

The Fulani of Nigeria



The 6-8 million Fulani of north central Nigeria are primarily cattle herders in the Savannah regions. They generally migrate between two locations, one for dry season and one for rainy season. They highly esteem their cattle and migrate to find grass and to avoid insects harmful to their cattle. They live in small family units in "wuro's" (compounds) away from other families. They practice a mixture of traditional religion and Islam. A type of Islam destructive to their culture is rapidly spreading among them. They have very limited access to much needed medical and veterinary treatment. They have very little access to schools or churches. They need missionaries willing to live among them, learning the language well, and presenting the gospel as well as meeting some of their basic needs mentioned above.

Primary Religion:

Muslim

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

Churches:

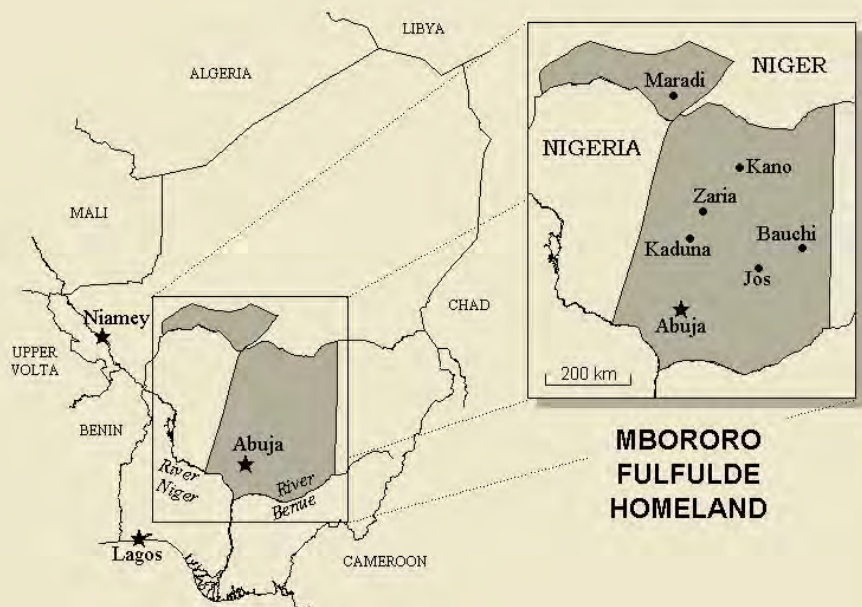
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Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

Only portions available

Population (date):

8,000,000



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Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Call Themselves Christian (%)	<1	
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	99	
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	99	
Believe Jesus Is A Myth (%)	99	
Number Of Pastors	15	
Comment (Number Of Missionaries)	Less than 15 total missionaries	
Comment (Number Communities)	Nomads, so they are scattered.	
Number Of Churches	1	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	Very few people can read roman script. We plan to publish everything in Roman and Arabic script and to produce all translations in cassette form.	
Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary)	There are a lot of videos, cassettes, radio programs and literature available in the local trade language, Hausa and in a nearby dialect of Fulfulde called Adamawa Fulfulde (found in Eastern Nigeria and Cameroon). Many Fulani understand the trade language and the nearby dialect, but not deeply. These material are minimally effective.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	Many of the younger Fulani see that change is inevitable. They see the escalating conflicts between themselves and farmers and they know that their way of life is in danger. They see that they are being "left behind" and "cheated" because they cannot read. Many are eager to learn to read. Many want to follow Christ, but do not do so simply because they face serious, often life threatening persecution. All the kinds of help mentioned above are seriously needed.	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	8000000	
Comment (World Population)	We have heard wildly different statistics. The statistics we use say there are 22 million Fulani in all countries. 12 million in Nigeria alone and 6-8 million in north central Nigeria.	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Nigeria	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Location	North central Nigeria, West Africa.	
Country	Nigeria	
Ecosystem Type	Savannahs	
Geological Type	Plains	
Language & Linguistics		Group Description
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	HAUSA	
Linguistically Related Languages	FULFULDE, ADAMAWA	
Comments (Related Languages)	The eastern Niger dialect of Fulfulde spoken by the Woo'dabe is essentially the same as north central Nigeria.	
Comments (Related Languages)	Market Hause is spoken by most Fulani, but not very deeply.	
Economics		Group Description
Subsistence Type	Pastoralists	
Occupation	Cattle herding	
Income Sources	Selling dairy products, selling sheep and goats, rarely selling of cattle.	
Products / Crafts	Dairy products from cows they herd.	
Trade Partners	Local non-Fulani buy milk products.	
Modernization / Utilities	None. No cares, electricity, telephone, water or toilets. Older men have bicycles.	

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Item Name	Item Note	
Community Development		Group Description
Health Care (Quality)	None	
Diet (Quality)	Fair	
Water (Quality)	Fair	
Shelter Description	Fair, corn stalk huts with grass roofs.	
Energy/Fuel (Quality)	Fair	
Clothing	fair	
Transportation	by foot. Older men often one bicycles.	
Society & Culture		Group Description
Cultural Change Pace	Slow	
Identification With National Culture	Distinct	
Self Image	Prestigious	
Education		Group Description
Comment (Education)	There are a few government schools that were started but they are not functioning well. One missionary is holding a private boarding type school with six student, but it is carried out in Hausa. Primary school enrollment is about 2-3000. There are no secondary schools.	
Church Growth		Status of Christianity
Total Baptized	2000	
Lay Leaders	30	
Comment (Church Growth)	There are no hospitals or clinics devoted primarily to Fulani. There are two known American doctors and a nurse working with these Fulani. Fulani often attend local hospitals, but are often suspicious of the care they receive. A Christian literacy program was begun in March 2001. A two block reading primer with gospel stories was produced along with a 2.5 hour teacher training video in Fulfulde and English. Teachers training was held for 27 student teachers. The primer and training video are in use in Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon.	
Religion & Response		Status of Christianity
Resistance / Receptivity	They have varied response. some are fairly receptive until they are threatened by local, often non-Fulani leaders. Then they won't listen and are uncomfortable to be around a Christian.	
Items For Prayer	Pray for the Bible translation and literacy that has just began	
Scripture		Status of Christianity
Translation Status	In Progress	
Christian Literature And Media Status		Status of Christianity
Literature Available	One folk talk. One two-book reading primer.	
Audio Recordings Available	4 fairly useful Gospel recording tapes.	
Films Available	One training video for the reading primer.	
Radio Programs Available	One daily 15 minutes radio program on one local only station in this exact dialect started in June 2001. The same program is supposed to start soon on Radio Deuschiavela which will hopefully reach the whole country, not just one state. One daily program 1.5 hours mixed languages Arabic, Hausa, English and Fulfulde.	