 250.000 Kristen: < 5 <sup>(109)</sup>	Bible: No Jesus Film: No Online Media: No	Believers: <5 <sup>(109)</sup> Engaged: Yes Indigenous Church: 0

## Identity and Location

The Semendo are also often called Semende, which is what they call themselves. They are a large group who live at high elevations in the provinces of South Sumatra and Lampung, divided geographically into the Semendo Darat Laut and Semendo Lembak subgroups. In South Sumatra they live in the Semendo Darat Laut, Semendo Darat and Semendo Ulu districts of the Muara Enim Regency. In of the Ogan Komering Ulu (OKU) Selatan Regency, they live in the districts of Buay Sandang Aji, Pulau Beringin and Banding Agung.

A few areas in Lampung Province are inhabited by the Semendo, such as the Way Tenon and Sumber Jaya districts in West Lampung Regency; Wonosobo, Ulu Belu, Talang Padan and Pulau Panggung districts in the Tanggamus Regency; Bukit Kemuning and Tanjung Raja districts in the North Lampung Regency; and Banjit and Kasui districts in the Way Kanan Regency.

## Society and Cultures

The language of the Semendo is not much different from that of the other ethnic groups around them, especially the Pasemah and Lintang. However the Semendo tend to use /e/ at the end of words.

Both in Lampung and South Sumatra, the Semendo live at high altitudes which are good for farming. They are generally more effective at farming than other ethnic groups in South Sumatra and Lampung.

When a father wants to have a son, he will eat a cake of sticky rice, stewed chicken, fish cooked in banana leaves over coals and glutinous rice roasted in bamboo tubes. Before her wedding day, a bride to be will be taken to the groom's house to give items such as a cupboard,

bed, cakes, curries, rice and clothes. Usually these things will exceed what has been requested by the groom. After the wedding, the new couple will go to the home of the husband's parents, taking more food than had been brought before the wedding. This is one difference from other ethnic groups in South Sumatra: among the Semendo, the women propose marriage rather than waiting for a proposal.

One custom which has been passed on and is still strongly held among the Semendo is Tunggu Tubang. This custom regulates family inheritance, appointing the oldest daughter as the primary heir. The inheritance usually consists of a rice field and house which will continue to be passed on. This custom pushes many Semendo men to travel to other distant parts of the country to seek their fortune.

## Beliefs

The Semendo have been Muslims for generations. The teachings of Islam are firmly rooted and faithfully followed in their society. This can be seen in their diligence in carry out the pillars of Islam. At the same time they have positive social interaction with people of other religions and there have been no religious conflicts in this area.

## Needs

Distribution of their farm products, such as rice and coffee, would greatly help them because up to the present the price of coffee and rice are controlled by gatherers or middlemen. But if they didn't sell through a middleman, they would get an even lower price. <sup>(E-RD)</sup>