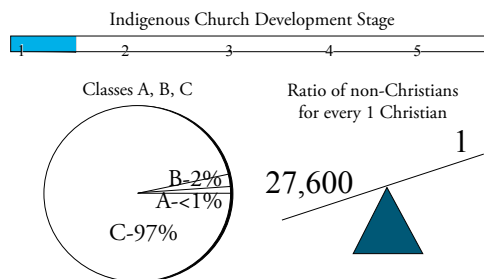


Madura



Quick Facts

Pop. in Indonesia: 13,800,000
Location: Madura Is., Java
Lang. Family: Sundic Malay
Religion: Sunni Islam
Believers: 0.003%
Scriptures: NT, OT
Ministry Tools: JRGT
Church Status: 1
Mission Status: 1
Churches: 2 D-groups
Organizations: 8
MS Subgroups: 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 Madura are the third largest ethnic group in Indonesia. In the past, they lived primarily on the island of Madura, however today only 30% remain on the island, and the rest have immigrated to Java. Even so, both groups maintain close ties with one another, and most Java Madura return to Madura island to re-unite with relatives every year during festivals.

Lifestyle: The soil on Madura island is not very fertile, and the short rainy season only allows for one or two rice crops a year. The growth of the population and the division of the land over the last century has made the average land-holding insufficient for supporting a family. Thus many Madura have sought employment elsewhere as fishermen, sailors, traders and unskilled laborers. They have a reputation for being industrious and hard-working.

Customs: Marriage arrangements begin with the parents of the boy

making the first proposal to the parents of the girl. The wedding ceremony is conducted by the *kiyai* (the community religious teacher) who leads the procession from the bridegroom's home to the bride's and then back again. Once married, the new couple will typically reside in the bride's compound until they have enough resources to build their own.

Religion: The Madura converted to Sunni Islam during the 16th century through the influence of the Jawa, though ironically the Madura are regarded as generally more orthodox today. Unlike the Jawa there is no cultural category for nominal believers, and all are expected to follow the five pillars of Islam. Daily prayers are typically held in the family compound at a social hall called the *langgar*, which is also used for entertaining guests, as well as for communal meals during religious festivals.

Christian Outreach: The Madura have been highly resistant to the gospel due

in no small part to their tightly-knit social structure which restricts individual decision-making. However, the mass-migration to nearby cities on Jawa, such as Surabaya, has provided an opportunity for more open witness and proclamation of the gospel. Two fellowships have been established and missionary efforts among them are increasing. In the last decade, a significant number of Jawa believers have taken an interest in reaching out to them.

How to Pray:

☞ Most believers among the Madura are isolated from one another, and live in constant fear of being exposed. Pray for courage and perseverance despite the many trials they face.

☞ The Madurese radio broadcast is the only discipleship some believers have. Pray for the establishment of hundreds of "radio churches," especially on Madura Island.

☞ Pray for the conversion of entire family compounds, and extended family networks, so that believers may publically worship and be effectively discipled. Pray also for a mass-movement to Christ through the religious educational system all Madura youth participate in.

**Every year 124,000
 Madura die
 without Christ.**