



**UNREACHED
PEOPLE GROUPS**
of the Greater Middle East

A Collection of Language Profiles
for 31 SRG-selected Languages

Prepared for



by

Calvin Edwards & Company
in collaboration with
SRG staff, Ministry Partners, & consultants

March 2020
Version 3.0



Strategic Resource Group (SRG) is a 501(c)(3) professional advisory services organization specializing in international grantmaking services for Christian resource partners (donors) who seek to improve both the stewardship of and return on their kingdom investments. Focusing on the Middle East,

North Africa, and the Arabian Peninsula, SRG identifies strategic ministry initiatives in the region, conducts due diligence, and bundles them into *ministry funds*. It invites resource partners to contribute to these funds, and thus help to maximize ministry impact and facilitate wise stewardship.

Post Office Box 1809
Easton, MD 21601
United States of America

info@srginc.org

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1200 Ashwood Parkway, Suite 140
Atlanta, GA 30338

info@calvinedwardscompany.com
www.calvinedwardscompany.com

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
UPG LANGUAGE PROFILES	
01 SUDANESE ARABIC (APD)	5
02 MESOPOTAMIAN ARABIC (ACM)	11
03 NORTH LEVANTINE ARABIC (APC)	15
04 CENTRAL KURDISH (CKB)	21
05 SOUTH LEVANTINE ARABIC (AJP)	25
06 TA'IZZI-ADENI ARABIC (ACQ)	29
07 SAIDI ARABIC (AEC)	33
08 NAJDI ARABIC (ARS)	35
09 TACHELHIT (SHI)	39
10 ADYGHE (ADY)	43
11 TUROYO (TRU)	47
12 GILAKI (GLK)	49
13 KOALIB (KIB)	53
14 GULF ARABIC (AFB)	55
15 SANAANI ARABIC (AYN)	59
16 HIJAZI ARABIC (ACW)	61
17 EASTERN EGYPTIAN BEDAWI ARABIC (AVL)	65
18 WESTERN BALOCHI (BGN)	69
19 BEJA (BEJ)	73
20 HADRAMI ARABIC (AYH)	77
21 DIMLI (DIQ)	79
22 SOUTHERN KURDISH (SDH)	81
23 NOBIIN (FIA)	85
24 LIBYAN ARABIC (AYL)	89
25 ANDAANDI (DGL)	93
26 MASALIT (MLS)	97
27 DZODINKA (ADERE) (ADD)	101
28 SARAIKI (SKR)	105
29 EASTERN BALOCHI (BGP)	109
30 SOUTHERN PASHTO (PBT)	113
31 SOUTHERN BALOCHI (BCC)	117
SOURCE OF DATA FIELDS	121
APPENDICES	123
▪ APPENDIX A: NUMBERED LANGUAGE LIST	125
▪ APPENDIX B: NUMBERED UPG LIST & LANGUAGE SPOKEN	127
▪ APPENDIX C: NUMBERED LANGUAGE LIST & NUMBER OF SRG COUNTRIES ...	131
▪ APPENDIX D: NUMBER OF UPG LANGUAGES BY COUNTRY	133
▪ APPENDIX E: COUNTRIES & SRG-SELECTED UPG POPULATION	135

INTRODUCTION

This booklet presents profiles for the 31 SRG-selected Unreached People Group (UPG) languages. It is extracted from Section 2, “SRG-selected UPG Languages,” in *Unreached People Groups of the Greater Middle East: A Collection of Documents to Inform & Describe an Engagement Strategy for UPGs* (version 2). This publication contains a vast compendium of documents and information about the UPG languages, UPGs who speak the languages, and ministry strategies to reach them.

These profiles provide understanding of the languages and the people groups in the ten Priority Countries and four Near East countries that speak the language. They are presented in SRG’s priority order, based on population size and degree of availability of Bible products.

We hope that ministry leaders and field workers will study these profiles and pray through how God would have the ministry engage with the people who speak one or more of these UPG languages.

Updates

In Version 1.0, October 2017, each profile included:

- General language data
- Bible product information
- Narrative on the largest people group in SRG’s 13 selected countries that speaks the language
- Other people group data

Version 2.0, July 2018, updated the details within the language summary for each profile. This comprised the following changes:

- Added number of near languages
- Added number of near languages with written Bible products
- Updated Jesus Film products available
- Updated Bible translation activity
- Updated written Bible products available
- Added key facts about the languages

Version 3.0, March 2020, includes the following enhancements:

- Added four Pakistani languages (languages 28-31)
- Updated population data
- Updated Bible translation activity
- Updated written Bible products available
- Noted as withdrawn from the UPG Initiative: Turoyo (primarily orthodox Christian) and Dzodinka (largely out of the region and reached); their profiles have been retained for continuity

Sources

The information in the profiles was obtained from seven sources and is used with permission:

- Ethnologue, www.ethnologue.com
- International Mission Board, www.peoplegroups.org
- World Christian Database, www.worldchristiandatabase.org
- Joshua Project, www.joshuaproject.net
- Jesus Film Project, www.jesusfilm.org
- SIL, Wycliffé, Seed Company, & United Bible Society communications
- Field-based human intelligence from SRG portfolio consultants, SRG Ministry Partners, key ministries, mission agencies, on-the-ground workers, and other researchers

The source of individual data fields is described at the back of this booklet.

See opposite for a Fact Sheet on SRG's UPG Initiative.

FACT SHEET

Greater Middle East UPG Initiative

An Engagement Strategy for Unreached People Groups

Vision

To see movements among unreached people groups in the Greater Middle East where people come to Christ, are discipled, develop local leadership, and form churches.

Mission

Over the next **7** years¹, to form locally-led churches among **29** MENA language groups², impacting **90** people groups³ with a population of around **254** million⁴ in **14** countries.⁵

1. *This is an estimate; work may not be complete in this period but engagement with all 29 languages should be initiated.*
2. *Some languages are a dialect within a larger family of languages.*
3. *Some people groups span multiple countries or languages; if these are treated as two, the count rises to 136.*
4. *The population continues to increase rapidly, pointing to urgent action.*
5. *The countries are SRG's 10 Priority Countries and 4 Near East countries.*

Estimated Investment

Up to \$100 million.

Macro Strategy for the Initiative

The engagement of people groups follows the following high-level strategy:

1. **Create an SRG ministry fund** for the UPG Initiative, led by the UPG initiative executive director, to mobilize and direct people, prayer, and financial resources.
2. **Divide the task** by 29 UPG languages so that, over time, the fund includes 29 “sub-funds” led by language cluster consultants.
3. **Develop a Language Strategy** that centers on the local community and results in church formation and multiplication.
4. **Employ a holistic approach** with multiple ministry partners, for each UPG language, who specialize in at least one of nine UPG initiative sectors (see list below).
5. **Solicit proposals** for segments of work within an initiative sector for a UPG language.
6. **Stagger initiation** of engagement over time so that strategies for future UPG languages can be refined with learnings from prior languages.
7. **Provide funding and direction** for approved *Proposals*.
8. **Evaluate results** and continue to refine the strategy and its execution.

Ministry Sectors

Tools

1. Bible translation & distribution
2. Media
3. “JESUS” film & other videos
4. Orality

Evangelism Process

5. Proclamation
6. Discipleship
7. Leadership development
8. Church formation

Support

9. Prayer mobilization

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

01: SUDANESE ARABIC (APD)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: apd

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
30,251,600

Number of people groups in SRG
countries: 40

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant.
Latin script.

EGIDS: Wider Communication (3)—The language is used in work and mass media without official status to transcend language differences across a region. De facto language of national identity.

Dialects: Khartoum, Western Sudanese, North Kordofan Arabic, Ja'ali, Shukri. Western Sudan Spoken Arabic and Khartoum Arabic dialects have little compatibility.

Alternate names: Khartoum Arabic, Sudanese Spoken Arabic

Number of Near Languages:⁹² 20

% Christian of total language population:
2.81%

% Evangelized of total language
population: 41.78%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT

Audio Scripture: ✓

Translation date: New
Testament 1978

Current Translation Activity: Work
underway with a Bible translation
agency.

Number of Near Languages with
Written Bible Products: 5

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: X

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: ✓

Some (two of the 39 people groups have
access to Christian radio broadcasts in
Sudanese Arabic)

Other

Written form rarely used; Standard
Arabic (arb) used instead. Used as a
second (or additional) language by all
other language groups in Sudan.

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Sudanese Arabic



⁹² A near language is in the same language cluster as the selected language, according to World Christian Database. These languages share 80% or more basic vocabulary. They share general inter-comprehension.

LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SUDANESE ARABS IN SUDAN

History: The Sudanese Arabs originated in the Khartoum region of Sudan many centuries ago. Today, they live primarily in northern and central Sudan and in Egypt. A few groups are scattered in Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Libya, and Yemen.

The first Arabs were called “Bedouins,” they were tribal nomads from Saudi Arabia, known for their love of poetry and war. The Sudanese Arabs are a tribe who branched off of the Bedouins. They are a heterogeneous people with a mixture of cultures.

Since 1983, conflict between the predominately north Arab and southern animist and Christian regions of the Sudan has accounted for more than two million deaths. In 2011, Sudan split and a new country of South Sudan was formed (not shown on map).

Lifestyle: Most Sudanese Arabs live in small rural villages. They grow grains, vegetables, and cotton, and raise livestock, all of which are used for food or trade. Clusters of mud-brick homes with dirt floors make up the villages. The homes are built close together, which reflects the close ties between the family members within the communities. Although farming is the chief occupation of the villagers, some of them have jobs as carpenters, tailors, religious leaders, or barbers.

Some Sudanese Arabs live in towns or cities. They have a greater variety of occupations, but weaker family ties than those who live in villages. These Arabs have more concern for such things as economic prosperity and education. Today, some of them work in the oil fields of Saudi Arabia, attend universities in neighboring countries, or use trucks instead of camels.

Other Sudanese Arabs have continued living the nomadic lifestyle of their ancestors. They have temporary dwellings and move from place to place with their herds. Camels are used to transport them

across desert lands, and their economy is based primarily on stock breeding and trade. Rigid codes of honor, loyalty, hostility, and hospitality are among those values that have remained strong throughout the centuries.

In the Arab culture, children are considered to be a family’s greatest asset, providing both workers and security for the parents as they grow older. Although boys and girls may be raised together when they are young, they are treated differently. Mothers show great affection towards the boys, pampering them and responding to their every wish. Girls are shown some affection, but are not pampered. The boys are taught by their fathers to obey and respect older males. Girls are taught the values of obedience to their future husbands. Teenagers are not permitted to have any contact with the opposite sex until after marriage.

Religious Beliefs: Sudanese Arabs are Muslims. Identification with the Islamic religion is one of the primary cultural characteristics of most Arabs. While the men gather in the local mosque five times a day for prayer, the women meet in homes and have their own religious services, conducted by female religious leaders. Only on certain occasions are the women permitted inside the mosques.

Engagement: Sudanese Arabs live in a country engulfed by tension, terror, and war. They have some Christian resources available to them, but churches are often closed, destroyed, or not allowed to be built. Converts from the Muslim faith are often persecuted by their Islamic relatives.

Primary mission agencies: SIM International, Church Mission Society, Ordre Basilien Alépin (Melkite Greek), Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church, Church of Christ

PEOPLE GROUPS

Sudan

Sudanese Arabs: 5,840,000; Islam

Galiin: 3,820,000; Islam

Guhayna: 1,765,000; Islam

Shaikia: 1,195,000; Islam

Gawamaa: 1,195,000; Islam

Kawahia : 1,175,000; Islam

Bederia: 1,155,000; Islam

Dar Hamid: 909,000; Islam

Hasania: 896,000; Islam

Baggara: 722,000; Islam

Rufaa: 695,000; Ethnic Religions

Hamer-Banna: 515,000; Islam

Yazeed: 515,000; Islam

Rizeiqat: 473,000; Islam

Kababish: 472,000; Islam

Fezara: 399,000; Islam

Berti: 388,000; Islam

Shukria: 325,000; Islam

Batahin: 309,000; Islam

Tungur: 239,000; Islam, Sunni

Lahawin: 226,000; Islam

Murgi Birked: 218,000

Husseinat: 197,000; Islam

Gimma: 194,000; Islam

Sherifi: 165,000; Islam

Awlad Hassan: 113,000; Islam, Sunni

Shuweihat: 107,000; Islam

Maalia: 102,000; Islam

Dubasiyin: 95,000; Islam

Selim: 75,500; Islam

Liri: 56,000; Islam

Kerarish: 44,500; Islam

Gule: 35,000; Islam

Mandal: 33,000; Ethnic Religions

Kineenawi: 32,500; Islam

Baygo: 2,700; Islam

Eliri: 400; Islam

Egypt

Sudanese Arabs: 4,950,000; Islam

Saudi Arabia

Sudanese Arabs: 124,000; Islam

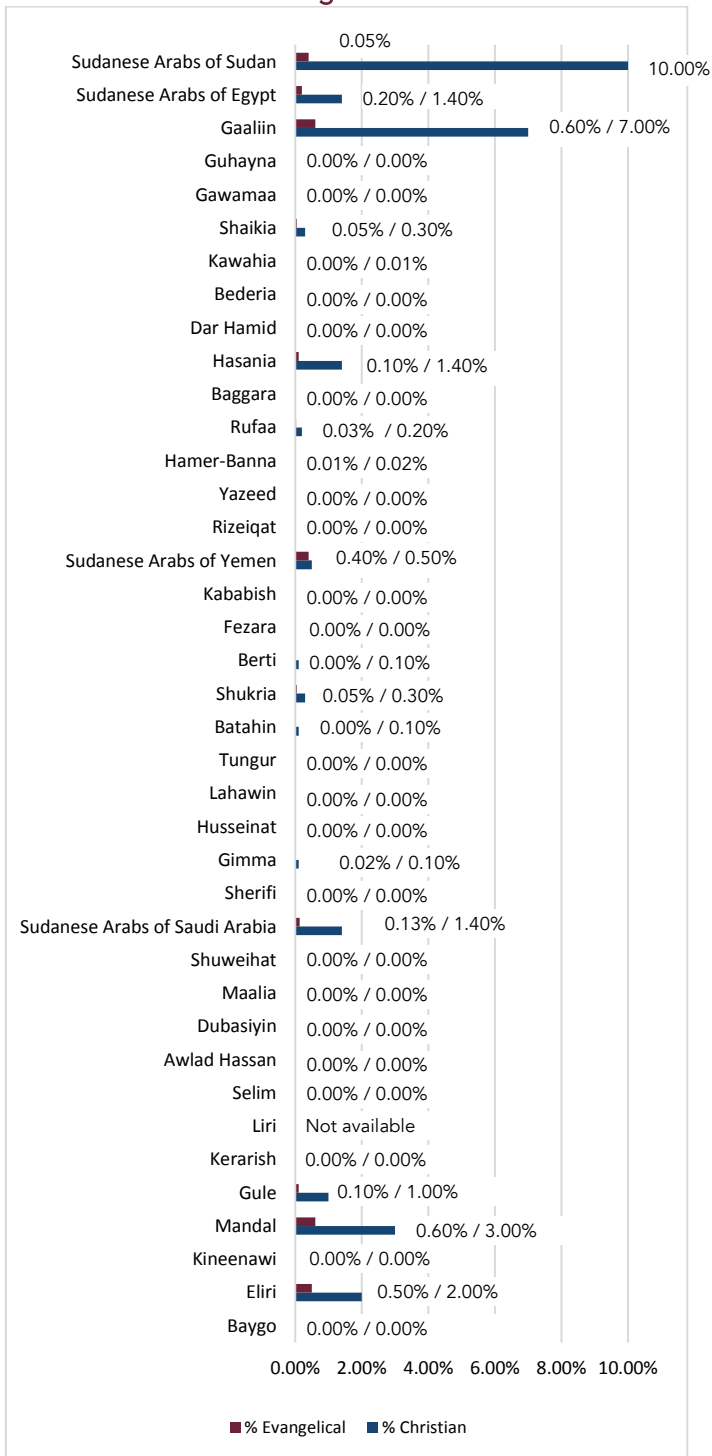
Yemen

Sudanese Arabs: 479,000; Islam

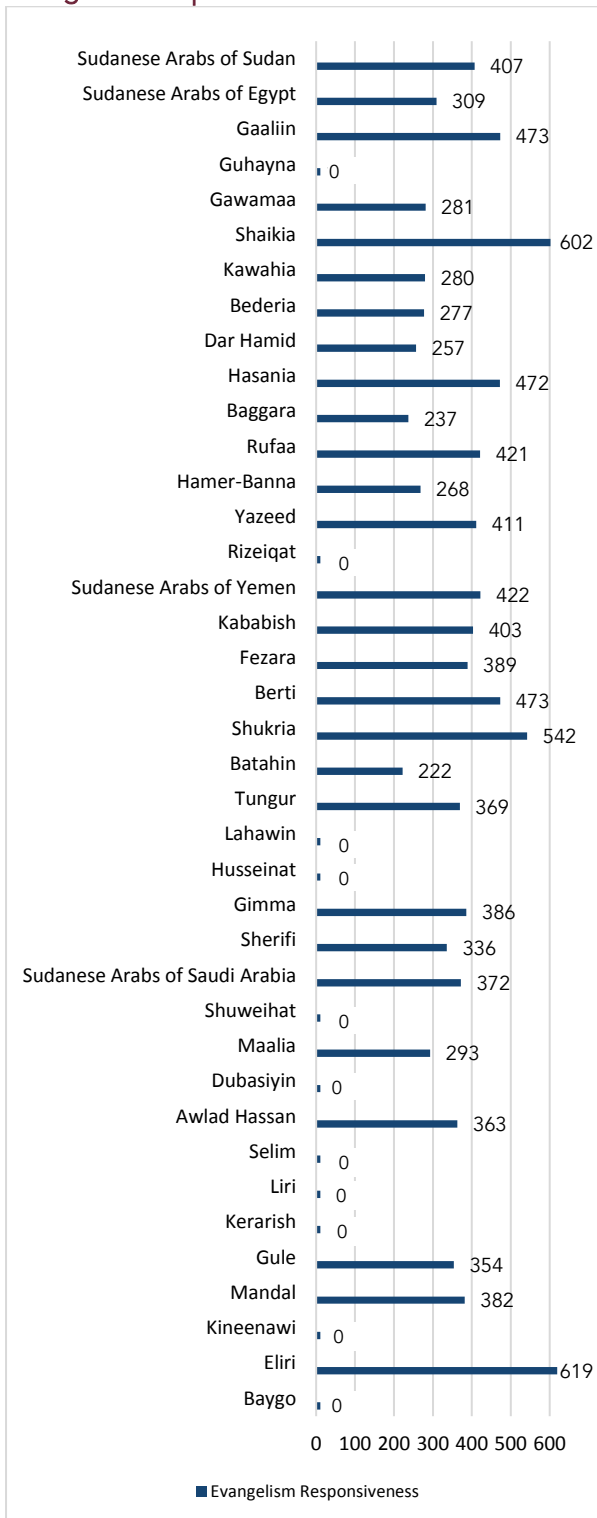
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Sudanese Arabs of Sudan Sudanese Arabs of Egypt Galin Baggara Kababish Tungur	Guhayna Gawamaa Shaikia Kawahia Bederia Dar Hamid Hasania Rufaa Hamer-Banna Yazeed Rizeiqat Fezara Berti Shukria Batahin Lahawin Murgi Birked Husseinat Gimma Sherifi Shuweihat Maalia Dubasiyin Awlad Hassan Selim Liri Kerarish Gule Mandal Kineenawi Eliri Baygo Sudanese Arabs of Saudi Arabia Sudanese Arabs of Yemen

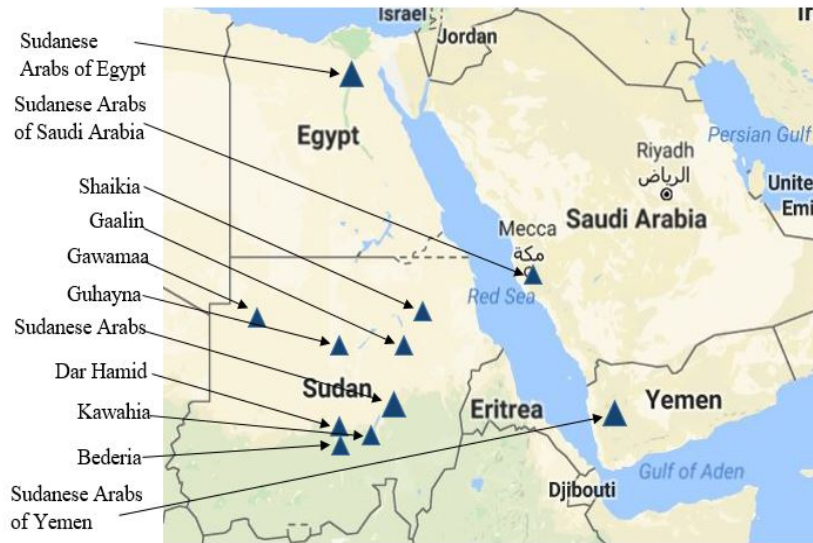
Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries⁹³



⁹³ The 11 largest people groups are shown here.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

O2: MESOPOTAMIAN ARABIC (ACM)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: acm

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
23,755,500

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
6

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Wider Communication (3)—The language is used in work and mass media without official status to transcend language differences across a region. De facto national working language.

