



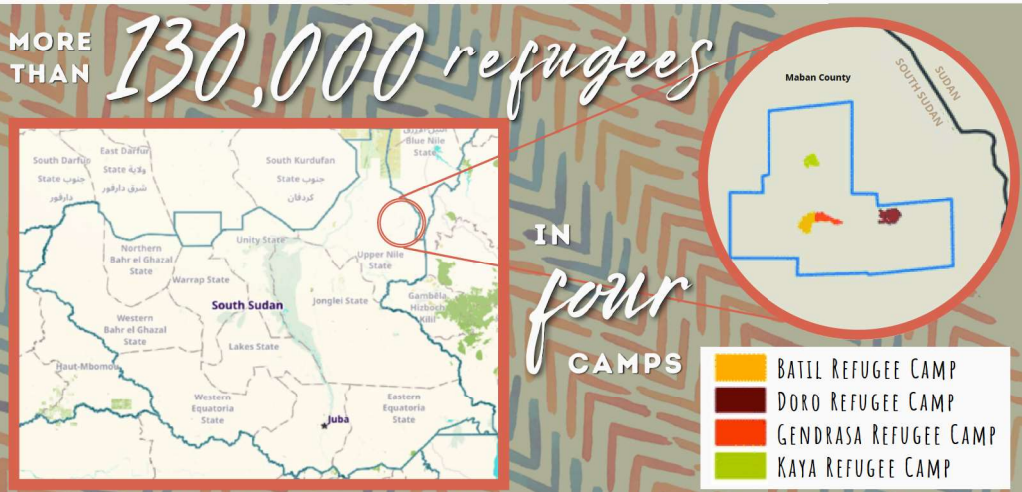
# Unreached Muslim Peoples in the MABAN REFUGEE CAMPS

*The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim GOOD NEWS to the POOR. He has sent me to BIND UP the BROKENHEARTED... to COMFORT those who MOURN...*

## Why Not Maban?

The world's newest country has a large concentration of unreached Muslim refugees in its remote northeast corner, and why shouldn't these hurting souls hear the Good News of Jesus Christ? There are no visa restrictions, foreigners aren't being targeted in terrorism or kidnappings, and the people are welcoming and hospitable. **The gospel could take root here and spread rapidly.** Refugees who are hoping to return to their home in Sudan could take the gospel back with them. For this to be a reality, the gospel must be proclaimed! Currently, there is hardly a voice to be heard.

In God's strength, can you endure and embrace a simple lifestyle? **Can you forsake Western comforts for the sake of the King?** You might be just the one Maban County is waiting for.



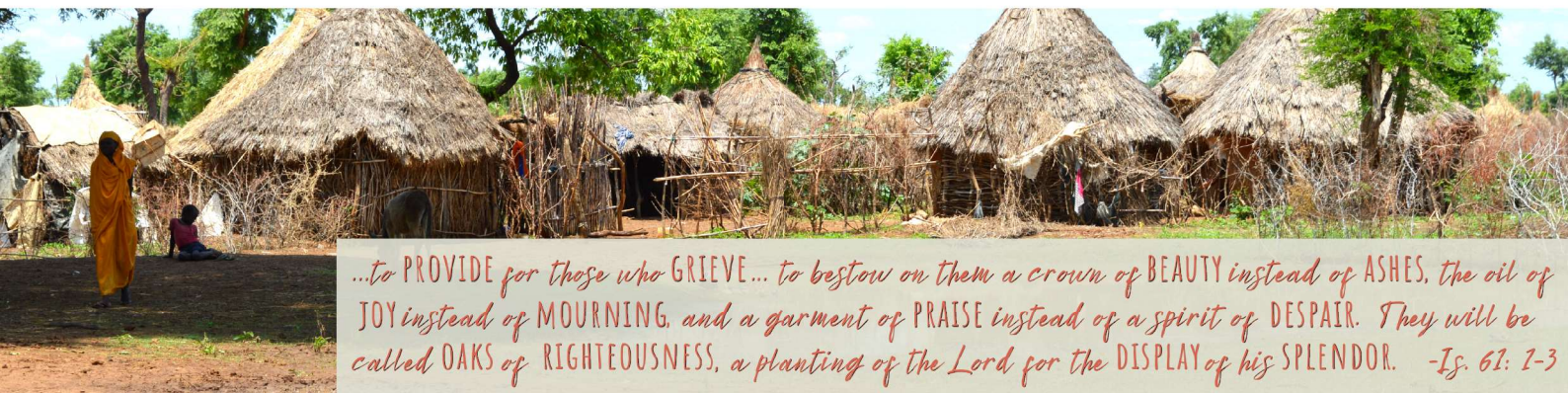
MORE THAN:

