

Dafing

Mali

Physical Exertion: MODERATE
Resources: LIMITED
Threat Level: MEDIUM
Freedom: SOMEWHAT RESTRICTED



SUMMARY

25,000 population, Islam mixed with African Traditional Religion, remote locations, few known Christians, possible persecution for future believers

DETAILS

Who are they? The Dafing, also known as Marka-Dafin, have an estimated population of 25,000. Marka is the name used for those who follow African Traditional Religion. Dafin is the name used for those who follow Islam.

What is their primary religion? Islam mixed with African Traditional Religion

Where are they? The Dafing can be found in the Segou and Mopti Regions.

Do they have a Christian witness? There are approximately 15 Dafing Christians. There are a few churches in the Dafing area but they worship in Bambara.

What strategies are being implemented for reaching this people group? Minimal church planting.

Suggestions and rationale for engaging this people group: An Engaging Church from the U.S.A. could begin targeting this people group. This church could work to partner with a Dafing believer who has recently completed Church Planting training.

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

- Teams would face remote and primitive living conditions.
- Work conditions would be hot and rugged.
- Difficult to reach in the rainy season from June to October

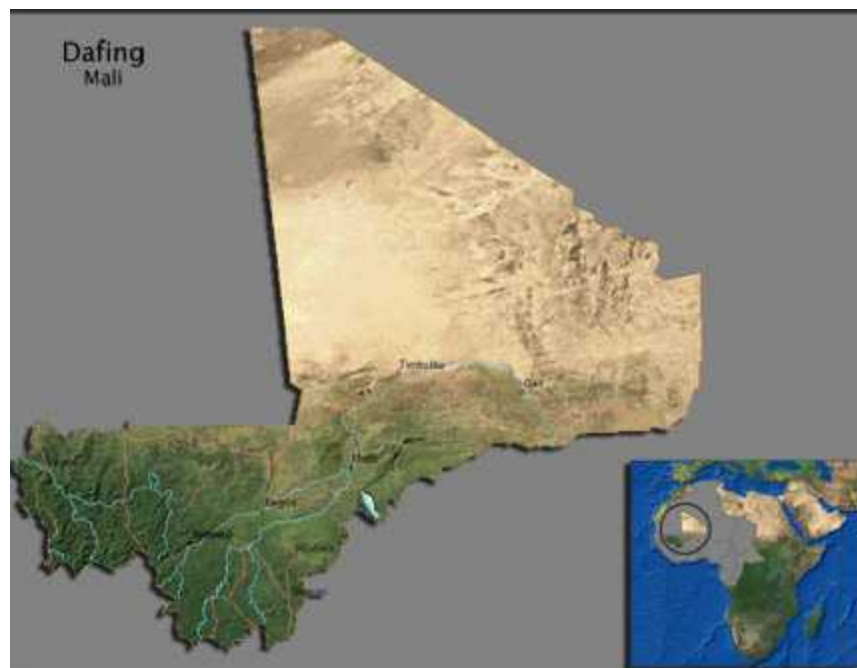
- Care would have to be taken to witness to those following Islam in a way that would not bring persecution to them.

Specific Opportunities/Benefits:

- There are Scripture portions and beginning literacy materials in Marka-Dafin.
- One known believer is willing to partner with churches who are interested in working among the Dafing.
- The Dafing language is similar to Bambara which has many resources.

For further information about this people, contact:
Rita Salter ralter@gowestafrica.org

www.gowestafrica.org



Carrying Living Water to a Thirsty People