Dialects: Iraqi dialects that correlate with geographical and sectarian divisions, and Bedouin dialects exist. Nearly unintelligible to speakers of certain other Arabic varieties.

Alternate names: Arabi; Baghdadi; Furati; Iraqi Arabic; Mesopotamian Gelet Arabic; Mesopotamian Qeltu Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
0.64%

% Evangelized of total language population: 44.48%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Bible

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: 1940-1973

Current Translation Activity: Work previously underway with a Bible translation agency, but no current work as of April 2018.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 5

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✓

Radio Broadcast: ✓

Other

Four of the six people groups have access to Christian radio broadcasts in Mesopotamian Arabic.

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Mesopotamian Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: IRAQI ARABS OF IRAQ

The Iraqi Arabs are part of the Levant Arab people cluster. The narrative here is the same as the

narrative for the Palestinian Arabs of Jordan that speak South Levantine Arabic (ajp), and the Syrian

Arabs of Syria that speak North Levantine Arabic (apc). Joshua Project describes these people groups in the same terms since they are all a part of the Levant Arab people cluster.

History: The Iraqi Arabs descended from a people group cluster called the Levant Arabs. The Levant Arabs originally settled throughout the Arabian Peninsula and later migrated to North Africa. They are spread from Israel to Kuwait and as far east as Iran. “Levant” is a broad term that includes several groups of Arabs: Iraqi, Jordanian, Palestinian, Arabic Jewish, Chaldean, and Syrian Arabs. Most scholars consider Arabs from the Arabian Peninsula to be the original Arabs. The Arabian culture was developed by tribes of nomads and villagers who lived in the Arabian Desert for many centuries.

Lifestyle: Although the Iraqi Arabs have settled in towns or villages, they have held on to their tribal affiliations. Their fortress-like villages can be easily defended. Each house has windows on all sides and is built facing the outside of the village. All goods and persons passing through town are strictly controlled. Social life is extremely important to Arabs. They like to share a daily coffee time by sitting on the floor and drinking coffee. Their diet consists of wheat bread and porridge made with boiled meat or chicken. Village farmers raise wheat, barley, rice, vegetables, coffee, melons, dates, cattle, sheep, and pomegranates. Domestic animals are kept to supply milk and eggs.

Islam has greatly influenced the lives of the Iraqi Arabs. To preserve their people, they are only allowed to marry those inside their own group. Inheritances are passed down through the males. Since children are considered a family’s greatest asset, females are valued mostly for their ability to bear children. Women wear veils or burka both in town and at home.

In the past, marriages were arranged by the parents; however, it is becoming more acceptable for young people to choose their

own spouse. Young girls are considered ready for marriage by age nine.

Religious Beliefs: The primary religion of Iraqi Arabs in Iraq is Islam. Iraqi Arabs make up 56 percent of the population in Iraq. In 1968, the Iraqi constitution established Islam as the religion of the state. Iraq is comprised of both Sunni and Shi’ite Muslims.

Engagement: The greatest spiritual need among the Iraqi Arabs is training for evangelistic workers, church planters, children’s workers, and pastors.

Primary mission agencies: Church of South India, Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: Action Catholique de l’Enfance, Roman Catholic Church; Conservative Baptist International; Seventh-day Adventists

PEOPLE GROUPS

Iraq

Iraqi Arabs: 21,710,000; Islam

Marsh Arabs: 547,000; Islam

Mandaean: 30,000; Ethnic religions

Syria

Iraqi Arabs: 72,500; Islam

Iran

Arabs of Iran: 1,280,000; Islam, Shi’a

Yemen

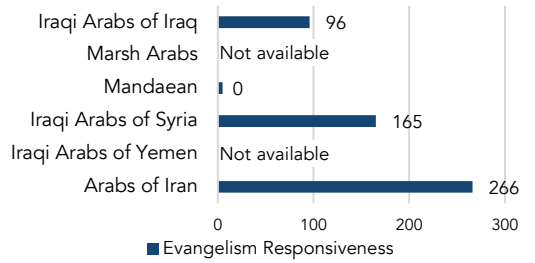
Iraqi Arabs: 116,000; Islam

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 02: MESOPOTAMIAN ARABIC (ACM)

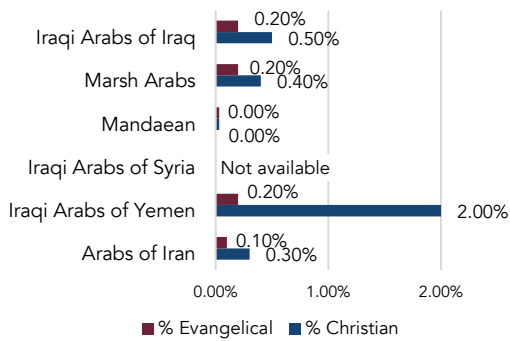
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Iraqi Arabs of Iraq Arabs of Iran	Marsh Arabs Iraqi Arabs of Syria Iraqi Arabs of Yemen Mandaean

Evangelism Responsiveness



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

03: NORTH LEVANTINE ARABIC (APC)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: apc

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
29,880,700

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
23

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Wider Communication (3)—The language is used in work and mass media without official status to transcend language differences across a region. De facto national working language.

Dialects: Urban standard dialect based on Damascus speech. Beirut well accepted.

Alternate names: Lebanese-Syrian Arabic, Levantine Arabic, North Levantine Arabic, Syro-Lebanese Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
16.82%

% Evangelized of total language population: 65.13%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ NT

Audio Scripture:

✗

Translation date: 1973-1981

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency. Under consideration by another translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with Written Bible Products:

5

JESUS Film:

✗

Magdalena Film:

✗

The Story of Jesus for Children:

✗

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

✗

Radio Broadcast:

✓

Ten of the 23 people groups have access to Christian radio broadcasts in North Levantine Arabic.

Other

Language not considered appropriate for written Bible products

SRG Countries of People Groups North Levantine Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SYRIAN ARABS OF SYRIA

The Syrian Arabs are part of the Levant Arab people cluster. The narrative here is the same as the narrative for the Palestinian Arabs of Jordan that speak South Levantine Arabic (ajb), and the Iraqi Arabs of Iraq that speak Mesopotamian Arabic (acm). Joshua Project describes these people groups in the same terms since they are all a part of the Levant Arab people cluster.

History: The Levant Arabs originally settled throughout the Arabian Peninsula and later migrated to North Africa. Today, several hundred thousand Levant Arabs live along the northern edges of the Arabian Desert. They are spread from Israel to Kuwait and as far east as Iran. “Levant” is a broad term that includes several groups of Arabs: Jordanian, Palestinian, Iraqi, Chaldean, and Syrian Arabs.

Scholars consider Arabs from the Arabian Peninsula to be the original Arabs. The Arabian culture was developed by tribes of nomads and villagers who lived in the Arabian Desert for many centuries. It was also from there that Arab migrations began, eventually leading to the expansion of the Arab world.

Lifestyle: The Levant Arabs typically live in villages located near fertile regions; but they can also be found near mountain foothills in less arid regions. Although they have settled in towns or villages, they have held on to their tribal affiliations. The various tribes are ruled by sheiks (Arab chiefs that are experts in Islam and in relating to the outside world). Their fortress-like villages can be easily defended. Each house has windows on all sides and is built facing the outside of the village. All goods and persons passing through town are strictly controlled.

Despite Islamic teachings, different classes of Arabs persist. The type of clothing worn has become an indicator of class. Levant tribesmen dress differently than other villagers and can be easily recognized. The women wear veils both in town and at home. Boys show that they are becoming

men by changing their headgear and wearing daggers.

Muslims are allowed to have up to four wives, but most marriages among the Levant Arabs are monogamous. In the past, all marriages were arranged by the parents; however, it is becoming more acceptable for young people to choose their own mates. Young girls are considered ready for marriage by age nine. They are only allowed to marry those inside their own group.

In recent years, many of the Levant Arab nomads have settled into mountain villages where they now raise grains, vegetables, coffee, melons, dates, mangoes, and pomegranates. Domestic animals are kept to supply milk and eggs.

Religious Beliefs: The Levant Arabs have had a close association with Islam throughout their history; and today, all except the Jewish Arabs are Muslims. The two main branches of Islam in the region are the Shi’ites and Shafiites.

Engagement: Currently, there are only a few known Christians within the Levant Arab community, with the largest number found among the Iraqi Arabs. Evangelization efforts among these tribes are challenging due to restrictions in many of the countries, as well as general antagonism towards Christianity.

Primary mission agencies: Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: Syrian Orthodox Church; Roman Catholic Church; National Evangelical Christian Alliance Church in Syria

PEOPLE GROUPS

Syria

Syrian Arabs: 11,240,000; Islam, Sunni

Alawites: 1,565,000; Islam, Shi’a

Shi’ites: 1,115,000; Islam, Shi’a

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 03: NORTH LEVANTINE ARABIC (APC)

Palestinian Arabs: 675,000; Islam

Druze: 642,000; Islam, Shi'a

Jordanian Arabs: 40,000; Islam

Turkey

Alawites: 1,650,000; Islam, Shi'a

Syrian Arabs: 3,370,000; Islam, Sunni

Levantine Arabs: 1,260,000; Islam,
other/marginal

Jordan

Palestinian Arabs: 2,175,000; Islam, Sunni

Syrian Arabs: 1,345,000; Islam

Iraqi Arabs: 500,000; Islam

Lebanon

Lebanese Arabs: 2,590,000; Islam

Palestinian Arabs: 737,000; Islam

Druze: 236,000; Islam

Alawites: 100,000; Islam, Shi'a

Saudi Arabia

Lebanese Arabs: 153,000; Islam

Jordanian Arabs: 224,000; Islam

Israel

Druze: 143,000; Islam

Alawites: 2,200; Islam, Shi'a

Egypt

Palestinian Arabs: 69,000; Islam

Yemen

Palestinian Arabs: 29,000; Islam

Iraq

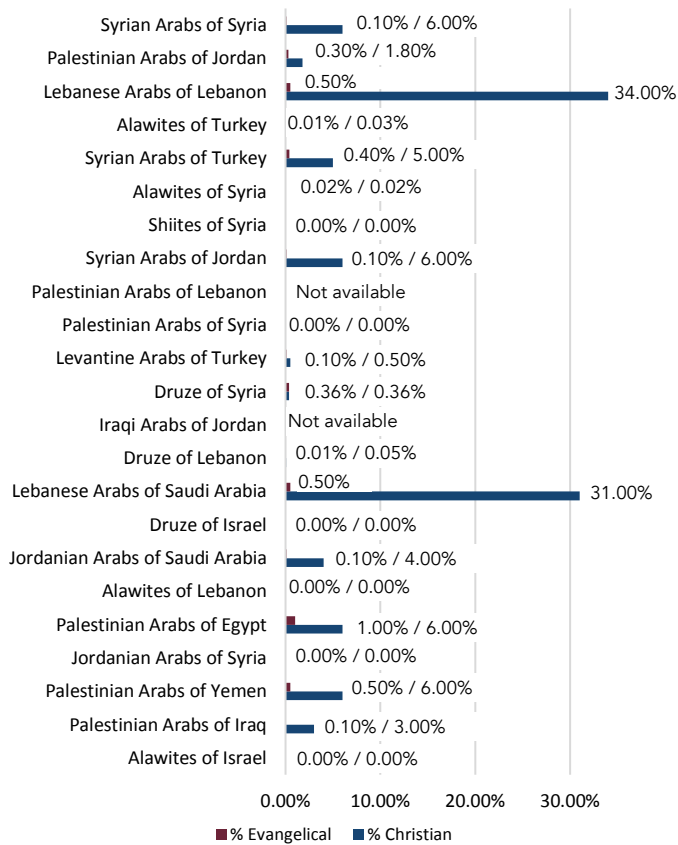
Palestinian Arabs: 20,500; Islam, Sunni

Missional Status of People Groups

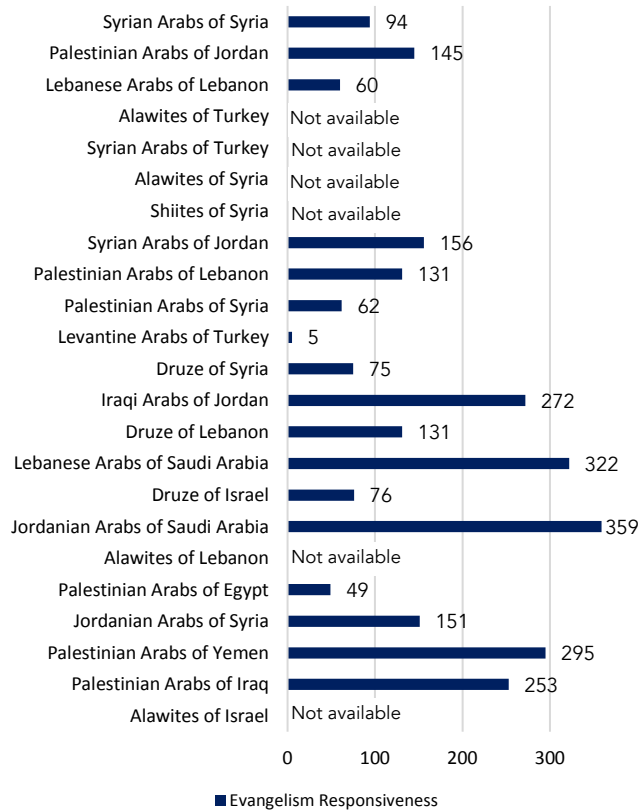
	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Syrian Arabs of Syria Alawites of Syria Alawites of Turkey Levantine Arabs of Turkey Palestinian Arabs of Jordan Syrian Arabs of Jordan Iraqi Arabs of Jordan Lebanese Arabs of Lebanon Palestinian Arabs of Lebanon Druze of Lebanon Druze of Israel Alawites of Israel	Shi'ites of Syria Palestinian Arabs of Syria Druze of Syria Jordanian Arabs of Syria Syrian Arabs of Turkey Alawites of Lebanon Lebanese Arabs of Saudi Arabia Jordanian Arabs of Saudi Arabia Palestinian Arabs of Egypt Palestinian Arabs of Yemen Palestinian Arabs of Iraq

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 03: NORTH LEVANTINE ARABIC (APC)

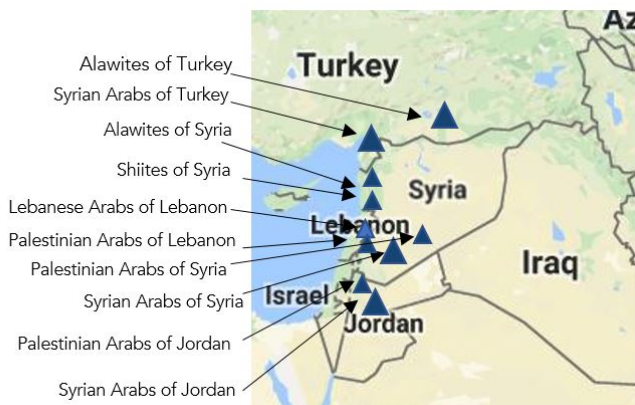
Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries⁹⁴



⁹⁴ The 10 largest people groups are shown here

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

04: CENTRAL KURDISH (CKB)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: ckb

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
8,585,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
3

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant
Literary standard based on Sorani (from Suleimaniye) variety.

EGIDS: Provincial (2)—The language is used in education, work, mass media, and government within major administrative subdivisions of a nation.

Dialects: In Sulaimaniya and Kerkuki dialects seen as mutually intelligible. A member of macrolanguage Kurdish.

Alternate names: Kurdi, Sorani

Number of Near Languages: 2

% Christian of total language population:
0.06%

% Evangelized of total language population: 23.66%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Bible

Audio Scripture: ✓

Translation date: Full Bible published in April 2017

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 1

JESUS Film: X

Magdalena Film: ✓

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: ✓

One of the three people groups has access to Christian radio broadcasts in Central Kurdish.

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Central Kurdish



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: CENTRAL SORANI KURDS OF IRAQ

The Central Sorani Kurds are part of the Kurd people cluster. The following narrative describes both the larger Kurd group and the Central Sorani Kurds (also known as Central Kurds), and it is reasonable to believe the characteristics of the Central Sorani Kurds of Iran are similar to the larger Kurdish group.

History: The Kurds are a large ethnic group who trace their roots back to the Medes of ancient Persia (now Iraq, Iran, and Turkey). The Kurds are tribal people and many of them lived, until recently, a nomadic lifestyle in the mountainous regions of Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran.

In the wake of World War I, the Kurds were promised a homeland—Kurdistan—in the Treaty of Sevres (1920). However, the victorious allies backed away from their pledge in an attempt to court the new Turkish regime of Kemal Ataturk, and in fear of destabilizing Iraq and Syria, which were granted to Britain and France, respectively, as mandated territories. The 1923 Treaty of Lausanne thus abrogated Kurdish independence and divided the Kurds among Turkey, Iraq, and Syria. Ataturk's discrimination against Turkey's Kurdish population began almost immediately, with Kurdish political groups and manifestations of cultural identity banned outright. In the immediate aftermath of the Second World War, the Kurds of Iran, with Soviet support, succeeded in establishing the first independent Kurdish state (the Kurdish Republic of Mahabad), but this was quickly crushed by Iranian troops.

Today, Kurds are the largest ethnic group in the world without a state of their own. They are unevenly distributed between Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.

Lifestyle: The primary loyalty of Kurdish people is to the immediate family, and then to the tribe. The Kurds of Iraq live along the country's northeastern borders with

Turkey and Iran, and form nearly one third of the Iraqi population.

After giving their support to Iran in the war against Iraq in 1980, the Kurds experienced Saddam Hussein's terrible revenge, with the Iraqi government declaring war against the Kurds. In this war 200,000 Kurds were killed and 5,000 of their villages and towns were destroyed. Among other incidents, 5,000 inhabitants were killed by chemical warfare when Saddam's forces attacked the Kurdish town of Halabja in March 1988. The anti-Kurdish campaign was both genocidal and gendericidal in nature. "Battle-age" men were the primary targets of Anfal, according to Human Rights Watch. Only a handful survived the execution squads.

Religious Beliefs: Most Kurds are Muslims, and today about three quarters are members of the majority Sunni branch. However, it is believed that Kurds are not strongly committed to Islam, and do not identify as closely with it as Arabs do. One reason may be that many Kurds still feel some connection with the ancient Zoroastrian faith, an original Kurdish spirituality.

Engagement: Tribalism is still a factor among Kurds, promoting many different factions which weaken the possibility of an independent homeland.