- **6 unreached MUSLIM PEOPLE GROUPS**
- **14 subtribes** FROM (AND WITH TIES TO) **INACCESSIBLE REGIONS IN SUDAN**

## A Little History...

Across Maban's border in Sudan is the Blue Nile state, which has been at odds with Khartoum for decades. South Sudan's independence in 2011 sparked new uprisings, so the Sudanese Rapid Support Forces (Janjaweed) responded demonstratively-- ruthlessly bombing villages and terrorizing citizens. Civilians fled for safety to the newly independent South Sudan, and Maban's tiny county capital village of Bunj was inundated with refugees. The early days were dire; and while the situation has stabilized today, life continues to be a struggle as the UN is cutting rations and support due to their own dwindling funding.





*...to PROVIDE for those who GRIEVE... to bestow on them a crown of BEAUTY instead of ASHES, the oil of JOY instead of MOURNING, and a garment of PRAISE instead of a spirit of DESPAIR. They will be called OAKS of RIGHTEOUSNESS, a planting of the Lord for the DISPLAY of his SPLENDOR. -Is. 61: 1-3*

## Life in Maban

Homes are largely comprised of mud and grass huts, fenced with sticks and grass or plastic. Women and children, who make up a large majority of the population, work hard at home. They cut and carry firewood from the bush (often a three-mile walk away) and fetch water using a hand-made yoke— a stick carried over the shoulders with rope bags on each side. Some people have small businesses, making and selling goods like knives, baskets, mats, or bread; others farm in the rainy season or care for their livestock. Those with education often work with NGOs, and soldiers come and go from the homeland and military barracks.

Half of the year consists of a hot and humid rainy season, when the world becomes lush and green; the other half is hot, dry, and dusty. Between the camps lies the bush, a matrix of tall grass and trees with wildlife and lots of colorful, interesting birds. Some NGO workers live in tents, but simple cement block houses can also be built. Even amenities such as solar power, basic running water systems, and satellite internet are possible these days. Logistics can be a challenge as there is no road access to the capital, and roads across the border become impassable during the rainy season. Materials and supplies typically need to be flown in because of this, which makes them expensive. In addition to physical logistics, social logistics can be tricky. There have been tribal tensions between communities due to past fighting, fear, and mistrust. The reconciliation Christ can bring to this place could be truly transformative.



### OPPORTUNITIES

*Come* You can do just about *anything* here and people will be *thankful...*

The following areas are particularly valuable:

- education
- medical
- microcredit business
- trauma healing
- agriculture
- animal husbandry

## Free to Serve and Share

In Maban, **you can serve and share Christ unhindered** by government restrictions. People welcome you warmly, eager to spend hours drinking tea and coffee with you.

Faith discussions and prayer have ample opportunity to become regular practices in each home you visit. Dark folk practices and community tensions could tempt some to fear, but **our Father declares, “fear not for I am with you...”** I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my right hand.” (Is. 41:10) His laborers are preserved in His Joy and carry His power to overcome the darkness and lead others out of their own fear.

## Pray

- May God raise up workers able to endure and embrace the basic lifestyle of a refugee camp.
- Even now, may the hearts and minds of Sudanese tribes be stirred and hungry for the gospel! When it finally reaches them, may they be aligned quickly with its truth.
- May God reach into traumatized, fearful hearts and bring His healing, peace, and presence.
- May vibrant, passionate groups of believers form and spread throughout the camps and back into the inaccessible regions of Sudan.