

The Adele of Ghana

Gidire is the language of the Adele people. They inhabit an area of about 500 square kilometers, in the Northern Volta Region, east of Dambai ferry and adjoining the Togo border. Mostly they farm, their main crops are yams, cassava, plantain, cocoyam, beans and rice. They also hunt for antelope, deer, bush cow and bush pig. The Adele live in nucleated villages of small compounds. Most houses are rectangular and thatched, with one main courtyard and the kitchen in a separate room.

They claim to have come down from heaven by a chain bringing with them their two gods, Nayo and Efriko. Their first home was a place called Dibenkpa; as their numbers grew they founded new settlements, which have become the Adele towns of the present day.

There are churches in most Adele towns but traditional sacrifices continue alongside the profession of Christian faith. The Catholic church is appreciated for the clinics and schools it has brought, but at this point the Pentecostal churches, such as the Church of Pentecost and the Christian Assemblies, appear to be growing faster. Islam has come into the area recently and there are three roofed mosques in various towns, but most Muslims are traders from other tribes, not Adeles.

Primary Religion:

Animism

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

2%

Churches:

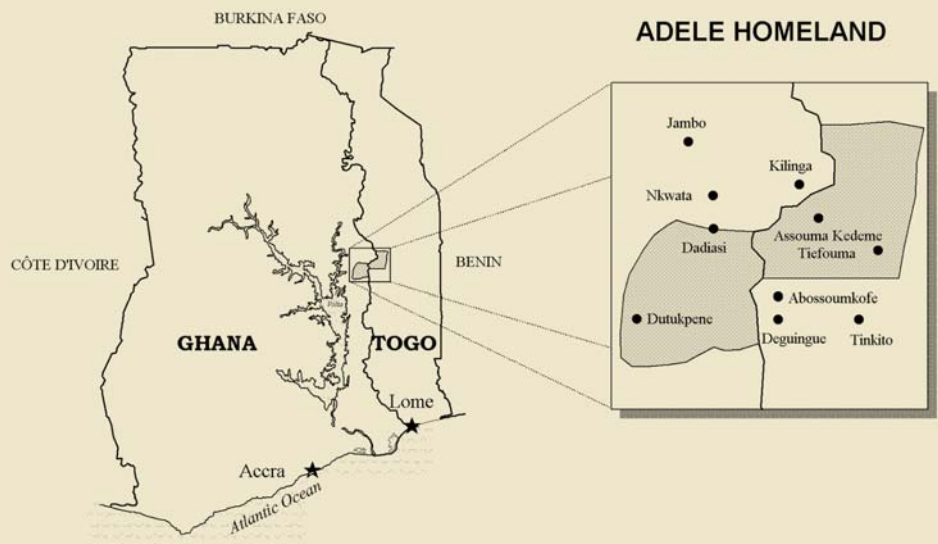
46

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

New Testament

Population (date):

20,000 (1995)



The Adele of Ghana

Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Call Themselves Christian (%)	98	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	2%	
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	2	
Number Of Pastors	10	
Comment (Pastors)	1 : 400 (many lay preachers).	
Number Of Missionaries Working	3	
Comment (Number Of Missionaries)	1 BT to the Adele,1 pastor,1 RC father.	
Number Of Communities	24	
Comment (Number Communities)	9 in Ghana,15 in Togo.	
Number Of Churches	46	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	NT finished,7 AT and 2 NT booklets printed.	
Translation Medium	Written. NT on tapes	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	People are not used to do too much reading (oral community), illiteracy, don't feel need for Christ.	
Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary)	New Testament on tapes. Some posters.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	There is a real need for committed Christians in the Church. Financial assistance is needed for Gospel recording, Literacy and a Bible School.	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	20000	
World Population (Date)	1995	
Comment (World Population)	Adele speakers are found in both Ghana and Togo. They call themselves Bedire, their language Gidire. There are also some Adele speakers in the urban centers of Lome and Accra. Ghana and Togo dialects are slightly different and distinct from Adere of Cameroon.	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Ghana	
Country Name	Togo	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Location	In Northern Volta region, bordering Togo mountains, 350 km from Accra.	
Country	Ghana	
Ecosystem Type	Semi-tropical	
Geological Type	Mountain Valley	
Elevation	500 to 2000 feet	
Longitude	0.7W	
Latitude	8.2N	
Climate	Semi-tropical Forest.	
Comments (Geography & Environment)	The Adele region is about 500 square kilometers. It is a region of Mountain slopes with a vegetation of moist semi-deciduous forest. Nkwanta is the trade center, Dadiase is the communication center, Tutukpene is the seat of the paramountcy.	
Language & Linguistics		Group Description
Comment (Language)	Most Adeles know some Twi (trade language) and Achode or Ntrubo (inter-married).	
Alternate Language Names	Adeli, Gadre, Gidere and Bedere.	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Somewhat receptive	
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	AKAN	
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	FRENCH	

