

GURIASO LANGUAGE PROFILE

SANDAUN PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA



The **Guriaso** people (grx), known almost exclusively among themselves as the Muno, live in a flat area of the Sandaun Province of Papua New Guinea. Surrounded by the Fas to the north, Kwomtari to the west, and Seta to the east, their language is not related to any of these neighboring languages.

Elementary schools are located in multiple villages for grades one through three. One primary school is available through grade eight. If a student goes on to high school, he will board away from home, as it is a three day walk or one day car ride to the nearest high school.

Villages: 6

Ekas, Wurubai, Mofor, Guriaso, Marigin, Kweftim

Population: approx. 1,600

Denominations: 2

Christian Brethren Church, Catholic

Recently a logging company has come to the area to buy their timber. This is creating income for those involved. The company is planting new trees where the old ones have been harvested.

In late 2015, seven Guriaso speakers came to participate in the Oral Bible Storytelling (OBS) workshop being held in Wewak. Pastors and laymen came to receive the training and were very excited to go back and share the Bible stories they had learned with their congregations and families. Many of these men don't have formal training and were hungry to learn how to share God's Word in a new and different way. *For years, they have asked for God's Word in their language. Could this be the answer to that petition?*



OBS participants with their mentor Joshua, second from left



PRAYER ITEMS

- Pray for unity and a spirit of cooperation among the church denominations and that the churches would be supportive of the OBS work.
- Pray for God to provide teachers so the churches can have Sunday School.
- Pray for better means of communication as it is very difficult to communicate with other areas.
- Pray for many opportunities to share God's Word through OBS.