Primary mission agencies: Church of South India, Worldwide Evangelization Crusade (WEC International), Operation Mobilization, Youth With A Mission

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Iraq

Central Sorani Kurds: 4,575,000; Islam, Sunni

Iran

Central Sorani Kurds: 4,000,000; Islam, Sunni

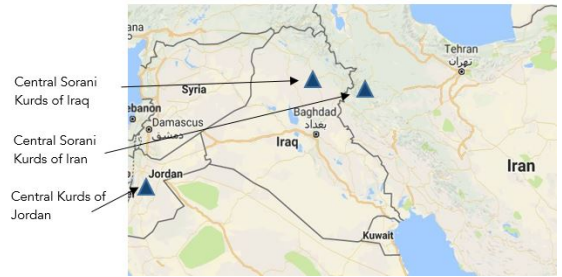
Jordan

Central Kurds: 10,000; Islam

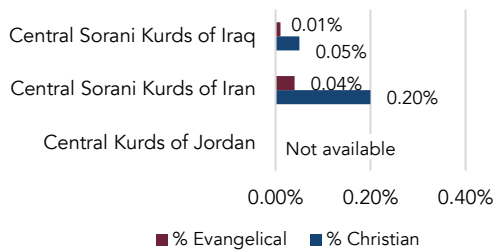
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Central Sorani Kurds of Iraq Central Sorani Kurds of Iran	Central Kurds of Jordan

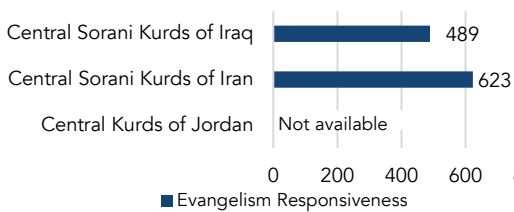
Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

05: SOUTH LEVANTINE ARABIC (AJP)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: ajp

Population of speakers in SRG Countries:
8,665,500

Number of people groups in SRG
Countries: 9

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Wider Communication (3)—The language is used in work and mass media without official status to transcend language differences across a region. De facto national working language.

Dialects: Madani, Fellahi. Village to village difference of which speakers are aware. Newly emerging urban standard dialect based in Amman.

Alternate names: Levantine Arabic; Palestinian-Jordanian; South Levantine Spoken Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
6.16%

% Evangelized of total language
population: 53.51%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ gospel
& portions

Audio Scripture:

X

Translation date: Portions 1940-1973

Current Translation Activity: Work under consideration by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

5

JESUS Film:

✓

Magdalena Film:

✓

The Story of Jesus for Children:

✓

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

X

Radio Broadcast:

✓

Five of the nine people groups have access to Christian radio broadcasts in South Levantine Arabic.

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking South Levantine Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: PALESTINIAN ARABS OF JORDAN

The Palestinian Arabs are part of the Levant Arab people cluster. The narrative here is the same as the narrative for the Iraqi Arabs of Iraq that speak Mesopotamian Arabic (acm), and the Syrian Arabs of Syria that speak North Levantine Arabic (apc). Joshua Project describes these people groups in the same terms since they are all a part of the Levant Arab people cluster.

History: Palestinian Arabs are classified as Levant Arabs, which includes several groups of Arabs: Jordanian, Palestinian, Iraqi, Arabic Jewish, Chaldean, and Syrian. Today, several hundred thousand Levant Arabs live along the northern edges of the Arabian Desert. Most scholars consider Arabs from the Arabian Peninsula to be the original Arabs. Tribes of nomads and villagers who lived in the Arabian Desert developed the Arabian culture. It was from there that Arab migrations began. Palestinian Arabs are spread from Israel to Kuwait and as far east as Iran. Small groups can also be found in North Africa.

Palestinian Arabs have had a close association with Islam throughout their history, and today most of them are Muslims. However, there has been a sizable contingent of committed Christians among them. The two main branches of Islam in the region are the Shi'ites and Shafiites.

Lifestyle: Like most Levant Arabs, Palestinian Arabs typically live in villages located near fertile regions; however, they are also found near mountain foothills. Although they have settled in towns or villages, they are still tribal in nature. The various tribes are ruled by sheiks (Arab chiefs that are experts in Islam). Their fortress-like villages can be easily defended. All goods and persons passing through town are strictly controlled. Despite Islamic teachings, different classes of Arabs persist. The type of clothing worn is an indicator of class. Palestinian Arab tribesmen dress can be easily recognized by their dress. The women wear veils both in

town and at home. Boys show that they are becoming men by changing their headgear and wearing daggers. Muslims can have up to four wives, but most marriages among Palestinian Arabs are monogamous. In the past, all marriages were arranged; however, it is becoming more acceptable for young people to choose their own spouses.

Religious Beliefs: Most Palestinian Arabs are Muslim, and Islamic laws have greatly influenced their lives.

Engagement: Evangelization efforts among Palestinian Arabs are challenging due to restrictions in many countries, and general antagonism to Christianity.

Primary mission agencies: Church Mission Society, Foreign Mission Board, Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society, Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: Greek Orthodox Church, Roman Catholic Church, Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, Jordan Baptist Convention, Seventh-day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses

PEOPLE GROUPS

Jordan

Palestinian Arabs: 2,807,000; Islam

Jordanian Arabs: 3,330,000; Islam, Sunni

Druze: 36,500; Islam

Israel

Palestinian Arabs: 1,660,000; Islam

Syria

Palestinian Arabs: 428,000; Islam

Jordanian Arabs: 30,000; Islam

Saudi Arabia

Palestinian Arabs: 188,000; Islam

Syrian Arabs: 165,000; Islam

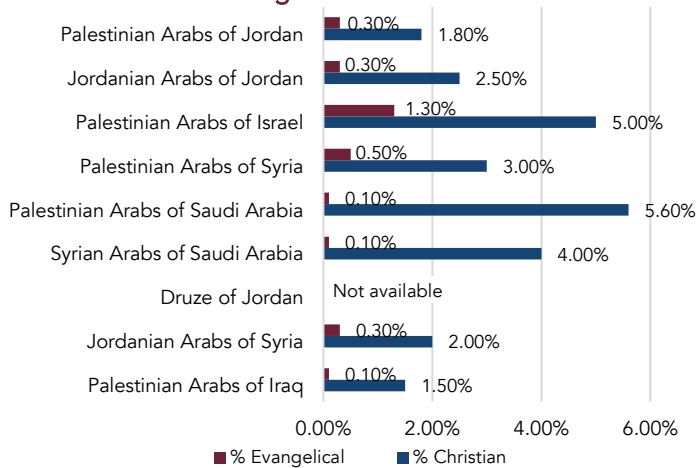
Iraq

Palestinian Arabs: 21,000; Islam

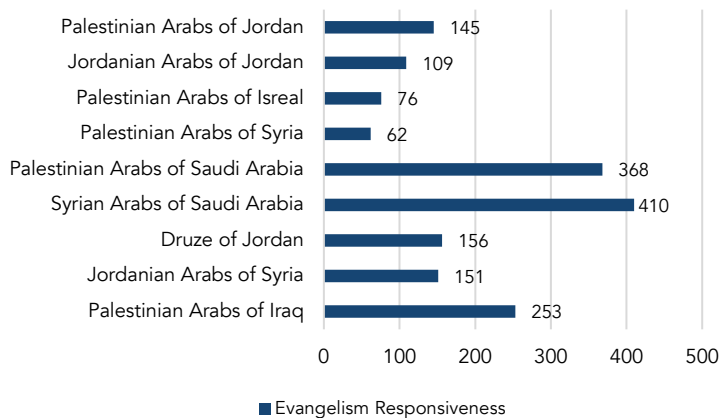
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Palestinian Arabs of Jordan Jordanian Arabs of Jordan Palestinian Arabs of Israel	Druze of Jordan Palestinian Arabs of Syria Jordanian Arabs of Syria Palestinian Arabs of Saudi Arabia Syrian Arabs of Saudi Arabia Palestinian Arabs of Iraq

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

06: TA'IZZI-ADENI ARABIC (ACQ)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: acq

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
16,833,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
6

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable. De facto language of provincial identity in South Yemen.

Dialects: Ta'izzi, Adeni

Alternate names: Southern Yemeni Spoken Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 16

% Christian of total language population:
0.02%

% Evangelized of total language population: 34.11%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Prior work by a Bible translation agency. New translation agency work to begin Fall 2019.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 6

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Ta'izzi-Adeni Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SOUTHERN YEMENI ARABS OF YEMEN

The Southern Yemeni Arabs are part of the Yemeni Arab people cluster. The following narrative describes the larger Yemeni Arab group, and it is reasonable to believe the characteristics of the

Southern Yemeni Arabs of Yemen are similar to the larger Yemeni Arab group.

History: Arabs from the Arabian Peninsula are considered to be the original Arabs.

The Arabian culture was developed by tribes of nomads and villagers who lived in the Arabian Desert.

Lifestyle: Southern Yemeni Arab society is tribal with over 1,700 different tribes or clans, ruled by sheiks (Arab chiefs), who often fight with each other. Today, most Southern Yemeni Arabs live in fortress-like villages that can be easily defended. All goods and persons passing through town are strictly controlled. Social life is extremely important to Arabs.

Despite Islamic teachings to the contrary, different classes of Arabs persist. The social structure of the Yemeni Arab consists of four classes: the Sayyid, or wealthy (who trace their descent to the grandson of Muhammad), the Qatani, (tribesmen), the Shafi'ite townsmen (merchants, artisans, and craftsmen), and the Akhdam (slaves). The type of clothing worn is one indicator of class. Yemeni tribesmen can be easily recognized. The women wear veils both in town and at home. Boys show that they are becoming men by changing their headgear and wearing daggers.

Inheritances are passed down through the males. Children are considered a family's greatest asset, and therefore, females are valued for their ability to bear children. Muslims can have up to four wives, but most marriages among the Yemeni Arab are monogamous. In the past, all marriages were arranged; however, it is becoming more acceptable for young people to choose their own spouse.

In recent years, many of the nomads of Yemen have settled into mountain villages where they raise grains, coffee, melons, dates, mangoes, and pomegranates. Domestic animals are kept to supply milk and eggs.

Religious Beliefs: Almost all Southern Yemeni Arabs are Muslim. About half of them are Zaydis Muslims, 40 percent are Shafi'ites, and 5 percent are Ismailis. The Zaydis sect of Islam, which is part of the Shi'ite tradition, is quite fanatical. Most of the Zaydis are warriors and perceive all wars to be a manifestation of Jihad—Muslim crusade against infidels or holy war.

Engagement: There are less than 5,000 known believers in Yemen, and the percentage of Christians among Southern Yemeni Arabs is 0 percent. Evangelization efforts are challenging due general antagonism to the gospel.

Primary mission agencies: Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (Catholic), Red Sea Mission Team, Catholic Relief Services, Foreign Mission Board, White Fathers (Society of Missionaries of Africa), Missionaries of Charity, Worldwide Evangelization for Christ, Church of South India

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church

PEOPLE GROUPS

Yemen

Southern Yemeni Arabs: 9,885,000; Islam

Tihama Yemeni Arabs: 4,905,000; Islam, Sunni

Akhdam: 1,710,000; Islam, Sunni

Saudi Arabia

Southern Yemeni Arabs: 229,000; Islam

Egypt

Southern Yemeni Arabs: 100,000; Islam

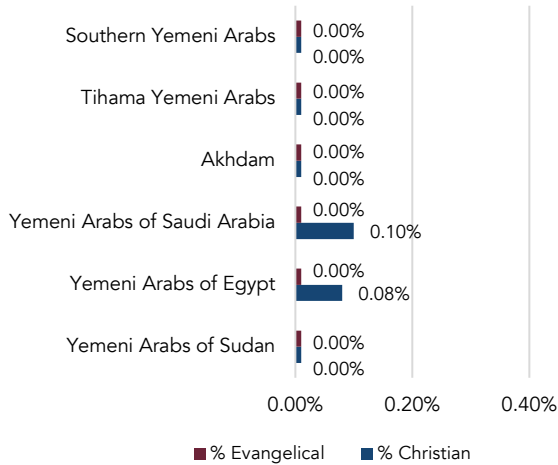
Sudan

Southern Yemeni Arabs: 4,000; Islam

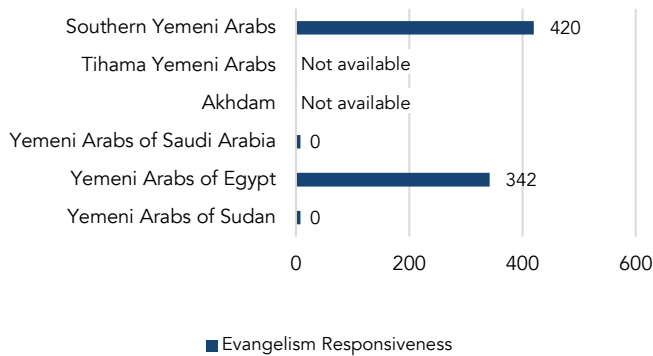
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Southern Yemeni Arabs Yemeni Arabs of Egypt	Tihama Yemeni Arabs Akhdam Southern Yemeni Arabs of Saudi Arabia Southern Yemeni Arabs of Sudan

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

07: SAIDI ARABIC (AEC)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: acc

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
23,810,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable.

Dialects: Middle Egypt Arabic, Upper Egypt Arabic. Reportedly similar to Sudanese Arabic (apd), especially in the south, but heavily influenced by Cairene Arabic (Cairo speech)

Alternate names: Sa'idi, Saidi Spoken Arabic, Upper Egypt Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
16.68%

% Evangelized of total language population: 69.68%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work previously underway with a Bible translation agency, but no current work as of April 2018.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 6 ✓

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

Other

Language not considered appropriate for written Bible products.

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Saidi Arabic



PEOPLE GROUP: SAIDI ARABS OF EGYPT

History: Saidi Arabs are from Upper Egypt (to the south), where 40 percent of Egyptians

live. The Saidi people are traditionally rural. Saidi people and their dialect are the subject

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 07: SAIDI ARABIC (AEC)

of numerous Egyptian ethnic jokes. They are popularly assumed to be rural simpletons, who are physically stronger than other Egyptians. 80 percent of Egypt's poverty is concentrated in Upper Egypt. Millions of upper Egyptians have migrated to Lower Egypt for work opportunities.

Religious Beliefs: Saidi Arabs are primarily Sunni Muslims, however, their region has a large Coptic population and a rich Coptic history. For instance, Sahidic was the leading Coptic dialect in the pre-Islamic period.

Engagement: Because of their history with the Coptic Church in the region, Saidi Arabs are less hostile to the gospel message than many other people groups. There are many churches and mission agencies serving among the people, but they are in need of Bible resources.

Primary mission agency: Seventh Day Baptists, Franciscan (Order of Friars Minor), Jesuits (Society of Jesus), Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: Coptic Orthodox Church, Roman Catholic Church, Consejo Evangelico de Venezuela, Assemblies of God, Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, and Conservative Baptist International

PEOPLE GROUP

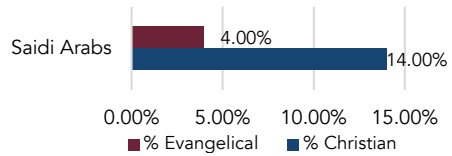
Egypt

Saidi Arabs: 23,810,000; Islam

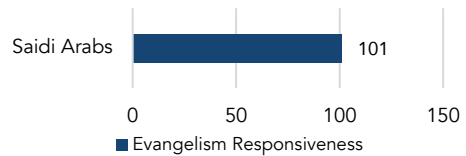
Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Saidi Arabs	None

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Group in SRG Country



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

08: NAJDI ARABIC (ARS)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: ars

Population of speakers in SRG Countries:
16,481,000

Number of people groups in SRG
Countries: 5

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Wider Communication (3)—The language is used in work and mass media without official status to transcend language differences across a region. De facto national working language.

Dialects: North Najdi (spoken in Ha'il Region and Al-Qassim Region in the Najd), Central Najdi (Urban Najdi—spoken in the city of Riyadh and surrounding towns and farming communities), South Anjdi (spoken in the city of Al-Kharj and surrounding towns). Some dialects spoken by Bedouins.

Alternate names: Najdi

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
0.26%

% Evangelized of total language
population: 33.87%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Portions 2013

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 6

JESUS Film: ✗

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✗

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

Other

Spoken, not appropriate for reading and writing.

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Najdi Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SAUDI ARABS OF SAUDI ARABI

History: Najdi is one of the varieties of the Arabic language spoken by Saudi Arabs. Saudi Arabia is sometimes called, "The Land of The Two Holy Mosques," in reference to Mecca and Medina, the two holiest places in Islam. Najdi speaking Arabs are part of the Bedouin, Arabian people cluster. The majority of Najdi speaking Arabs are in Saudi Arabia but some are in Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, and Syria.

Lifestyle: Saudi Arabian dress follows strictly the principles of hijab, the Islamic principle of modesty. The region from which Najdi Arabs originate is known for its strict interpretation of Islam and is generally considered a bastion of religious conservatism, known today is Salafism.

Religious Beliefs: Najdi speaking Arabs are nearly all Muslim. Very few Najdi Arabs deviate from the Islamic faith. The public practice of any religion other than Islam (including Christianity and Judaism), the presence of churches, and possession of non-Islamic religious materials is not allowed.

Engagement: Saudi Arabia is completely off limits to any kind of indigenous Christian presence. Christian radio, television, and websites, provide many opportunities to communicate the good news about Christ.

Primary mission agencies: Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (Catholic), Church of South India, and Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabs: 11,570,000; Islam

Bedouin Arabs: 1,305,000; Islam

Iraq

Bedouin Arabs: 1,680,000; Islam

Syria

Bedouin Arabs: 1,405,000; Islam

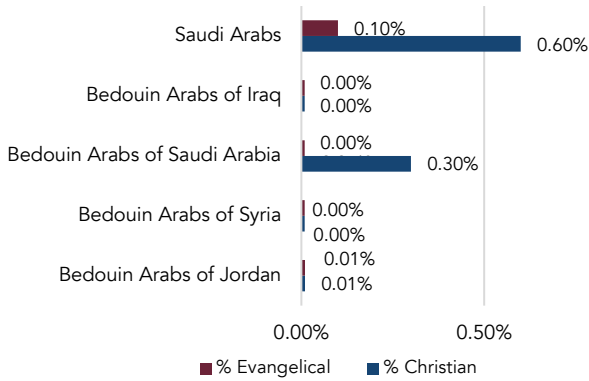
Jordan

Bedouin Arabs: 521,000; Islam

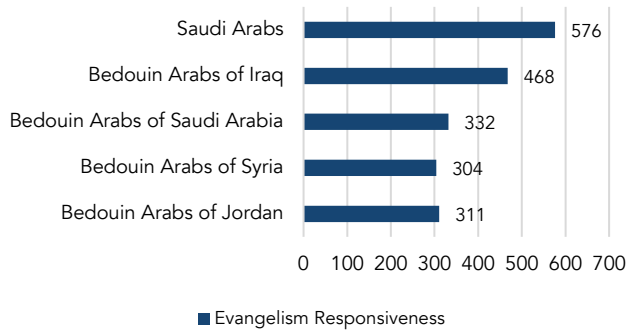
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Saudi Arabs Bedouin Arabs of Jordan	Bedouin Arabs of Iraq Bedouin Arabs of Saudi Arabia Bedouin Arabs of Syria

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

09: TACHELHIT (SHI)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: shi

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
5,680,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant. Latin script. Tifinagh (Berber) script, official usage.

EGIDS: Developing (5)—The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.

Dialects: None.

Alternate names: Shilha, Soussiya, Southern Shilha, Susiya, Tachilhit, Tashelheyt, Tashelhit, Tashilheet, Tashlhiyt, Tasoussit

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
0.04%

% Evangelized of total language population: 28.89%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT

Audio Scripture: ✓

Translation date: Portions 1906-1925, New Testament 2010, Old Testament portions in progress

Current Translation Activity: Work previously underway with a Bible translation agency, but no current work as of April 2018.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 4

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✓

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: ✓

Both people groups have access to Christian radio broadcasts in Tachelhit

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Tachelhit



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: ISHELHAYN BERBER OF MOROCCO

History: The Ishelhayn Berber (also known as the Southern Shilha Berbers or the Sousi Berbers) live in the western High Atlas and the Anti Atlas Mountains of southwestern Morocco, and in the plains and valleys which lie between them. Between November and May the region is blanketed in snow.

The Ishelhayn Berbers are a poor but proud people. They are tough and hard working. No other group in Morocco starting from tribal origins has achieved as much as them. A high degree of unity is the key to their success. This unity extends beyond tribal boundaries to encompass all who speak Tachelhit.

Lifestyle: Most of the Ishelhayn Berber are farmers and shepherds. On plots that are not regularly irrigated, they grow barley and sometimes rye. On the lower slopes, they herd sheep and goats. Surplus farm and animal products are sold at weekly markets.

