

Muslim Yao in Mozambique



Think of our planet, Earth. Zoom in on the continent of Africa. Next, the country of Mozambique and finally, the small village of Chiconono. This is the geographic center of the Yao people, once one of the richest and most powerful in Southern Africa, thanks to a lucrative trade with the Arabs in slaves and ivory. In addition to cloth and guns, the Yao people obtained the religion of Islam from the Arabs. The "Christian" British were viewed in a negative light due to their anti-slavery stance and their readiness to impose their own culture and religion upon their colonial subjects. The Yao people chose to reject the colonialist's Christianity and adopt Islam, integrating it with their own traditions and beliefs.



Ministry Obstacles

The Yao have hardened themselves against Christianity to the point of resisting even the many efforts of their neighbors. Folk religions are difficult to penetrate, due to the heavy traditional and cultural ties.

Outreach Ideas

The Yao have maintained their own traditional language. Workers who would spend the time to learn this language might be received. Signs and wonders would also be highly impactful for a people with a spiritual mindset.



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POPULATION: 197,000

LANGUAGE: Yao

RELIGION: Islam

BIBLE: Complete

STATUS: Unreached

Prayer Focus

Pray that Yao hearts would be opened to the gospel and that they would discover the power of the true God. Pray for loving, patient and respectful workers to show the love of God, leading them into a vast Disciple Making Movement in Mozambique.

SCRIPTURE Yet the time will come when Israel's people will be like the sands of the seashore—too many to count! Then, at the place where they were told, 'You are not my people,' it will be said, 'You are children of the living God.' Hos 1:10

PRAY that this people group soon become children of the living God.