

Manchu



Quick Facts

Pop. in China: 13,000,000

Provincial Populations:

Liaoning- 5,800,000

Hebei- 2,100,000

Heilongjiang- 1,030,000

Jilin- 995,000

Religion: Ethnic, Buddhist

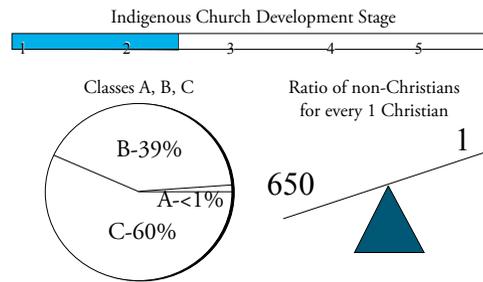
Believers: 0.15%

Scriptures: NT

Ministry Tools: JRGT

C Status: 2 **M Status:** 2

MS Subgroups: 8+



Class A- Are members of a Culturally Relevant Church
 Class B- Have close access to a CRC, but have not yet joined
 Class C- Have no reasonable or close access to a CRC

Identity: The Manchu are an Altaic tribe related to the Mongols, who broke through the Great Wall in the 17th century and ruled China for 267 years. Over time they adopted Mandarin as their mother tongue and much of Chinese culture, though they also contributed to its development. Though they retain their ethnic identity, outwardly there is little to distinguish them from the Han.

Lifestyle: The region of Manchuria became the industrial hub of China after WWII. As a result, the population became heavily urbanized. In rural areas, the warm and humid climate of the summers permits large yield crops of corn, wheat, soy and barley. The terrain is also suitable for sheep farming, and large herds are raised in the central and south regions.

Customs: The Manchu have contributed to the development of a North-eastern culture in China, including the

Dongbeihua dialect of Mandarin (with influences from Manchu), a unique cuisine (including the use of fresh vegetables), and styles of dress (which are still common in China, and mistakenly thought to be “chinese dress.” This came about because the Manchu banned Chinese dress and forced everyone to wear Manchu attire).

Religion: Traditionally the Manchu religion, like the Mongolians, centered around Shamanism (from the Manchu word *Shaman*, meaning “he who knows”), which involves the control of spiritual forces to bring healing and good fortune. Powerful Shamans became political rulers as well, and many of the Manchu emperors were also reknown Shamans. Today, most Manchu adhere to Chinese religious beliefs, though about 10% are Buddhists.

Christian Outreach: The Manchu are a “hidden people” among the majority Han Chinese. Very little specific

outreach has been made to reach them as an ethnic group and there is no indigenous Manchu led disciple making movement. However, thousands of Manchu have come to Christ in the last decade through the witness of Han house-church believers. A revival in Heilongjiang province in the 1990s also impacted the Manchu and many became believers.

How to Pray:

☞ Though the Manchu have largely assimilated among the Han, they have a much smaller percentage of believers. Pray for spiritual breakthrough among them, and for more concentrated and deliberate effort to reach them, especially in urban areas where they are most “hidden.”

☞ There is an attempt to revive Manchu language and culture. Pray that this will include an embrace of the Manchu scriptures!

☞ Ask God to tear down any walls of racial prejudice or bitterness that prevents the gospel from moving between the Han and the Manchu.

☞ Intercede for a new generation of Manchu Christian leaders and their families.

Every year 115,000 Manchu die without Christ.