

EXPLORING NIGER



BEAUTIFUL



Niger has fields of millet, and vast pastoral lands with shepherds and their herds, the awesome Sahara Desert and the beautiful green Niger river valley. The cities are rapidly growing, but many still live in rural villages stretched across thousands of miles in this enormous country.

FACING DIFFICULTIES



Life is extremely difficult, with an unstable government, poverty, a growing population, large numbers forced from their homes, a weak health service, and poor access to education. But the people are warm, welcoming, and resourceful. Almost all of them are Muslim, and many will never hear about Jesus, or meet a Christian.

MANY HAVEN'T HEARD



A number of churches were planted by missionaries over 100 years ago, now they are rooted among the indigenous peoples and working hard to share the gospel. They have been joined by other churches and Christians from different parts of West Africa. Small numbers are becoming believers, but there are many who still have not heard.

PRAY FOR NIGER



Niger had a violent change of leadership in 2023 which resulted in sanctions* against the country. Pray for peace.



Although there is religious freedom in Niger, pray that God will protect Christians in these difficult times.



Give thanks that some of these sanctions have been lifted and pray for wisdom, that a solution would be found.



Pray for those in Niger who face poverty, that aid will reach those who need it most.

MEET THE ZARMA

There are about five million Zarma, and they can be found in western parts of Niger, Nigeria, and in other parts of West Africa. They are often considered the same as another people group called the Songhai, but they have different histories, and use different dialects. Although they used to practice traditional animistic religion, the Zarma people converted to Islam in the 11th century.

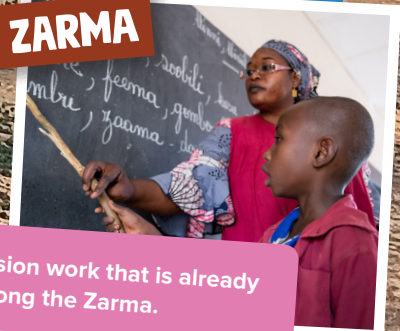


PRAY FOR THE ZARMA

Pray for the mission work that is already taking place among the Zarma.

HOW ARE THEY BEING REACHED?

Missionaries have been working among the Zarma since the 1930s, but there have been only a few new believers and there is a church struggling with divisions. Although the younger Zarma population isn't as attached to Islam, pressure from their family keeps them from leaving the religion.



Pray that the Zarma will be willing to hear about the good news of Jesus.



Pray for the young people who want to follow Jesus but can't because of their family.

Photos: The woman with a jar by AI, top right by Global Partnership for Education, musician above by Gustave Deghilage, bottom left by Pencils for Kids, Libore, Niger.

*Sanctions are punishments given when people don't obey the law