

JUWAL LANGUAGE PROFILE

EAST SEPIK PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA



The **Juwal** people (mwb) live in the East Sepik Province of Papua New Guinea. Even though they are surrounded by the Boikin language to the north west, Bungain to the east, and Urimo to the south, they do not understand any of these languages. The area is accessible by the Sepik highway, with only a short walk to the villages.

There is a primary school in one of the villages which uses both Tok Pisin and English during class instruction. A health center outside the language area is available to help meet the medical needs of the people.

Cocoa is grown by many as a cash crop, with a number of fermentries in the area. Subsistence farming provides most of the food in the area, as well as a source of income.

Villages: 9

Yamben, Mambe, Tumeru 1 & 2, Putanda, Parpur, Manuwara, Yanduwek, Numbingo

Population: approx. 1,300

Alternate language names: Juwar & Juar

Denominations: 4

Catholic, Revival, Assemblies of God, Evangelical Brotherhood Church

The people feel that some words in their language are being forgotten, only remembered by the older generation. The children use Tok Pisin to communicate. How viable is their language? There are people eager to help teach the language in schools, but parents have to be diligent to teach the children at home as well, for it to have an ongoing impact. *With no previous*



Scripture in their language, what language will best help them understand God's Word?



PRAYER ITEMS

- Pray that parents would grasp the importance of teaching Juwal to their children and have the persistence to work with them regularly on it.
- Pray for unity amongst the villages as they plan for the possible next steps of translation work. They would like school materials in their language. If this is best, pray for the resources and knowledge to make this happen.
- Pray that the Oral Bible stories already learned will continue to have impact in the communities.

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