



**BIBLE
SOCIETY**

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INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE FACT SHEET



Wik-Mungkan

General Language Information

Wik-Mungkan is a language spoken in and around Aurukun on the west coast of Cape York Peninsula in the north of Queensland. There are also some speakers of Wik-Mungkan or closely related dialects living at Weipa, Edward River, Kowanyama and Coen.

There are approximately 400 speakers of Wik-Mungkan and a further 600 people who use it as a second language.

Wik-Mungkan is used in bilingual education in schools, a programme first introduced in 1973, the revived in 1993.

The term 'Wik-Mungkan' can be used to refer to the language as well as the 'tribe' speaking it. Dialect names throughout this region are commonly prefixed by the term 'Wik' meaning 'language' and the following term denoting the particular dialect. In this case Wik-Mungkan means 'those who say mungkan to mean 'eating'.'

The English language has adopted at least one Wik-Mungkan term 'taipan' as a term for a venomous snake.

Useful Links....

Some of the information contained in this Fact sheet is from the following websites:

www.omniglot.com.au

www.everyculture.com/Oceania/Wik-Mungkan-Orientation.html

There is also a [Wik-Mungkan Online Dictionary](#) (published by AusIL)



Here is John 3:16 as it appears in the Wik-Mungkan New Testament:

"Puth nil God.an kan-kanam kaangk wunan ngampar pam wanchant, an ngangk pal pekkuwam kaangk wunan ngampar, ke'-paal nilan nhengk nungantam kaa'-thonaman kuch nunang, than yipam wee'- wee'anangan ngangk punch-aakamaniy thee'ayn nungant-a, an than ngangk aak umpuyaman wun-wunayn nungantang, God.antang, nil ke' kuchiy thanang nungantam anpalan."



Aerial view of Aurukun (west coast of Cape York Peninsula, North Queensland)

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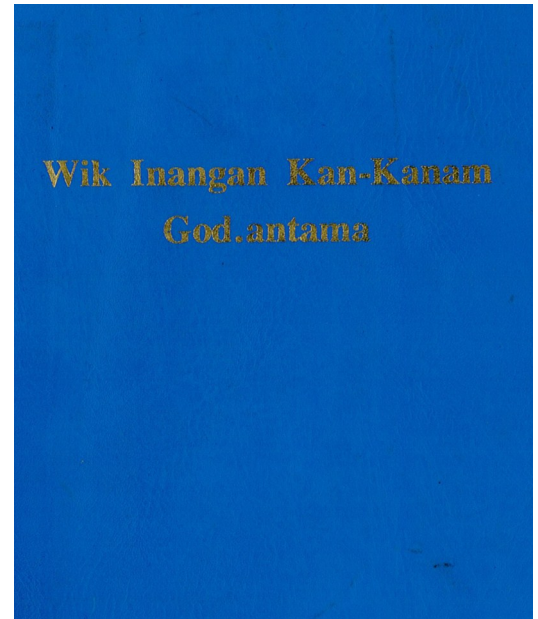
SCRIPTURE RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Print

- The **'Wik Inangan Kan-Kanam God. Antama'** New Testament (*pictured below*) was printed in 1985 and contains the entire New Testament. Copies are available from the Uniting Church of North Queensland, 29 Wentworth Street Mundingburra QLD 4812.

BIBLE STATISTICS

- ✓ Complete NT



Pictured Above: some local children from Weipa

Audio

- There are various audio recordings available through the **Global Recordings Network** (<http://globalrecordings.net/en/country/AS>)

Video

- There are currently no Audio-Visual resources available for this language.

For further information about this resource or to order copies please contact:

Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS)

770 South Road, Glandore, SA 5037

Phone: (08) 8 8292 4888

Email: translation@biblesociety.org.au

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