

## The Ubi of Chad



The Ubi are a smaller Hadjeray (meaning mountain people) group, in the Guera province of central Chad. There are six Ubi villages to the south of the Bidiyo canton. Their area receives rain earlier than most of the rest of the Guera, and has a very high water table, making it more fertile for agriculture. Many Ubi are able to produce more millet and sorghum grain than they need, which they sell for cash for things like tea and sugar. Ubi men also spend a lot of time weaving colorful palmfrond mats to sit on and sell in the larger Bitkine and Mongo markets. The Ubi are proud of the new mosques in tow of their villages, built of concrete and metal, a luxury in Chad where most villages only have mud and thatched huts. Though the Ubi are only about 50 km from Mongo, the provincial capital, the road is difficult, and in one of the villages, before linguistic surveyors visited, no White person had passed since a French colonist named Martin rode through on his horse before Chad's independence in 1960.

**Primary Religion:**

Muslim

**Disciples (Matt 28.19):**

0%

**Churches:**

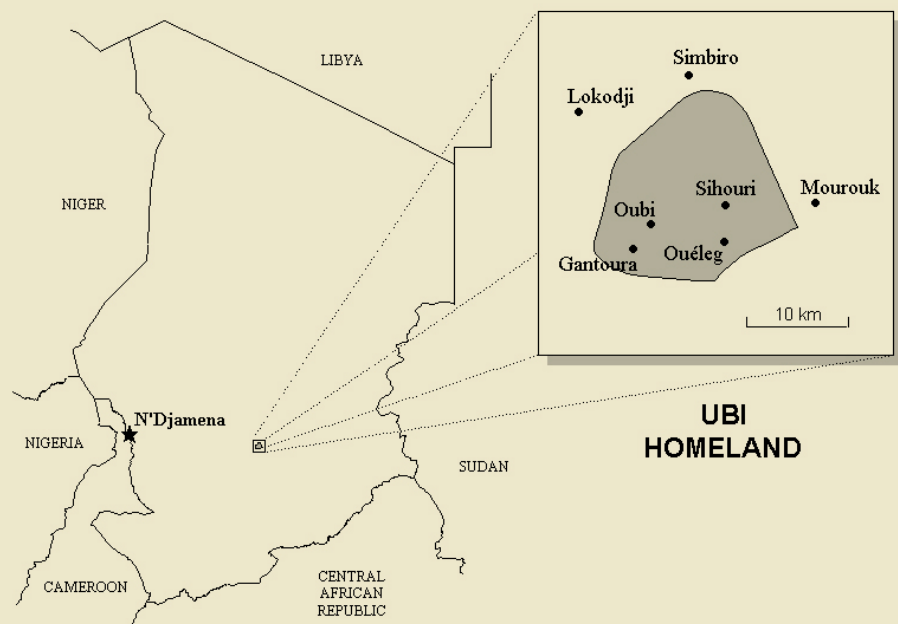
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**Scripture Status (Matt 28.20):**

No Scripture

**Population (date):**

1,500 (1993)



