

Africa Inland Mission's Prayer Sheets



002 - April 2015



Who are the Antakarana?

The Antakarana, who are originally of mixed Austronesian, African and Arab ancestry, settled in the far north of Madagascar in the 12th Century. They are called "People of the White Coral Rocks" as they live in a geographically isolated, rocky place. Some work as coastal fishermen and those inland villages, harvest rice, raise cattle and grow crops on a small scale. Others work in factories and do other work in towns. They see themselves as Antakarana before they consider themselves Muslim and are proud of their history and culture.

What do they believe?

During the Merina invasion, when the Antakarana were in danger of being wiped out, they hid in caves for over a year. Life was difficult and many died. Their King prayed that if his people should survive, they would embrace Islam. They found refuge on the island of Nosy Mitsio and converted to Islam in the 1840s. Now they mix folk Islam with animistic beliefs, adhering to many 'taboos' in their daily lives.

What is being done to reach them?

The history of the Antakarana means that they have not accessed the scriptures available in the Merina dialect. At the moment, an organisation called SIL are in the process of translating the gospel of Luke. Pray the Antakarana would have ears to hear the Good News in their own language. A TIMO team went to serve amongst them on the island of Nosy Mitsio in November 2014.

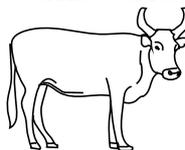


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The tsanga tsaina, is a festival which occurs every five years, in which they commemorate the arrival and commitment to their king. The current king is Tsimiaro III.



SIL are currently in the process of translating the gospel of Luke.



The Antakarana make Animal sacrifices as they believe they help call upon ancestors.

Give thanks:

- * That the Antakarana King allowed a TIMO team to settle amongst the Antakarana on Nosy Mitsio.
- * For the Willard family leading the team, for the preparation they have done amongst the Antakarana, in trying to learn customs, taboos and language.
- * For the willingness of the TIMO team members to go and live amongst the Antakarana, giving up home comforts and they seek to share the Gospel.

Please pray:

- * A cow sacrifice was made recently to call upon the ancestors through spirit possession to communicate to them about the TIMO team that will be living on Nosy Mitsio. Pray that God's truth and power be made known so that the Antakarana people may be set free from bondage to their ancestors.
- * That God would reveal himself to the Antakarana, that they would know the one who has made himself a sacrifice for them.
- * For the villages of Antanimivony, Andavakabiby, Antsakoia & Marimbehely where the team members live. Pray that the people and especially the headman in those locations, would have their hearts softened by God, that they would be able to receive the news of Jesus.

Who are 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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