

The Nubi of East Africa



The Nubi originated in the Sudan and spread to various East African countries due to their involvement in the British army. Some also stayed when they escaped from slave traders while being driven from their homes to the coast. Today they are mainly found in urban centers like Nairobi, Eldama-Ravine, and Bumbo (Uganda) where they work in both the private and public sectors. The women specialize in unique handicraft and hairdressing.

The Nubi society is fairly closed and they adapt to foreign culture very slowly. They value their culture strongly as is demonstrated by their wedding ceremonies and special dress for women. Intermarriage with other tribes is uncommon and it is even less common to marry outside the Muslim religion. Cultural training begins at a tender age through daily attendance at the Muslim religious schools, the Madrassas. Many Nubi attend Madrassa rather than formal school education. Less than 40% have completed class eight. Very few have university training.

This community faces a number of socio-economic and political problems that have reduced their self-esteem. Most live in slums where the electricity, water and sanitary conditions are poor. Families have difficulty paying school fees and this leads to school dropout and involvement in drug use, which is made worse by the urban surroundings. The Nubi people are also sometimes forced from their land by the rich. They find themselves threatened and depressed.

The community is less than 10% Christian. Islam predominates. In the Kibera neighborhood of Nairobi alone, there are eight Nubi mosques. The few Christian Nubi mix in with other tribes in the many Christian churches available. The Nubis do not have a Bible or even portions of the Scriptures in their mother tongue. The only available Bible is in Arabic and is purportedly understood by the Nubi. About 80% of the Nubi population speak Nubi in their daily interactions, but many also speak Kiswahili and Arabic.

Primary Religion:

Muslim

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

Churches:

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

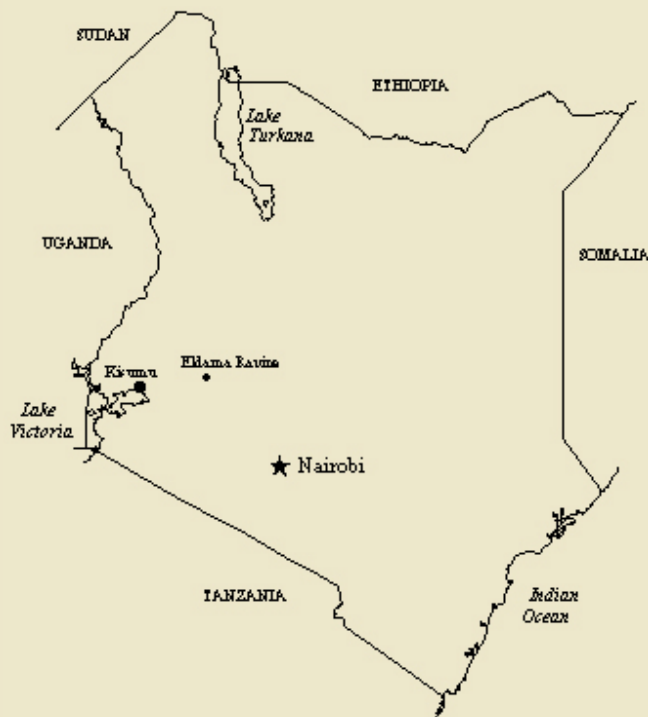
None in their language

Population (date):

25,000 (1998)



NUBI HOMELAND



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Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Call Themselves Christian (%)	<3	
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	90	
Believe Jesus Is A Myth (%)	1	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No	
Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary)	Recordings, and Films.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	The Nubi Christians are not numerous enough to explain the gospel to the rest of their people on their own without assistance of others. However, Muslim Nubi are aware that sometimes help from outside comes with religious strings attached, and they therefore react negatively to that.	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	25000	
World Population (Date)	1998	
World Population (Urban Percent)	5000	
Comment (World Population)	They are in Kenya and Uganda.	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Kenya	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Location	They are found in urban centers such as Nairobi, Eldama ravine, and Bumbo in Uganda.	
Country	Kenya	
Language & Linguistics		Group Description
Alternate Language Names	Ki-nubi, Kinubi.	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Very receptive	
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	SWAHILI	
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	SWAHILI	
Linguistically Related Languages	ARABIC, SUDANESE CREOLE	
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Literacy		Group Description
Literacy Attitude	Indifferent	
Active Literacy Program	No	
Comment (Literacy)	The literacy rate is below 5%.	
Economics		Group Description
Subsistence Type	Industrial	
Occupation	They work in both the public and the private sector.	
Income Sources	Jobs. The women specialize in unique handicraft and hairdressing.	
Community Development		Group Description
Health Care (Quality)	Poor	
Water (Quality)	Poor	
Energy/Fuel (Quality)	Fair	
Comment (Community Development)	The community faces many socio-economic and political problems that have reduced their self esteem. The people live mainly in the slum areas where the electricity, water and sanitary conditions are poor.	
Society & Culture		Group Description

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Item Name

Attitude To Outsiders

Item Note

Indifferent

Youth

Youth Problems (Teens)

Drugs for lack of things to do as they are not able to afford school.

Group Description

Education

Comment (Education)

Families have difficulty paying school fees and this leads to school dropout and involvement in drug use. Less than 40% has completed class eight. Very few have university training.

Group Description