

Sudan *Prayer for the Peoples*

Sudan is a nation made up of hundreds of ethnic, linguistic and cultural groups and clans. One researcher has identified about 2,200 groups including local clans. The following is a list of the 15 of the 36 people groups of over 100,000 people considered by some believers to be those most in need of the Gospel in Sudan. In fact, none of these groups has an established, long-term, native-language outreach involving either foreigners or local Sudanese believers. Altogether, these 15 groups number possibly more than 20 million people, with no known believers.

1. Daju
2. Danaagla/Kanuuz
3. Darfur Region NSA (Northern Sudanese Arabs)
4. East Region NSA
5. Fellata: Fulani-speaking
6. Fellata: Hausa-speaking
7. Kanuri
8. Kordofan Region NSA
9. Masalit
10. Nile Region NSA
11. North Region NSA
12. Rashaida
13. South East Region NSA
14. White Nile Region NSA
15. Zaghawa



A “people group” can be defined as: ‘The largest group of those who perceive themselves to have a common affinity with each other, and within which the Gospel can spread without encountering significant barriers of understanding and acceptance.’ The barriers could be (1) Religious (2) Language (3) Social Interaction and (4) Geography (Sudan is the biggest country in Africa).

The Daju People

Living in Western Sudan and Eastern Chad, the Daju (number one in the list) are mainly farmers and their economy is primarily based on grain production. Staple crops include millet, sorghum and corn. Some hunting is also done. Altogether, the Daju number about 150,000 in Sudan (260,000 in Chad and Sudan). The Daju have been a Muslim people since the fifteenth century. They revere the Qur’an, and all oaths and commitments are made according to its writings. Although the Daju are Muslim and follow Islamic teachings daily, they do not do so in the strictest sense. Friday prayer at the mosque

is not attended by all, and the restriction of alcohol is often ignored. In addition, many of their traditional animistic beliefs have been retained and mixed in with their Islamic beliefs. In their animist religion, cults are formed, good and bad spirits are believed in and witchcraft is practiced. For their health and protection, newborn babies are sometimes given water that has been used to wash a board with Qur’anic scriptures written on it.

▶ **Prayer** REQUESTS

- ▶ *Pray for the Daju and the other groups in the list that the Gospel might reach them (Mt 28:18-20).*
- ▶ *Pray that Bible-based communities of believers with local leadership could be established in each group (Titus 1:5-9).*
- ▶ *The Bible has not yet been translated into the Daju language. No Christian resources such as the Jesus film or Christian radio programs are available to them. However, gospel recordings are available in their language.*

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