

# Africa Inland Mission's Prayer Sheets



002 - December 2014

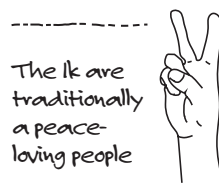


## Who are the Ik?

The Ik (neighbours call them 'Teuso') are a small farming and hunting community in North East Uganda, squeezed between the large, powerful Karamojong and Turkana pastoralist tribes. They struggle to survive amidst droughts and floods and have been displaced from their land to create a national park. Consequently they've suffered from famine; their small numbers make them very vulnerable. They fight against isolation and marginalization to overcome difficult circumstances and enter Ugandan national life with their own culture and voice.



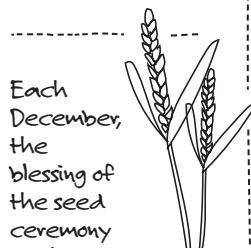
Live in the mountains of northeastern Uganda near the border with Kenya



The Ik are traditionally a peace-loving people



A small farming and hunting community know as "Teuso" by their neighbours



Each December, the blessing of the seed ceremony marks the beginning of the Ik's agricultural year

## What do they believe?

An Ik legend tells how God created herders by letting cattle down to them from heaven by a rope and giving them spears. To the Ik, he gave only the digging stick, with the order never to kill. They are very proud of their peace-loving culture. Only in recent years have they acquired firearms for hunting and protection against raiders. The most important annual event is the 'blessing of the seed ceremony', which begins the agricultural year. Another ceremony marks the 'opening of the harvest'.

## What is being done to reach them?

The Rauchs from Germany will lead a TIMO (Training In Ministry Outreach) team to live and work among the Ik. They will begin work in mid-2015, to prepare for the team's arrival in mid-2016. We're looking for people with a passion for church planting among the unreached; almost any skill set will fit - practical skills, health-care, education, linguistics. Do you or does someone you know fit that description?

## Give thanks:

- \* That leaders of the Ik community are positive and open about a TIMO team coming to live amongst them.
- \* That a location for the team leaders' house has been found. Negotiations were made with the local land owner for a plot of land.
- \* For the willingness of Christoph & Heidi Rauch to lead the TIMO team.

## Please pray:

- \* For churches' willingness to send men and women to join the Ik team. People with skills in agriculture, teaching and health care would have great opportunities to integrate with the community.
- \* For the love of Jesus to dwell in the hearts of the Ik. To drown their misery, many drink maize beer and spend the little money they have on cheap gin. This has a devastating effect on their society, especially families, where children often aren't cared for properly.
- \* For the Ik to be open to the saving work of Christ. They live along the border with Kenya and are often caught up in cattle raids between the Karamojong and the Turkana. As a result, they are often beaten and plundered.

## About AIM

**Africa Inland Mission** is a missionary organisation that helps churches send gospel workers to work amongst African people. **TIMO (Training In Ministry Outreach)** is a two-year cross-cultural training programme to equip people for a life-time of ministry.

*If you are interested in going yourself, giving to help send gospel workers or want more prayer info, please feel free to contact us.*

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