EAST ASIA
Unreached People Groups
Prayer & Opportunities List

2020 Priorities
This SCBC resource is made possible through the Cooperative Program of South Carolina Baptist churches.

Pictures used are compliments of the International Mission Board.
Opportunities exist for Churches to come and serve among these People Groups, doing short term mission trips.

If you have interest to learn more about these trips, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com

Thank you for praying for these Unreached People Groups.

READY TO GO?

Have you joined Pray52? Text SCGo to 313131 to receive prayer requests on behalf of our SC missionaries and East Asia partners every Wednesday!

GET UPDATES

For information on Missions Partnerships and other resources to help your church fulfill the Great Commission, contact:

South Carolina Baptist Convention Missions Mobilization Team
(803) 227-6026
e-mail: katiebennett@scbaptist.org
www.scbaptist.org/send
WESTERN XIANGXI MIAO

Population: 1,600,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: Dispersed CP Activity, < 2% reached

They are part of the Miao nationality, but they speak a language different from all other Miao groups in China. Their dress and customs are also different. Most Miao in Hunan call themselves Ghao-Xong, in contrast to other Miao groups. The Ghao-Xong (along with the She and Yao minorities) worship Pan Hu, the dragon-dog they claim as the forefather of their race. The Pan Hu myth was recorded as early as the fifth century AD in the Chronicles of the Later Han Dynasty (Hou Han Shui).

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. For workers to have access in building relationships leading to gospel sharing.
2. For the people to see beyond the myth of the dragon-dog to the grace and mercy of Jesus.
3. For Church partners to join in the work.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
PINGDI YAO

Population: 1,610,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: Dispersed CP Activity, < 2% reached

They are part of the Yao-Mien people cluster within the Southeast Asian Peoples affinity bloc. This people group is only found in China. Their primary language is Xiang Chinese. The primary religion practiced by the Pingdi Yao is ethnic religion. Ethnic religion is deeply rooted in a people’s ethnic identity and conversion essentially equates to cultural assimilation. In the ancient past the Yao had a legend of a Creator god. The Yao claim, “Ages ago ... before we crossed the sea, we worshipped someone called Tin Zay, who lives in heaven and is a holy god.” For centuries the Pingdi have lived and died without any knowledge of Christ and without a strong church in their midst.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray that believers will reach them with the gospel, perhaps via the stories of Noah’s flood and Abraham’s encounter with the One High God.
2. Pray that Jesus will reveal Himself to them as the Great God who wants to flood them with His grace through Jesus.
3. Pray that Christian resources will be made available to these people.
4. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give the Pingdi people teachable and understanding hearts.
5. Pray for a strong movement of the Holy Spirit that will bring entire Pingdi families into a rich experience of God’s blessing.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
CAO MIAO
(MJUNIANG)

Population: 116,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: No active CP Activity

Shamans with great demonic power controlled the Mjuniang people for centuries. When communism took over, the shamans lost much of their influence. Whether the people follow shamans or communism, they remain lost. According to our knowledge, not one has turned to Christ and received his free gift of salvation by faith.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray that God will prepare Mjuniang hearts and send Christians to share the good news.
2. Ask God to work through translation of His Word, gospel recordings, and the JESUS Film in the Mjuniang tongue.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
CENTRAL HONGSHUIHE ZHUANG

Population: 1,080,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: Concentrated CP Activity

During the Qin Dynasty (221-207 BC), half a million Han convicts were exiled by Emperor Qin Shihuang to the Lingnan region in southern China (now Guangxi and Guangdong). There they intermingled with the various branches of the Bai Yue nationality. The Zhuang today are thought to be the descendants of the Bai Yue. Historically, the Zhuang were called Tuliao or Sharen. Their homes are usually built on stilts. A newly married woman stays with her parents until after the birth of the first child. Only then does she go to live with her husband in his village. The Zhuang are a superstitious people. They are careful not to offend the spirit world that surrounds them. They believe in the spirits of the water, forest, mountain, village, etc.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray that spiritual seed will be planted and produce an abundant crop among the Hongshuihe Zhuang people.
2. Pray that the church will begin moving intentionally among them, bringing the gospel of hope and peace.
3. Pray for a spiritual breakthrough that will impact Hongshuihe Zhuang communities in such a way that outsiders will be amazed at what Christ can do.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
HUISHUI MIAO

Population: 324,000

Progress of the Gospel:
Engaged but not reached

Christianity:
No active CP Activity

The lives of most Miao people in China have become more complicated in recent years as China’s economic condition has improved. Today, a prospective partner for marriage is often required to own a television, radio, and motorbike before being considered marriageable. Most Huishui Miao are animists, living in fear of a host of different demons and deities. Miao shamans and sorcerers possess great demonic power. An early missionary described his experiences: “As a rule I don’t believe in devils but these wizards seem to have communications with a whole world of demons.” He went on to describe some of the supernatural things done by these men, such as putting white hot chains around their necks without being harmed.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for God to raise up full time workers to tell them the true stories of the Savior that loves them so that they will put their faith in Him alone.
2. Pray for the Lord to prepare the hearts of the Huishui Miao.
3. Pray for God to prepare your heart to serve.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
NORTHERN BAI

Population: 870,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: Concentrated CP Activity

