

# Lala

## Nigeria

Physical Exertion: MEDIUM  
Resources: LIMITED  
Threat Level: LOW  
Freedom: UNRESTRICTED



### SUMMARY

46,000 population, mix of Christianity and animism, discipleship opportunities with existing church-goers, partnership opportunities with Nigerian church or pastors' school

### DETAILS

**Who are they?** The Lala (also known as Roba) have a population of about 46,000.

**What is their primary religion?** African Traditional Religion/Syncretized Christianity. While many claim to be Christian, traditional animistic beliefs are interwoven with Christianity. They have masquerades that represent some of their gods, and other gods are represented by stones.

**Where are they?** The Lala can primarily be found in northeast Nigeria in the Adamawa State.

**Do they have a Christian witness?** There are approximately 130 Lala Christians in three churches that are comprised primarily of Lala. This includes one Baptist church, which is involved in little church planting activity. Church of the Brethren has two churches and is doing some church planting, but not vigorously.

**What strategies are being implemented for reaching this people group?**

- See above comments for groups currently working among the Lala
- A few gospel recordings are available, but there are no written materials in the Lala language

**Suggestions and rationale for engaging this people group:** The Lala would benefit from an Engaging Church who can teach what it means to be a Christian. Most members of the local churches are nominal, worldly Christians. An Engaging Church could partner with First Baptist Church in Gombi and/or the staff and students from the Baptist Pastors' School in Gombi. It will take some outside initiative and encouragement to evangelize this people group, especially since many consider themselves Christians already.

**What specific challenges or opportunities could directly affect the engagement of this people?**

- Many church-goers consider themselves Christians because they were baptized as infants and may have been confirmed at age 12. They have a form of Christianity but not the Truth or the power of a regenerated life.

- Many churches worship in Hausa, rather than Lala. This may be one of the reasons the Christians are so nominal -- they don't really don't understand spiritual truths in Hausa.

**Specific Opportunities/Benefits:**

- This is an opportunity to bring a whole people to saving knowledge of Christ. Even though there are a number of churches, the membership is a small percentage of the total population. The people deserve to hear the Truth and not to continue to be deceived by Satan through a false Christianity.

For further information about this people, contact:

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