

The Mubi of Chad

The Mubi live east of the Abou Telfane Mountains and south of the Massalit in the Prefecture Mangalme (district). They are divided into three cantons (political communities): Mubi Hadaba in the north, Mubi Zarga in the south and Mubi Goz in the east. They live in 135 small villages fortified by thornhedges with 50 – max. 400 inhabitants around the town of Mangalme.

They grow millet, sorghum, sesame, beans, cotton, and peanuts. Their territory is regularly crossed by the Missiriye Arabs, a Djoheina subtribe, with whom they exchange goods and services. The Mubi have since the 1960s taken up cattle raising. Each village has a herd, which is put in the care of a communal herdsman or a group of young men who take the animals to winter in the wadis (seasonally dry streambeds). Furthermore they raise goats, sheep, donkeys and horses.

Intermarriage is common with all neighboring ethnic groups, such as Masmadje, Birgit, Dadjo and Misirie. Generally, it is forbidden to marry to Haddat Arabs, the blacksmiths. Women from other ethnic groups have to learn the Mubi language. A majority use Arabic as a second language for communication with people from other language groups.

Since 1965 the Mubi have played a role in the rebellion against the government. The subprefecture Mangalme was created in the late 1970s to maintain law and order in the area.

Primary Religion:

Islam

Disciples (Matt 28.19):

0%

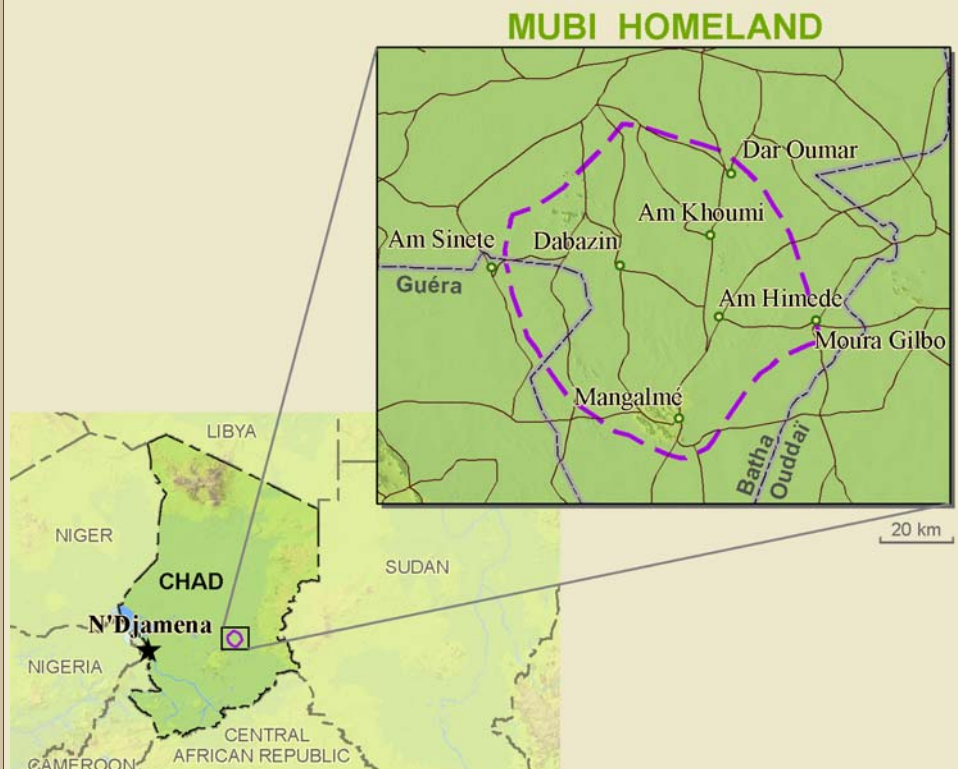
Churches:

Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):

None in Mubi

Population (date):

35,300 (1993)



