

## The Awngi of Ethiopia

The Awngi language is spoken by the Awi people, who live mainly in Awi Zone in Amhara Region, but also in Dangur District of Metekel Zone of Benishangul Gumuz Region and in Q'uara and Alefa Districts of North Gonder Zone of Amhara Region in Northern Ethiopia. The North Gonder Zone Awis have previously been called Kunfāl. Awis are predominantly farmers (using a plow) and very similar in culture to Amharas. The North Gonder Zone Awis, however, are very different in culture to the rest of the group. Awis are strongly Ethiopian Orthodox Christians and very resistant to any form of protestant Christianity. However, they are Christians, and for that reason the following questions are answered with the Orthodox Church in mind. The Awi people accepted Orthodox Christianity hundred of years ago, and therefore they have integrated it into their culture. If there is any specific information on protestant Christianity, it will be added in parentheses.

**Image  
 Unavailable**

**Primary Religion:**

Christian Orthodox

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

1%

**Churches:**

500

**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

None

**Population (date):**

397,491 (1998)



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Item Name	Item Note	
<b>Have They Heard The Gospel?</b>		<b>Profile Summary</b>
Call Themselves Christian (%)	>95%	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	1%	
Comment (Jesus As God & Only Savior)	In Ethiopian Orthodox theology, there are other possible saviors in addition to Jesus.	
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	0%	
Number Of Pastors	500	
Comment (Pastors)	(15 to 20 protestant evangelists)	
Response To The Gospel	Hundreds of years ago they accepted Orthodox Christianity and incorporated it into their culture.	
Number Of Communities	500	
Number Of Churches	500	
Comment (Churches)	12 protestant churches	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	No interest even among protestant churches	
Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary)	Three Look, Listen and Live tapes are translated.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	Ethiopian Cross-Cultural Missionaries are needed	
<b>Countries Where People Group Lives</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Country Name	Ethiopia	
<b>Geography &amp; Environment</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Map Features	use Ethnologue features	
<b>Literacy</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Adult Literacy Percentage	20%	
Comment (Literacy)	First language literacy rate: 20% Second language literacy rate: 20% (rough estimates)	
<b>Religion &amp; Response</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Attitude To Christianity	Receptive	
Comment (Attitude To Christianity)	To orthodox Christianity only. Very resistant towards Protestant Christianity.	
Attitude To Religious Change	Resistant	
<b>History Of Christianity In Group</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
Year Began	1700	
Comments (History of Christianity)	protestant Christianity around 1970	
<b>Scripture</b>		<b>Status of Christianity</b>
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	