The Adele of Ghana

Item Name	Item Note
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	FRENCH
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	AKAN
Comment (On Other Mother Tongues)	About 99% of Adele speak Twi, English, Achode, Ntrubo or French (if from Togo) to a certain degree.
Linguistically Related Languages	SHIKI
Linguistically Related Languages	KWA
Linguistically Related Languages	GIKYODE
Linguistically Related Languages	GIKYODE
Linguistically Related Languages	GUA
Linguistically Related Languages	KAMA
Comments (Related Languages)	Gidire is not closely related with Ntrubo and Achode. Refer to language code table or Phonology of R. Kleiner. In Benin is another group of the Potou-Tano group. <pre> Niger-Congo ----- Kwa Gur Potou-Tano Central ----- Tano Grusi Guang Dilo = Ntrubo Gikyote</pre>
Neighboring Languages	AKAN
Neighboring Languages	GIKYODE

Literacy

Adult Literacy Percentage	2
Literacy Attitude	Somewhat resistant
Active Literacy Program	Yes
Publications In Vernacular	31
Comment (Literacy)	An Active Literacy program is going on using the 31 booklets. Literacy rate <2% for 1990

Group Description

Economics

Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists
Average Annual Income	30 \$
Occupation	Farming
Income Sources	Trading. Women: sowing, hairdressing. Men: mason, carpenter, teacher, office clerks, etc.
Products / Crafts	Baskets, pestle + mortar, brooms, mats, woven cloth, hats and pottery.
Trade Partners	With all neighboring people.
Modernization / Utilities	There is a Gari-making co-operation.

Group Description

Community Development

Health Care (Quality)	Fair
Comment (Health Care)	Several clinics, not too distant hospitals and health posts.
Diet (Quality)	Fair
Comment (Diet)	yam, cassava, maize, beans, rice, groundnuts, plantains and cocoyam.

Group Description

The Adele of Ghana

Item Name	Item Note
Water (Quality)	Fair
Comment (Water)	People do not like "pump water"
Shelter Description	Tin or thatch roofed houses. If properly built, then they are adequate.
Energy/Fuel (Quality)	Poor
Comment (Energy)	No electricity. There are generators and some solar panels in use.
Clothing	Traditional and modern. Men: Cloth over left shoulder, right shoulder free. Women: Long dress and cloth over hips.
Transportation	Lorries, Cars, Bicycles and Motorbikes.
Infant Mortality Rate	2 %
Life Expectancy	Long
Leading Cause Of Death	Sickness or Hard work

Society & Culture

Group Description

Family Structures	Father has main authority, is owner of house, children, etc.
Neighbor Relations	Friendly, close to Ntrubo and Akyode.
Authority / Rule	Every village has a Chief, a Queen Mother and Elders (most of them are fetish priests) who are responsible to settle cases and rule.
Cultural Change Pace	Medium
Identification With National Culture	Similar
Self Image	Prestigious
Judicial / Punishment System	Either by court or by Fetish priests.
Celebrations	Namegiving, puberty rites for girls, marriage, death, yam-festival. Now also Christmas, Easter and National holidays.
Recreations	Talking, Story-Riddle-Proverb telling/listening, dancing, listening to cassettes, radio, visiting friends, playing football, playing wariwari or cards.
Art Forms	Dance, pottery, weaving cloth, making baskets (not very artistic), making and playing drums.
Media	Radio
Local Language Broadcasting	20 minutes to 1 hour daily
Attitude To Outsiders	Somewhat resistant
Attitude To Change	Somewhat resistant

Youth

Group Description

Labor and tasks (6-12 year olds)	School, learning a trade or a skill, farming.
Youth Problems (Teens)	Immorality, gap to older generation who is unwilling to help them to go to school and are resistant to Christianity.
Youth Greatest Needs (teens)	Security in Jesus Christ, Scripture and Scripture teaching in their language, money for schooling, etc. Their own greatest felt need is to get more money. They look out for loans.

