

The Mambay of Chad



The Mambay are agriculturalist and fishers. They export agricultural products and fish to other parts of Chad and Cameroon and trade with the neighboring groups. There are very few schools in the area, and few children enroll into primary school, nonetheless, they are very keen and interested in learning how to read and write in their language.

Missionaries first came to Chad from Cameroon through the Mambay area. Their target was to evangelize the neighboring people groups. Since, the Mundang language was very large, they felt that the Mambay understand it, and so, they concentrated their efforts there. A church was started that used Scripture and teaching in Mundang. It is not until recently that they discovered that the Mambay could not understand the neighboring languages. A majority has now converted to Islam, within the last 30 years.

However, there is a Christian community who are ready and committed to work on translating the Bible into Mambay. Pray for trained Mambay people to work and have the gospel in a form they can easily understand for effective evangelism of the Mambay Muslims and discipleship of Mambay Christians.

Primary Religion:

Islam

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

5%

Churches:

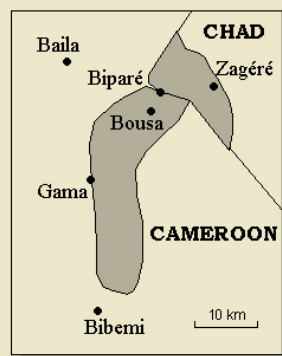
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Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

No Scripture

Population (date):

10,000 (2000)



**MAMBAI
HOMELAND**



The Mambay of Chad

| Item Name | Item Note | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Have They Heard The Gospel? | | Profile Summary |
| Call Themselves Christian (%) | 25 | |
| Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%) | 5% | |
| Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%) | 75 | |
| Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%) | ? | |
| Believe Jesus Is A Myth (%) | 0 | |
| Number Of Pastors | 10 | |
| Comment (Pastors) | 10 pastors based on pastor ratio of 1:1,000 and population of 10,000 | |
| Number Of Communities | 26 villages | |
| Number Of Churches | 10 | |
| Is The Word Of God Translated? | No | |
| Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution? | Illiteracy rate is quite high. Most cannot understand other languages very well. There are a few bilingual in Mundang or Fulfulde. | |
| Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary) | Gospel Recordings has a cassette in Mambay. The "Jesus" film is available in French. There is a Mambay hymnbook but few can read it. | |
| What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed? | Training is needed to help the language committee in successfully carrying out the task of Bible translation and community literacy. The community could possibly return to Christ if the message were presented in their language. | |
| Population All Countries | | Group Description |
| World Population For This People | 10000 | |
| World Population (Date) | 2000 | |
| World Population (Urban Percent) | 10% | |
| Comment (World Population) | Urban percentage is available for Chad Only. Cameroon population is 8,000. | |
| Countries Where People Group Lives | | Group Description |
| Country Name | Cameroon | |
| Country Name | Chad | |
| Geography & Environment | | Group Description |
| Location | Chad: In the Mayo-Dala department, in the Lere sub-prefecture. Cameroon: In the North Province, Bibemi, Figuil and Guider Subdivisions in the Benoue and Mayo-Louti Division. | |
| Country | Cameroon | |
| Ecosystem Type | Scrub Forest | |
| Geological Type | Riverine | |
| Elevation | 500m above sea level | |
| Longitude | 9.5 E | |
| Latitude | 13.5 N | |
| Climate | Hot and dry, rainy season comes earlier than most of Chad and stays longer. | |
| Comments (Geography & Environment) | The Mambay inhabit the plains of the Mayo-kebbi river on both sides for a distance of about 20km. | |
| Language & Linguistics | | Group Description |
| Primary Language | MAMBAI | |
| Comment (Language) | They are <5% monolingual. | |
| Alternate Language Names | MANGBAI, MANGBEI, MANBAI, MAMBAY, MAMGBAY, MAMGBEI, MONGBAY, MANGBAI DE BIPARE, MOMBOI. | |
| Attitude Towards Mother Tongue | Very receptive | |
| Second Languages | FRENCH; FULFULDE, ADAMAWA | |
| Other Mother Tongues Of This Group | FRENCH | |

The Mambay of Chad

| Item Name | Item Note |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Linguistically Related Languages | TUPURI |
| Linguistically Related Languages | MUNDANG |
| Neighboring Languages | GIDAR |
| Active Language Programs | No |
| Language Stability | Stable |

Literacy

Group Description

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|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Adult Literacy Percentage | 10% |
| Literacy Attitude | Very receptive |
| Active Literacy Program | No |
| Publications In Vernacular | Calendar, hymnbook |

Comment (Literacy)

There is an Adult literacy rate of probably 10%. There is a language committee starting to function and they will start with a literacy program. Not much linguistics is done, and the calendar and song book that are available, are not in an approved orthography.

Economics

Group Description

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|---------------------------|--|
| Subsistence Type | Agriculturalists |
| Average Annual Income | <\$450 per year. |
| Occupation | Farming and fishing. |
| Income Sources | Selling or trading agricultural goods and fish. |
| Trade Partners | Mambay trade with neighboring groups and export a large amount of agricultural products to other parts of Cameroon and Chad. |
| Modernization / Utilities | There are some cooperatives in the area and informal community banks. |

Comment (Economy)

The average income referred to is the national average (1994).

