

FULANI IN GUINEA



Main Language:
Pular

Population:
4,979,000

Population in West Africa:
44 million in 15 countries

Largest Religion:

Islam
99.9%

mixed with occultist beliefs

PrayGlobal

PAOC has partners working among the Fulani of Guinea, a least-reached people group (UPG) identified by Joshua Project. Will you partner to pioneer a vibrant church among the Fulani in Guinea through prayer?

1. What their lives are like

Fulani life is diverse, with people following nomadic, semi-nomadic, or settled urban lifestyles. As the largest ethnic group in Guinea, with their main concentration in the Fouta Djallon region, Fulani have a deep cultural and historical connection to the country. Their lives are guided by a strong Islamic faith and a moral code known as “Pulaaku,” an unwritten code of conduct emphasizing virtues like patience, self-control, dignity, and modesty.

Traditionally, Fulani society has a hierarchical structure with different social classes, including nobles, artisans, and formerly enslaved people. While men traditionally herd the livestock in rural areas, women milk the animals and sell dairy products like milk, yogurt, and butter in local markets. Some groups also practice farming alongside their pastoral duties.

The patrilineal family structure includes both immediate and extended kin. Marriage, often arranged, is frequently within the community to preserve wealth and family ties. Polygamy is common. In some contexts, Fulani face negative stereotypes and discrimination.

- **Pray** that the Lord of all nations will break the negative stereotypes and discrimination against the Fulani people.
- **Pray** for God to break the attitude of social classes that causes divisions among Fulani themselves, including Christians.

2. A following Jesus story

A Fulani man with a great zeal for Islam went to learn the Quran in Egypt. Four years later he graduated and returned to Guinea. A pastor from the neighbourhood started sharing Christ with him, later giving him a Bible. The Muslim leader read the entire Bible twice in a short time, hoping to find arguments to destroy Christians. Instead, the Truth caught him. He accepted Jesus as Lord and Saviour. His in-laws were so angry, they took away his wife and children. After a while, his wife convinced her relatives that if the man who studied the Quran

left Islam, it is because he found the truth in the Bible. She then returned to her husband with the children. The wife’s relatives attempted many times to kill her husband, but God made all the evil plans fail. Now the man is an evangelist who has led some Fulani from his village to Christ, including his brother.

- **Pray** for God to open the eyes of the Fulani who are willing to read the Bible so that they will find the only Truth that can set them free.
- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to make a way for “a Philip” to meet the Fulani religious who are reading the Bible without understanding.

3. The most critical need

Based on an analysis of ethnic relations, political history, and societal issues in Guinea, the Fulani people are faced with a systemic political marginalization and discrimination leading to chronic underinvestment in roads, education, healthcare, and other public services in their region known as Futa Djallon. However, the most critical need is for access to adequate education.

- **Pray** for the state officials to serve the Fulani region (Futa Djallon) in a non-partisan and just manner.
- **Pray** for churches and international missions to mobilize themselves in caring for the marginalized Fulani people, each one according to available resources.
- **Pray** for good quality education for the youth and an efficient adult literacy.

4. Pray for labourers

Due to the strong entrenchment of Islam in the Fulani region and historical resistance to outside religious influence, only a few churches and international missions have established a presence in Futa Djallon, leaving the area one of the most unreached in West Africa.

- **Pray** for existing national churches and international missions to lift their eyes and see the fields ripe for harvest in the Futa Djallon.
- **Pray** for the few local Fulani believers to rise up and share the Gospel in their cities and villages through a Christ-centered life.

- **Pray** for the Holy Spirit to distribute various gifts to more brothers and sisters among the Fulani so that the Gospel will be preached not in words only, but in power, without the fear of rejection and all form of persecution.

5. Creative opportunities

A great need exists for quality education and an adequate adult literacy. Many young people and adults don't know how to read or write, and many don't speak French or English, French being the language of education and commerce in Guinea. Such barriers impact not only employment opportunities but also hinder them in reading the Bible and other Christian resources.

- **Pray** for the Lord to touch state officials so that they can mobilize resources that will advance adult literacy and good quality education amongst the Fulani people.
- **Pray** for provisions of a Vocational Training Centre that will address the adult literacy need and will train youth in various professions that will open up employment opportunities.

6. A key prayer point

Pray for the Lord to send labourers, both nationals and foreigners who will work together in turning the Fulani region upside down for Jesus Christ.

7. Why the Fulani of Guinea matter to us

With no doubt, the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20 includes the Fulani people. It is estimated that the Fulani people count for over 40 million, mostly located in West Africa. Guinea has the second largest population of Fulani after Nigeria. However, for various reasons, the Fulani people seem to have been left out by most national churches and international missions.

Despite a strong opposition to churches and secret persecution against Christians, a tolerant Islam exists in Guinea compared to many other countries in West and North Africa. The constitution declares Guinea a secular state, ensuring all citizens are equal before the law, irrespective of their religion. **"Therefore, we must work when it's still day."**

- **Pray** for the Lord to increase a desire for spiritual truth among the Fulani and drawing them to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **Pray** for more Christian resources (media, literature, etc.) that will help spreading the Gospel among the Fulani.
- **Pray** for the Sovereign God to defeat the powers of darkness that strongly oppose Christians and hinder the Church's growth among the Fulani communities all across Guinea.

8. A Canadian connection

It is estimated that 5,000 to 6,000 Fulani live in Canada, most of them in Ontario and Alberta.

- **Pray** that the Christian family in Canada will reach out to Fulani in their cities, towns and neighbourhoods.
- **Pray** that Fulani Christians in Canada will be true witnesses of Jesus Christ to their Muslim families and friends, both in North America and abroad.

9. Our partners' needs

We have partners who have recently moved to this area to live among the Fulani. They will experience much adjustment to the new challenges of their area of calling. Here are their requests:

- **Since** we live in a sensitive area, often hostile to churches and ministers of the Gospel, pray for divine protection against all spiritual and physical attacks.
- **Pray** for more partners to come along with resources needed for a fruitful ministry among the Fulani.
- **Pray** for adequate financial provision by partners to support this work.

PRAY THIS SCRIPTURE

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

Psalms 22:27-28 (NIV).

FULANI OF GUINEA



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Have questions?

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Mission Global prayer resources?

