

## The Dagaaba of Ghana & Burkina Faso

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The language of the Dagaaba is Dagaare. The Dagaaba people inhabit the far north-west corner of Ghana, covering parts of the Lambussie-Nandom, Lawra-Jirapa, and Nadawali-Funsi districts. The area that they inhabit covers about 4,000 square kilometers in Ghana and extends into Burkina Faso to cover the same sort of area. They do not consider themselves as a 'tribe' and are composed of many different clans, but they are distinct from their neighbors and are therefore known to outsiders by the common title of Dagaaba.

The Dagaaba are farmers cultivating crops including guinea corn, yam, millet, maize, groundnuts, beans and sweet potatoes. The Dagaaba compounds vary greatly according to area, size and date of construction.

It is agreed that the Dagaaba have occupied their present homeland for some 300 years and it is possible that the Dagaaba people were formed when they split away from the Dagomba.

The Catholics entered the area in 1929 and made quite an impact with the treatment that they administered to yaws and other prevalent diseases. The work grew quite quickly and Catholicism has a great impact on Dagaaba life. Other churches entered the area in 1954 and have taken up the challenge of literacy and Bible translation work. Up to now though the Catholic church is the largest Christian church in the area.

**Primary Religion:**

Tribal Religion

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

25%

**Churches:**

110

**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

Only portions available

**Population (date):**

640,000 (1984)



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Item Name	Item Note	
<b>Have They Heard The Gospel?</b>		<b>Profile Summary</b>
Call Themselves Christian (%)	25	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	25%	
Number Of Pastors	31	
Comment (Pastors)	1 pastor/priest for every 10,000 people	
Number Of Missionaries Working	9	
Number Of Communities	there are 531 listed Dagaaba localities	
Number Of Churches	110	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	Yes - The Gospels and various OT stories	
Translation Medium	Printed	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	Roman Catholics have translated 4 gospels and some parts of the OT and the epistles.	
Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary)	Unknown	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	There are 2 hospitals and 5 clinics run by the government. The Catholic church has matched these numbers and runs an additional 7 mobile clinics in the area. The area also has 4 secondary schools, a technical college and a training college.	
<b>Population All Countries</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
World Population For This People	640000	
World Population (Date)	1984	
<b>Countries Where People Group Lives</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Country Name	Burkina Faso	
Country Name	Burkina Faso	
Country Name	Ghana	
<b>Geography &amp; Environment</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Country	Ghana	
Ecosystem Type	Savannahs	
<b>Language &amp; Linguistics</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Alternate Language Names	Dagari, Dagara, Degati, Dagati and Dogaari.	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Indifferent	
<b>Church Growth</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Reached Status	Reached	
Christian Clinics/Hospitals	14	
<b>Religion &amp; Response</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Attitude To Christianity	Indifferent	
Attitude To Religious Change	Indifferent	
Resistance / Receptivity	The RC's unique achievement over the past sixty years has made it the first option for Dagaaba wanting to accept Christianity.	
<b>History Of Christianity In Group</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Year Began	1929	
By Whom	Roman Catholic Church	
<b>Scripture</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Translation Status	In Progress	
Available Scripture	Portions	
Form Of Scripture Available	Printed	

## The Dagaaba of Ghana & Burkina Faso

Item Name	Item Note
Scripture Use	1
Scripture Use	Unknown
Comment (Scripture)	(Imported: Summary: Word of God translated: Yes - The Gospels and various OT stories Word of God form: Printed Other forms of gospel: Unknown.)