



PRAY FOR THE NEEM* PEOPLE

WHO ARE THEY?

They are one of the largest non-Arab people groups in Chad with a population of around 450,000 people. Living in north eastern Chad with Neem settlements stretching into Sudan, they speak a language that's distinctively different from neighbouring groups. Known for being a conservative people, they have a strong sense of identity and are resistant to change. They have a reputation for being wary of outsiders. Even today there is a mixed attitude in rural areas to modern-style education, although with the arrival of satellite TV in the towns, mobile phones and other forms of exposure to the outside world, traditional worldviews are being challenged. Younger people are much more open to change.

“Pray many Neem people would hear these Bible stories and, hearing them, want to know Jesus better.”

WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE?

The Neem people strongly identify themselves as Muslim although some know little of Islam's beliefs. Thus, their Islamic practices are blended with traditional African religious rituals. Many people live in fear, using amulets and charms to ward off evil and sickness.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO REACH THEM WITH THE GOSPEL?

A small team of AIM missionaries began work among them in one of their larger towns in 2015, and another organisation also has a team which has started work among the Neem. In 2020 the AIM team moved to a more rural location, with the aim of meeting Neem people in their heartland. We're currently looking to add more workers to our team. Could God be calling you to go, or to share this need?

The name of the people group has been changed for security reasons.

WHAT CAN WE PRAY FOR?

Pray that many Neem people would understand the fear and lack of hope in what they now believe so that they might look for something better and find Jesus.

Currently there is no Bible in the Neem language. Genesis has been translated but not published. John's gospel has been translated but needs checking. Pray for more people to work on Bible translation.

The audio recording of Genesis is currently happening. Pray that the Old Testament stories would resonate with this traditionally agrarian people and they would see how God longs for his people to return to him. Give thanks that there are forty audio Bible stories available, sharing the gospel from creation through to Pentecost. Pray that many Neem people would hear these stories and, hearing them, want to know Jesus better.

Many of the Neem people are illiterate, so pray for creative ideas for how to disciple and encourage believers. Pray for one lady who has believed, that she would be keen to know more and would be strengthened in her faith.

Churches in the Neem areas are run and attended by those who have migrated from southern Chad. Pray these Chadians will catch the vision for outreach into their new communities and be willing to share with their Muslim neighbours.

Neem people who make a decision for Christ risk being ostracised from their Muslim family and friends once their decision becomes public. Pray for wisdom for them in when to proclaim their new faith and that they will find a new community among Christians to support them.



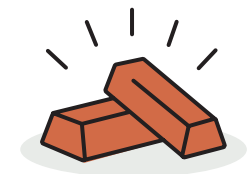
DOCTORS

There are 3.7 Chadian doctors per 100,000 people in Chad. In the UK, we have 2.8 doctors for every 1,000 people.



TOWER OF BABEL

Chad is known as 'The Babel Tower of the World' because over 120 different languages are spoken there. French and Arabic are official languages used for trade.



GOLD RUSH

Several areas in Chad have gold but they are mainly exploited by individuals panning for gold, hoping to return home with the means of starting a new life. Many are disappointed and neglect their families for months or years in their search for riches. There is no industrialised mining for gold.

You can download our prayer PDFs from: eu.aimint.org/resources.