

1. Description

- 1.1 Name(s) of society, language, and language family: Budja Also known as: Budja, Buja, Ebuja, Embudja, Limbudza, Mbudja
- 1.2 ISO code (3 letter code from ethnologue.com): bja
- 1.3 Location (latitude/longitude): Equateur Province, Mongala, Bumba, and parts of Bongandanga territories
- 1.4 Brief history: The Budja people, also known as the Buja, Ebuja, Embudja, Limbudza, and Mbudja, have a very lightly documented past. They are now a part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and therefore their “history” is skewed with modern tools, trade systems and other ways of doing things.
- 1.5 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors: influenced by the French and the British
- 1.6 Ecology (natural environment): Humid jungle
- 1.7 Population size, mean village size, home range size, density:
226000 for 1985 census,

2. Economy

- 2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s): The rain forest soil is not nutrient-rich; less than 3 percent of the land is cultivated for food production. Meat is expensive because it has to be hunted or imported. For this reason, little meat is eaten. Bananas, pineapples, taro, peanuts, manioc, cassava, rice, and bread are the staples.
- 2.2 Main protein-lipid sources: Little meat is eaten
- 2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns?: Steel machetes and guns
- 2.4 Food storage: Baskets and ceramics; but primarily hunter gathers with little excess
- 2.5 Sexual division of production: Men work, women stay home and cook and tend to children
- 2.6 Land tenure: owned by individuals or families
- 2.7 Ceramics: Evidence for use of food storage
- 2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns: Sharing between families
- 2.9 Food taboos: cannot eat animals depicted on a totem. Depends on family
- 2.10 Canoes/watercraft? Canoes and fishing boats (large canoes)

3. Anthropometry

- 3.1 Mean adult height (m and f): 5ft 9in
- 3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f): 150lbs

4. Life History, mating, marriage

- 4.1 Age at menarche (f): 9-14
- 4.2 Age at first birth (m and f): 17-20
- 4.3 Completed family size (m and f): 3-4
- 4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f): 4 years
- 4.5 Age first marriage (m and f): 17-20
- 4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce: unknown
- 4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously: Polygamy is the preferred norm.
- 4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry?: none
- 4.9 Inheritance patterns: Inheritance is patrilineal: the eldest surviving brother is first in line; however, if there are no brothers the eldest son inherits from his father.
- 4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict: unknown
- 4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals: unknown
- 4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy): unknown
- 4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these “other fathers” recognized?
- 4.14 What is the belief of the mother’s role in procreation exactly? (e.g., “receptacle in which fetus grows”)
- 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 unknown
- 4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin) unknown
- 4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms? unknown
- 4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring: none
- 4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children?: her sister or her mother if she is alive
- 4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females
- 4.22 Evidence for couvades: None known
- 4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older): monogamous society
- 4.24 Kin avoidance and respect? Evidence of kin avoidance
- 4.24 Joking relationships? None discovered
- 4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations: patrilineal
- 4.26 Incest avoidance rules: Sex with family is forbidden and the individual will be cast out or killed
- 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? names are through family
- 4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?) within community
- 4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)? no

4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who: no

Warfare/homicide

4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare:

4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death:

4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing: Stealing women

4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations): little external relations sue to nomadic lifestyle

4.18 Cannibalism? No evidence

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size: 50-70

5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality): None

5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes): Chieftains and status classes

5.4 Post marital residence: with the husband

5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense): No defined boundaries.

5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex): age and sex divisions exist

5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships: none found

5.8 Village and house organization: Houses are rectangular with bark walls and gable roofs thatched with grass. A double row of houses along a village street is a typical village scene. Each village has its own village chief residing over it. He is assisted by the family chiefs and a war chief in rendering justice.

5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses): No

5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere? Ground sleeping / cot sleeping

5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc: Family clans headed by a family chief.

5.12 Trade: Trading is done with the Mobale fisherman, trading agricultural products for fish.

5.13 Indications of social hierarchies? Yes

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

6.0 Time allocation to RCR: celebrations roughly every week. During rich seasons there is more time for ceremony

6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine): Spiritual medicine and shamanism

6.2 Stimulants: coffee, small evidence of tobacco (possible a trade item)

6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal): Puberty rituals, however no details given. Death rituals for higher ranking individuals

6.4 Other rituals: lacks descriptions; but heavy support of a ritualistic society

6.5 Myths (Creation): Bumba the Vomit God vomited the sun, then the earth

6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games): mostly percussion music. Carvings and material adornment

6.7 Sex differences in RCR: Women usually play instruments if they are not a part of the ceremony

6.8 Missionary effect: Some tribes have been converted to Christianity, but they still practice most of their RCR

6.9 RCR revival: Ritual and culture is very much intact

6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs: Reincarnation

6.11 Taboo of naming dead people? Unknown

6.12 Is there teknonymy? Unknown

6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.) Some tribes have totems. Their religion is based on animal and natural spirit.

7. Adornment

7.1 Body paint: Mens faces are painted for ceremony.

7.2 Piercings: none

7.3 Haircut: Haircuts to exentuate the forehead and heighten it.

7.4 Scarification:

7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.): beaded necklaces and beaded anklets

7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment: Necklaces and anklets

7.7 Sex differences in adornment: none

7.8 Missionary effect: None

7.9 Cultural revival in adornment: **unknown**

8. Kinship systems

8.1 Sibling classification system: unknown

8.2 Sororate, levirate: unknown

8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.): unknown

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

Numbered references

1. http://www.ethnologue.com/show_language.asp?code=bj
2. <http://www.periodpaper.com/index.php/geographic-locale/africa/1930-budja-chief-burial-people-village-mourners-congo>
3. <http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=qzwUAAAIAAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PR34&dq=Budja+of+Africa&ots=cxDV5xRolan&sig=PtGfOIRCUoyRI6tCMOkKEmY9mxk#v=onepage&q=Budja%20of%20Africa&f=false>
4. <http://www.worldmissioncentre.com/BUDZA.html>
- 5.

Use scholar.google.com (ethnography key word)