

## The Tula of Nigeria



representative photo

In a mountainous area of Nigeria, 60,000 Tula people carve terraces into steep hillsides to plant their crops. Their tight communities have lived in this region for many generations. Until 1970, Tula was the hub of the regional “Native Authority.” This agency deals with various issues for Nigeria’s cultural communities throughout the nation.

The Tula people generally get along well with neighboring groups, although occasional boundary disputes sometimes disturb the peace.

About 85% of the people follow Jesus. Most who are not Christians practice traditional African religion, which includes fear of spirits and ancestor worship.

Nigeria is one of the areas with the greatest remaining need for Bible translation in the world. With 512 languages in the country, more than 300 still need a translation started. Nigerian Christians will have to play a critical role in translating their own languages.

Nigeria has the largest population of any country in Africa, with about half of the people who are Christian concentrating in the south and half who are Muslim in the north.. The Tula are surrounded by Muslims where they live in the north.

**Primary Religion:**

Christian

**Disciples (Matt 28:19):**

Yes

**Churches:**

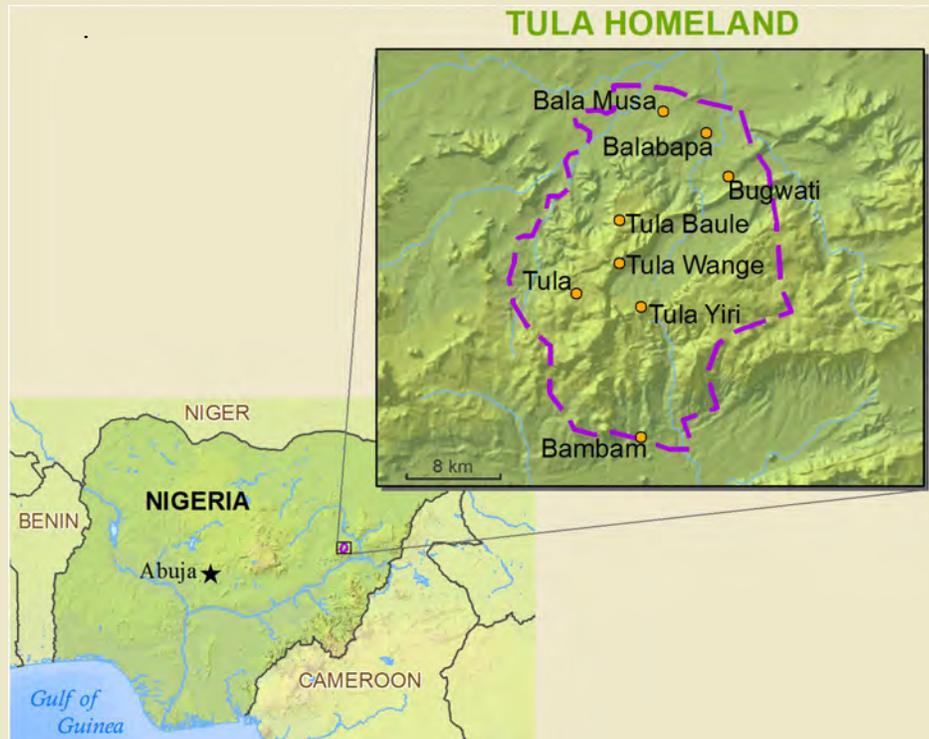
Yes

**Scripture Status (Matt 28:20):**

Portions

**Population (date):**

30,000 (1998)



## The Tula people of Nigeria

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### Have They Heard The Gospel?

History of Christianity	About 85 % of the Tula people follow Jesus.
Religious Practices and Ceremonies	Those who are not followers of Jesus practice traditional African religion, which includes fear of spirits and ancestor worship.
Is the Word of God Translated?	The gospels of Luke and John have been completed; the entire New Testament is drafted but needs substantial revision and consultant input.
Other Forms of Gospel Presentations	The JESUS film has been translated in Tula.
Comment	The night the JESUS film was first shown in an open field, 60 people accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. All of the extra 1,500 VCDs were sold out that night.

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### Group Description

#### Population all countries

World Population For This People 60,000

World Population (Date) 2010

#### Geography & Environment

Location The mountainous area of Nigeria in West Africa.

#### Alternate Language Names

Kotule, Kutule

Dialects Kutule, Baule, Yili

#### Linguistically Related Languages

The Tula project started as part of the Gombe cluster's Luke Partnership project.

#### Neighboring Languages

Tangale, Awak, Waja, Dijim-Bwilim

#### Literacy

Active Literacy Program Yes, many primary and secondary schools

## **The Tula people of Nigeria**

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### **Economics**

Subsistence Type

Agriculturalists

Occupation

Farmer

Income Sources

Guinea corn, maize, millet, peanuts, beans, fruits

### **Society & Culture**

Neighbor Relations

The Tula people generally get along well with neighboring groups, although occasional boundary disputes sometimes disturb the peace.

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### Status of Christianity

#### Religion and Response

Translation status	New Testament draft was done earlier.
Comment	This draft needs substantial revision.
Attitude toward Christianity	85 % of the Tula people follow Jesus.
Training in Bible translation	In 2005 the Theological College of Northern Nigeria established a four-year bachelor of arts program in Bible translation. Several years later a two-year advanced master's program and a one-year postgraduate diploma were added. Currently more than 35 Nigerians are enrolled in these programs.