



## The Baraïn of Chad

The Baraïn live in the Guéra, a mountainous region in Central Chad. They are mainly farmers, living in about 30 small villages in a remote area of the Melfi District, south of Bitkine. Their round huts are built with sun dried mud bricks and covered every year with fresh straw. They rely on good rain during rainy season (July to October) to grow their crops, mainly millet, beans, and peanuts. They work the hard red soil with metal hoes fixed on a strong, short branch. During dry season (November to June) water becomes a problem, since there are very few wells in the whole area. Women of several villages have to walk over 4 kilometers to reach a source. The Baraïn have frequent contacts with Arab nomads, exchanging millet for meat and dairy products. The people call themselves Jalkia, Guilia or Dakne according to the different dialectal regions. Their neighbours are the Baguirmi to the west, the Sokoro to the northwest, the Saba to the northeast and the Boua to the southeast and south.

The Baraïn traditional religion consists of bringing offerings to the margay, the spirits of nature. All blessings and curses are attributed to the spirits' activity. The spirits of the mountains are the most powerful and feared ones. The religious centres are Djili (at the bottom of Mount Jeddo) and Balili. A majority, however, converted to Islam, often still involving traditional religious practices. This people group has not been reached with the Gospel yet.

The average literacy rate for the Guéra region is 6.9%. In Baraïn country the literacy rate is likely lower, 1-2%, for there are few schools in the whole area, none of them offering the complete primary education. Children would have to go to Melfi or Bitkine. This is possible only if they have family members living there. There is also no clinic or medical supply in the whole area. Rural exodus to the bigger centres such as Bitkine, Mongo or N'Djaména is increasing, due to all the harsh living conditions.

**Primary Religion:**

Islam, Muslim-Animism

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

0%

**Churches:**

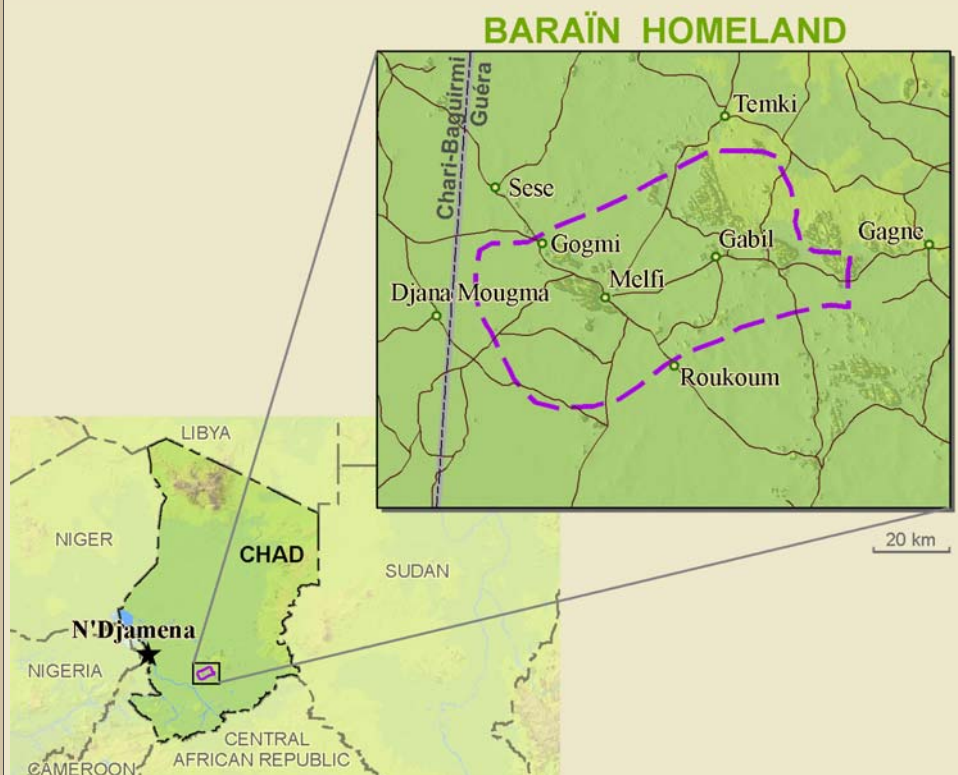
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**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

nothing

**Population (date):**

8,000 (est. 2005)



# The Baraïn of Chad

## Item Name

## Item Note

### Have They Heard The Gospel?

Call Themselves Christian (%)	0%
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	0%
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	not known
Believe In The Local Traditional Religion (%)	most of them
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	most of them
Number Of Pastors	none
Number Of Missionaries Working	none
Response To The Gospel	They most likely never heard it
Number Of Communities	none
Number Of Churches	0
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	very remote area, no linguistic work done other than two surveys
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	probable need, but difficult life conditions

## Profile Summary

### Countries Where People Group Lives

Country Name	Chad
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## Group Description

### Geography & Environment

Map Features	Villages: Andi, Baka, Fanchila, Mabra, Melfi, Mosso, Roukoum. Montagne: Mont Balili
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## Group Description

### Literacy

Comment (Literacy)	First language literacy rate: 0% Second language literacy rate: 6.9%
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## Group Description

### Society & Culture

History Of People Group	The name Baraïn was given them by the Arabs and became the general indication for the ethnic group.
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## Group Description

### Religion & Response

Attitude To Christianity	Resistant
Attitude To Religious Change	Resistant

## Status of Christianity

### History Of Christianity In Group

Year Began	unreached
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## Status of Christianity

### Scripture

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature	No
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings	No
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos	No
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Radio	No

## Status of Christianity