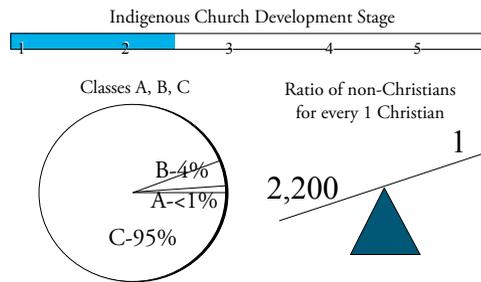


Maranao



Quick Facts

Pop. in Philippines: 1,100,000
Location: Lake Lanao
Lang. Family: Western Malay
Religion: Sunni Islam
Believers: 0.04% (MBB)
Scriptures: NT, OT
Ministry Tools: JGRT
Church Status: 2
Mission Status: 2
Churches: 2
Organizations: 7
MS Subgroups: 2



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 Maranao are a Malay people, closely related to the Iranun and Maguindanao. The name Maranao means “people of the lake” referring to Lake Lanao, where most of the population is clustered around. They are the only Muslim people in the Philippines living primarily inland, rather than along the coasts of Mindanao Island.

Lifestyle: The Maranao are rice cultivators and fish farmers, though they also have extensive trading networks all over the Philippine islands. As many as 15% of the population (including whole families) may be away from home at a given time selling a variety of goods in stalls at public markets or shopping malls. The soil around lake Lanao is fertile, and capable of growing a variety of crops, however unresolved conflict with the government has hindered trade and development.

Customs: Traditional Maranao houses have no divisions within and may

house several nuclear families which share their resources. These families each have their own sleeping area separated by aisles down the middle. Behind the house is a common kitchen where the women work together to prepare meals for the entire household.

Religion: Islam was introduced to Mindanao through Arab traders around 400 years ago. Of the 13 Muslim peoples in the Philippines, the Maranao were the last to embrace the new religion, though today they are one of its greatest defenders. Energized by Islam, the Maranao offered fierce resistance to the Spanish, Americans, and later the Philippine government (through the Moro Islamic Liberation Front). During the American occupation, the Colt 45 pistol was invented to stop radical Maranao jihadists from engaging in “suicide charges” against American soldiers.

Christian Outreach: Hundreds of Maranao have come to faith in Christ

in the last decade through the combined efforts of both expatriate and national missionaries. Unfortunately, many believers often leave Mindanao due to persecution and relocate in Christian areas throughout the Philippines. One ministry has successfully planted a local fellowship in the heart of Maranao territory that is now expanding with ten outreach Bible studies along a strategic river system.

How to Pray:

✞ Strong indigenous leadership is emerging among the Maranao church. Pray for unity of purpose and common vision among them that will result in whole extended families coming to Jesus.

✞ An underground, highly contextualized movement has begun among the Maranao in Manila (Philippine capital). The leaders of this movement have produced a video-based training series to teach other Maranao how to become Jesus-followers in their community. Pray for the expansion of this movement and for protection, both physical and spiritual, for those involved.

✞ Pray for continued effective partnership between the Philippine church and outreach to the Maranao.

**Every year
 10,000 Maranao die
 without Christ.**