

1. Description

- 1.1 Name(s) of society, language, and language family: The language Simbo is spoken in the western province of the Solomon Islands and is in the Austronesian language family. Alternative names of Simbo are Madeggusu, Mandeghughusu, and Sibbo.
- 1.2 ISO code (3 letter code from ethnologue.com): sbb
- 1.3 Location (latitude/longitude): 156° 32' E, 08° 16' S
- 1.4 Brief history: Simbo is a small island located in the western Solomon islands and is 4 miles wide and 1 mile across. It has a history of contact with the West for about 200 years and the island has converted to Christianity in the last 100 years. The economy is based on subsistence production of root crops supplemented by cash from the sales of copra. The people of Simbo practiced head-hunting at one point in their history, but that practice has been eliminated.
- 1.5 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors: Methodist missionaries set up an establishment in the early 1900's and since then Simbo has converted to Christianity. In addition to converting to Christianity, women began to give birth in biomedical clinics which caused infant and maternal death rates to fall. Giving births in these clinics caused the women to go from giving birth in a vertical position to a horizontal position.
- 1.6 Ecology (natural environment): The land is naturally fertile due to volcanic soils, but the terrain is becoming rugged and land is started to be in short supply. Simbo has volcanoes and hot springs.
- 1.7 Population size, mean village size, home range size, density: Simbo has a population size of about 2,500 people who identify themselves as "Tinoni Simbo" which means "people of Simbo." Home size of about 4 people (2 parents, 2 children, but can be more or less).

2. Economy

- 2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s): sweet potato, cassava, rice, yams, and taros
- 2.2 Main protein-lipid sources: fish; eggs of lape birds
- 2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns?: single-shot or bolt-action rifles, and shotguns
- 2.4 Food storage: Can't find information.
- 2.5 Sexual division of production: Men spend time fishing and women spend time gardening. Labor is performed almost entirely within the nuclear family, and women no longer receive much help with their labor from outside sources as they used to in the past in Simbo. Today, men perform less labor, relative to women, than they did in the past.
- 2.6 Land tenure: Subsistence agriculture is prevalent.
- 2.7 Ceramics: N/A
- 2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns: Sharing within the nuclear family.
- 2.9 Food taboos: N/A
- 2.10 Canoes/watercraft? Dugout canoes, boats, etc.

3. Anthropometry

- 3.1 Mean adult height (m and f): Unknown
- 3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f): Unknown

4. Life History, mating, marriage

- 4.1 Age at menarche (f): Can't find information
- 4.2 Age at first birth (m and f): Varies
- 4.3 Completed family size (m and f): There are social pressures to restrict the family size to have 2 children, however some women bear 5 or 6 children.
- 4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f): Varies; can't find information.
- 4.5 Age first marriage (m and f): Varies; can't find information.
- 4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce: Not known
- 4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously: Most are monogamous; this is a Christian society.
- 4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry?: A few marriages are still arranged, and therefore bride price is still an occurrence.
- 4.9 Inheritance patterns: patrilineal inheritance is still practiced
- 4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict: parents and offspring remain involved in each other's lives throughout life.
- 4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals: N/A
- 4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy): Exogamy is practiced. Relatives are not married.
- 4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these "other fathers" recognized? Paternity is not partible. One male is involved in conception.
- 4.14 What is the belief of the mother's role in procreation exactly? (e.g., "receptacle in which fetus grows") It is basically the same view/belief as Western society. Fetus grows in mother's womb and then is taken care of by both parents.
- 4.15 Is conception believed to be an incremental process (i.e., semen builds up over time)? No
- 4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape: Men are seen as controllers of their wives' bodies so women can be subject to marital violence.
- 4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin): N/A
- 4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms? No, there is great emphasis on husbandly authority over women's bodies. Women are even subject to marital violence due to the view that men are controllers of their wives' bodies.
- 4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring: N/A

