



You have the opportunity to make a difference in the Sahel/Sub-Sahara of Africa.
Are you up for a “life-walk” with God among nomads?

BEJA



“I have other sheep that do not come from this sheepfold. I must bring them too, and they will listen to my voice, so that there will be one flock and one shepherd.”

John 10:16



The Beja are a group of traditionally nomadic shepherds scattered across the desert region of Sudan, Egypt, and Eritrea.

In the north, small groups of nomads raise flocks of sheep, goats, camels, and cattle. Some of the Beja have become more settled and engage in some farming, usually sorghum.

Their view of the “good life” is to have large herds and live in green, well-watered pastures.

Quick Facts

Population:

Sudan: 2,134,000

Egypt: 60,000

Eritrea: 107,000

Global Population 2,371,000

Progress: Unreached

Language: Bedawiyet (Beja)



Opportunities to Engage

The Beja are hospitable people, always showing kindness to other clans; however, they are not necessarily friendly to strangers. They can seem aloof, withdrawn, aggressive, and warlike. Only the wealthiest Beja have more than one wife. Fewer than 3% are town dwellers.

Illiteracy is well over 90%. 66% of school-age children are not attending education of any kind. The few schools are characterized by a high rate of drop-out after the first year. They live with a shortage of public services, lack of health care, and dismal job options. Most urban dwelling Beja now live in shantytowns outside the urban centers having been attracted there by the potential of jobs in the oil industry. (Most oil from South Sudan and Sudan is piped to Port Sudan and then shipped out to be refined.) Clean drinking water is seldom available. The majority of Beja are desert-dwellers where their people continue to suffer the adverse effects of desertification and the loss of pastures for their animals. Rough roads, if any, can be erased by rain.

“I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

— Isaiah 43:19 —

Prayer Points

Although the Beja inhabit the vast majority of eastern Sudan, they have been marginalized by the Sudanese government for decades. They feel forgotten, left behind and without voice in broader society. PLEASE PRAY they will find their self-worth and identity in Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who is also on the move, in search of lost sheep.

Few Beja read or write. Some have learned to speak Sudanese Arabic.

There is no Jesus Film, no scriptures and few other resources. REJOICE that at last, some are in process! PLEAD with God for the production of Good News materials. IMAGINE how hard this is with so few believers at this time. ASK that God would raise workers who can learn from the nomadic worldview in which most Beja live. CRY OUT for workers who will dream with the Beja to develop innovative, holistic resources to remove the stigma of marginalization. ENVISION relevant nomadic education, clean water, hygiene, farming, job skill development, animal husbandry, and so much more.



**Is God calling you to WALK among nomadic Muslim peoples of the Sahel/Sub-Sahara of Africa? Contact us.
We CAN help you get there!**