



The Dagara of Burkina Faso

One of the larger ethnic groups of southwestern Burkina Faso is the Dagara. They number over 250,000 and are divided perhaps more by loyalty than by actual dialect difference between the lobr and Wule speech varieties.

The Dagara are subsistence farmers. As their staple crops, they grow corn, millet sorghum, and peanuts. corn and white beans function as their major cash crops, and women sell shea nuts and pods from nere trees.

Primary Religion:

Tribal Religion

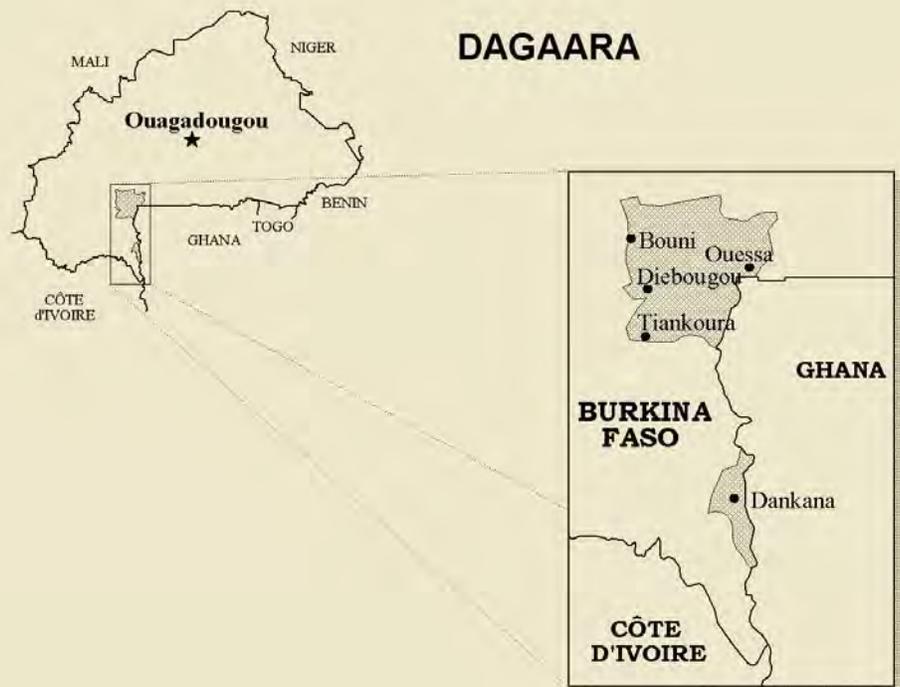
Disciples (Matt 28.19):

Churches:

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

Population (date):

287,000 (1998)



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Item Name	Item Note	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	287000	
World Population (Date)	1998	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Burkina Faso	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Location	They are found in south western Burkina Faso in Poni, Bougouriba, Sissili, Mouhoun provinces	
Community Development		Group Description
Comment (Health Care)	Lack of knowledge of hygiene is a real problem for them.	
Diet (Quality)	Poor	
Comment (Diet)	They have and imbalanced diet causing health problems.	
Water (Quality)	Poor	
Comment (Water)	The quality of water is poor resulting in several diseases.	
Education		Group Description
Comment (Education)	Public schools in the area are improving, yet only one in three villages have public schools, about the same number of children are able to attend. It is encouraging to see that the Dagara value education.	
Religion & Response		Status of Christianity
Religious Practices & Ceremonies	According to this set of beliefs, man must sacrifice animals or birds in order to appease spirits and gods.	
Attitude To Religious Change	Somewhat resistant	
Spiritual Climate And Openness	Roman Catholicism had become quite prevalent, partly because it allows the people to continue certain traditional practices, and partly because it has opened clinics and primary schools among the Dagara. Protestant churches and believers are much less common. They are meet with a degree of opposition, as well as pastors generally take a stricter stand against traditional practices.	
Items For Prayer	Pray for the translation project that has just began in Lobr and Wule. Pray as well that many take the initiative to learn to read and write in Dagara. Finally pray that the Lord raises up more Dagara pastors, and that He would change the hearts of the Dagara elders, who carry much influence in their societies.	