

Nghari

Unreached & Unengaged People Group in the Tibet Area of China

TAR of China

The *Tibet Autonomous Region* of China is also known as the Nghari (Nah-ree) region.



With an area of 306,000 km² (119,340 sq. mi.), the “roof of the world” lies north of the Himalayas at an average altitude of 4,500 meters (14,760 ft) above sea level. It covers approximately one-fourth of Tibet yet it has the lowest population density in China.

Earth’s highest peak, *Mt. Everest* (8,848 m/29,029 ft), is part of the border between China (Tibet) and Nepal. Base camp for the northern route up Mt. Everest can now be reached by automobile.

Nghari Nomads

Nghari are nomads, struggling to survive in bleak conditions. Lifestyles have changed little over the last thousand years - devoid of technology or machinery.

Engaging with God

The concept of baptism may be easy for the Nghari to understand as they believe immersion in a holy lake releases them from sin. Many have never heard that only Jesus has the power to wash away sins.

Population



Nghari 68,000
China >1.3 billion

Tibet

The name Tibet is derived from the Mongolian *Thubet*, the Chinese *Tufan*, the Tai *Thibet*, and the Arabic *Tubbat*, which all loosely translate to “the heights.”

Religion



Buddhism 100%

Nghari practice Tibetan Buddhism which is characteristic of Tibet and some regions of the Himalayas. Religion is highly important and maintains a deep influence over all aspects of Nghari life.

Language



Although ethnically Tibetan, the Nghari speak a language far removed from other Tibetan varieties. Nghari Tibetan is spoken over a vast area of western Tibet.

Pilgrimage

Western Tibet, the land of the Nghari, is a holy site for the followers of four faiths: Hindus, Buddhists, Jains and followers of the indigenous Tibetan religion of Bön.

Mt. Kailash, the source of some of the longest rivers in Asia, is visited by thousands of pilgrims every year. Immersion in one of two holy lakes south of Mt. Kailash is thought to release people from a lifetime of sins.

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