

The Yauma of Angola and Zambia



representative by Adam Oxford cropped CC

The Yauma language is considered endangered by some sources (possibly just in Zambia) yet is listed as vigorous by the Ethnologue. The approximately 17,100 Yauma people live in two different groups in Angola, one in the Moxico province and one in the southern part of the Kuando Kubango province.

The Moxico province suffered the most of all of Angola during the years of civil war, so the Yauma were directly affected. Some Yauma moved into Zambia during that time, and there are still a large number of Yauma who are in southwestern Zambia

There is some availability of portions of Scripture, namely the Gospel of John. Other parts of the New Testament have been translated, but exactly which Scriptures are available is unknown. The portions translated were never published as a whole since the project was halted due to the civil war. Literacy rates are very low but it is possible to find someone who can read in each village. Copies of what has been translated have also been seen in Zambia.

Primary Religion:

Christianity

Disciples (Matt 28:19):

About 3 %

Churches:

Unknown

Scripture Status (Matt 28:20):

Portions

Population (date):

22,200 (2000 Angola)



YAUMA HOMELAND



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Have They Heard The Gospel?

Call Themselves Christian (%)	60%
Is The Word Of God Translated?	A few portions of the NT
Other Forms Of Gospel Presentation	Audio recordings with Bible story and basic Bible teachings
Cross-cultural Missionaries Needed?	Cross-cultural missionaries would be most useful in the areas of literacy and Bible translation. This is an observation based on the needs seen, not on any dialogue with established churches there.

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Group Description

Population

World Population For This People	22,200
Angola	17,100 (2000)
Zambia	5,100 (2006 J. Leclerc)

Geography & Environment

Location

Northern area Angola, Moxico province; an isolated enclave within the
Lucazi [lch] language area

Southern area Angola, Cuando Cubango Province, Cuando river area. Also
Zambia, Western Province, Kwando river area.

Ecosystem Type Deciduous forest

Geological Type Inland, plains

Elevation Northern area: 1400 m; Southern area: 1100 m

Map Coordinates

Northern area 20 E; 14 S

Southern area 23 E; 17 S

Climate Flat, tropical, hot and humid with average temperatures of 22
degrees Celsius

Comments (Geo. & Env.) Two seasons: rainy and dry (On Media 2015). Significant
flooding during rainy season (Jordan 2015).

Language & Linguistics

Primary Language Yauma

Attitude Towards Mother Tongue Very receptive in Angola

Second Languages People who have left the villages for education understand
other neighboring languages as well as Portuguese. Those
who have not left the villages do not have a very strong grasp
of Portuguese or other languages.

Linguistically Related Languages Mbunda and Luchazi speakers each consider Yauma to be a
dialect of their own language. However, Yauma speakers
consider their language to be separate from Mbunda and
Luchazi, of which they have low comprehension.

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Neighboring Languages

Northern area	Luchazi [lch], Mbwela [mfu], Mbunda [mck]
Southern area	Nyehgo [nye], Mashi [mho], Mbukushu [mhw], Tonga [toi], Khwe [xuu]

Literacy

Adult Literacy Percentage	30% (Figueira 2012) for all of Angola
Percent Literate for Men	17% (Figueira 2012) for all of Angola
Percent Literate for Women	43% (Figueira 2012) for all of Angola

Economics

Subsistence Type	Agriculturalists
Occupation	Agriculturalists
Income Sources	Rice, cassava, vegetables, maize, sorghum, miller (On Media 2015)
Products/Crafts:	Clay pottery, fiber, and sculpture (On Media 2015)
Modernization/Utilities	Very basic amenities. If anything, they may have a cell phone (Jordan 2015)

Community Development

Diet (Quality)	
Diet Comments:	They mostly eat xima made from cassava flour, supplemented with herbs, cassava leaves, beans, game meat or fish. This is a generalization of those living in this area of Angola.
Shelter	Traditional homes with thatch roofs
Transportation	Walking, public transport
Infant Mortality Rate	Approximately 99 per 1,000 live births (whole country of Angola) (Trading Economics 2016)
Life Expectancy	51.7 (whole country of Angola) (World Health Rankings)
Leading Cause of Death	Lower respiratory infections, diarrheal disease, Malaria (for all of Angola) (Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation 2015)

Society & Culture

Social Habits/Groupings	Villages
Identification w/ National Culture	Distinct
Art Forms	Clay pottery, sculptures (On Media 2015)

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Status of Christianity

Religion

Religions

Christianity and their traditional ethnic religion.

Religion and Response

Items For Prayer

Please pray that the Yauma people will soon have access to God's Word, whether this means starting a new translation project or tracking down previous work and getting it published.

Christian Literature and Media Status

Literature Available

The Gospel of John has been translated into Yauma. Bits and pieces of the New Testament were translated but were never published together as a whole due to the project being interrupted by the Angolan civil war, so it is unknown what all has been translated. Copies of what has been translated have also been found in Zambia (Jordan 2015).

Audio Recordings Available

Recordings are available in Yauma from Global Recordings Network (a 22 minute broadcast of Bible stories, commentaries, and songs). This is also available on YouTube as "Words of Life Yauma People"