In the villages, the Berber way of life has remained unchanged. Most villages contain between 50 and 500 people. They typically live in two-story, mud brick homes with flat roofs. In the more rugged mountain areas they live in goat skin tents.

Urban men and women wear western clothing, sometimes with long hooded robes, or jellabas. Men wear turbans, called tagiyas, and women wear veils or head scarves. Rural women dress colorfully, but modestly, wearing several layers of clothing.

The Ishelhayn Berbers place little value education because they believe that hard work is of higher value. Only a small number complete more than a few years of public school. In rural areas, many male children attend Islamic schools. A typical family consists of close relatives living under the authority of the male head. A new bride, often as young as 14, will move into the husband's family's home after marriage.

Many Ishelhayn Berbers have left their poor, overpopulated valleys, in hopes of finding new lives in the northern cities of Morocco. Some have become profitable grocers, shopkeepers, or wholesalers. Others have entered the fabric trade. Today, some of the most important businessmen in Casablanca are Ishelhayn Berbers.

Religious Beliefs: Although the Ishelhayn Berbers are nearly all Muslim, their religion is mingled with spiritism and mysticism. This blended religion has created a curiosity and yearning to know more about their god. They worship a god whom they believe wants to be present in their daily lives.

Engagement: In rural areas, only about half of the people have access to health services, usually a small clinic with a nurse, but no doctor. Most villages contain a shrine for their particular "saint." People often visit these domed buildings in search of healing. It is illegal for a Moroccan to become a Christian or to evangelize others; however, the Ishelhayn Berbers are showing an interest in Christianity and the Bible now more than ever before. Distribution of Bibles is against the law, and Morocco is closed to traditional missions work.

Primary mission agencies: Gospel Missionary Union, Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, Church of South India, Interdev, and Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Morocco

Ishelhayn Berber: 4,545,000; Islam

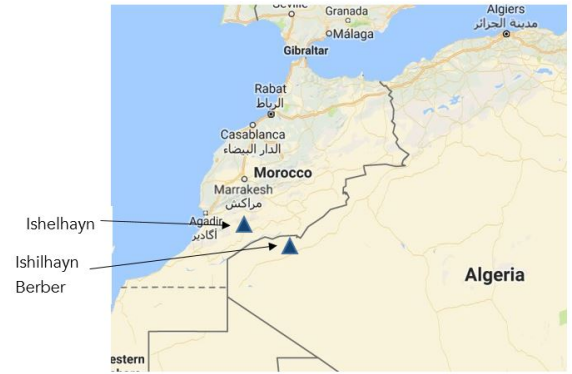
Algeria

Ishelhayn Berber: 1,135,000; Islam

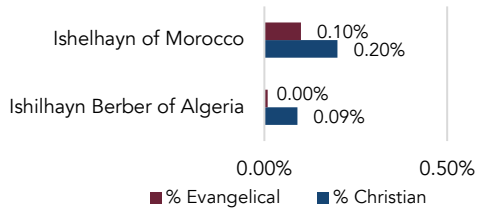
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Ishelhayn Berber of Morocco Ishilhayn Berber of Algeria	None

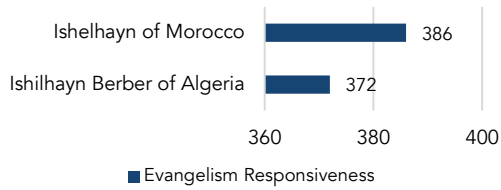
Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

10: ADYGHE (ADY)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: ady

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
249,500

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
3

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant, no longer in use. Cyrillic script. Latin script used in Turkey.

EGIDS: Provincial (2)—The language is used in education, work, mass media, and government within major administrative subdivisions of a nation.

Dialects: Shapsug, Xakuchi, Bezhedukh, Abadzex, Natuzaj, Reportedly similar to Kabardian.

Alternate names: Adygei, Adygey, Kiakh, Kjax, Lower Circassian, West Circassian

Number of Near Languages: 1

% Christian: 0.03%

% Evangelized: 19.18%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT & OT Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Portions 1977-2007, New Testament 1991, Old Testament Portions 2002-2014

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 1 ✓

JESUS Film: ✗

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

Other

Most (96 percent) speak Adyghe as a first language, but there are no monolinguals.

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Adyghe



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: ADYGHE OF JORDAN

History: The Adyghe, also known as the Circassians, are the oldest indigenous people of Northwest Caucasus (the Caucasus is a region at the border of Europe and Asia that includes Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Russia, and Turkey). Organized into tribes, the Adyghe have never had an independent state. At one time, they were the main ethnic element in northwest Caucasus; however, this drastically changed under the Russian conquest and after the defeat of the Great Revolt (1825-1864) when an Adyghe mass exodus took place. This exodus was one of the greatest mass movements of population in modern history. One and a half million Adyghe abandoned their ancient homeland and moved to Turkey and other areas of the Ottoman Empire, including the Middle East.

Most Adyghe stories ultimately originate from the centuries-old Nart Epics, a series of 700 texts from 4,000-3,500 BC. The stories preserve Adyghe ancient history, and they are predecessors to Greek mythology, containing stories of gods from southern Russia.

From these Epics came the "Adyghe habza," or Adyghe traditions. The habza is an important feature of Adyghe identity and was established long before their Islamization. It is their system of laws, rules, etiquette, and ethos. The habza is passed on from generation to generation.

The collapse of the Soviet Union has heightened Adyghe national feeling in Russia and in the diaspora. The state of exile in the diaspora plays an important role in the collective identity of Adyghe. An Adyghe proverb says: "The one who loses his homeland loses everything." The re-migration of the Adyghe to the Caucasus is a new and continuing phenomenon. The successful absorption of new immigrants will depend upon the situation in the Caucasus.

Lifestyle: In Jordan, more than in any other community, the Adyghe have an important civil identity. In the Hashemite Kingdom, neither the Bedouins nor the Palestinians have adopted a civil Jordanian Hashemite identity to the degree that the Adyghe have. The Adyghe have been allies of the Hashemite rulers ever since they came from Hijaz to Trans-Jordan and established the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan with the support of the British following World War I. The Adyghe have emerged as the most loyal group to the Hashemite rulers. Thus, the Jordanian Adyghe share a duality whereby they have a sense of belonging to Jordan, and yet feel strong ties to their Caucasian identity.

Today, many Adyghe communities are facing the problems of losing their language and culture. Yet compared to other migrant groups, the Adyghe have a greater tendency to maintain their identity.

Beliefs: Many Adyghe were Christianized under Georgian and Byzantine influence in the 6th century. Under the influence of the Ottomans, Islam gradually replaced Christianity and was fully established in the 18th and 19th centuries, blending with remnants of Christian beliefs and even pre-Christian folk beliefs. Some Adyghe became Muslims only during their mass migration. There is a small percentage of Adyghe who are believed to be Christians.

Engagement: There are few Adyghe Christians. Evangelistic tools, missionaries, and increased intercession are needed to reach them with the gospel of Christ.

Primary mission agencies: None

Denominations: Greek Orthodox Church, Free Evangelical Church, Christian and Missionary Alliance

PEOPLE GROUPS

Jordan

Adyghe: 145,000; Islam, Sunni

Syria

Adyghe: 65,500; Islam, Sunni

Iraq

Adyghe: 39,000; Islam, Sunni

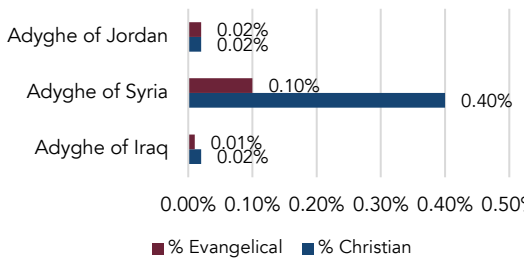
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Adyghe of Jordan	Adyghe of Syria Adyghe of Iraq

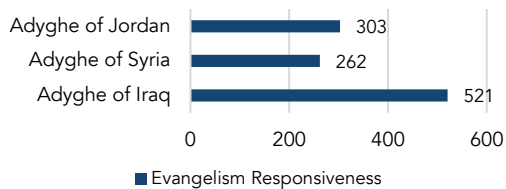
Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

11: TUROYO (TRU)

UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2019

Further research has determined that the two people groups that speak Turoyo are 97.3 percent Christian, primarily Orthodox, according to World Christian Database. Consequently, this language has been withdrawn from the UPG Initiative.

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: tru

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
145,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Latin script, primary usage. Syriac script.

EGIDS: Threatened (6b)—The language is used for face-to-face communication within all generations, but it is losing users.

Dialects: Midyat, Midin, Kfarze, 'Iwardo, Anhil, Raite. Turoyo subdialects divided between Town Turoyo, Village Turoyo, and Mixed (Village-Town)

Alternate names: Adygei, Adygey, Kiakh, Kjax, Lower Circassian, West Circassian

Number of Near Languages: 18

% Christian of total language population:
97.3%

% Evangelized of total language population:
99.8%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Portions 1983, New Testament 1992-2013

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 8

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Turoyo



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 11: TUROYO (TRU)

LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SOUTHERN ASSYRIANS OF IRAQ

According to *IMB*, the Southern Assyrians of Iraq is the largest people group in SRG countries that speaks Turoyo. *Joshua Project* does not have record of this people group in its database. Additionally, *Joshua Project* indicates that the Syrian Aramaic people group of Syria, the other people group that speaks this language in SRG countries, is 100 percent Christian, whereas *IMB* indicates that the primary religion of the Syrian Aramaic people group of Syria is Islam.

History: Due diligence pending

Lifestyle: Due diligence pending

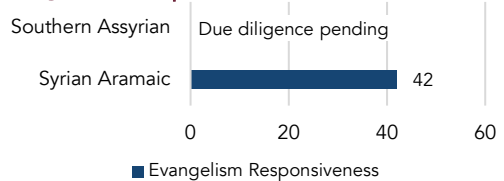
Religious Beliefs: Due diligence pending

Engagement: Due diligence pending

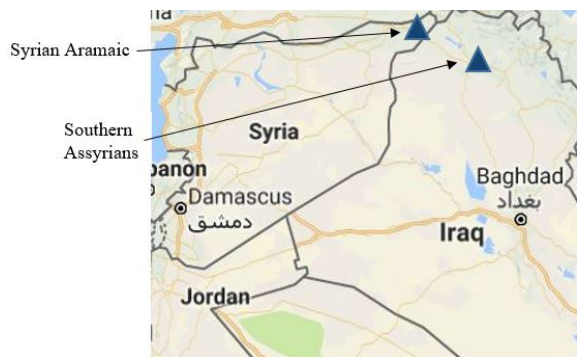
Primary mission agencies: Due diligence pending

Denominations: Due diligence pending

Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



PEOPLE GROUPS

Iraq

Southern Assyrian: 113,000; Ethnic Religions

Syria

Syrian Aramaic: 32,000; Islam

Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Syrian Aramaic	Southern Assyrian

Percent Christian & Evangelical

Due diligence pending

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

12: GILAKI (GLK)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: glk

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
2,400,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Arabic script, Nashkh variant;
Arabic script, Nastaliq variant.

EGIDS: Educational (4)—The language is in vigorous use, with standardization and literature being sustained through a widespread system of institutionally supported education.

Dialects: Galeshi, Rashti, Rudbari, Some'e Sarai, Lahijani, Langerudi, Rudsari, Bandar Anzali, Fumani. Reportedly similar to Mázanderáni (mzn).

Alternate names: Gelaki, Gilani, Guilaki, Guilani

Number of Near Languages: 15

% Christian of total language population:
0.20%

% Evangelized of total language population:
24.69%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ?

Audio Scripture: ✓

Translation date: LCC disputes the existence of a Gilaki Bible.

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 0

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: X

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: ✓

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Gilaki



PEOPLE GROUP: GILAKI OF IRAN

History: The Gilaki live in northern Iran along the Caspian Sea. They are primarily located in the Gilan province. Their ancient cultural language is also called Gilaki or Gilani. Today, the educated Gilaki speak Farsi, the national language of Iran. In 1977, a university was built in Rasht, the largest city of the Gilan province.

The Gilan province is a plain that lies between the Elburz Mountains and the Caspian Sea. The moisture brought in by the winds of the Caspian Sea becomes trapped by the mountains, creating a damp, warm climate. This fosters the growth of rich forests in the region.

Over the years, the Elburz Mountains have kept the inhabitants of the Gilan province relatively protected from invaders. Those groups who have succeeded in invading the province have only ruled from afar. Ultimately, Iran regained control of the Gilan province in a peace treaty in 1921 between Iran and the Soviet Union.

Lifestyle: The basis of the Gilaki economy is agriculture. Farmers usually grow rice, tea, and tobacco. Silkworms are also raised in this province. In the 1970s, major agricultural movements were encouraged by the influx of large investments, which were made as a result of the oil boom. Agricultural businesses were introduced, including large rice industries.

The city of Rasht is located in the center of this agriculturally dominated area. It has become a commercial, distribution, and manufacturing hub for the region, producing silk, soap, and glass. Quality roads link Rasht to the rest of Iran, making distribution of these and other products possible.

The architecture of the Gilan province is unique, primarily because it is a forested area and wooden building materials are in abundance. Specific to this region, verandahs are commonly built on the sides of the wooden houses.

The inhabitants of the Gilan province usually identify their own interests with those of Iran. However, they have often been the source of resistance and reform movements. For example, after World War I, the Gilaki demanded national reform and independence for their own region.

Religious Beliefs: History records that the Apostle Bartholomew spent time evangelizing in this area of the world around 50 A.D. Although Christianity once had a strong presence among the Gilaki, now it is extremely weak. Today, the Gilaki are virtually all Muslim. They belong to a branch of Islam known as the Ithna-Asharis.

Engagement: An effort was made in the 1940s to establish a Gilaki script, the project was abandoned. There is a need for this ancient language to be preserved. There is an opportunity for Christian linguists to find open doors into the university in Rasht by assuming work on this project.

Primary mission agency: Church of South India

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church

PEOPLE GROUP

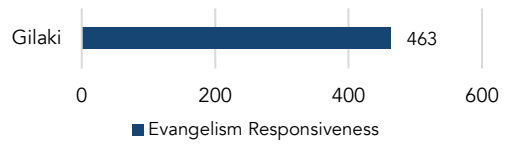
Iran

Gilaki: 2,400,000; Islam, Shi'a

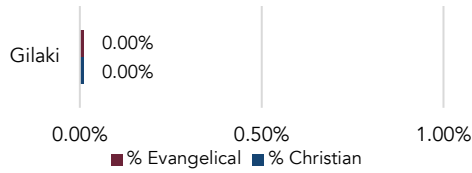
Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Gilaki	None

Evangelism Responsiveness



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Location of People Group in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

13: KOALIB (KIB)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: kib

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
266,500

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Latin script.

EGIDS: Developing (5)— The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable..

Dialects: Nguqwurang, Ngunduna, Nginyukwur, Ngirere, Ngemere. Lexical similarity: 75 percent with most similar Heiban languages.

Alternate names: Abri, Kawalib, Kowalib, Lgalige, Ngirere, Nirere, Rere

Number of Near Languages: 0

% Christian of total language population:
50.00%

% Evangelized of total language population:
90.50%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Portions 1937-1989, New Testament 1967-1994

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 0

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✓

Radio Broadcast: ✗

Bible available in a second language: ✗

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Koalib



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: TURUM IN SUDAN

History: The Turum are a tribal people in Sudan. They are a part of the Nuba Mountains people cluster within the Sub-Saharan African affinity bloc. They easily fall prey to more numerous people groups with stronger ties to the Sudanese government. Although a peace accord has been signed between the Turum tribe and the hostile Rzigat Aballa tribe, many Turum families face attacks in the night and flee from airplanes and helicopters, dodging bullets.

Lifestyle: Turum homes are typically huts with dirt floors. Families sleep on mats on the dirt floor. Scarce water and arable land in the area motivate attacks between rival peoples. But the Sudanese government seems to undermine local and regional steps towards resolution.

Beliefs: The primary religion practiced by the Turum is ethnic religion. Ethnic religion is deeply rooted in a people's ethnic identity and conversion essentially equates to cultural assimilation.

Engagement: There is a need for relief organizations among the Turum people. Christian relief organizations can show unconditional love among the Turum people and their enemies, and serve them by providing needed services. Additionally, prayer for the end of ethnic cleansing and the rising of reconciliation in Christ is needed.

Primary mission agencies: Sudan United Mission

Denominations: SCOC (Church of Christ in the Nuba Mountains), Roman Catholic Church, Protestant Episcopal Church in Sudan

PEOPLE GROUPS

Sudan

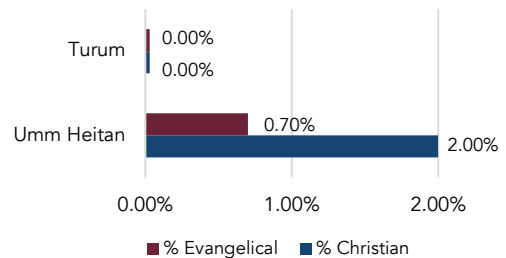
Turum: 241,000; Ethnic Religions

Umm Heitan: 25,500; Ethnic Religions

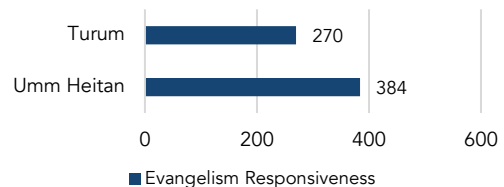
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	None	Turum Umm Heitan

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

14: GULF ARABIC (AFB)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: afb

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
4,767,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
6

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Wider Communication (3)—The language is used in work and mass media without official status to transcend language differences across a region. De facto national working language, widely used in public administration.

Dialects: Kuwaiti Hadari Arabic, Kuwaiti Bedouin Arabic

Alternate names: None

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
1.58%

% Evangelized of total language population: 47.56%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ Portions

Audio Scripture:

✗

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

6

JESUS Film:

✓

Magdalena Film:

✓

The Story of Jesus for Children:

✗

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

✗

Radio Broadcast:

✗

Other

The written form is not considered appropriate for reading and writing.

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Gulf Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SAUDI ARAB OF SAUDI ARABIA

History: The Arab culture was developed by tribes of nomads and villagers who lived in the Arabian Desert. Today, Saudi Arabia

is home to different groups of Arabs. Saudi Arabs (also known as Gulf Arabs) live primarily along southern edges of the

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 14: GULF ARABIC (AFB)

Arabian Desert. They speak Arabiya, or, as it is more commonly known, Gulf Arabic.

There are two basic classes of Arabs: true nomads and the fellahin, or those who have embraced farming. The Saudi Arabs are primarily animal herders. They move into the desert during the rainy winter season, then back to the desert's edge during the dry, hot summer months.

Lifestyle: Life for the Saudi Arab is one of harsh existence with few material belongings. Their main possession is the home—a long tent made from woven goat or animal hair. These tents are divided into two parts by a decorative partition called a gata. Typically, half of the tent is for women, children, cooking utensils, and storage, while the other half is for men and for entertaining guests. Animals are very important. Those who stay close to the desert's edge rely on goats and sheep, whereas, those who travel and raid in the desert rely solely on their camels.

Dairy products are the traditional food source. Camels' and goats' milk is drunk fresh or made into yogurt and a kind of butter called ghee. A typical Arab meal consists of a bowl of milk or yogurt, or rice covered with ghee. Loaves of unleavened bread are eaten when available. Dates serve as dessert, and meat is eaten only on occasions.

Marriages are typically endogamous, meaning they only marry within a small social circle. Inheritance is passed down from fathers to their sons. Clothing is designed for the harsh desert climate. It is made of lightweight, light-colored fabric and is loose-fitting.

Religious Beliefs: Most of the Saudi Arabs are Shi'ite Muslim; many are Sunni Muslim.

Engagement: A profession of faith in Jesus may cost a person his family, his honor, his job, or even his life. Evangelization of this group will be challenging due to the nature of the Arabs' lifestyle and belief system.

