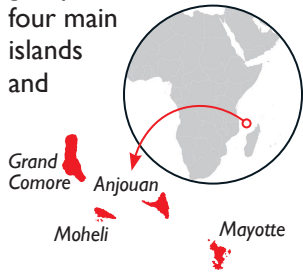


Ndzwani

Unreached & Unengaged People Group living in the Comoros Islands

Comoros Islands

The Comoros is a group of four main islands and



several smaller ones in the Indian Ocean between Madagascar and Mozambique, Africa.

In 1975, the three largest islands declared their independence from France and were officially named the *Federal and Islamic Republic of the Comoros*.

The smallest of the four islands, Mayotte, chose to remain a French possession.

Ndzwani communities can be found on all of the islands in the chain, as well as in Madagascar.

They take their name from the particular island on which they live (ie. Anjouan Ndzwani).

Population

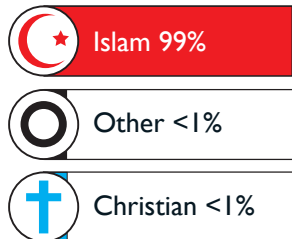


Comoros	354,000
Madagascar	14,000
Reunion	3,500

Livelihood

Most of the islanders work as farmers or fishermen, while a few breed cattle, sheep, goats, and donkeys. A small number work in industries or in jobs relating to tourism.

Religion



Most Ndzwani are Shafiite Muslims, yet mosque attendance is very low. Occultism and spirit possession are often mixed with Islam. Polygamy is an accepted practice.

Language



Daily Struggles

Major problems for the Ndzwani include poverty, disease, hunger, poor water supply, lack of hygiene and a shortage of hospitals or doctors. Many people suffer from illnesses and malnutrition. Children are expected to help on the farm so many do not go to school, causing illiteracy.

There are high death rates, especially among young children.

Engaging with God

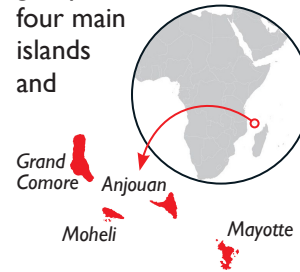
Traditionally, the Ndzwani have been very resistant to any kind of religious change. Their commitment to Islam and occult practices has made them difficult to reach. They are becoming more receptive.

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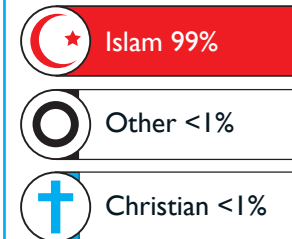


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