Education

Group Description

Primary Schools	8
Percent Of Eligible Students Enrolled	100
Teacher To Pupil Ratio	40
Language Of Instruction Early Years	Akan
Language Of Textbooks Early Years	English
Language Of Instruction Later Years	English
Language Of Textbooks Later Years	English
Number Of Schools > 90% Homogeneous	6
Comment (Education)	Schools in Togo use French to teach. Schools in Ghana use Twi and English to teach.

The Adele of Ghana

Item Name	Item Note	
Church Growth		Status of Christianity
Reached Status	Engaged	
Lay Leaders	40	
Christian Clinics/Hospitals	4	
Christian Literacy Centers	1	
Comment (Church Growth)	Approximately 50-75% are baptized. Besides the churches mentioned further down, Evangelical Church of Ghana, The Church, Deeper Life, Church Ministry and others also work in the area.	
Religion & Response		Status of Christianity
Religious Practices & Ceremonies	Yam festivals; Funerals; Ancestor worship; Removing of Guilt and finding out Sin by Rituals; Puppetry rite for girls; Marriage rites; Asking fetish priests for protection.	
Attitude To Christianity	Somewhat receptive	
Attitude To Religious Change	Somewhat receptive	
Resistance / Receptivity	They are quite open to Christianity, but many, at the same time, cling to their traditional customs.	
Religious Analogies & Bridges	Bloodshed is necessary to cover guilt; God is good; God is our Creator; a mediator is necessary.	
Spiritual Climate And Openness	They strongly cling to their customs, Some are open.	
Recommended Approaches	By non-print media, literacy classes and man to man evangelism (friendship).	
Current Needs	Unity among Christians, clear full gospel preaching and teaching. Culturally adequate practice of Christianity. Help in health, agriculture and co-operation in trading and in schooling.	
Items For Prayer	Unity of Christians, more openness towards Jesus as the only Savior.	
History Of Christianity In Group		Status of Christianity
Year Began	1940	
By Whom	Roman Catholic Church	
Significant Events	EP was the first protestant church in the area. Since 1950 Pentecost : many baptized. Since 1989 FAME : many baptized. Since 1990 charismatic group in RC church, some revival. Since 1992 AG - church ; many baptized. Deeper life, church of Christ and others also won some Adeles for Christ.	
Scripture		Status of Christianity
Translation Status	In Progress	
Available Scripture	New Testament	
Form Of Scripture Available	Printed and Audio	
Scripture Use	Individuals & some churches	
Scripture Use	4	
Comment (Scripture)	(Imported: Literature/Media: Literature: NT, Genesis 1 - 35, Ruth, Jonah; Moses and Joseph in story form (2 booklets each), Christmas story. Gospel of Mark, Acts, RC lectionaries. Recordings: NT on tape. Two tapes with songs. Film: no entry Radio: Togo Radio Daily. Video: no entry Audio-visual: no entry) (Imported: Summary: Word of God translated: NT finished, 7 AT and 2 NT booklets printed. Word of God form: Written. NT on tapes Other forms of gospel: NT on tapes. Some posters.)	
Missions and Churches		Status of Christianity
Organization Name	Pentecostal	
Main Ministry	Church Planting	

The Adele of Ghana

Item Name	Item Note
Organization Name	Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Organization Name	Church of Christ
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Organization Name	Assemblies of God
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Organization Name	Apostolic
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Organization Name	Roman Catholic Church
Main Ministry	Church Planting
Number Of Adherents	14,000
Comment (Number Of Adherents)	14,000 based on 70% of 20,000 baptized in RC Church

Christian Literature And Media Status

Status of Christianity

Literature Available	NT, Genesis 1 - 35, Ruth, Jonah; Moses and Joseph in story form (2 booklets each), Christmas story. Gospel of Mark, Acts, RC lectionaries.
Audio Recordings Available	NT on tape. Two tapes with songs.
Films Available	no entry
Radio Programs Available	Togo Radio Daily.
Videos Available	no entry
Audio Visual Available	no entry