

LEMBAK OF INDONESIA

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QUICK FACTS

People Name: Lembak

People Cluster: Musi of Sumatra

Language: Lembak

Trade Language: Indonesian

Population: 120,000

PRAYER POINTS

Ask the Holy Spirit to soften the hearts of the Lembak so that they will be receptive to the Gospel.

Pray that God will reveal Himself to the Lembak through dreams and visions.

Take authority over the spiritual principalities and powers that are keeping the Lembak bound.

Ask God to raise up faithful intercessors for the Lembak.

Pray that God will save key leaders among the Lembak who will begin boldly declaring the Gospel.

Pray that strong local churches will be raised up among the Lembak.

GEOGRAPHY



The Lembak people are thought to have originated from the Musi-Rawas River valley in South Sumatra. They moved away from the area, however, in the 16th century and now live along the border of the Bengkulu and South Sumatra provinces. To outsiders, the Lembak are often known as the *Bulang*, or 'turban people.'

They speak their own language, called Lembak, which is part of the Melayu language cluster and is written in a script known as *Surat Ulu*.

LIFE

The main source of income for the Lembak is rice, although many of the men also work in rubber plantations or run brick-making factories. Generally, the women work in the fields and are in charge of running their households.

Lembak families are patriarchal, but lineage is traced through both the mother and the father. Once a couple marries, they may either live with the groom's family, live with the bride's family, or begin their own household separate from both families.

The Lembak build their homes on stilts for protection against animals and high water. They usually have large rooms and typically more furniture than the homes of surrounding peoples. They generally cook with kerosene or wood, but electricity is also available to them.



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In Lembak society, several villages together make up a clan, which is led by a chief called a *pasirah*. Clan districts are then overseen by two other officials who are themselves supported by Islamic religious officials.

Lembak youth are trained in dancing, singing, and martial arts, as these are important aspects of Lembak culture.

BELIEFS

Like many other people groups of Southeast Asia, the Lembak are Muslim but still practice animism along with Islam. For example, the people often seek the help of a shaman, or *dukun*, to perform ritual healings and exorcisms.



WAYS TO HELP

The Lembak need initiatives for improving their standard of living. For this to happen, the existing rubber plantations and brick factories need to be managed more professionally. Those with business skills could help produce more profit among these people.

The Lembak are in need of increased education and training for young people so they can qualify for better jobs. Teachers would be a valuable asset to those here who want to learn.

Would you be willing to be among the FIRST to engage these people with the hope of the Gospel? Would you be willing to lead a team? Contact us today to find out more - we need people to visit the Lembak of Indonesia and find other great ways to bring new teams to live among them for the sake of the Kingdom.

CONTACT

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