

Africa Inland Mission's Prayer Sheets



005 - January 2018



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 in 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 missionaries from SIL, an organisation who translate the Bible, are working on the gospel of Luke. Pray the Antakarana would have ears to hear the good news in their own language. A TIMO team served among them on the island of Nosy Mitsio from 2014-16. Under the leadership of Steve and Beka Orner, some of the team have returned to live among the Antakarana.

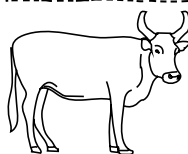


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The tsanga tsaina, is a festival which occurs every five years, in which they commemorate the arrival of, and commitment to, their king. The current king is Tsimiaro III.



SIL missionaries are currently 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 among the Antakarana on the island of Nosy Mitsio.
- * That some of the team have returned to the Antakarana, and for team leaders, Steve and Beka Orner.
- * For the willingness of team members to go and live among the Antakarana, giving up home comforts as they seek to share the gospel.

Please pray:

- * That God's truth and power will become known to the Antakarana people and set them free from bondage to their ancestors.
- * That God would reveal himself to the Antakarana and that they would come to know the one who has made himself a sacrifice for them.
- * For the villages of Antanimivony, Andavakabiby, Antsakoia & Marimbely where the team members lived. Pray that the people, especially the headman in each location, would remember the words of Scripture that they have heard. Pray that their hearts would be softened by God, and that the seeds of the gospel that were planted would bear fruit.

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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