

The Pye of Nigeria



The Pye, also spelled Pe or Pai, are located beside the ‘Epeye Gopal’ mountain in Gyanggyang, Pai district, in Pankshin and Shendam Local Government Areas in Plateau State. Historically, the people migrated from Maidugri in Borno State and settled on the above mentioned mountain. Their population is estimated at 8,000.

The people enjoy a cordial relationship with their close neighbours, the Ngas, Tarok and Tal.

They are primarily farmers. They cultivate millet, maize, fonio (acha), groundnut, guinea corn, yam, potato, onions, wheat, cassava, beans and tomatoes. Some of their men are hunters and traders.

The traditional ruler of the Pye is known as ‘Udangipye’ (Chief of Pye). They have about five different cultural festivals, which are celebrated every year. The most common is the men’s initiation into ‘Nshak’ (heroism). On the day of this celebration any man who kills an antelope would be recognized as hero of the land. The dead antelope is used during the coronation of the great hunter.

The Pye are 67% Christians, 32% Africa Traditional Religionist and 1% Muslims.

Primary Religion:

Christianity

Disciples (Matt 28:19):

10%

Churches:

Many

Scripture Status (Matt 28:20):

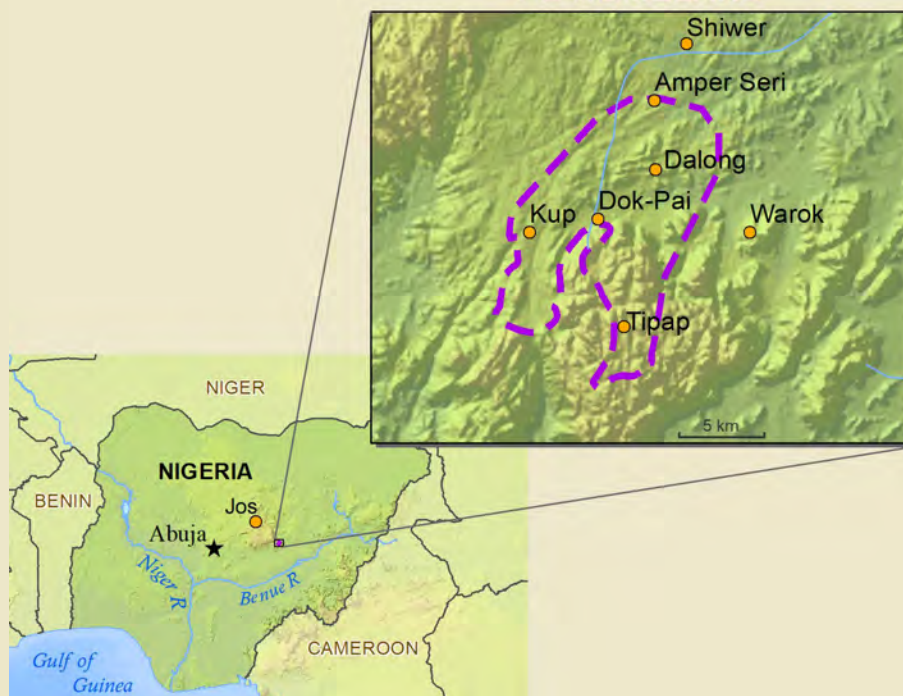
None

Population (date):

8,000 (2019)



PE HOMELAND



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Have They Heard The Gospel?

Hindrances to Scripture Use	There is no literature in the People's mother tongue. In addition, the congregation include people from several different ethnicities and languages.
Response to the Gospel	Church growth is stable, but Christians are largely nominal.
Bilingualism	Pye people speak their neighbours' languages (Ngas, and Tarok) fluently in addition to speaking Pye. Hausa is widely used in the community because of the diverse language speakers living among them. The young ones speak English very well which they have first learned in school.
Cross-Cultural Missionary Need	Literacy and education, pastoral training, health and agriculture. .
Number of Christian Congregations	There are about five Christian denominations which are serving in the area: The Catholic churches, Baptist, Assemblies of God, Church of Christ in Nations (COCIN) and Anglican churches.
Churches using primarily vernacular	None
Language of Wider Communication	Hausa [hau]