The Northern Bai of China, numbering 870,000, are Engaged yet Unreached. They are part of the Other Tibeto-Burmese people cluster within the Tibetan-Himalayan Peoples. This people group is only found in China. Bai means “white” in Chinese. The name comes from the white sheepskins they once wore. They dwell in the Yunnan Province in south central China. Only 30 percent of them have ever heard the name of Jesus. Their religious beliefs consist of ideas gleaned from Buddhism and Taoism, and include the worship of ancestors. Their lives are characterized by fear of the gods whom they try to appease through religious rituals and sacrifices. Bible translation, the Jesus Film and other gospel Recordings are available for the Northern Bai.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for the Northern Bai to open their hearts to the gospel message
2. Pray that God will encourage the few Bai believers who exist today.
3. Pray that the Bai people who are living in fear of their gods will come to embrace the grace that is freely available through Christ.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
Population: 311,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: No active CP Activity

The Jiarong of China, numbering 311,000, are Engaged yet Unreached. They are part of the Tibetan people cluster within the Tibetan - Himalayan Peoples. This people group is only found in China. Their primary language is Jiarong. The primary religion practiced by the Jiarong is Tibetan Buddhism, a branch of Buddhism characteristic of Tibet and certain regions of the Himalayas. The few attempts to evangelize the Jiarong in the past met with some success. In 1934 missionaries listed 34 Jiarong believers. Another book from the 1930s lists a number of Jiarong Christians, but presently there is no indication of any believers among them. “Social ostracism of possible converts, and persecution to the extent of the placing of severe curses by the lamas, or poisoning through family members, are other hindrances to spreading the Gospel.”

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Praise God for the several known Han believers living among the Jiarongs.
2. Pray that God will raise up more Chinese believers who will carry the gospel and share Christ’s light to the Jiarongs.
3. Pray for continued access by those believers who are striving to reach the Jiarong with the gospel.
Have you ever walked on stilts? It isn’t easy, is it? How about sleeping or eating on stilts? That is not easy either. The Guibeizhuang, an indigenous ethnic group in Guangxi Province, China, both eat and sleep on stilts, since their houses are built on stilts! The 1.5 million Guibeizhuang court at a singing festival. After marriage the couples live in the wife’s community until the first child is born. Then they move to the husband’s community. The religion of most of the inhabitants remains a mixture of animism, Buddhism, Taoism, and ancestor veneration. Fewer than two percent of the Guibeizhuang have put their faith in Christ.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray that more resources will be made available in their language.
2. Pray that the Guibeizhuang people will respond favorably to the witness of the Holy Spirit so that a Christ-ward people movement will begin.
3. Pray for believers to evangelize these people with Global Recordings materials.
4. Pray that missionaries find a cultural connection that will open the Guibeizhuang to the gospel.
5. Pray that Satan’s hold will be broken so that their hearts will be opened to the good news that God loves them.
XIAOLIANGSHAN NOSU

Population: 429,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: Concentrated CP Activity

Inhabiting 12 widespread counties in the north-west and northeast parts of Yunnan Province, over 429,000 Xiaoliangshan Nosu people go about their daily lives unaware of the good news of the Kingdom of God. These Nosu primarily inhabit the Xiaoliangshan, meaning “Smaller Cool Mountains,” though they are geographically spread out and can also be found amongst the Bai, Naxi, Pumi, and Tibetan peoples. The language of the Xiaoliangshan Nosu is only partially intelligible with other Nosu languages.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for more workers in the harvest field. Ask the Lord to raise up Nosu believers to carry the gospel to Xiaoliangshan communities.
2. Pray for social reconciliation so that the Xiaoliangshan Nosu people may live in unity and peace, regardless of social status.
3. Pray for the part your church may play in bringing the gospel these peoples.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
The Amdo of China, numbering 1,335,000, are Engaged yet Unreached. They are part of the Tibetan people cluster within the Tibetan - Himalayan Peoples affinity bloc. Globally, this group totals 1,330,000 in 1 country. Their primary language is Amdo Tibetan. The primary religion practiced by the Amdo is Tibetan Buddhism, a branch of Buddhism characteristic of Tibet and certain regions of the Himalayas. Most Amdo are seminomadic herders of sheep, yaks, and goats. They move to new pastures whenever their animals have made good use of the land.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

1. Pray that the small group of Amdo believers would grow in faith and be protected from persecution.
2. Pray for avenues for the gospel to be opened and hearts to be receptive.
3. Pray for our Tibetan SBC workers who need continued access to Amdo areas and for wisdom in ways to tell stories leading to saving faith.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
LOLOPO

Population: 618,000

Progress of the Gospel: Engaged but not reached

Christianity: Dispersed CP Activity

The Lolopo of China, numbering 618,000, are Engaged yet Unreached. They are part of the Other Tibeto-Burmese people cluster within the Tibetan -Himalayan Peoples. This people group is only found in China. Their primary language is Lolopo. The primary religion practiced by the Lolopo is Chinese folk religion, a complex mix of beliefs and practices that includes elements of Buddhism, Taoism and ancestor veneration. The name Lolopo means “tigerdragon people” in the Lolopo language. It is not the same name as Lolo, which was used by the Chinese in a derogatory manner to describe all Yi people until recently. The Lolopo are one of more than 100 subgroups of Yi in Yunnan.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray that as Central Lolopo men embrace Christ that they will learn to be faithful to their wives.
2. Pray for them to hear and respond to the gospel.
3. Pray for a mighty church-planting movement to spread throughout all their communities.

Thank you for praying for this people group. If you or your church would like to learn how to engage this group, please contact Robert at: eastasianpeoples@pobox.com
I HAVE MADE YOU A LIGHT

ACTS 13:47