

Turka

Burkina Faso

Physical Exertion: **DIFFICULT**
Resources: **LIMITED**
Threat Level: **LOW**
Freedom: **UNRESTRICTED**



SUMMARY

37,000 population, African Traditional Religion mixed with Islam

DETAILS

Who are they? The Turka have an estimated population of 37,000.

What is their primary religion? African Traditional Religion, with some influence of Islam.

Where are they? The Turka are located in far

southwestern Burkina Faso.

Do they have a Christian witness? There are Christians among the Turka, but not enough to evangelize their own people. There is only one church that is made up primarily of Turka believers. SIL is doing translation work.

What strategies are being implemented for reaching this people group?

- Luke has been translated into Tchourama, the language of the Turka.
- Some of the Genesis stories are recorded on a Megavoice device

Suggestions and rationale for engaging this people group: This would be an outstanding group for a OneStory project or Engaging Church. Also, mobilization and encouragement of the existing Christian population in the Bolon area could have a significant impact on reaching the Bolon for Christ.

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

- N'Dorola is about seven hours from the capital city of Burkina Faso. Half of the trip would be on decent pavement and half would be on poor roadways. Travel outside of N'Dorola to other Bolon villages will be difficult during rainy season.
- There appear to be two Bolon groups. Dialectical differences exist between these two groups and it will take some linguistic study to effectively communicate with both groups.
- In spite of living in close proximity to other ethnic groups, the Bolon have retained their culture and heritage. They continue to hold to their traditions, including some

sacrifices. However, a significant percentage of the Bolon speak Jula (a regional trade language) as their primary language and therefore could easily converse with believers who speak Jula.

Specific Opportunities/Benefits:

- A graduate student developed a phonology and grammar book in 1987.
- Linguistic studies show that the Bolon have a high comprehension of the Jula language. Many believers in Burkina Faso speak Jula and could be used in outreach projects or as translators.

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Carrying Living Water to a Thirsty People