- 4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children? Generally it would be the father of the children. If he can't, it would most likely be either the mother's sister or the mother's mother. However, any relative seen fit could potentially raise the children.
- 4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females: Close to 1
- 4.22 Evidence for couvades: N/A
- 4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older): only one father, the husband
- 4.24 Kin avoidance and respect? There has been a shift from the most important relationship being that between a woman and her brother to the most important relationship being the marital relationship between man and wife. Brothers still monitor the corporeality of their sisters though.
- 4.24 Joking relationships? N/A
- 4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations: Unknown
- 4.26 Incest avoidance rules: Don't marry anyone that is more closely related than a third cousin.
- 4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony? Yes
- 4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name? Unknown
- 4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?) Doesn't matter, but mainly occurs within the community.
- 4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)? Sometimes the marriages are arranged, but not often. The parents generally arrange them.
- 4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who: No

Warfare/homicide

- 4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare: Unknown. Now Simbo is a peaceful country, but used to be involved in warfare.
- 4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death: Simbo is now peaceful. Used to be outgroup cause of violent death though.
- 4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing: Nothing recently.
- 4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations): Relationships with the rest of the Solomon Islands as well as the rest of the globe through trade.
- 4.18 Cannibalism? No.

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

- 5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size: People live within their nuclear family, which is about 4 people for them ideally.
- 5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality): They stay in one place.
- 5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes): No formal caste system, although people on each Island tend to gravitate their own people.
- 5.4 Post marital residence: Husband and wife live together in own home.
- 5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense): They have defined boundaries, but no active defense is in place.
- 5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex): Unknown
- 5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships: Unknown
- 5.8 Village and house organization: Most people live within their nuclear family.
- 5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses): N/A
- 5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere? Unknown
- 5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc: People tend to gravitate towards their kin.
- 5.12 Trade: Lots of trade around globe. Can't find too many specific items besides a few of their cash crops and some weaponry.
- 5.13 Indications of social hierarchies? No

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

- 6.0 Time allocation to RCR: Can't find stats
- 6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine): They have some specialized healers.
- 6.2 Stimulants: N/A
- 6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal): Believe that they need a mediator to talk to the Christian God, so they use their ancestors since their dead ancestors are closer and can "see" better.
- 6.4 Other rituals: N/A
- 6.5 Myths (Creation): Theory on creation is generally that of Christianity.
- 6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games): N/A
- 6.7 Sex differences in RCR: N/A
- 6.8 Missionary effect: Influence of missionaries made the culture predominately Christian.
- 6.9 RCR revival: N/A
- 6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs: Those who die go to heaven or hell. Although, despite the Christian belief system, many still believe that their ancestors are still around, although they are invisible.
- 6.11 Taboo of naming dead people? N/A
- 6.12 Is there teknonymy? N/A
- 6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.): Christianity. Ancestors are important mediators though, and they believe that their ancestors can be called upon for help.

7. Adornment

- 7.1 Body paint: N/A
- 7.2 Piercings: N/A
- 7.3 Haircut: N/A
- 7.4 Scarification: N/A
- 7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.): N/A
- 7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment: N/A
- 7.7 Sex differences in adornment: N/A
- 7.8 Missionary effect: In early 1900's, the influence of missionaries had an incredible impact on the culture.
- 7.9 Cultural revival in adornment: N/A

8. Kinship systems

- 8.1 Sibling classification system: The brother of a woman is considered to be one of the most important relationships.
- 8.2 Sororate, levirate: N/A
- 8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.): N/A

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

The islanders harvest the eggs of lape birds and make homes for the birds to nest in. These bird's eggs are an excellent source of protein, and in 1998 the harvesting of these eggs accounted for about 60% of the annual earnings of the islanders.

Higher education is highly prized among the islanders.

Numbered references

1. http://www.ethnologue.org/show_language.asp?code=sbb
2. Dureau, Christine. "Nobody Asked The Mother: Women And Maternity On Simbo, Western Solomon Islands." *Oceania* 64.1 (1993): 18. *Academic Search Elite*. Web. 4 Feb. 2012.)
3. <http://www.researchonline.mq.edu.au/vital/access/manager/Repository/mq:7036>
4. <http://www.springerlink.com/content/tt81k58765q76p31/>
5. <http://www.gunpolicy.org/firearms/region/cp/solomon-islands>
6. <http://www.everyculture.com/Sa-Th/Solomon-Islands.html>
7. http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/species_programme/species_news/species_news_archive.cfm?2294/Building-homes-for-birds-on-Simbo