

Japanese

Unreached People Group living in Japan

Unique Culture

Racially, culturally, and ethnically Japanese are one of the most homogeneous people groups in the world. They identify themselves in terms of biological heritage, birth in Japan, a shared culture, and a common language.

The uniqueness of Japanese culture can be seen in their art forms, which include: *ikebana*—highly refined flower arrangements, *chanoyu*—choreographed tea ceremonies, calligraphy, *Bunraku* puppetry, *Noh* and *Kabuki* dramas.



Pressure & Stigma

Japan has had one of the world's highest suicide rates for many years. Along with intense work culture, there is also a stigma against seeking treatment for depression or other interventions that could help reduce suicide.

Population



Japan 126,168,156

Family

Sixty percent of Japanese live in nuclear families. Over one-fifth live in a 3-generation household. Japanese couples are free to choose their own spouse; however, many marriages are still arranged. Ten to fifteen percent of Japanese marriages end in divorce.

Religion



*Many people practice both Shintoism and Buddhism.



Shintoism includes worship of ancestors and nature and is rooted in animism (belief that non-living objects have spirits). Buddhism was introduced to Japan in the sixth century.

Language



Daily Living

Japan's economy is based on a competitive market/private enterprise system. Many families farm as a secondary occupation. Typically, the wife tends to the farm while the husband works full-time in business/industry. Rice remains the principal crop, and its production is strictly controlled. Other sources of income include livestock, fishing, shipbuilding, foreign trade, scientific research and technology development.

Many men, women, and children enjoy wearing Western clothing for daily activities. Traditional costumes are worn during special religious ceremonies or festivals. Japanese women often wear their traditional silk Kimonos.

Engaging with God

Many Japanese are indifferent to and skeptical of established religion. Careers, possessions and materialistic pleasures have become an obsession for many. Their greatest need is to be introduced to the Father through His son, Jesus.

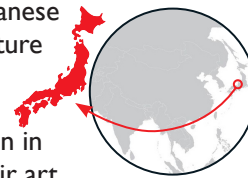
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