Primary mission agencies: None

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church

PEOPLE GROUPS

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Shi'a Arabs: 2,225,000; Islam, Shi'a

Saudi Arabs: 581,000; Islam, Sunni

Egypt

Gulf Bedouin: 1,580,000; Islam

Iran

Gulf Arabs: 269,000; Islam

Sudan

Rashaida: 100,000; Islam

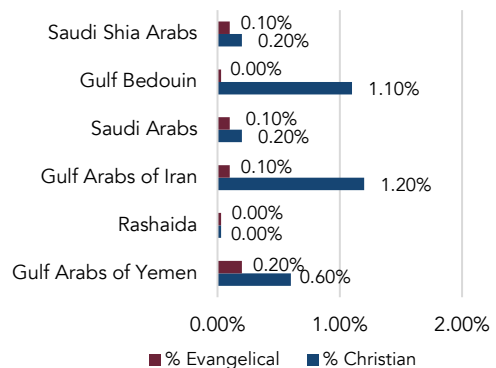
Yemen

Gulf Arabs: 12,000; Islam

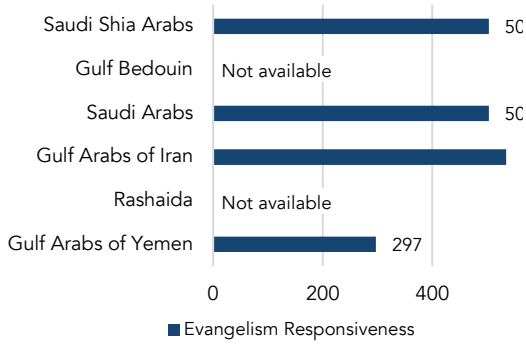
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Saudi Shi'a Arabs Gulf Bedouin Saudi Arabs Gulf Arabs of Iran	Rashaida Gulf Arabs of Yemen

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

15: SANAANI ARABIC (AYN)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: ayn

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
10,580,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable. De facto language of provincial identity in North Yemen.

Dialects: A member of the macrolanguage Arabic (ara).

Alternate names: Northern Yemeni Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
0.02%

% Evangelized of total language population: 31.52%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ Portions

Audio Scripture:

X

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work previously underway with a Bible translation agency. New Bible translation agency work beginning Fall 2019.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

6

JESUS Film:

X

Magdalena Film:

X

The Story of Jesus for Children:

X

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

X

Radio Broadcast:

X

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Sanaani Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: NORTHERN YEMENI ARABS OF YEMEN

History/Lifestyle: The northern tribes of Yemen are sometimes referred to as the Sanaani Arabs. They reside in the northern mountains and deserts, as well as around

the capital city of Sana'a. The growing of the narcotic qat has become the mainstay of rural Yemen, and nearly half of the national economy is involved in qat.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 15: SANAANI ARABIC (AYN)

Religious Beliefs: The primary religion practiced by the Northern Yemeni Arabs in Yemen is Shi'a Islam.

Engagement: Yemen is not easily accessible to outsiders, and not open to Christianity.

Christian television and radio provide effective means of access that transcends country boundaries.

Primary mission agencies: Orders of Friars Minor Capuchin (Catholic), Red Sea Mission Team, Catholic Relief Services, Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, White Fathers (Society of Missionaries of Africa), Missionaries of Charity, Worldwide Evangelization Crusade (WEC Int'l), and Church of South India

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church

PEOPLE GROUPS

Yemen

Northern Yemeni Arabs: 10,310,000; Islam, Shi'a

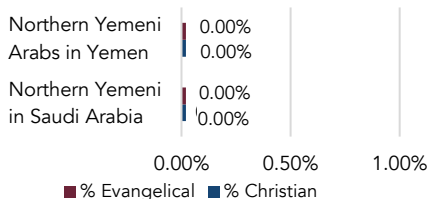
Saudi Arabia

Northern Yemeni Arabs: 270,000; Islam

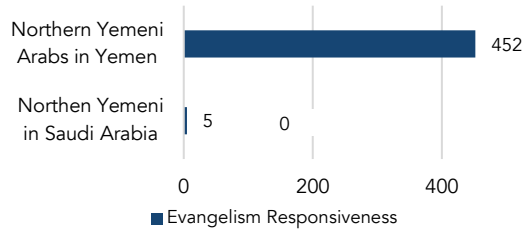
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	None	Northern Yemeni Arabs in Yemen Northern Yemeni Arabs in Saudi Arabia

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

16: HIJAZI ARABIC (ACW)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: acw

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
16,518,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable.

Dialects: North Hijazi, South Hijazi, Valley Tihaamah, Coastal Tihaamah. North Hijazi has 4 sub varieties, South Hijazi has 16.

Alternate names: Hejazi Arabic, West Arabian Colloquial Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
Not available

% Evangelized of total language population: Not available

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ Portions

Audio Scripture:

✗

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

6

JESUS Film:

✗

Magdalena Film:

✗

The Story of Jesus for Children:

✗

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

✗

Radio Broadcast:

✗

Other

The written form is not considered appropriate for reading and writing.

SRG Country of People Groups Speaking Hijazi Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: HIJAZI SAUDI ARABS OF SAUDI ARABIA

History: The Hijazi Saudi Arabs live predominantly along the Red Sea coast and in the major urban areas. More than half

the area of Saudi Arabia is desert. Fertile oases, many of which are the sites of towns and villages, are scattered through the Saudi Arabian deserts north of Rub' al

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 16: HIJAZI ARABIC (ACW)

Khali. Larger tracts of grassland can be found in Ad Dhana' and the plateau region. The great Saudi Arabian oil fields are located in the coastal area adjoining the Persian Gulf.

Lifestyle: Historically, agriculture and raising livestock have been the basic economic activities of Saudi Arabia. Since the development of the oil industry, however, the government has sought to diversify its industrial base and improve its basic economic structure. As a result, roads, airports, seaports, and the power industry have all been developed. Through a sharp increase in oil prices beginning in 1973, Saudi Arabia began to amass a tremendous cash reserve. The government used its new-found wealth to transform its economy at a rate almost without precedent in modern history. Although there was a lack of trained and skilled labor, this was partially offset by millions of guest workers.

Today, the government is the largest employer in Saudi Arabia, engaging about one-third of the work force. Industry employs nearly another third, including a small percentage in the oil industry. The remainder are involved in trade and other services, and in agriculture or fishing.

Education in Saudi Arabia is free, but not compulsory. About two-thirds of Saudi adults are literate, a dramatic increase from the less than 3 percent literacy rate in the early 1960s. In recent decades, teacher-training institutes have been established with the aim of reducing the country's great dependence on other Arab countries for teachers.

Because Saudi Arabia has long imported food, agriculture has been targeted as a key area of development. The lack of water has made a very small percentage of the land useful for farming. Irrigated lands located near oases have been virtually the only sites of cultivation. Despite these challenges, since the late 1980s, a large wheat surplus has been exported, and the country has achieved self-sufficiency in many dairy and poultry products.

Marriages are typically endogamous, which means that they marry only within a small social circle. Inheritance is passed down from fathers to their sons). Clothing is designed for the harsh desert climate.

Religious Beliefs: The Hijazi Arabs are almost all Muslim, but represent a variety of Islamic sects. The founding of Islam in the seventh century profoundly altered the course of Saudi history. In the mid-1700s, Mohammed ibn Abd al-Wahhab formed his fundamentalist sect, and today, the Saudi see themselves as the preservers of the true Islamic faith. The city of Mecca on the Red Sea coast is the holy place of pilgrimage that all Muslims must try to visit at least once in their lifetime.

Engagement: A profession of faith in Jesus may cost a person his family, his honor, his job, or even his life. Evangelization of this group will be challenging, due to the nature of the Arabs' lifestyle and belief system.

Primary mission agencies: Orders of Friars Minor Capuchin (Catholic), Church of South India, and Missionary Education Movement

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Saudi Arabia

Hijazi Saudi Arabs: 16,370,000; Islam

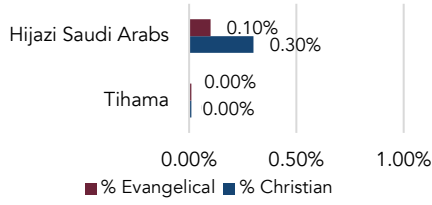
Tihama: 148,000; Islam

Missional Status of People Groups

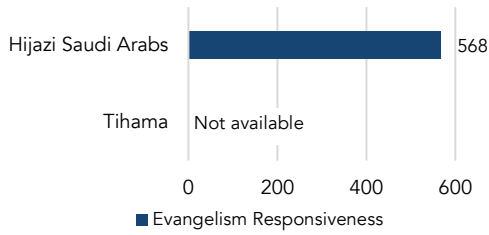
	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Hijazi Saudi Arabs	Tihama

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 16: HIJAZI ARABIC (ACW)

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Country



95

⁹⁵ The Hijazi Saudi Arabs are located along the Red Sea coast in Saudi Arabia.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

17: EASTERN EGYPTIAN BEDAWI ARABIC (AVL)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: avl

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
4,305,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
6

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable.

Dialects: Northeast Egyptian Bedawi Arabic, South Levantine Bedawi Arabic, North Levantine Bedawi Arabic. Similar to some Hijazi dialects in northwestern Saudi Arabia.

Alternate names: Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Spoken Arabic, Levantine Bedawi Arabic, Levantine Bedawi Spoken Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
0.01%

% Evangelized of total language
population: 23.51%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency, and under consideration for work by another Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 6

JESUS Film: ✗

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: EASTERN BEDOUIN OF EGYPT

The Eastern Bedouin of Egypt are part of the Bedouin Arab people cluster. The following

narrative describes the larger Bedouin Arab group, and it is reasonable to believe the characteristics of

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 17: EASTERN EGYPTIAN BEDAWI ARABIC (AVL)

the Eastern Bedouin of Egypt are similar to the larger Bedouin Arab group.

History: The traditional homeland of the Bedouin Arabs is the Arabian Desert. Some Bedouin groups have migrated north into the Negev Desert region of Israel. Most are sheep and goat herders. They fall into two basic social classes. One is known as the "true" Bedouin, who live as nomadic shepherds. The other group has embraced farming and is known as the fellahin. The fellahin lead a more settled life on the edge of the desert. In contrast, the "true" Bedouin have been known for raiding caravans that cross their path while journeying across barren deserts.

Lifestyle: The Bedouin Arab have a relatively harsh existence. The nomads have no permanent homes, but live in portable, black tents made from woven goat hair. The tents are divided by a decorative partition called a gata. Half of the tent is for women children, cooking utensils, and storage. The other half contains a fireplace and is used by men for entertaining. Their tents are their main possessions, and animals are very important for their nomadic lifestyle. Dairy products are the main food source. Most of their meals consist of a bowl of milk, yogurt, or rice. Loaves of unleavened bread are served when available. Dates are eaten for dessert. Meat is only served on special occasions. Bedouin wear lightweight, light-colored, and loose-fitting clothing. Manual labor jobs were once considered degrading. Some Bedouin have accepted wage-paying jobs out of a need for better health and living conditions.

Religious Beliefs: The overwhelming majority of the Bedouin are Sunni Muslims.

Engagement: Evangelization efforts among the Bedouin are challenging due to the harsh and unsettled nature of their lifestyle. Missionaries who are able to endure the severe conditions of the Negev Desert are needed.

Primary mission agencies: None

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Egypt

Eastern Bedouin: 1,445,000; Islam, Sunni

Levantine Bedawi: 1,150,000; Islam, Sunni

Jordan

Bedouin: 1,368,000; Islam

Israel

Negev Bedouin: 166,000; Islam

Syria

Levantine Bedawi Arabs: 107,000; Islam

Lebanon

Levantine Bedouin: 69,000; Islam

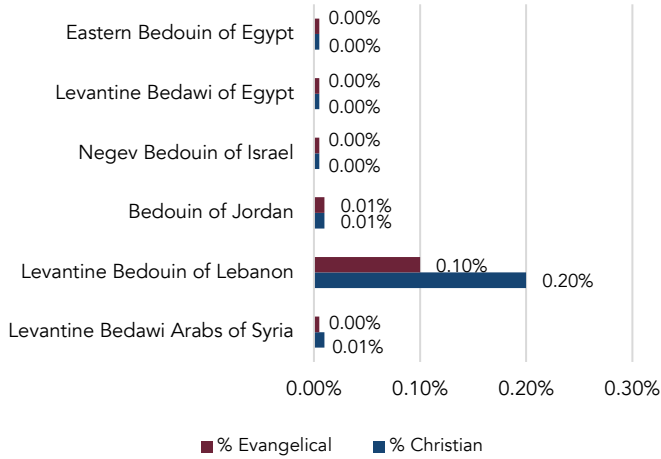
Missional Status of People Groups⁹⁶

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Eastern Bedouin of Egypt Negev Bedouin of Israel Bedouin of Jordan	Levantine Bedawi of Egypt Levantine Bedawi Arabs of Syria

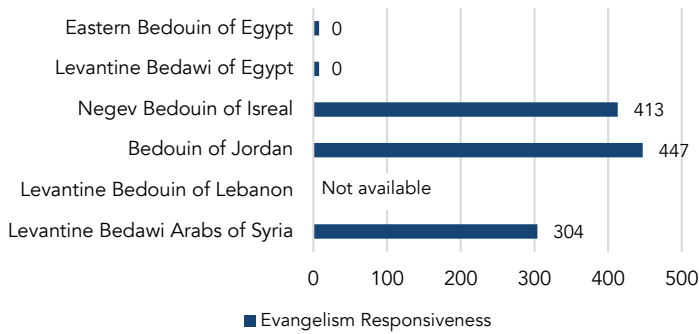
⁹⁶ The missional status of the Levantine Bedouin of Lebanon is unknown.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 17: EASTERN EGYPTIAN BEDAWI ARABIC (AVL)

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

18: WESTERN BALOCHI (BGN)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: bgn

Population of speakers in SRG countries:

3,460,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:

2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant. Arabic script, Nastaliq variant, primary usage.

EGIDS: Developing (5)—The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.

Dialects: Lashari, Rakhshani, Sarawani. Strongly influenced by Farsi, but not intelligible with Farsi. A member of macrolanguage Baluchi (bal).

Alternate names: Baloci, Baluchi, Baluci

Number of Near Languages: 4

% Christian of total language population:

0.00%

% Evangelized of total language

population: 15.17%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ Gospels & Acts

Audio Scripture:

X

Translation date: 2016

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

2

JESUS Film:

✓

Magdalena Film:

X

The Story of Jesus for Children:

X

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

X

Radio Broadcast:

X

SRG Country of People Groups Speaking Western Balochi



PEOPLE GROUP: BALUCH OF IRAN

History: The Baluch of Iran are part of a much larger population of about 8 million Baluch. Their homeland straddles the borders of Iran and Pakistan, with a majority living in Pakistan. About half of those in Iran live in cities, while the others are semi-nomadic shepherds.

The various Baluch groups speak different languages, each with distinguishing characteristics. These languages have been divided into three groups: Eastern, Western, and Southern Baluchi.

Their history is a bit mysterious. Some have traced their origins to Nimrod, son of Cush (Noah's grandson). But while some things are uncertain, we do know that they first moved to the region in the 12th century. During the Moghul period, this territory became known as "Baluchistan."

Lifestyle: The Baluch have been isolated for many years due to Iran's harsh climate, the difficulty of communicating, and their reputation as bandits. Since the governments of Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan have begun building roads and developing agriculture programs, the Baluch have remained largely unaffected by these developmental changes.

The Baluch are basically self-sufficient, relying on their own skills to build homes and develop the tools necessary for daily life. Their economy is based on farming and semi-nomadic shepherding. They usually raise sheep, cattle, or goats. Agriculture is limited because of the harsh climate; nevertheless, it plays a large role in the economy. The chief crop is wheat. To aid in the household economy, some farmers raise chickens. They also depend on wild fruits and vegetables. One wild plant, called the "dwarf palm," is used as a dietary supplement. The meat of the palm is eaten, and the leaves are used to make ropes, shoes, mats, and tents. Though their survival techniques may vary, each community tries to keep a wide variety of animals and grow many different crops. If

the local economy does not provide adequate job opportunities, the young men often move to cities in search of work.

Baluch societies are patriarchal. They are organized into kin-based clans and territorially defined tribes. Male elders are the heads of these tribal units. Within the family, the entire household is responsible for tending the family's herd. Women work in groups, threshing and separating the harvest; while plowing and planting are done by the men. Traditionally, land is not privately owned but belongs to the whole tribe.

Baluch marriages are arranged between the bride's father and the prospective groom. A "bride price" of livestock and cash is paid. Once a woman is married, she passes from the authority of her father to that of her husband. Marriages are monogamous and lifelong, and marrying a non-Baluch is strictly forbidden.

Baluchmayar is the honor code by which the Baluchs live. These principles include extending hospitality and mercy, dealing with each other honestly, and offering refuge to strangers. They are preserved through songs and poetry.

Religious Beliefs: Prior to Islamization, the Baluch were probably followers of Zoroaster. Today, they are Sunni Muslims. Their religious practices remain private, and there is no concept of a "state religion." All forms of secular authority are separated from the spiritual authority held by religious leaders.

Engagement: Very little missions work is taking place among the Western Baluch of Iran. Since the literacy rate is very low, oral approaches may be effective.

Primary mission agencies: Church of South India, Pakistan Partnership Initiative

Denominations: None

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 18: WESTERN BALUCHI (BGN)

PEOPLE GROUP

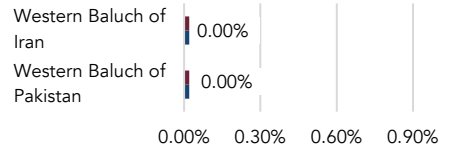
Iran

Baluch: 1,560,000; Islam, Sunni

Pakistan

Western Baluch: 1,355,000; Islam, Sunni

Percent Christian & Evangelical



■ % Evangelical ■ % Christian

Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Western Baluch of Iran Western Baluch of Pakistan	None

Location of People Group in SRG

Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

19: BEJA (BEJ)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: bej

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
2,845,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant; Latin script, used since 1990s.

EGIDS: Developing (5)—The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.

Dialects: Hadendoa, Hadareb, Bisharin, Beni-Amir. Little vocabulary in common with other Cushitic languages, but a great deal of the verbal morphology is similar.

Alternate names: Bedauye, Bedawi, Bedawiye, Bedja, Bedawiyet, Tu-Bedawie

Number of Near Languages: 0

% Christian of total language population:
0.00%

% Evangelized of total language population:
11.08%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT

Audio Scripture: X

Translation date: 2018

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with Written Bible Products: 0

JESUS Film: X

Magdalena Film: X

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: X

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: X

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Beja



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: BEJA OF SUDAN

The following narrative describes the Beja people group in Sudan and the Beja people group in Egypt.

History: The Beja are a group of nomadic shepherds who live scattered across the desert regions of Sudan, Egypt, and Eritrea. They represent the largest non-Arabic ethnic group between the Nile River and the Red Sea. They are an aggressive people with small, strong, wiry frames, long noses, and oval faces.

The Beja are believed to be the descendants of Noah's grandson, Cush (son of Ham). They are a native African people who have occupied their current homelands for more than 4,000 years. During that time, they adopted the Islamic religion. The Beja in Sudan are divided into four tribes: the Hadendowa, the Amarar, the Ababda, and the Beni Amer. They inhabit over 110,000 square miles in eastern Sudan. Their native language is Beja, although many are also fluent in Arabic or Tigre.

Lifestyle: The semi-tropical climate of Sudan is influenced by the hot, dry air from the Sahara and Arabian Deserts. The Beja are traditionally nomadic shepherds who migrate annually with their herds. Some of the Beja have become more settled and engage in some farming, usually sorghum. The farmers who live along the Red Sea Coast and the Atbarah River raise commercial crops such as cotton and grains, while herding their flocks. The Beja nomads live in portable tents that are put up and dismantled by the women. The more settled farmers live in mud-walled houses.

Their diet consists of dairy products, beef, and some grain. Success to the Beja is to have large herds and to live in green, well-watered pastures.

The Beja are divided into clans named after their ancestors. Each clan has its own pastures and water sites. Clans vary from one to twelve families. Disputes between clans are often settled by traditional Beja

law; but most day-to-day affairs are managed by heads of the families. The Beja are a hospitable people, showing kindness to other clans; however, they are not necessarily friendly to foreigners.

The Beja prefer cross-cousin marriages. The goal of young couples is to have many male children and to acquire a great number of female camels. Only the wealthiest Beja have more than one wife.

