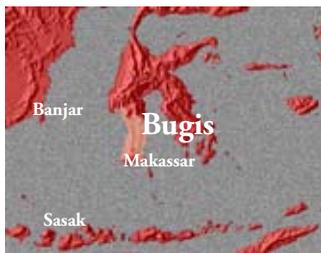
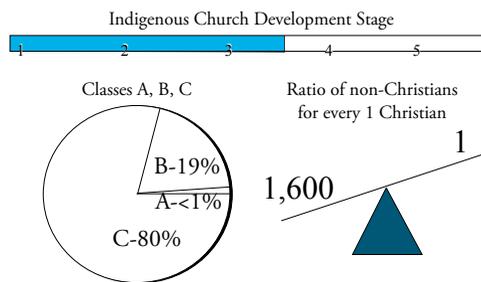


Bugis



Quick Facts

Population: 4,800,000
 Indonesia: 4,000,000
 Malaysia: 700,000
 Singapore: 12,000
Religion: Sunni Islam
Believers: 0.06%
Scriptures: NT, OT
Ministry Tools: JRGT
Church Status: 3
Mission Status: 2
MS Subgroups: 15+
Mission Agencies: 6



Class A- Are members of a Culturally Relevant Church
 Class B- Have close access to a CRC, but have not yet joined
 Class C- Have no reasonable or close access to a CRC

Identity: The Bugis are a Malay people, whose language (called *ugi*) is related to Makassar and other eastern Malay dialects. Their primary homeland is Southern Sulawesi, though for economic reasons many have been forced to scatter throughout SE Asia.

Lifestyle: Around 65% of the Bugis are rice farmers, though most do not own the land they farm. As a result, many of those who sharecrop engage in other trading activities throughout Indonesia, establishing a migratory pattern following the harvest schedule. These schedules are regulated by district councils in such a way that rotating labor exchange groups can move from district to district. Beyond rice farming, the Bugis have long been a sea-faring people, and they still engage in extensive sea-trading and fishing.

Customs: Bugis society is complex, with an ancient descent hierarchy that still predominates, governing relation-

ships and leadership roles. Bugis view everyone as having a particular rank, the highest being *datu*, which is greatly valued and strictly preserved through careful marriage arrangements (i.e., to keep rank you must marry someone of the same rank).

Religion: Islam came to the Bugis through the conversion of a king in 1605. He then proceeded to forcefully convert the entire Bugis population, and by 1611 had largely succeeded in doing so. However, even today the Bugis continue to fear and venerate their tribal deities, called *dewata*. These spirits are often invoked in ceremonies and rituals, and are thought of as being part of a pantheon of gods, over which Allah is the head. Muslim missionary efforts among them, especially through the education of children, are gradually moving the Bugis to more orthodoxy.

Christian Outreach: The church is growing among the Bugis and there

are at least several thousand believers now. However not all are being effectively disciplined due to a shortage of permanent long-term workers. Evangelistic campaigns are seeing remarkable success, and the wider community of believers may be much larger than what is presently known and documented. In many cases, follow up is not always possible or consistently available.

How to Pray:

☞ Praise God for the availability of the complete Bible in Bugis, as well as the Jesus Film, radio broadcasts (FEBC) and other evangelistic tools. Pray for the continual success of those missionary teams seeking to employ these tools for the advance of the Gospel and the Kingdom.

☞ Intercede for those churches in Singapore which have adopted the Bugis that God would grant them special grace, sensitivity and wisdom to reach this migrant community which is now at their doorstep.

☞ Pray for the conversion of the Bugis leadership, including all the *datu* families, *pettas* (next rank), *ceras* and *puangs*. Pray that they may surrender to the datu of datus, the Lord Jesus Christ!

**Every year 50,000
 Bugis die
 without Christ.**