## The Ubi of Chad

Item Name	Item Note	
<b>Have They Heard The Gospel?</b>		<b>Profile Summary</b>
Call Themselves Christian (%)	<0.1%	
Believe In Jesus As God & Only Savior (%)	0%	
Prophet/Good Man, But Not God's Son (%)	>99.99	
Have Not Heard Who Jesus is (%)	possibly 50%	
Number Of Pastors	0	
Number Of Missionaries Working	0	
Number Of Communities	6	
Comment (Number Communities)	Six villages, plus others in major towns.	
Number Of Churches	0	
Is The Word Of God Translated?	No	
Any Hinderance To Scripture Distribution?	Though most of the people understand the Chadian Arabic scriptures in Ubi area, The vast majority are illiterate. The closest church is probably in Mongo ie 50 km away.	
Forms Of Gospel Presentation Available (Summary)	Chadia Arabic New Testament, portions of the Old Testament and the Jesus Film.	
What Kind Of Missionaries Are Needed?	Yes, there is need for medical missions, water management projects, financial management, Bible translation, literacy work, and church planting in their area.	
<b>Population All Countries</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
World Population For This People	1500	
World Population (Date)	1993	
<b>Countries Where People Group Lives</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Country Name	Chad	
<b>Geography &amp; Environment</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Location	In the Guera prefecture, in the south of the Bidiyo canton (Mongo Rural sub-prefecture).	
Country	Chad	
Ecosystem Type	Scrub Forest	
Geological Type	Other	
Elevation	500m above sea level.	
Longitude	11N	
Latitude	18E	
Climate	Hot and dry; with a longer rainy season than the rest of the Guera.	
Comments (Geography & Environment)	Scrub brush and low trees, with sandy seasonal streambeds. Near the northern edge of the watershed for the Chari River.	
<b>Language &amp; Linguistics</b>		<b>Group Description</b>
Comment (Language)	By self-evaluation they the 12% monolingual.	
Alternate Language Names	Oubi	
Attitude Towards Mother Tongue	Somewhat receptive	
Percent Monolingual (%)	12% by self-evaluation during survey.	
Second Languages	MOGUM; ARABIC, SHUWA; DAJU, DAR DAJU; BIDIYO	
Comment (Second Language)	88% of Ubi say they speak Chadian Arabic at an equivalent of FSI level 3.	
Other Mother Tongues Of This Group	ARABIC, SHUWA	
Linguistically Related Languages	MAWA	
Comments (Related Languages)	A few people speak Bidiyo, Daju and other speak the Jegu dialect of MOGUM, JEGU.	
Neighboring Languages	BIDIYO	
<b>Literacy</b>		<b>Group Description</b>

## The Ubi of Chad

### Item Name

Adult Literacy Percentage	<11% (national average in 2000)
Literacy Attitude	Somewhat receptive
Active Literacy Program	No
Publications In Vernacular	None.
Comment (Literacy)	Adult literacy is probably less than 11%.

### Item Note

### Economics

Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists
Average Annual Income	less than \$ 450 per year
Occupation	Farming, and livestock tending.
Income Sources	Selling of trading agricultural good and mats.
Products / Crafts	Mat weaving, produce from farming, such as millet.
Trade Partners	Neighboring groups such as Bidiyo, Daju, Arabs and Jegu-Morum.
Modernization / Utilities	Two villages, Oulek and Gantoura, have elementary schools, these two villages also have cement, metal-roofed mosques.
Comment (Economy)	The average income referred to is the national average.

### Group Description

### Community Development

Health Care (Quality)	Poor
Comment (Health Care)	There are no dispensaries in the Ubi area, they must go to the Daju or Bidiyo areas to the north over difficult roads, the hospital in Mongo is 50 Km away.
Diet (Quality)	Fair
Comment (Diet)	Ubi eat millet and some meat, tomatoes, sesame, honey and sugary tea.
Water (Quality)	Poor
Comment (Water)	The water table is very high in some places, so the Ubi dig shallow holes in the dry stream bed (Wadis) for drinking and bathing water, however, their water is very cloudy. There is a need for deeper, closed wells.
Shelter Description	Huts are made of mud bricks and have straw roofs.
Energy/Fuel (Quality)	None
Comment (Energy)	The nearest towns with electricity are Abeche and Sarh, which are approximately 300 miles away, however, Mongo now has telephone and portable water services.
Clothing	Men wear long robes with long sleeves (jalabiya). Women wear dresses and a flowing garment (laffay) that covers their head and entire body.
Transportation	People sometimes come to Mongo or Bitkine by donkey cart or by foot to sell goods. Rarely a market truck may come through to buy their grains.
Infant Mortality Rate	12.3%
Life Expectancy	47 years
Leading Cause Of Death	Intestinal Infections.
Comment (Community Development)	Child mortality, Life expectancy, and leading cause of death information is based on the national average (1994). Intestinal and other infections are due largely to lack of sanitation and clean water.