Religious Beliefs: Almost all the Beja are Muslims; however, they practice what is known as "folk Islam." Their beliefs are interwoven with a variety of traditional beliefs. For example, they believe that men have the power to curse others by giving them the "evil eye." They also believe in wicked jinnis (spirits capable of taking on animal forms) and other invisible spirits. They believe that evil spirits can cause sickness, madness, and accidents. They have adopted many Islamic practices such as repeating prayers, but these prayers are not largely understood.

Engagement: There are only a handful of Beja believers. Evangelistic tools, missionaries, and increased intercession are needed to reach them with the gospel of Christ.

Primary mission agencies: Red Sea Mission Team, Church in South India

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Sudan

Beja: 1,750,000; Islam

Egypt

Beja: 1,095,000; Islam

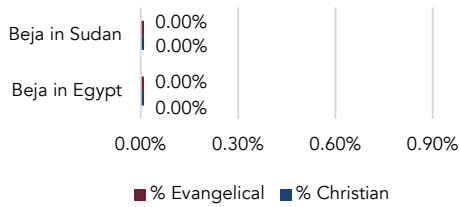
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Beja in Sudan Beja in Egypt	None

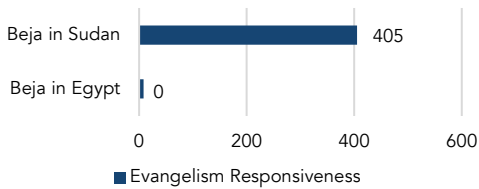
Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

20: HADRAMI ARABIC (AYH)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: ayh

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
1,770,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Not available

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable.

Dialects: A member of the macrolanguage Arabic.

Alternate names: Hadrami Spoken Arabic, Hadromi

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
0.02%

% Evangelized of total language population: 30.52%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with Written Bible Products: 6

JESUS Film: ✗

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✗

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Hadrami Arabic



PEOPLE GROUP: HADHRAMOUT YEMENI ARABS OF YEMEN

History: The name of the Hadhramout Yemeni Arabs originates from the region of Yemen currently retained in Hadhramaut Governorate on the Arabian Peninsula. Among the two million inhabitants of

Hadhramaut, there are 1,300 distinct Arab tribes. Antagonism between townfolk and wandering tribesmen has been so bitter that the towns are surrounded by stone walls to protect them from attack by their tribal countrymen.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 20: HADRAMI ARABIC (AYH)

Lifestyle: Originally, the Hadhramis were nomadic. Today approximately half reside in cities, towns and villages scattered through the deep valleys of their region. Even among these settled peoples, there are sharp distinctions, the highest social prestige belonging to the wealthy, educated Sadahs, who claim to be direct descendants of Muhammed. Hadramis rarely marry outside their own social level, and often live in segregated groups in separate parts of town.

Religious Beliefs: The primary religion practiced by the Hadhramout Yemeni Arabs is Islam.

Engagement: There is a need for Bible products to reach this people group.

Primary mission agencies: Orders of Friars Minor Capuchin (Catholic), Red Sea Mission Team, Catholic Relief Services, White Fathers (Society of Missionaries of Africa), Missionaries of Charity, Church of South India

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church

PEOPLE GROUP

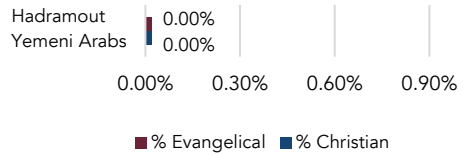
Yemen

Hadhramout Yemeni Arabs: 1,770,000;
Islam

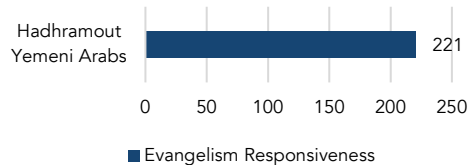
Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	None	Hadhramout Yemeni Arabs

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Group in SRG Country



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

21: DIMLI (DIQ)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: diq

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
1,495,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Latin script

EGIDS: Developing (5)—The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.

Dialects: Sivereki, Kori, Hazzu, Motki, Dumbuli, Eastern Zazaki, Dersimki.

Dialects differ slightly, but are mutually intelligible. A member of the macrolanguage Zaza.

Alternate names: Southern Zazaki, Southern Zaza, Zaza, Zazaca

Number of Near Languages: 4

% Christian of total language population:
0.00%

% Evangelized of total language population:
11.40%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Portions
(incl. Luke, Nahum, Jonah, & Daniel)

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with Written Bible Products: 0

JESUS Film: ✗

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✗

Gospel Films: ✗

Radio Broadcast: ✗

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Dimli



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 21: DIMLI (DIQ)

PEOPLE GROUP: SOUTHERN ZAZA OF TURKEY

History: The Southern Zaza are a nomadic people that live in the middle-eastern part of Turkey. The majority consider themselves to be a part of the Kurdish people, and have much in common with the Zaza Kurds. However, the Southern Zaza people can trace their roots to the Persians and Medes. Their language is similar to the north-Caspian (Armenian) spoken language and belongs to the Indo-European language family.

Lifestyle: Southern Zaza society is traditionally patriarchal, and their traditions and history are passed on orally. The Southern Zaza people remain largely illiterate. They live in valleys and mountains as nomadic people, shepherding their livestock and relying on agricultural products.

Religious Beliefs: The primary religion of the Southern Zaza is Sunni Islam, but the Zaza people consider themselves to be Alevi Muslims (a Shi'ite sect of Islam), a mystical faith with strong shamanistic and Zoroastrian roots. For the Southern Zaza, there is a very complicated, even sacred, relationship between Islam and the natural world.

Engagement: Secularism has made the Southern Zaza people change their religious structure. Their spiritual leaders no longer have the power they once had in society. Zaza have a lot of hidden marriage problems and dysfunctional family relations. This often causes the Zaza people to cry out to God for help. Because Zaza are often illiterate, oral ministry approaches should be explored to reach them.

Primary mission agencies: Church of South India, Anglican Frontier Missions, Heart Sounds International

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUP

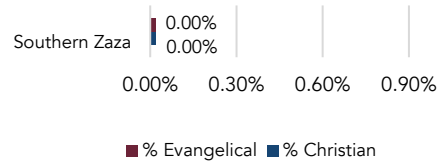
Turkey

Southern Zaza: 1,495,000; Islam, Sunni

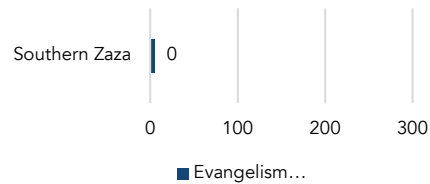
Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	None	Southern Zaza

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Group in SRG Country



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

22: SOUTHERN KURDISH (SDH)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: sdh

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
1,500,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant;
Arabic script, Nastaliq variant, used in Iran.

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable.

Dialects: Kolyai, Kermanshahi, Kalhori, Garrusi, Sanjabi, Malekshahi, Bayray, Kordali, Luri. A member of the macrolanguage Kurdish.

Alternate names: None

Number of Near Languages: 2

% Christian of total language population:
0.05%

% Evangelized of total language population: 25.55%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ 4 gospels

Audio Scripture:

✗

Translation date: 1894-1900

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

1

JESUS Film:

✓

Magdalena Film:

✗

The Story of Jesus for Children:

✗

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

✗

Radio Broadcast:

✗

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Southern Kurdish



PEOPLE GROUP: SOUTHERN KURDS OF IRAN

The Southern Kurds are part of the Kurd people cluster. The following narrative describes both the larger Kurd group and the Southern Kurds, and it is reasonable to believe the characteristics of the Southern Kurds of Iran are similar to the larger Kurdish group.

History: The Southern Kurds of Iran are part of a much greater Kurdish population. They are made up of several clans, tribes, and tribal confederations that share several important and common ties. For instance, they speak a group of closely related languages; they have a shared culture; they have a common geographical homeland; and they have a common sense of identity.

The Southern Kurds of Iran live along the Iraq-Iran border in the Iranian provinces of Kermanshah and Luristan. Though the Southern Kurds enjoy a milder climate than their relatives farther north, both groups face many common problems. Water is scarce, and there are persistent problems with diseases such as trachoma, tuberculosis, and malaria, showing the need for improved medical services. Politically, they are oppressed by the Iranian government. They desire the liberty to educate their children in their own language.

Lifestyle: The Kurds make their living by farming and raising cattle and goats. The area is well wooded and a few still live the semi-nomadic lifestyle of their ancestors. However, most live in small villages of under 2,000 people.

Generally, the Southern Kurds are better off than the Kurds in Turkey, especially regarding land ownership. Since 1960, land reform has allowed nearly one-third of the Kurds to buy their first plots of land. However, they are still culturally repressed, their language banned, and their children forced to learn Persian in schools.

There is much hostility between the Sunni Muslim Northern Kurds and the Shi'ite Kurds farther south.

The Kurds are noted for their elaborate and colorful national costumes. The men's costumes consist of baggy, colored trousers and plain shirts with huge sleeves split at the wrist and tied at the elbow. Brightly colored vests and sashes are also worn. Women usually wear heavy clothing that is brightly embroidered. However, many rural Kurds have abandoned their native costumes for western dress.

The most important Kurdish national festival is the New Year celebration on March 21st. This is a long ceremony that may continue for a week or more. Many specific foods and condiments are prepared in advance. Special flowers are grown for the occasion and branches covered with fresh buds are cut and adorn the feast. New clothes are worn, and some old pottery is broken for good luck. People visit each other's houses, and old feuds and misunderstandings are reconciled for the occasion. Seniors give gifts to their juniors in age, and high ranking social figures are paid visits and brought gifts.

Religious Beliefs: Nearly all Kurds are Muslim, most being Shafite Sunnis. They first embraced Islam after the Arab conquests of the seventh century. Islam is looked to as a basis for social justice. Despite being predominantly Sunnis, religion has created deep rifts among the Kurds. These differences also have prejudicial overtones towards the lower class. Many of the dispossessed Kurd minorities have become associated with the secret and unorthodox sects of Islam—the most fervently rebellious people in Kurd society.

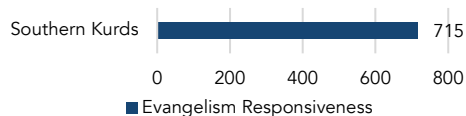
Engagement: Since they live in an area where water is scarce, the Southern Kurds need to be educated in irrigation and agricultural techniques. This would greatly improve their cultivation of crops and successful raising of cattle.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 22: SOUTHERN KURDISH (SDH)

Primary mission agencies: Living Bibles International, Church of South India

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church, Assemblies of God

Evangelism Responsiveness



PEOPLE GROUP

Iran

Southern Kurds: 1,500,000; Islam, Sunni

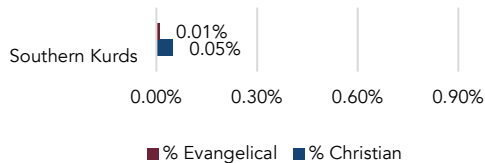
Location of People Group in SRG Countries

Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Southern Kurds	None



Percent Christian & Evangelical



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

23: NOBIIN (FIA)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: fia

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
729,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant;
Coptic script; Old Nubian variant; Latin
script

EGIDS: Threatened (6b)—The language is
used for face-to-face communication within
all generations, but it is losing users.

Dialects: Mahas (Mahasi, Mahass). Lexical
similarity; 67 percent with Kenzi (xnz), but
not intelligible of it.

Alternate names: Fiadidja-Mahas, Mahas-
Fiadidja, Mahas-Fiyadikkya

Number of Near Languages: 0

% Christian of total language population:
0.02%

% Evangelized of total language
population: 18.27%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ Portions

Audio Scripture:

X

Translation date: Portions (gospel
only) 1860-1906

Current Translation Activity: Work
previously underway with a Bible
translation agency, but no current work as
of April 2018.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

0

JESUS Film:

X

Magdalena Film:

X

The Story of Jesus for Children:

X

Gospel Recordings:

X

Gospel Films:

X

Radio Broadcast:

X

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Nobiin



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: FEDICCA/MOHAS NUBIANS OF SUDAN

The Fedicca/Mohas Nubians are part of the Nubian people cluster. The following narrative describes the larger Nubian group, and it is reasonable to believe the characteristics of the Fedicca/Mohas Nubians of Sudan are similar to the larger Nubian group.

History: The Nubians consist of seven non-Arab Muslim tribes which originated in the Nubia region, an area between Aswan in southern Egypt and Dongola in northern Sudan. For centuries, this territory was a crossroads between Egypt and the African tribal kingdoms.

The Ottoman Empire encroached on the Nubia region, so many Nubians migrated to remote areas along the Nile River between the 1500s and 1800s. Distinct groups evolved and were named according to their locations. In the 1960s, many Nubian villages were flooded because of the Aswan High Dam construction. About 100,000 Nubians were forced to resettle in "New Nubia," 20 miles north of Aswan. Others relocated to Uganda and Kenya.

Most Nubian groups speak their own dialect of the Nubian language. However, many also speak Arabic which is common for business and trade.

Lifestyle: The Nubian economy is based on agriculture. During the winter months, they grow wheat, barley, millet, beans, peas, and watermelons. Mangoes, citrus fruits, and palm dates are also part of the Nubian diet. A thin, coarse bread called dura is one of their basic staple foods.

Men do most of the field work while the women work at the home. Some women have also found employment as schoolteachers, public service workers, and seamstresses. Some of the men own grocery stores or drive cabs.

The typical Nubian house is very spacious to accommodate extended family members and guests. The front of the house is colorfully painted with geometric patterns.

The literacy rate among Nubians is high in comparison with their rural Egyptian neighbors. Primary and secondary schools have been set up in New Nubia, and there are also teacher-training facilities in the area. In addition to education, radio and television are other ways in which socialization takes place among the Nubians.

For centuries, the Nubians often held lengthy religious and agricultural ceremonies. However, since relocation, the ceremonies have been shortened and are now limited to the villages. During these ceremonies, the Nubians express themselves through singing, dancing, and beating drums.

Religious Beliefs: The Nubians were converted to Christianity during the sixth century. They remained so until the gradual process of Islamization took place from the fourteenth until the seventeenth centuries. Today, the Nubians are almost all Muslims. However, their traditional animistic beliefs (belief that non-living objects have spirits) are still mingled with their Islamic practices.

Engagement: The Nubians have few Christian resources or missions agencies working among them. There is a need for increased evangelism efforts and additional Christian resources to reach these tribes who were once a Christian people.

Primary mission agency: Operation Mobilization

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Egypt

Fedicca/Mohas Nubians: 397,000; Islam

Sudan

Fedicca/Mohas Nubians: 316,000; Islam, Sunni

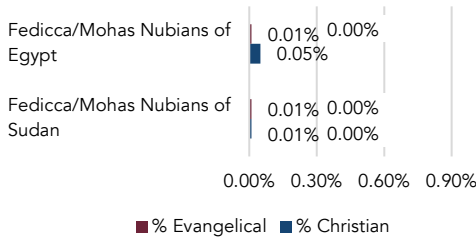
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Fedicca/Mohas Nubians of Egypt	Fedicca/Mohas Nubians of Sudan

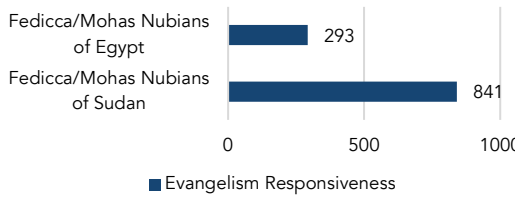
Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

24: LIBYAN ARABIC (AYL)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: ayl

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
393,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Wider Communication (3)—The language is used in work and mass media without official status to transcend language differences across a region. De facto national working language.

Dialects: Tripolitanian Arabic, Southern Libyan Arabic, Eastern Libyan Arabic. In the west it is reportedly similar to Bedouin Arabic of southern Tunisia (aeb)

Alternate names: Libyan Vernacular Arabic, Sulaimitian Arabic, Western Egyptian Bedawi Spoken Arabic

Number of Near Languages: 20

% Christian of total language population:
0.01%

% Evangelized of total language population: 11.05%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

Audio Scripture:

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products:

JESUS Film:

Magdalena Film:

The Story of Jesus for Children:

Gospel Recordings:

Gospel Films:

Radio Broadcast:

✓ Portions
X

7

✓

X

X

X

X

X

X

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Libyan Arabic



PEOPLE GROUP: LIBYAN ARABS OF EGYPT

History: The Libyan Arabs of Egypt came from neighboring Libya. Libya is a country that is largely desert or semi-desert. A large majority of the population of the country are Libyan Arabs or Arabized Berbers. They were mainly a nomadic society. Family life is a strong value for Libyan Arab families, and they still associate themselves with a particular nomadic Bedouin tribe.

Libya became independent from Italy in December of 1951. The discovery of oil in the 1950s radically changed the people's way of life. Muammar Gaddafi rose to power in 1969, and remained a dictator until he was killed in 2011. During his many years in power, Libya enjoyed prosperity, but there was no tolerance for those who criticized the regime. Rebels who were not captured had to flee Libya, and some of them settled in neighboring Egypt.

Lifestyle: Many Libyans in Egypt are refugees from the days when Gaddafi was killed and his long-standing regime ended. Anyone suspected of supporting the old regime faced possible torture or death at the hands of those who supported the new regime.

When given the chance to relax, Libyan Arab men enjoy soccer and talking over tea. Women and girls visit one another at home and enjoy family and religious celebrations, where they remain separate from the men.

Polygamy is permitted among Libyans, and men are limited to four wives. Families are patriarchal, and the oldest male has the highest authority. The bayt, or tribal system group, includes three or four generations. The extended family is extremely important to Libyan Arabs, even in urban areas. Some Libyan men study in European and Egyptian universities.

Religious Beliefs: Simon of Cyrene, who carried the cross of Jesus, was from Libya, and Cyrenian Jews carried the gospel back to Libya after Pentecost. Islam replaced Christianity in 624 A.D. Today there are

almost no known followers of Christ in Libya. As Islamic militancy becomes more powerful in Egypt, Christians are leaving that country, which has always had a strong Coptic Church. The end result is less of a Christian influence in Egypt. Libyans have a poor chance of hearing the gospel in Egypt.

Engagement: Libyan Arabs, in both Egypt and Libya, are one of the most unreached people groups in the world. Most Libyan Arabs are not aware of what Christians actually believe. Because of their strong Muslim roots, even if they had an opportunity to hear the gospel, they would not initially consider the message as something that could possibly apply to them. Christian expats, such as engineers, oil workers, teachers, and computer experts could be sent to live, work, and share God's love with Libyan Arabs. Libyan businessmen and teenagers are also discovering the internet, where Christian sites may lend additional witnessing opportunities in a more private setting.

Primary mission agency: None

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUP

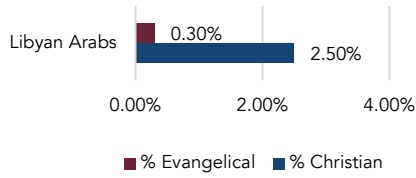
Egypt

Libyan Arabs: 393,000; Islam, Sunni

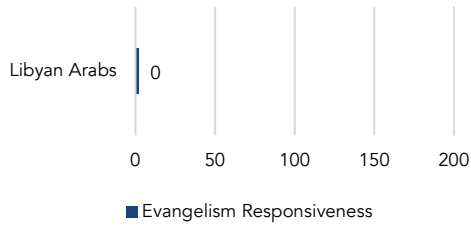
Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Libyan Arabs	None

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Group in SRG Country



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

25: ANDAANDI (DGL)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: dgl

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
77,500

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant, Coptic script, Old Nubian variant, Latin script

EGIDS: Threatened (6b)—The language is used for face-to-face communication within all generations, but it is losing users.

Dialects: Reportedly similar to Mattokki dialect of Kenzi

Alternate names: Danaagla, Dongola, Dongola Nubian, Dongolawi, Dongolawi Nubian, Dongolese

Number of Near Languages: 1

% Christian of total language population:
0.02%

% Evangelized of total language population:
13.97%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: X

Audio Scripture: X

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Under consideration by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with Written Bible Products: 1

JESUS Film: X

Magdalena Film: X

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: X

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: X

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Andaandi



PEOPLE GROUP: DONGOLESE NUBIANS

The Dongolese Nubians are part of the Nubian people cluster. The following narrative describes the larger Nubian group, and it is reasonable to believe

the characteristics of the Dongolese Nubians of Sudan are similar to the larger Nubian group.