Community Development

Group Description

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|------------------------|--|
| Health Care (Quality) | Fair |
| Comment (Health Care) | There are some dispensaries in their area. |
| Diet (Quality) | Fair |
| Comment (Diet) | People eat millet, manioc and some meat, tomatoes, green leafy vegetables, honey and sugary tea. |
| Water (Quality) | Fair |
| Shelter Description | Huts are made of mud bricks and have straw roofs. Some have zinc roofs. |
| Electricity | None |
| Energy/Fuel (Quality) | Poor |
| Comment (Energy) | No electricity and fuel source (trees for firewood) is diminishing because of desertification. |
| Clothing | Men wear floor-length robes and sometimes western clothes. Women wear wrap around skirts or dresses made from the same fabric. |
| Transportation | People may be able to catch a market truck to get to a larger center on market days. |
| Infant Mortality Rate | 12.3% |
| Life Expectancy | 47 Years |
| Leading Cause Of Death | Intestinal infections. |

Comment (Community Development)

Child mortality, Life Expectancy, and leading cause of death information is based on the national average (1994). Intestinal and other infections are due largely to lack of sanitation and clean water.

Society & Culture

Group Description

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|--------------------|--|
| Family Structures | Extended family. |
| Neighbor Relations | Apparently good relations with neighboring peoples. |
| Authority / Rule | Each village has its local chief who relates to a Canton chief and the local subprefect. |

The Mambay of Chad

| Item Name | Item Note | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Social Habits/Groupings | Unknown | |
| Cultural Change Pace | Slow | |
| Identification With National Culture | Similar | |
| Self Image | Neutral | |
| Judicial / Punishment System | Technically they are under the governance of the local canton chief and the local subprefect. | |
| Celebrations | Muslim and Christian celebrations. | |
| Recreations | Socialization, listening to the radio, drinking tea (men). | |
| Art Forms | Songs and dance. | |
| Media | Only short wave radio stations can be received. | |
| Attitude To Outsiders | Very receptive | |
| Attitude To Change | Somewhat receptive | |
| History Of People Group | (see description on front page) | |
| Youth | | Group Description |
| Labor and tasks (6-12 year olds) | working in fields and fishing and girls help with cooking and childcare. | |
| Education | | Group Description |
| Language Of Instruction Early Years | French | |
| Language Of Textbooks Early Years | French | |
| Language Of Instruction Later Years | French | |
| Language Of Textbooks Later Years | French | |
| Number Of Schools > 90% Homogeneous | <50% of all schools are homogenous | |
| Comment (Education) | There are few schools. | |
| Church Growth | | Status of Christianity |
| Reached Status | Evaluated | |
| Reached Classification | Unreached | |
| Total Baptized | 25 | |
| Lay Leaders | 10 | |
| Comment (Church Growth) | These are all estimates. | |
| Religion & Response | | Status of Christianity |
| Religious Practices & Ceremonies | Ramadan, Tabaski, and Friday prayers. | |
| Attitude To Christianity | Very receptive | |
| Attitude To Religious Change | Somewhat receptive | |
| Spiritual Climate And Openness | The whole community (including Muslims) are interested in reading and writing in their language. | |
| Current Needs | Literacy and Bible translation. | |
| Items For Prayer | Pray that the Mambay Language committee would be trained in linguistics and literacy and proceed well with literacy and translation of the Bible. | |
| History Of Christianity In Group | | Status of Christianity |
| Year Began | 1920's | |
| By Whom | Lutheran | |
| Significant Events | There was a massive turn to Islam in the group; part of the reason was because polygamy was allowed in Islam. Not sure if that was the main reason or what the other factors were that influenced a formerly Christian (more or less) ethnic group to become Muslim. | |
| Scripture | | Status of Christianity |

The Mambay of Chad

| Item Name | Item Note |
|--|---|
| Translation Status | Definite |
| Available Scripture | None |
| Form Of Scripture Available | None |
| Reason For Urgent Need Of Translation | Language committee is waiting for help to be trained in linguistics and Bible translation. They have also identified a potential translator and sent him to Bible school in Kaele, a neighboring town in Cameroon (Mundang area). The Christian members of the language committee are very excited and enthused about doing literacy and Bible translation. |
| Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature | No |
| Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings | Yes |
| Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos | No |
| Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Radio | No |

Missions and Churches

Status of Christianity

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Organization Name | Roman Catholic Church |
| Denominational Type Of Organization? | Yes |
| Organization Name | Église Fraternelle Luthérienne du Cameroun |
| Denominational Type Of Organization? | Yes |

Christian Literature And Media Status

Status of Christianity

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Literature Available | None |
| Audio Recordings Available | Gospel Recordings has a cassette in Mambay. |
| Films Available | None |
| Radio Programs Available | None |
| Videos Available | None |
| Audio Visual Available | None |