

The MSER of Cameroon

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The Mser people live in the northern part of Cameroon. Traditionally, village chiefs and Sultans rule over them. Six Mser villages exist in Cameroon, and four are in Chad. The Mser language is one of the Kotoko languages. They refer to their own language as simply Kotoko. Islam dominates as the primary religion. Whether or not there are Mser Christians is unknown. The Mser language is not written. An SIL team working in another Kotoko language is providing training in Orthography, Grammar, and Literacy so that the Mser can begin to develop their own language.

While some Mser people live in the town of Kousseri, most live in villages. These villages may not be accessible during rainy season. The survey team visited only one Mser village in Cameroon, so the situation in the other villages is unknown.

Primary Religion:

Islam

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

> 1%

Churches:

0

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

No Scripture available

Population (date):

2,100 (1982)



Map Unavailable

The MSER of Cameroon

| Item Name | Item Note | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Have They Heard The Gospel? | | Profile Summary |
| Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%) | > 1% | |
| Number Of Pastors | 0 | |
| Number Of Missionaries Working | 0 | |
| Response To The Gospel | They are Muslims. There is no evidence of them having heard the gospel at all. | |
| Number Of Communities | 7 | |
| Comment (Number Communities) | Six Mser villages and one town exist where Mser live. If any Mser go to church in the town is unknown. Since only one village was visited it is unknown whether there may be churches in those villages. It is unlikely however. What denominations are present | |
| Number Of Churches | 0 | |
| Comment (Churches) | There are Mser people living in the town of Kousseri. It is possible that some of them go to the churches in Kousseri. The number in attendance is unknown. | |
| Is The Word Of God Translated? | No | |
| Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution? | Low literacy rate. | |
| Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary) | Recordings: no Literature: no Films/videos: no Radio: Unknown | |
| What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed? | No Christian work will be done from inside this community. Any presentation of the gospel will have to come from without. | |
| Population All Countries | | Group Description |
| World Population (Date) | 1982 | |
| World Population (Urban Percent) | 0.5% | |
| Comment (World Population) | Ethnologue estimate for Mser in Cameroon is 2,100. Some Mser live in Chad. Another estimate is 5,578. (The population figures for the Mser villages, 1987 census. The accuracy of this number - and whether this number refers to Mser speakers or simply the number of people living in the area - cannot be verified.) | |
| Countries Where People Group Lives | | Group Description |
| Country Name | Chad | |
| Country Name | Cameroon | |
| Geography & Environment | | Group Description |
| Location | Far North Province, along Logone river | |
| Country | Cameroon | |
| Ecosystem Type | Desert | |
| Geological Type | Plains | |
| Elevation | 2,000 meters | |
| Longitude | 14N | |
| Latitude | 15E | |
| Climate | Dry | |
| Language & Linguistics | | Group Description |
| Primary Language | MSER | |
| Comment (Language) | Most of the youth speak only Mser, though some speak a bit of Chad Arabic or French. | |
| Comment (Alternate Names) | Kotoko-Kuseri, Kuseri, Kouser, Kousseri, Mandagae | |
| Attitude Towards Mother Tongue | Very receptive | |
| Second Languages | French, Chad Arabic | |
| Comments (Related Languages) | All Kotoko languages are related. | |
| Comments (Neighbor Languages) | Kotoko languages | |

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| Item Name | Item Note | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Active Language Programs | No | |
| Literacy | | Group Description |
| Adult Literacy Percentage | Low | |
| Comment (Attitude to literacy) | Positive | |
| Active Literacy Program | No | |
| Comment (Literacy) | SIL is working with this language group and some neighboring groups, holding orthography, grammar, and literacy courses. | |
| Economics | | Group Description |
| Subsistence Type | Agriculturalists | |
| Subsistence Type | Fishers | |
| Occupation | Fishers and farmers | |
| Income Sources | Farming | |
| Community Development | | Group Description |
| Health Care (Quality) | Poor | |
| Diet (Quality) | Poor | |
| Shelter Description | Mud houses | |
| Electricity | None | |
| Comment (Energy) | Wood fuel. Quality unknown. | |
| Clothing | Western, traditional | |
| Transportation | Bicycles, feet | |
| Life Expectancy | Surveyors did encounter two men over one-hundred years old. | |
| Society & Culture | | Group Description |
| Authority / Rule | Village chief, Sultan | |
| Comment (Attitude To Outsiders) | Receptive to surveyors | |
| Education | | Group Description |
| Language Of Instruction Early Years | French | |
| Language Of Textbooks Early Years | French | |
| Church Growth | | Status of Christianity |
| Reached Status | Reported | |
| Comment (Reached Status) | Unreached | |
| Comment (Church Growth) | This is a Muslim area in which little Christian work is evident. As no Christian workers are available to ask for the answers, even estimates cannot be given. | |
| Religion & Response | | Status of Christianity |
| Items For Prayer | This is a Muslim people living in an underdeveloped region. Pray for Christian workers to work among them. | |