History: The Nubians consist of seven non-Arab Muslim tribes which originated in the Nubia region, an area between Aswan in southern Egypt and Dongola in northern Sudan. For centuries, this territory was a crossroads between Egypt and the African tribal kingdoms.

The Ottoman Empire encroached on the Nubia region, so many Nubians migrated to remote areas along the Nile River between the 1500s and 1800s. Distinct groups evolved and were named according to their locations. In the 1960s, many Nubian villages were flooded because of the Aswan High Dam construction. About 100,000 Nubians were forced to resettle in “New Nubia,” 20 miles north of Aswan. Others relocated in Uganda and Kenya.

Most Nubian groups speak their own dialect of the Nubian language. However, many also speak Arabic which is the common language of business and trade. Although their languages are different, each group is identical in social, economic, and cultural organization.

Lifestyle: The Nubian economy is based on agriculture. During the winter months, they grow wheat, barley, millet, beans, peas, and watermelons. Mangoes, citrus fruits, and palm dates are also part of the Nubian diet. A thin, coarse bread called dura is one of their basic staple foods.

Men do most of the field work while the women work at the home. Some women have also found employment as schoolteachers, public service workers, and seamstresses. Some of the men now own grocery stores or drive cabs.

The typical Nubian house is very spacious to accommodate the extended family members and guests. In the center of each home is an open courtyard. The front of the house is colorfully painted with geometric patterns. Most of the paintings and decorations on the homes have religious connotations. The colorful designs are a distinctive and admired feature of Nubian culture.

The literacy rate among Nubians is high in comparison with their rural Egyptian neighbors. Primary and secondary schools have been set up in New Nubia, and there are also teacher-training facilities in the area. In addition to education, policies, radio and television are other ways in which socialization takes place among the Nubians.

For centuries, the Nubians often held lengthy religious and agricultural ceremonies. However, since relocation, the ceremonies have been shortened and are now limited to the villages. During these ceremonies, the Nubians express themselves through singing, dancing, and beating drums.

Religious Beliefs: The Nubians were converted to Christianity during the sixth century. They remained so until the gradual process of Islamization began taking place from the fourteenth until the seventeenth centuries. Today, the Nubians are almost all Muslims. However, their traditional animistic beliefs (belief that non-living objects have spirits) are still mingled with their Islamic practices.

The traditional beliefs of the Nubians were centered on the spirit of the Nile. The Nile is believed to have life-sustaining power and to hold the power of life and death within it. The people believe that the river is endowed with angels, sheiks (religious leaders), and other powerful beings. The sheiks are sought daily for their advice in the areas of health, fertility, and marriage.

Engagement: The Nubians have few Christian resources or missions agencies working among them. There is a need for increased evangelism efforts, and additional Christian resources to reach these tribes who were once a Christian people.

Primary mission agency: None

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUP

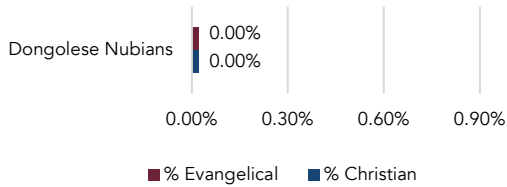
Sudan

Dongolese Nubians: 77,500; Islam, Sunni

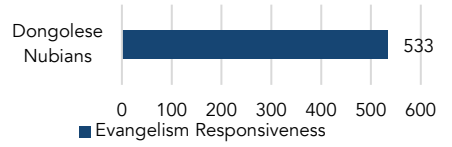
Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Dongolese Nubians	None

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Group in SRG Country



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

26: MASALIT (MLS)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: mls

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
406,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Latin script

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable.

Dialects: Dialect in West Darfur differs from that in South Darfur. Lexical similarity: 36 percent with Karanga (kth), 42 percent with Maba (mfz), 45 percent with Marfa (mvu)

Alternate names: Massalit, Mesalit

Number of Near Languages: 2

% Christian of total language population:
8.21%

% Evangelized of total language population:
20.34%

Bible Products

Written Scripture:

✓ Portions
(Genesis)

Audio Scripture:

X

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway by a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with Written Bible Products:

0

JESUS Film:

X

Magdalena Film:

X

The Story of Jesus for Children:

X

Gospel Recordings:

✓

Gospel Films:

X

Radio Broadcast:

X

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Masalit



PEOPLE GROUP: MASALIT OF SUDAN

History: The Masalit are a non-Arab ethnic group. Masalit tribes live in the most remote areas of Sudan and Chad. The

Masalit of Sudan are concentrated in the Dar Masalit (“home of Masalit”) district of the northern Darfur Province. Some

Masalit live near the city of Gereida in southern Darfur.

In times past, the Masalit were known as fierce warriors who fought hard to protect their independence. Today, they are becoming more settled as a result of outside political, economic, and cultural influences.

Lifestyle: The Masalit are primarily farmers who raise millet, peanuts, sesame, okra, and various fruits. Honey, gum, leaves, and other useful products are also gathered from forests. Most of the grain is grown for domestic use, while the other crops are raised as cash crops. The Masalit obtain additional income by selling animals, tanning hides, sewing, transporting goods, and brewing a type of millet-beer. In addition to farming, the Masalit raise cattle, sheep, and goats, which are helpful in fertilizing their fields, as well as providing milk for the villagers. Though donkeys were their only means of transportation in the past, camels purchased from Arab nomads have recently become an important means of transportation.

Both men and women cultivate the fields, own land and animals, make decisions, and store their harvests separately. Although they share most of the household tasks, including raising the children, all of their financial responsibilities are kept separate. Some of the older Masalit children have their own fields where they cultivate their own crops. Generally, the men tend to the livestock while the women cook, care for the young children, gather wood, and draw water.

Most of the Masalit live as nuclear families in village settlements. Their homes are made from forest products. The walls are made of grass mats, and the cone-shaped roofs are thatched with wild grasses. They are round in shape and their frames are held up by strong wooden posts and poles. The huts are situated closely together to form small compounds. The compounds are surrounded by fences made from millet stalks. Each village consists of several compounds.

Inside each village is a central *masik*, which is a shaded clearing where men gather to eat, drink, pray, socialize, and discuss village affairs. The women do not socialize at the *masik*, but visit one another at the village well or in each other's homes.

Masalit marriages generally take place between young couples in their early 20s. Polygamy is permitted and most men have two wives, sometimes more. Divorce is common among the Masalit.

Before a marriage is finalized, a man must pay a bride-price to the woman's family. He is also required to build a house in the bride's mother's compound. The couple will live in that house for at least one year while the new husband works in his mother-in-law's fields. When the couple has their first child, they then decide whether or not to stay in their home, or resettle near the husband's family. This decision largely depends on the availability of fields.

Religious Beliefs: The Masalit began converting to Islam during the 1600s; and today they are completely Muslim. The Masalit are increasingly becoming more orthodox in their faith. Islamic laws dominate their political and social lives as well as their values. Today, most Masalit abstain from alcohol, pray five times a day, and seek religious counsel for important matters.

Engagement: The Masalit are geographically isolated, making engagement difficult. There is a need for Bible resources in the Masalit language.

Primary mission agency: None

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUP

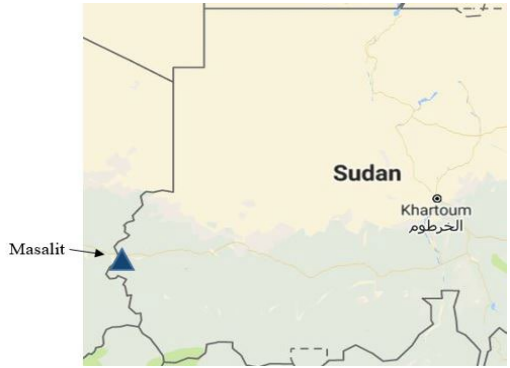
Sudan

Masalit: 406,000; Islam

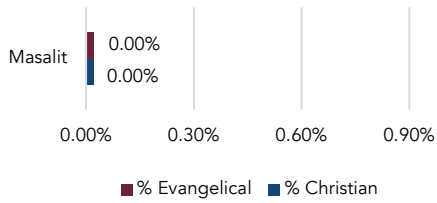
Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Masalit	None

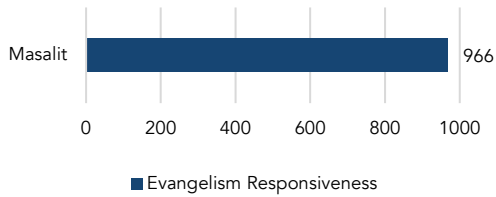
Location of People Group in SRG Country



Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

27: DZODINKA (ADERE) (ADD)

UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2019

Further research with the IMB and Joshua Project databases has determined that the people group that speaks Dzodinka is located primarily in Cameroon, Africa, and not the greater MENA region. Also, it is a reached group. Consequently, this language has been withdrawn from the UPG Initiative.

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: add

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
205,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Latin script

EGIDS: Vigorous (6a)—The language is used for face-to-face communication by all generations and the situation is sustainable.

Dialects: No information available

Alternate names: Adere, Adiri, Arderi, Dzodzinka, Lidzonka

Number of Near Languages: 6

% Christian of total language population:
50.00%

% Evangelized of total language population:
87.00%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: X

Audio Scripture: X

Translation date: Unknown

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with Written Bible Products: 2

JESUS Film: X

Magdalena Film: X

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: X

SRG Country of People Group Speaking Dzodinka



PEOPLE GROUP: MURGI BIRKED OF SUDAN

According to IMB, the Murgi Birked of Sudan is the largest people group in SRG countries that speak Dzodinka. Joshua Project does not have record of this people group in its database.

History: Due diligence pending

Lifestyle: Due diligence pending

Religious Beliefs: Due diligence pending

Engagement: Due diligence pending

Primary mission agency: Due diligence pending

Denominations: Due diligence pending

PEOPLE GROUP

Sudan

Murgi Birked: 205,000; Islam

Missional Status of People Group

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	None	Murgi Birked

Percent Christian & Evangelical

Due diligence pending

Evangelism Responsiveness

Due diligence pending

Location of People Group in SRG Country



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

28: SARAIKI (SKR)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: skr

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
22,260,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
1

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant [Arab]

EGIDS: Education (4)—The language is in vigorous use, with standardization and literature being sustained through a widespread system of institutionally supported education.

Dialects: Dialects blend together into Punjabi east and Sindhi [snd] south. 80 percent intelligibility of Dogri [dgo]. Lexical similarity: 85 percent with Sindhi [snd]; 68 percent with Dhatki [mki], Od [odk], and Sansi [ssi].

Alternate names: Belochki, Seraiki, Siraiki

Number of Near Languages: 16

% Christian of total language population:
4.0%

% Evangelized of total language population:
48.9%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ?

Audio Scripture: X

Translation date: Previously reported as NT (1819) by Ethnologue, BTAA, & WCD, but believed to not be Saraiki by Ethnologue & BTAA as of August 2019.

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 5

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: X

The Story of Jesus for Children: X

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: X

Radio Broadcast: X

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Saraiki



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SOUTHERN PUNJABI

The Southern Punjabi of Pakistan, numbering 22,260,000, are part of the Punjabi people cluster within the South Asian Peoples affinity bloc. The term "Punjabi" is used to describe both those who speak Punjabi and those who inhabit the Punjab region of India and Pakistan. It is derived from the Persian words panj (five) and ab (river).

History: The Punjab region is an ancient center of civilization that has been the main route of invasion and migration into India. Its chief historic cities are Lahore, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, and Patiala. Although their living conditions vary, the Punjabi have retained much of their traditional culture and lifestyle.

Lifestyle: Modern Punjabi culture has been profoundly shaped by the partitioning of India and Pakistan in 1947. The resulting massive migrations basically separated Muslims from Hindus and Sikhs. At the cost of thousands of lives, millions of Hindus and Sikhs migrated into India and millions of Muslims moved into Pakistan.

The Punjab region has long been one of the world's most important agricultural areas. The Punjabi are primarily farmers, hired laborers, and specialized craftsmen. Their villages consist of houses that are built close together along narrow lanes. In the older villages, the outer walls of the houses are joined together as a means of protecting them from outsiders. Occupations in the larger rural villages include shopkeepers, teachers, tailors, postmen, clergy, and doctors.

The household, or ghar, is the center of social life for the Punjabi, whether they are rich or poor. The ghar is made up of those who contribute to and eat from a single hearth. All members of the ghar pool their earnings and make joint decisions regarding their savings, investments, and any major transactions. Families are formed and developed within the ghar. The staple diet

of the Punjabi consists of bread and vegetables.

The Punjabi are also a part of the caste (social class) system. They are divided into castes called jati. Castes generally have origin stories that explain how they came into an area, and/or their present occupational position. Caste divisions vary according to region, but they generally range from the upper castes of Brahmins (priests, scholars, and landowners) to the lowest caste of laborers and servants. Various artisan castes include carpenters, masons, blacksmiths, barbers, and weavers. Jati are further divided into clans, villages, and families.

Marriage is considered universal and necessary among all Punjabi. Residences are generally patrilocal, which means that young couples live in the husband's village near his parents. Marriages can still be arranged by parents, but this is rarely done without extensive discussions. The bride's parents usually pay for the wedding and a dowry (the property that a wife or a wife's family gives to her husband upon marriage) is still a part of Punjabi tradition.

Among the Punjabi, there is no overall system of social control. Instead, each social institution (such as homes, businesses, religious and political organizations) has its own set of laws and disciplinary measures.

Religious Beliefs: The primary religion practiced by the Southern Punjabi is Islam.

Engagement: The Southern Punjabi of Pakistan are engaged yet unreached.

Primary mission agencies: The Evangelical Alliance Mission, Foreign Mission Board, Pakistan Partnership Initiative

Denominations: Roman Catholic Church, Calasantini, United Presbyterian Church of Pakistan, Salvation Army, Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Basel Mission

PEOPLE GROUPS

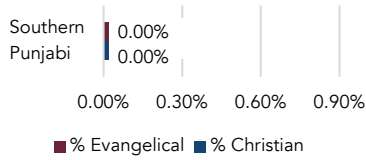
Pakistan

Southern Punjabi: 21,890,000; Islam

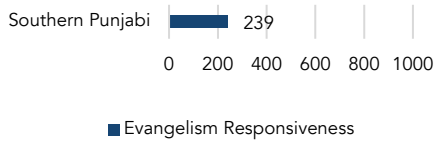
Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Southern Punjabi	None

Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

29: EASTERN BALOCHI (BGP)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: bgp

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
3,841,500

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant

EGIDS: Developing (5)—The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.

Dialects: A member of macrolanguage Baluchi.

Alternate names:

Baloci, Baluchi, Baluci, Eastern Hill Balochi

Number of Near Languages: 3

% Christian of total language population:
0.0%

% Evangelized of total language
population: 22.0%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT
& OT Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: 2013

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with
Written Bible Products: 2

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✓

Radio Broadcast: ✗

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Eastern Balochi



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: EASTERN BALOCH OF PAKISTAN

History: The Baloch people live in the southernmost region of the Iranian plateau in Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan. Their name, "Baluch," is shrouded in controversy. It is believed that the name "Baloch" is derived from the name of the Babylonian king and god Belus. Some believe the word is a derivation of Sanskrit words "Bal" meaning strength and "Och" meaning high or magnificent. However, as noted in the Southern Balochi people group description, some say it means "nomad," while others claim it is an old Persian word meaning "the cock's crest."

The Baloch claim their origins to be in Aleppo in what is now Syria. They are descendants of Hazrat Ameer Hamza, the uncle of Islamic prophet Muhammad. Based on an analysis of the linguistic connections of the Balochi language, the original homeland of the Balochi tribes was likely the east or southeast area of the central Caspian region.

Lifestyle: The Baloch generally live in remote mountainous and desert regions, which provides protection from invasions. They live according to tribal customs and are separated into a number of different tribes, including the Bugti, Marri, Zehri, Hooth, and Megal. Baloch men wear long shirts with long sleeves and loose pants. They sometimes wear turbans on their heads.

Gold ornaments such as necklaces and bracelets are an important aspect of Baloch women's traditions. They usually wear a gold brooch that is used to fasten two parts of the dress together over the chest. They pass traditions to children through oral history retelling. The tradition of a Baloch mother singing lullabies to her children has played an important role in the transfer of knowledge from generation to generation for many centuries.

Religious Beliefs: The primary religion practiced by the Eastern Baloch is Sunni

Islam, the largest branch of Islam. Balochi customs and traditions are conducted according to codes imposed by their tribal laws.

Engagement: The Eastern Baloch are engaged yet unreached.

Primary mission agencies: Red Sea Team International, Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society, West Minster Biblical Missions, WEC International, Pakistan Partnership Initiative

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Pakistan

Eastern Baloch: 3,815,000; Islam, Sunni

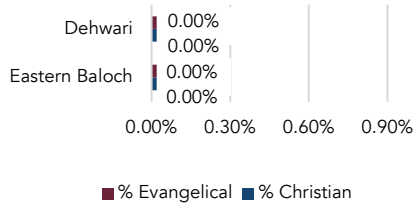
Dehwari: 60,000; Islam, Sunni

Missional Status of People Groups

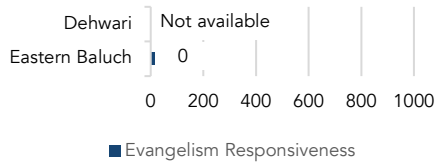
	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Eastern Baloch Dehwari	None

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 29: EASTERN BALAOCHI (BGP)

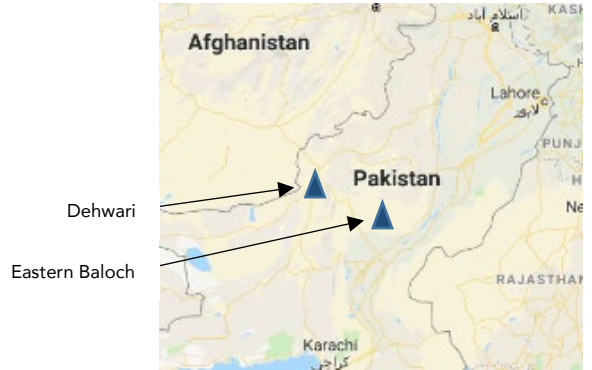
Percent Christian & Evangelical



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

30: SOUTHERN PASHTO (PBT)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: pbt

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
10,569,000

Number of people groups in SRG countries: 2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant, used in print. Arabic script, Nastaliq variant, used in handwriting and for book titles.

EGIDS: Developing (5)—The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though it is not widespread or sustainable.

Dialects: Durani. Lexical similarity: 80 percent between northern and southern varieties of Pashto. A member of macrolanguage Pushto.

Alternate names: Kandahar Pashto, Qandahar Pashto, Southwestern Pashto

Number of Near Languages: 3

% Christian of total language population:
0.1%

% Evangelized of total language population:
29.8%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ Portions

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: 2011

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 1

JESUS Film: ✗

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✓

Radio Broadcast: ✓

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Southern Pashto



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SOUTHERN PASHTUN OF PAKISTAN⁹⁷

The Southern Pashtun of Pakistan, numbering 10,280,000, are part of the Pashtun people cluster within the Persian-Median affinity bloc. Globally, this group totals 16,544,000 in four countries. Southern Pakistani Pashtuns, are centered in the city of Quetta, and Baluchistan province.

History: Pashtuns often feature in news bulletins because of their links with the Taliban, militancy, and conservative Islam. Popular literature abounds with stories of oppressed, veiled women, restricted to their homes. The Pashtuns have been stereotyped by outsiders and other people groups as fierce warriors, unruly and uncouth, whose lack of education is expressed in their treatment of women and violence to anyone who insults their honor or their faith.

Pashtuns are proud of their independence and their fame as skilled fighters. However, many would consider themselves to be peacemakers, as their jirga (council of elders) system and other customs facilitate peace between warring factions on a local, as well as national, level. A Pashtun will describe himself as a protector of women and “a man of peace, until my honor is touched.”