The Mubi of Chad

Item Name	Item Note	
Have They Heard The Gospel?		Profile Summary
Call Themselves Christian (%)	0%	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	0%	
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	95%	
Number Of Pastors	0	
Response To The Gospel	There are no facts known. Generally, Muslims in Chad do not respond favorably to the gospel, since Christianity is associated with the former French Colonialism.	
Comment (Churches)	Catholics and the evangelical denomination "Assemblee Evangelique au Tchad" (Evangelical Assembly of Chad) in Mangalme. Church members are mainly civil servants from the south who are appointed in this area by the government.	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	There are no film, video, audio, Bible translation or other printed materials in their mother tongue. There is no Scripture available in the Mubi language. They might understand Scripture in Chadian Arabic, but according to sociolinguistic research, they would prefer to have the written word in their own language and would like to have a language development program started.	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	There are no scriptures in the Mubi language. Literacy in French is rather low due to a low rate of school attendance. Only 30% of the children get enrolled, and many drop out, especially during plantation and harvest periods. Many have studied in Koranic schools, in which instruction is done in Classical Arabic what generally means learning by heart without understanding the meaning. There seems to be interest in local language literacy and Bible translation.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	Literacy work and Bible translation are needed.	
Population All Countries		Group Description
World Population For This People	35,300	
World Population (Date)	1993	
Comment (World Population)	population from census of Chad	
Countries Where People Group Lives		Group Description
Country Name	Chad	
Geography & Environment		Group Description
Location	centered around Mangalme	
Ecosystem Type	Savannahs	
Geological Type	Plains	
Longitude	20 degrees E	
Latitude	13 degrees N	
Climate	Sahelian zone: The climate in this transition zone between the desert and the southern soudanian zone is divided into a rainy season (from June to early September) and a dry period (from October to May).	
Comments (Geography & Environment)	grass and shrub plain, open thorny savannah	
Language & Linguistics		Group Description
Comment (Alternate Names)	MUBI, MONJUL	
Comments (Dialect)	no dialects reported (Mbernodji & Johnson, 2001)	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Very receptive	
Percent Monolingual (%)	10%	
Comment (Second Language)	Chadian Arabic (Shuwa) 90%	
Comment (On Other Mother Tongues)	only by intermarriage	
Comments (Related Languages)	Kadjakse, Masmadje, Birgit, Toram, Zirenkel	
Comments (Neighbor Languages)	Masmadje, Birgit, Kadjakse, Massirie, Dangaleat, Zirenkel, Dadjo	
Corrections To Ethnologue Entry	homogeneous language, no dialects	

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Item Name	Item Note	
Literacy		Group Description
Adult Literacy Percentage	<30%	
Percent Literate For Men	56% (average 2003 estimate)	
Percent Literate For Women	39.3% (average 2003 estimate)	
Literacy Attitude	Somewhat receptive	
Active Literacy Program	none	
Publications In Vernacular	none	
Comment (Literacy)	Less than 30%; Government Schools are run in French and are attended by only 30% of the children with a high drop out rate, especially during planting and harvest seasons. There is a stated interest in a language development program. Koranic schools are well developed in the area. But no text books available, teaching is mostly learning by heart of the Koran, written in Classical Arabic.	
Economics		Group Description
Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists	
Subsistence Type	Pastoralists	
Average Annual Income	self-sustaining	
Occupation	farmers and keepers of livestock	
Income Sources	some crops (mainly millet and sorghum) and livestock	
Trade Partners	Missirie and other neighboring people groups in the market	
Community Development		Group Description
Health Care (Quality)	Poor	
Comment (Health Care)	health center at Mangalme	
Diet (Quality)	Poor	
Comment (Diet)	mainly millet and diary products	
Shelter Description	Simple mud-brick houses with cone-shaped or flat thatched roof	
Transportation	walking, donkey, horse, motorcycle, bicycles	
Infant Mortality Rate	9.5%	
Life Expectancy	49	
Society & Culture		Group Description
Family Structures	nuclear family, patrilineal	
Authority / Rule	chiefs for villages, sultans for people group	
Social Habits/Groupings	clans	
Cultural Change Pace	Slow	
Identification With National Culture	Distinct	
Self Image	Prestigious	
Celebrations	Islamic holy days and some pre-Islamic life-rite ceremonies	
Media	radio	
Local Language Broadcasting	none	
Youth		Group Description
Youth Greatest Needs (teens)	vernacular literacy	
Education		Group Description
Comment (Primary School Enrollment)	many children go to school, but do not finish sixth grade	
Secondary Schools	1	
Secondary School Enrollment	only a few	

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Item Name

Item Note

Language Of Instruction Early Years

French

Language Of Textbooks Early Years

French

Language Of Instruction Later Years

French

Language Of Textbooks Later Years

French

Comment (Education)

There is one secondary school at Mangalme; Classical Arabic is taught at Koranic Schools, probably only oral teaching (no books except the Koran for the Iman)

Church Growth

Status of Christianity

Reached Classification

Unreached

Lay Leaders

0

Bible Schools

0

Christian Clinics/Hospitals

0

Christian Literacy Centers

0

Religion & Response

Status of Christianity

Religious Practices & Ceremonies

The Mubi are predominantly Muslims and they celebrate Islamic holy days. According to their own statement, they do not participate in a cult called Margai, an animistic cult widely spread in the area, however pre- Islamic beliefs are still practiced by some. Both the Islamic calendar and various life-rite ceremonies are followed to some degree.

Items For Prayer

- Christians moving in the area with good contacts to the people
- Organisation that plans church planting
- Tentmakers
- Future language development program
- Openness toward the gospel

Scripture

Status of Christianity

Translation Status

Definite

Available Scripture

None

Comment (Scripture)

Survey is complete

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature

None in Mubi

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings

None in Mubi

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos

None in Mubi

Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Radio

None in Mubi