

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

INDONESIA

General Information

- Population: 251 million (July 2013 EST.)
- Composed of 16,000 Islands in the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean.
- Muslim 86.1%, Protestant 5.7%, Roman Catholic 3%, Hindu 1.8%, other or unspecified 3.4% (2000 census).
- Protestantism was first introduced by the Dutch in the sixteenth century with Calvinist and Lutheran influences.
- Indonesia does not recognize agnosticism or atheism, and blasphemy is illegal.
- The Indonesian government recognizes six official religions (Islam, Protestantism, Catholicism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Confucianism).

Challenges

- Degree of disease is high.
- Indonesian law requires that every citizen hold an identity card that identifies that person with one of these six religions, although citizens may be able to leave that section blank.
- Each religion is largely segregated.
- Three thousand of these Islands are inhabited by a people who speak 700 different languages. The language barrier alone makes Indonesia a very difficult area of Evangelism.
- Many of the Muslims are hard liners supporting the development of an Islam state in Indonesia and an Islamic World rule.

Pray For

- Greater acceptance towards the gospel.
- At least 22 churches have been forced to close in Indonesia this year due to mounting pressure on local governments. Many churches have been burned down and the pastor arrested.

Reference

- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/id.html>
- <http://www.indonesianchristianmission.org/>
- http://www.persecution.com/public/newsroom.aspx?story_ID=NTEx