Lifestyle: Honor (and conversely, shame) refers not to personal feelings or a psychological state, but to one’s public reputation in the eyes of others. In a collectivistic society like the Pashtun, where community is emphasized over individualism, a person’s identity is defined by his/her group. Relationships are interpreted in terms of honor. The idiomatic phrase, “What will/might people say?” is not a trivial question, but a powerful influence on behavior. All behaviors are structured to avoid shame and to maintain/increase honor. This is because individual actions can affect not

only one’s own honor, but that of the group, family or tribe.

Pashtuns in cities like Peshawar or Karachi are literate in the national language, Urdu, which is the primary language of education. Illiteracy among women is significantly higher than men. Girls’ education, especially in rural areas, is a contested and volatile social issue. The overall literacy rate for the whole of Pakistan is declining; from 60 percent to 58 percent in 2018. Much of the education occurs in madras schools; and the traditional resistance to female education continues.

Over 93 percent of the homes in Pashtun-majority provinces have radios, and they are a chief source of information and entertainment. At least 34 percent of homes have televisions. Cellular technology and mobile phones are increasing access to information and transforming the country. Pakistan is one of the fastest growing Asian markets for smartphones, especially for youth, who comprise over half of the population, and in urban areas.

Many Pakistani Pashtuns of all regions and tribes live as transplanted minorities mixed among Punjabis and other groups throughout Pakistan, including the capital city of Islamabad, Rawalpindi, and Karachi. Here the national language of Urdu influences their tribal and regional Pashto varieties, as Urdu words are borrowed and incorporated in local Pashto. Pakistani Pashtuns tend to be fluent in Urdu as well as Pashto, and educated Pashtun (especially among the younger generation) may be more literate in Urdu than Pashto.

Religious Beliefs: The primary religion practiced by the Southern Pashtun is Sunni Islam, the largest branch of Islam.

Engagement: The Southern Pashtun of Pakistan are engaged yet unreached.

⁹⁷ History and lifestyle sections provided by Len Bartlotti, PhD in May 2019.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 30: SOUTHERN PASHTO (PBT)

Primary mission agencies: Church Missionary Society, The Evangelical Alliance Mission, Pakistan Partnership Initiative

Denominations: None

PEOPLE GROUPS

Pakistan

Southern Pashtun: 10,280,000; Islam, Sunni

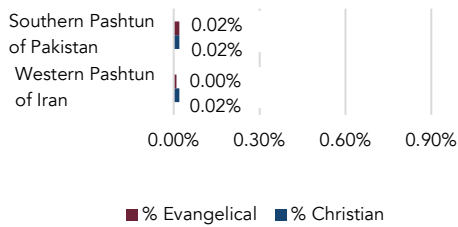
Iran

Western Pashtun: 119,000; Islam, Sunni

Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Southern Pashtun of Pakistan	Western Pashtun of Iran

Percent Christian & Evangelical⁹⁸



Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



⁹⁸ Joshua Project, the source for these data, lists the language spoken in Pakistan as “Northern Pashtun.” However, it has research underway to update the information available on Pashtun people group.

UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE

31: SOUTHERN BALOCHI (BCC)

LANGUAGE SUMMARY

General Language Data

ROL: bcc

Population of speakers in SRG countries:
2,000,500

Number of people groups in SRG countries:
2

Writing: Arabic script, Naskh variant.
Arabic script, Nastaliq variant, primary usage. Latin script.

EGIDS: Developing (5)— The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.

Dialects: Coastal Balochi, Kechi, Makrani. Distinct from Eastern Balochi and fairly distinct from Western Balochi. A member of macrolanguage Baluchi.

Alternate names: Baloci, Baluchi, Baluci, Makrani

Number of Near Languages: 3

% Christian: 0.0%

% Engaged: 20.8%

Bible Products

Written Scripture: ✓ NT
& Jonah

Audio Scripture: ✗

Translation date: New Testament 2001,
Jonah (1990)

Current Translation Activity: Work underway with a Bible translation agency.

Number of Near Languages with

Written Bible Products: 2

JESUS Film: ✓

Magdalena Film: ✗

The Story of Jesus for Children: ✗

Gospel Recordings: ✓

Gospel Films: ✓

Radio Broadcast: ✗

SRG Countries of People Groups Speaking Southern Balochi



LARGEST PEOPLE GROUP: SOUTHERN BALOCH OF PAKISTAN

History: The Southern Baloch of Pakistan are part of the larger Baluch community which consists of several million people. Their homeland lies in the southern areas of Baluchistan and Sind Provinces. These provinces are located in the southeastern portion of the country. The various Baluch groups speak different languages, each with distinguishing characteristics. These languages have been divided into three groups: Eastern, Western, and Southern Baluchi.

Their name is shrouded in controversy. Some say it means "nomad," while others claim it is an old Persian word meaning "the cock's crest." However, as noted in the Eastern Balochi people group description, others assert that the name "Baloch" is derived from the name of the Babylonian king and god Belus. Some believe the word is a derivation of Sanskrit words "Bal" meaning strength and "Och" meaning high or magnificent.

Their history is just as mysterious. Some have traced their origins to Nimrod, son of Cush (Noah's grandson). But while some things are uncertain, we do know that they first moved to the region in the twelfth century. During the Moghul period, this territory became known as "Baluchistan."

Lifestyle: According to historians, this high and arid region was once a thickly populated area watered by many perennial rivers. Today, it is a desolate, infertile area of rocky mountains, dry river valleys, and semi-desert plains. Rainfall is low and unreliable, and the hills have few trees. However, when rain comes or the snow melts, the dry riverbeds become raging torrents and the brown, arid landscape turns green once again.

The Baluch traditionally earn their living by a combination of farming and semi-nomadic shepherding. They usually raise sheep, cattle, or goats. Agriculture is limited because of the harsh climate; nevertheless, it plays a large role in the economy. The

chief crop is wheat. To aid in the household economy, some farmers raise chickens. They also depend on wild fruits and vegetables. One wild plant, called the "dwarf palm," is used as a dietary supplement. The meat of the palm is eaten, and the leaves are used to make ropes, shoes, mats, and tents. Though their survival techniques may vary, each community tries to keep a wide variety of animals and grow many different crops. If the local economy does not provide adequate job opportunities, the young men often move to the cities in search of work.

Village settlements are clusters of mud houses, loosely organized around the home of the local chief. They live in these permanent mountain and valley settlements in the summertime. However, in winter, they migrate to the plains and coastal areas, seeking green grass for their livestock. During this time, they live in tents and move freely across the landscape as weather conditions dictate. These temporary settlements are smaller, consisting of closely related kin.

Within the family, the entire household is responsible for tending the family's herd. Women work in groups, threshing and separating the harvest; while plowing and planting are done by the men. Traditionally, land is not privately owned but belongs to the whole tribe.

Religious Beliefs: The Baluch are Sunni Muslims. Their religious practices remain private, and there is no concept of a "state religion." All forms of secular authority are separated from the spiritual authority held by religious leaders.

Engagement: The Baluch have been isolated for many years due to Pakistan's harsh climate, the difficulty of communicating in mountainous terrain, and their reputation as bandits. There are only a few known believers among them.

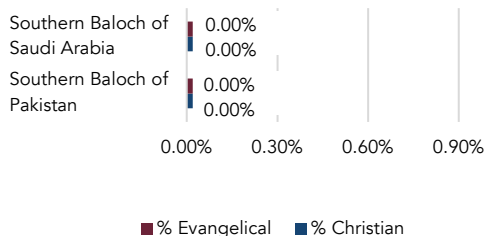
UPG LANGUAGE PROFILE 31: SOUTHERN BALOCHI (BCC)

Primary mission agencies: WEC

International, Unnamed Anonymous Agency, World Team, Red Sea Mission Team, Gospel Recordings International, Cooperative Services International, Pakistan Partnership Initiative

Denominations: None

Percent Christian & Evangelical



PEOPLE GROUPS

Pakistan

Southern Baloch: 1,940,000; Islam, Sunni

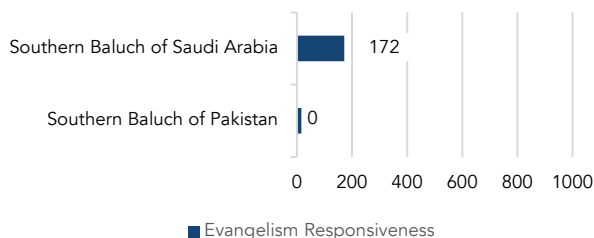
Saudi Arabia

Southern Baloch: 15,000; Islam

Missional Status of People Groups

	Engaged	Unengaged
Reached	None	
Unreached	Southern Baloch of Pakistan Southern Baloch of Saudi Arabia	None

Evangelism Responsiveness



Location of People Groups in SRG Countries



SOURCES & DEFINITIONS OF DATA FIELDS

Ethnologue, www.ethnologue.com

- ROL: a standardized three-letter, lowercase abbreviation code assigned to each language used to categorize languages spoken on a regional basis; also, known as a ISO-639 code.
- Writing: written language(s) for each language profile
- EGIDS: a language development scale of 13 levels; a summary of the scale and descriptions of the levels can be found Unreached People Groups of the Greater Middle East: A Collection of Documents to Inform an Engagement Strategy for UPGs, section 1, “UPG Language Selection & Prioritization Process.”
- Dialects
- Alternate names
- Comments on the languages

IMB, www.peoplesgroups.org

- Population of speakers in SRG Countries
- Gospel recordings
- Audio scripture
- Gospel Films
- Radio broadcast
- Religion of people groups
- Engaged or Unengaged: A people group is unengaged when there is no church planting strategy consistent with Evangelical faith and practice, being implemented; in this respect a people group is not engaged when it is merely adopted.
- Reached or Unreached: An unreached people group is a people group in which less than 2% of the population is Evangelical Christians.
- Location of People Groups in SRG Countries: Each profile contains a map with triangles that indicate the location of each people group. The triangle represents the general location of the people group, but often the people group is spread out across a much larger area than the triangle indicates.

World Christian Database, www.worldchristiandatabase.org

- Number of near languages
- % Christian of total language population
- % Evangelized of total language population
- Number of near languages with written Bible products
- Primary mission agencies¹
- Denominations
- Evangelism Responsiveness: A measure of new church members baptized per year, per million evangelism-hours expended per year. Higher values indicate greater responsiveness to evangelism, lower values signify small or even no response.

¹ The agencies and denominations listed have historically worked among the people group. Not all agencies and denominations mentioned are actively working among the people group currently.

Joshua Project, www.joshuaproject.net

- History, Lifestyle, Beliefs, and Engagement narrative²
- % Christian for the people group
- % Evangelical for the people group

Jesus Film Project, www.jesusfilm.org

- “JESUS” Film
- Magdalena Film
- The Story of Jesus for Children

SIL, Wycliffe, Seed Company, & United Bible Society

- Current translation activity

Field-based Human Intelligence

- Comments on whether the language is appropriate for written Bible projects

² For some languages *peoplegroups.info* was used to supplement the narrative for these sections when information from Joshua Project was limited.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A:

NUMBERED LANGUAGE LIST

Greyed-out languages have been withdrawn from the UPG Initiative. For more information, see their profiles. Numbering remains the same as prior publications.

Language #	Language code	Language
01	apd	Sudanese Arabic
02	acm	Mesopotamian Arabic
03	apc	North Levantine Arabic
04	ckb	Central Kurdish
05	ajp	South Levantine Arabic
06	acq	Ta'izzi-Adeni Arabic
07	aec	Saidi Arabic
08	ars	Najdi Arabic
09	shi	Tachelhit
10	ady	Adyghe
11	tru	Turoyo
12	glk	Gilaki
13	kib	Koalib
14	afb	Gulf Arabic
15	ayn	Sanaani Arabic
16	acw	Hijazi Arabic
17	avl	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic
18	Bgn	Western Balochi
19	bej	Beja
20	ayh	Hadrami Arabic
21	diq	Dimli
22	sdh	Southern Kurdish
23	fia	Nobiin
24	ayl	Libyan Arabic
25	dgl	Andaandi
26	mls	Masalit
27	add	Dzodinka (Adere)

APPENDIX A: NUMBERED LANGUAGE LIST

Language #	Language code	Language
28	skr	Saraiki
29	bgp	Eastern Balochi
30	pbt	Southern Pashto
31	bcc	Southern Balochi

APPENDIX B:

NUMBERED UPG LIST & LANGUAGE SPOKEN

Six UPGs are listed twice because two languages are spoken within the UPG (see 19, 38, 41, 63, 68, & 81). In 2019 two UPGs associated with one language were withdrawn (see 76 & 82); they are greyed out. Also, it was found that some names were alternate names for the same group. This affects: Yemeni Arabs (89) merging with Southern Yemeni Arabs; Ishelhayn (39) merging with Ishelhayn Berber; and Northern Yemeni (61) merging with Northern Yemeni Arabs. These names are also greyed out. Thus there are 90 discrete, unduplicated UPGs in the UPG Initiative. Numbering remains the same as prior publications.

UPG #	UPG	Language #	Language
01	Adyghe	10	Adyghe (ady)
02	Akhdam	06	Ta'izzi-Adeni Arabic (acq)
03	Alawites	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
04	Arabs	02	Mesopotamian Arabic (acm)
05	Awlad Hassan	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
06	Baggara	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
07	(Western) Baluch	18	Western Balochi (bgn)
08	Batahin	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
09	Baygo	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
10	Bederia	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
11	Bedouin	17	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic (avl)
12	Bedouin Arabs	08	Najdi Arabic (ars)
13	Beja	19	Beja (bej)
14	Berti	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
15	Central Kurds	04	Central Kurdish (ckb)
16	Central Sorani Kurds	04	Central Kurdish (ckb)
17	Dar Hamid	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
18	Dongolese Nubians	25	Andaandi (dgl)
19	Druze	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
19	Druze	05	South Levantine Arabic (ajp)
20	Dubasiyin	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
21	Eastern Bedouin	17	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic (avl)
22	Eliri	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)

APPENDIX B: NUMBERED UPG LIST & LANGUAGE SPOKEN

UPG #	UPG	Language #	Language
23	Fedicca/Mohas Nubian	23	Nobiin (fia)
24	Fezara	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
25	Gaaliin	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
26	Gawamaa	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
27	Gilaki	12	Gilaki (glk)
28	Gimma	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
29	Guhayna	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
30	Gule	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
31	Gulf Arabs	14	Gulf Arabic (afb)
32	Gulf Bedouin	14	Gulf Arabic (afb)
33	Hadhramout Yemeni Arabs	20	Hadrami Arabic (ayh)
34	Hamer-Banna	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
35	Hasania	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
36	Hijazi Saudi Arabs	16	Hijazi Arabic (acw)
37	Husseinat	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
38	Iraqi Arabs	02	Mesopotamian Arabic (acm)
38	Iraqi Arabs	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
39	Ishelhayn	09	Tachelhit (shi)
40	Ishilhayn Berber	09	Tachelhit (shi)
41	Jordanian Arabs	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
41	Jordanian Arabs	05	South Levantine Arabic (ajp)
42	Kababish	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
43	Kawahia	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
44	Kerarish	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
45	Kineenawi	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
46	Lahawin	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
47	Lebanese Arabs	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
48	Levantine Arabs	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
49	Levantine Bedawi	17	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic (avl)
50	Levantine Bedawi Arabs	17	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic (avl)
51	Levantine Bedouin	17	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic (avl)
52	Libyan Arabs	24	Libyan Arabic (ayl)
53	Liri	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
54	Maalia	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
55	Mandaeen	02	Mesopotamian Arabic (acm)
56	Mandal	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
57	Marsh Arabs	02	Mesopotamian Arabic (acm)
58	Masalit	26	Masalit (mls)
59	Murgi Birked	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
60	Negev Bedouin	17	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic (avl)
61	Northern Yemeni	15	Sanaani Arabic (ayn)
62	Northern Yemeni Arabs	15	Sanaani Arabic (ayn)
63	Palestinian Arabs	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)

APPENDIX B: NUMBERED UPG LIST & LANGUAGE SPOKEN

UPG #	UPG	Language #	Language
63	Palestinian Arabs	05	South Levantine Arabic (ajp)
64	Rashaida	14	Gulf Arabic (afb)
65	Rizeiqat	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
66	Rufaa	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
67	Saidi Arabs	07	Saidi Arabic (aec)
68	Saudi Arabs	14	Gulf Arabic (afb)
68	Saudi Arabs	08	Najdi Arabic (ars)
69	Saudi Shi'a Arabs	14	Gulf Arabic (afb)
70	Selim	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
71	Shaikia	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
72	Sherifi	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
73	Shi'ites	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
74	Shukria	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
75	Shuweihat	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
76	Southern Assyrians	11	Turoyo (tru)
77	Southern Kurds	22	Southern Kurdish (sdh)
78	Southern Yemeni Arabs	06	Ta'izzi-Adeni Arabic (acq)
79	Southern Zaza	21	Dimli (diq)
80	Sudanese Arabs	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
81	Syrian Arabs	03	North Levantine Arabic (apc)
81	Syrian Arabs	05	South Levantine Arabic (ajp)
82	Syrian Aramaic	11	Turoyo (tru)
83	Tihama	16	Hijazi Arabic (acw)
84	Tihama Yemeni Arabs	06	Ta'izzi-Adeni Arabic (acq)
85	Tungur	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
86	Turum	13	Koalib (kib)
87	Umm Heitan	13	Koalib (kib)
88	Yazeed	01	Sudanese Arabic (apd)
89	Yemeni Arabs	06	Ta'izzi-Adeni Arabic (acq)
90	Dehwari	29	Eastern Balochi (bgp)
91	Eastern Baloch	29	Eastern Balochi (bgp)
92	Southern Baloch	31	Southern Balochi (bcc)
93	Southern Pashtun	30	Southern Pashto (pbt)
94	Southern Punjabi	28	Saraiki (skr)
95	Western Pashtun	30	Southern Pashto (pbt)

APPENDIX C: NUMBERED LANGUAGE LIST & NUMBER OF SRG COUNTRIES

Greyed-out languages have been withdrawn from the UPG Initiative.

Language #	Language code	Language	# of SRG Countries Where Language Spoken
01	apd	Sudanese Arabic	4
02	acm	Mesopotamian Arabic	4
03	apc	North Levantine Arabic	9
04	ckb	Central Kurdish	3
05	ajp	South Levantine Arabic	5
06	acq	Ta'izzi-Adeni Arabic	4
07	aec	Saidi Arabic	1
08	ars	Najdi Arabic	4
09	shi	Tachelhit	2
10	ady	Adyghe	3
11	tru	Turoyo	
12	glk	Gilaki	1
13	kib	Koalib	1
14	afb	Gulf Arabic	5
15	ayn	Sanaani Arabic	2
16	acw	Hijazi Arabic	1
17	avl	Eastern Egyptian Bedawi Arabic	5
18	Bgn	Western Balochi	2
19	bej	Beja	2
20	ayh	Hadrami Arabic	1
21	diq	Dimli	1
22	sdh	Southern Kurdish	1
23	fia	Nobiin	2
24	ayl	Libyan Arabic	1
25	dgl	Andaandi	1

APPENDIX C: NUMBERED UPG LIST & NUMBER OF SRG COUNTRIES

Language #	Language code	Language	# of SRG Countries Where Language Spoken
26	mls	Masalit	1
27	add	Dzodinka (Adere)	
28	skr	Saraiki	1
29	bgp	Eastern Balochi	1
30	pbt	Southern Pashto	2
31	bcc	Southern Balochi	2

APPENDIX D: NUMBER OF UPG LANGUAGES BY COUNTRY

Country	Number of UPG Languages
Algeria	1
Egypt	9
Iran	7
Iraq	6
Israel	3
Jordan	6
Lebanon	2
Morocco	1
Pakistan	5
Saudi Arabia	9
Sudan	8
Syria	6
Turkey	2
Yemen	7

APPENDIX E: COUNTRIES & SRG-SELECTED UPG POPULATION

Country	Population June 2019
Algeria	1,135,000
Egypt	34,985,000
Iran	11,638,000
Iraq	28,622,500
Israel	1,971,200
Jordan	12,237,500
Lebanon	3,732,000
Morocco	4,545,000
Pakistan	39,926,500
Saudi Arabia	33,567,500
Sudan	27,638,600
Syria	17,385,000
Turkey	7,775,000
Yemen	29,216,000
Total	254,374,800