## Black Tai (Tai Dam) in Vietnam



The majority of the Tai Dam live in northern Vietnam around the city of Dien Bien Phu, but the largest population abroad live in Iowa in the USA. The Tai Dam take pride in being cloth weavers. They derive their name from the traditional black skirts and headdresses worn by the women. They embroider the black silk with flowers, and a bright green belt typically complements the outfit. In their everyday lives, the men and women divide labor equally; both men and women plow, hoe, fish, tend to babies, cook, and clean.

## **Ministry Obstacles**

The Black Tai practice Theravada Buddhism mixed with folk animism. Often seeking help through supernatural spirits and objects, they have ceremonies for recalling the soul. They practice ancestor worship and believe that there are spirits within every object and person. These spirits must be appeased so that they might avoid curses and receive blessings.

## **Outreach Ideas**

These people are dominated by spirits who rule their lives, who could curse them on a whim, and who must be appeased. Gifted believers can go to their villages and drive out these spirits



POPULATION: 835,000 LANGUAGE: Tai Dam

RELIGION: Ethnic Religions
BIBLE: New Testament
STATUS: Unreached

in the name of Jesus Christ.

## **Pray for the Entire Group**

May the Tai Dam come to know the God who is simultaneously good, just, and merciful. May they know of the Holy Spirit who can dwell in them and guide them. Pray for a movement to Christ among them to thrive this decade.

**SCRIPTURE** The Lord, the Mighty One, is God, and he has spoken; He has summoned all humanity from where the sun rises to where it sets. Ps 50:1

**PRAY** that today's people group will respond to God's summons to come to Him!