

Africa Inland Mission's Prayer Sheets



005-January 2018

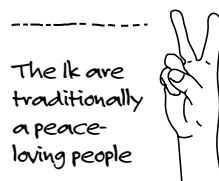


Who are the Ik?

The Ik 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 traditional homeland. Consequently they've suffered from famine; their small numbers make them very vulnerable. They struggle against isolation, marginalisation, and to enter Ugandan national life with their own culture and voice.



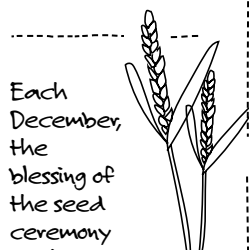
Live in the mountains of northeastern Uganda near the border with Kenya



The Ik are traditionally a peace-loving people



They are a small farming and hunting community



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?

A Training in Ministry Outreach (TIMO) team led by the Rauchs from Germany started in October 2016. Many of the Ik have heard about Jesus, but they don't understand what Christ has done for them and the implications for their lives. Only Mark, Ruth and parts of Genesis have been drafted in the Ik language (Icetod). The team is now working on crafting Bible stories, translating and sharing them.

Give thanks:

- * That leaders of the Ik community have been positive and open about the TIMO team living among them.
- * For those serving on the TIMO team, including the leaders, Christoph & Heidi Rauch.
- * For the translation work that the team has begun. Pray that the Ik will respond to the Bible stories in their heart language and that the team would have the joy of seeing whole lives transformed by the gospel.

Please pray:

- * 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 often children 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.
- * Pray that the Lord will raise up leaders among the Ik who desire to be trained as pastors and leaders in the churches. There are currently four churches along the Ik ridge, but no trained pastors to lead them.

Who is AIM?

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

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

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Christ-centred churches among all African peoples



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