### Group Description

### Society & Culture

Family Structures	Extended family
Neighbor Relations	Apparently good relations with neighboring Bidiyo, Arab, Daju, and Jegu (Mogum) peoples.
Authority / Rule	Village chiefs are subservient to a chief of a group of eight villages (Six are Ubi, the other two are Bidiyo and Masmadje speaking), who in turn is under the chief of the Bidiyo canton (Under the subprefect of Mongo Rural, under the prefect of the Guera)
Social Habits/Groupings	Unknown
Cultural Change Pace	Slow
Identification With National Culture	Integrated

### Group Description

## The Ubi of Chad

Item Name	Item Note
Self Image	Neutral
Judicial / Punishment System	Village chiefs and their elders make appeals to the (Bidiyo) canton chief and /or subprefect. In one village, the men were preparing weapons to banish a suspected sorcerer (male) from the village as they claimed he had caused the death of two people.
Celebrations	Islamic celebrations observed; unknown if they have Margay traditional religion like some other Guera groups.
Recreations	Socialization, listening to the radio , drinking tea (men).
Art Forms	Weaving baskets, mats, etc
Media	Only short wave radio stations can be received.
Local Language Broadcasting	None
Attitude To Outsiders	Somewhat receptive
Attitude To Change	Somewhat receptive
Comment (Culture)	Those interviewed were open to literacy and development. However, they are proud of their mosques and of being Muslim, so may be resistant to religious change.
Youth	Group Description
Labor and tasks (6-12 year olds)	Helping with farming and animal raising; girls also help with house work, fetching water and child care.
Youth Greatest Needs (teens)	Basic education for all of the youth is needed. Employment and health care education.
Education	Group Description
Primary Schools	2
Language Of Instruction Early Years	French
Language Of Instruction Early Years	Arabic, Chadian Spoken
Language Of Textbooks Early Years	French
Number Of Schools > 90% Homogeneous	2
Comment (Education)	At the time of the visit, one teacher in Oulek had been away for a month. The parents pay his salary, not the government. An Ubi teacher who works in a mixed school in Mongo said that these unofficial school teachers are often not well educated themselves and not always serious about their work,
Church Growth	Status of Christianity
Reached Status	Evaluated
Reached Classification	World A
Total Baptized	0
Lay Leaders	0
Bible Schools	0
Comment (Church Growth)	Possibly a little contact with the Evangelical Leprosy Mission of the Guera; one Ubi man who lives in Mongo mentioned asking the Leprosy mission to come to Oubi-Oulèk to treat lepers there, he didn't know if they had come or not.
Religion & Response	Status of Christianity
Religious Practices & Ceremonies	Muslim ceremonies and celebrations.
Attitude To Christianity	Somewhat resistant
Attitude To Religious Change	Somewhat resistant
Resistance / Receptivity	The commitment to and identification with Islam makes them resistant towards change of religious preference.
Religious Analogies & Bridges	Jesus as direct mediator between God and man; God is referred to as Father.
Recommended Approaches	Christians will be appreciated superficially at least if they bring improvements in water quality and health care. Also there is a positive feeling toward their language and while literacy is probably not yet a felt need, they are open to it.
Current Needs	Community development in the villages is needed, primarily through the provision of medical assistance, schools, wells, and agricultural development.

## The Ubi of Chad

### Item Name

Items For Prayer

### Item Note

Pray Ubi come to know who Jesus is and that the Ubi would prove themselves receptive to outsiders who will come to teach and provide for community needs.

### History Of Christianity In Group

### Status of Christianity

Comments (History of Christianity)

Possibly a little contact with the Evangelical Leprosy Mission of the Guera; One Ubi man lives in Mongo mentioned asking the Leprosy mission to come to Oubi-Oulek to treat lepers there, he did not know if they had come or not.

### Scripture

### Status of Christianity

Translation Status	Definite
Available Scripture	None
Form Of Scripture Available	None
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Literature	No
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Recordings	No
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Film/Videos	No
Other Forms Of Gospel Available: Radio	No

### Christian Literature And Media Status

### Status of Christianity

Literature Available	Chadian Arabic scriptures. None in Ubi.
Audio Recordings Available	None
Films Available	None in Ubi. Jesus Film in Chadian Arabic.
Radio Programs Available	None
Videos Available	None
Audio Visual Available	None