

FOCUS ON TANZANIA



CITY LIFE IN TANZANIA

Although approximately 65% of Tanzanians live in rural areas, the cities are growing.

Arusha

A large and lively city with a busy central market. Many people wanting to go on a safari will start their journey here. It is surrounded by coffee plantations and forest farms, as well as a National Park home to extinct volcanic calderas which is populated with large numbers of animals.

Dar es Salaam

Tanzania's most multi-cultural city, home to Arabic and South Asian communities as well as expats from Britain and Germany. This diversity is reflected in the city's cuisine, which ranges from traditional Tanzanian food, to burger bars and Thai and Chinese restaurants. It also has a vibrant music scene, which includes Bongo Flava – otherwise known as Tanzanian hip hop.

Dodoma

The legislative capital of Tanzania. In 1974, the Tanzanian government announced that the capital would be moved from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma for social and economic reasons and to centralise the capital within the country. It became the official capital in 1996. In May 2023 the new State House in Dodoma was unveiled in a historic event stamping the relocation of government duties to the city.

RURAL LIFE

Most people who live in the countryside are farmers. They will grow food for themselves and their family. They will also sell what they grow in local markets. That allows them to buy things that they don't have on their own farm. The most popular crops in Tanzania are maize, sorghum, millet, rice, wheat, beans, cassava, potatoes, and bananas.

Some rural communities in Tanzania are still waiting for someone to go and tell them the good news about Jesus. People groups who are still waiting to hear the gospel of Christ include the Rangi.



ANIMAL MIGRATION

Over 1.5 million wildebeest, zebra, and gazelle, make their way through Tanzanian grasslands in search of grazing land.

LAKE TANGANYIKA

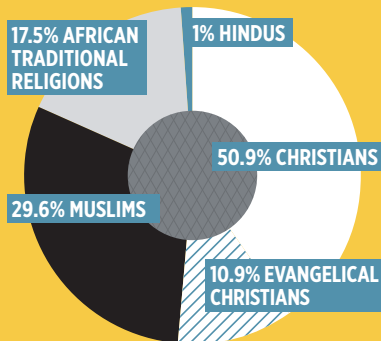
Is the world's longest fresh water lake and contains 8% of the world's freshwater.



TREE CLIMBERS

Tarangire National Park in Tanzania is one of two places in the world where lions climb trees.

RELIGION IN TANZANIA



TAKE A LOOK AT TANZANIA

It is a beautiful country with beautiful people. Tanzanians are known as calm, friendly, and welcoming. In general, they pride themselves on being a peaceful country and tend to stress being a 'Tanzanian' over being from a certain people group. Take a closer look at some of the things that make it so special.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Fossilised remains of some of the world's oldest human skulls were found in Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania.



THE SHORTEST WAR

The Anglo-Zanzibar War took place in Tanzania in 1896 and lasted less than an hour.



Where do they live?

The Rangi live in the hilly region of north central Tanzania. They believe that their ancestors came from Ethiopia and Kenya, travelling in search of permanent water sources. They live in villages and have really strong communities. They are farmers, who grow crops like maize, sunflower seeds, millet and vegetables to sell at local markets. They are also known for the clay pots they make.



What do they believe?

The predominant religion among the Rangi is Islam, but their traditional beliefs have been incorporated too. There are many reports of witchcraft and sorcery among the Rangi which generate fear among people from the surrounding areas. A very small percentage have been influenced by Christianity, but many remain unreached with the good news of Jesus.



IS THE MISSION MOVEMENT IN AFRICA GROWING?

Kate Azumah, Managing Editor for AfriGO magazine, speaks about the challenges missionaries face in Africa.

In 2007, I elected to go to one of Ghana's least-reached regions for my mandatory National Service. My motivation was to use the opportunity to win many there for Christ.

A heart for mission

My interest in mission came from reading biographies of Western missionaries and from the teaching of my youth ministry. We learned about the least-reached countries and prayed for the nations. I knew of hardly any mission agencies in Ghana, and my only commissioning was a prayer by the youth ministry founder when I said I was departing.

How things have changed

Sixteen years later and many African mission agencies have emerged in Ghana and Africa. But despite being a Christian heartland, much of the African Church is yet to recognise its role in global mission.

Opposition from surprising places

An African mission mobiliser recently revealed that the biggest obstacle to young people's involvement in mission is their parents. A pastor even prevented his son from going to the field. Yet even for those who press on, the road ahead is far from easy.

Welcome support

African missionaries may be resilient, but most are in vulnerable situations. They need financial provision and education for their children, but they also need health insurance, member care, retirement and home ownership schemes. When these go unmet, some missionaries are compelled to pursue other options and abandon the call. Others, who have laboured for decades, finish with no home to call their own and an uncertain retirement.

PRAY FOR THE RANGI

- Give thanks for all the Rangi people, especially those who have become Christians!
- Lift up new believers to our heavenly Father, that he might give them a hunger to know more of Jesus and the Bible.
- That Jesus would call more people to love the Rangi people and share the gospel with them.
- For workers already serving, building relationships and investing time in individuals to be encouraged and strengthened in their work.
- For those who show no interest in Jesus to have their eyes opened to the power of the gospel.
- That those practicing witchcraft and sorcery would submit to Jesus and turn their backs on their old lives.

PRAY FOR TANZANIA

- Give thanks for Tanzania's cities and its large and vibrant churches. Pray that church leaders would faithfully teach the Bible and model a heart for the lost.
- Give thanks for the way cities help people from different people groups to meet. Pray for Christians meeting those from unreached people groups to be able to share Christ.
- Pray that city churches will raise up mission teams and send them to parts of Tanzania where there aren't any churches.
- Pray for Tanzanians who God is calling to be missionaries. Pray they would be able to find strong supporters and all they need for the work God is calling them to. Pray that God would guide their steps and relationships to enable them to go.