

Zanzibari

Unreached & Unengaged People Group in Tanzania

Zanzibar

Zanzibar Archipelago is located 16–31 miles off the coast of Tanzania. The main islands are Unguja and Pemba but there are many small islands as well.

Since the age of exploration, Zanzibar (zan-zə-bär) has been an important trading post between Africa, the Middle East, and India. Portugal held it in the 1500's and 1600's.



In 1698, the Ottoman empire took control. Tanzania became a major hub for trading ivory and spices, as well as a key port in the Arab slave trade. The Arab upper class in Zanzibar became very wealthy, and the islands became the number one exporter of cloves in the world.

Motivated to stop the slave trade, Britain gained control

of Zanzibar in 1890.

In 1964, Zanzibar merged with the United Republic of Tanganyika and was soon renamed (blending the two names) into the **United Republic of Tanzania**.

Zanzibar remains a semi-autonomous region. In 1968, shortly after Zanzibar gained independence, there was a huge massacre of thousands of Arabs, and destruction of major spice plantations. It was a brief tumultuous time politically.

Language

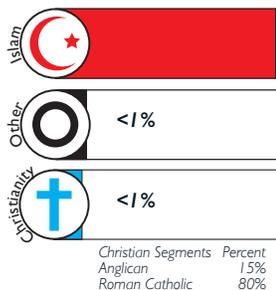
Swahili
Official language
of United Republic
of Tanzania

Population



Zanzibar Islands 1.5 million
Tanzania >56.7 million

Religion*



The Christians in Zanzibar are originally from mainland Tanzania or neighboring East African countries.

The worldview is a mix between a Fear/Power and Shame/Honor culture. Demon possession and manifestation is a normal part of many people's lives. They often seek out an Imam or Sheha (elder of the community) who will give them "protection" from evil spirits.

*This data is taken from Swahili census data. Zanzibar values may differ.

Stories from the field

Healing and deliverance seem to be key components to opening hearts. A young man was struggling with a heart condition, so I asked if I could come to his home and pray for his healing. He and his parents gladly invited me to come. After I explained why we pray in Jesus' name, they were still happy to have me pray.

Both parents had been dealing with minor health issues, so I first lifted them up; and they were both healed instantly. As I began praying for the young man, he immediately started manifesting. I cast the demons out in Jesus' name. He sat up, heart rate normal, spirits gone. Praise God, the young man and his mother have been hungry to learn more about Jesus, their healer. They are eager to share what they are learning with others!

Daily Life

The economy in Zanzibar is estimated to be about 80% tourism. With its beautiful white beaches, it makes an excellent holiday destination. Unfortunately, not much of that tourism revenue trickles down from the wealthy hotel owners to the majority of the population.

Fishing, sea weed farming, small scale fruit and vegetable farming, spice farms, and buying and selling imported goods are the major industries on the islands.



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Sources: joshuaproject.net and everyculture.com