

## The Barombi of Cameroon

The ten Barombi villages are scattered across the South West Province in three different areas, with little contact between them. Socioeconomic conditions are difficult. Most gain a meager income from fishing and cocoa farming. Education is severely limited. There are few primary schools for Barombi children and no secondary schools. The Barombi language is unwritten, and few people are literate in any language.

*Image  
Unavailable*

Bible translation could benefit the Barombi people, but it remains to be seen whether or not it is really necessary. They might be able to use Abo (Bankon) Scriptures if or when they are developed. Barombi and Abo were once a single language, but the speech of both groups has changed over time. Also, language shift to Pidgin English is a significant factor in several Barombi communities that could make Bible translation unnecessary.

Barombi people rely on three languages of wider communication: Pidgin, English and Duala. Pidgin is the main trade language, and its use is increasing in some Barombi communities (such as Barombi Koto) even to the degree of replacing the mother tongue in some households. Only those who have attended school speak or understand English. Adults learned Duala as children because it was once taught in schools.

There are few churches among the Barombi people. The village of Barombi Mbo has only a Catholic church with about twenty regular attendees. The village of Mokono has only an Apostolic church with only children in attendance; the adults quit coming. The village of Barombi Kotto has more churches (Presbyterian, Baptist, Church of Christ, Catholic, Apostolic and Pentacostal), but even so, the majority of people follow traditional religion.

Prayer concerns for the people:

Pray for a vibrant Christian presence among the Barombi people.

Pray that they will gain a deep and true understanding of God's Word.

Ask God to free the people from traditional religion.

**Primary Religion:**

Animism

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

**Churches:**

**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

None in Barombi

**Population (date):**

3,000 (2001)



*Map Unavailable*

# The Barombi of Cameroon

Item Name	Item Note	
<b>Have They Heard The Gospel?</b>		<b>Profile Summary</b>
Number Of Missionaries Working	0	
Number Of Communities	10	
Comment (Number Communities)	There are few churches among the Barombi people. The village of Barombi Mbo has only a Catholic church with about twenty regular attendees. The village of Mokono has only an Apostolic church with only children in attendance; the adults quit coming. The village of Barombi Kotto has more churches (Presbyterian, Baptist, Church of Christ, Catholic, Apostolic and Pentacostal), but even so, the majority of people follow traditional religion.	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	There is no Scripture in the Mother Tongue.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	Medical/possibly Bible translation/Bible teaching/media/evangelism/possibly church planting	
<b>Population All Countries</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
World Population For This People	3,000	
World Population (Date)	2001	
<b>Countries Where People Group Lives</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Country Name	Cameroon	
<b>Geography &amp; Environment</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Location	The Barombi communities are scattered across the South West Province in the following locations: 1) Kumba Subdivision of Meme Division: south of Kumba, and west of Kumba on the far side of Lake Barombi Mbo, 2) Mbonge Subdivision of Meme Division: north of Mount Cameroon on an island in the center of Lake Barombi Kotto and 3) Ekondo Titi Subdivision of Ndian Division: northeast of Ekondo Titi.	
Country	Cameroon	
Ecosystem Type	Tropical Forest	
Geological Type	Islands, Volcanic	
Comments (Geography & Environment)	Geological Type: volcanic soil, one volcanic island	
<b>Language &amp; Linguistics</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Primary Language	BAROMBI	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Somewhat receptive	
Linguistically Related Languages	Bankon	
Comments (Neighbor Languages)	Most Barombi communities are surrounded by Oroko dialects, and one has significant contact with Bafaw/Balong (the dominant language of Kumba).	
<b>Literacy</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Adult Literacy Percentage	<10%	
Literacy Attitude	Somewhat receptive	
Publications In Vernacular	None	
<b>Economics</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Subsistence Type)	Fishers and cocoa farmers	
Occupation	Fishers and cocoa farmers	
Income Sources	Cocoa	
Modernization / Utilities	None	
<b>Community Development</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Water)	Lakes	
Shelter Description	Earthen homes	
Electricity	None	

## The Barombi of Cameroon

Item Name	Item Note	
<b>Society &amp; Culture</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Local Language Broadcasting	None	
Attitude To Outsiders	Somewhat receptive	
<b>Education</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Primary Schools)	Few	
Comment (Primary School Enrollment)	Low	
Secondary Schools	0	
Language Of Instruction Early Years	English	
Language Of Textbooks Early Years	English	
<b>Church Growth</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Bible Schools	0	
Christian Clinics/Hospitals	0	
Christian Literacy Centers	0	
<b>Religion &amp; Response</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Items For Prayer	<p>Pray for a vibrant Christian presence among the Barombi people.</p> <p>Pray for a clear salvation message to be preached to all Barombi people and that they will respond with faith in Christ.</p> <p>Pray that they will gain a deep and true understanding of God's Word, through whatever language.</p> <p>Ask God to free the people from traditional religion.</p> <p>Pray for a renewal of relationships between these scattered Barombi communities; they maintain little contact with one another. These relationships could be a source of strength and blessing to them.</p>	
<b>Scripture</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Translation Status	Possible	
Available Scripture	None	
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	