

# Alaba of Ethiopia



Picture Credit: Joshua Project

## About the Alaba

The Alaba people of Ethiopia live on the central highlands of Ethiopia, some 250-300km southwest of Addis Ababa to which it is connected by the asphalt Shashemane-Soddo Road. The land is flat and dry with savannah type vegetation. Maize, teff and red pepper are their main crops. The Bilate River borders the Alaba country on the west side towards the Kambaata people. The languages of both these people groups are closely related to Highland East Cushitic languages. The Alaba has been administrated under the Kambaata for years although at the moment Alaba is a special administrative area by itself.

The lifestyle of the Alaba is very modest. Most of the houses in the rural area are round-shaped, thatch-roofed houses made of wood and mud. Livestock spend the night inside with the people. Most of the people get their drinking water from rivers and ponds by carrying it long distances. More than half of the urban houses are without electricity. Firewood and tree leaves are used for cooking.

**Population:** 429,000

**Language:** Alaba-K'abeena

**Religion:** Islam

**% Christian:** 2.60%

**% Evangelical:** 1.40%

**Bible Available:** N.T. (2017), Audio Bible,

**Ministry Resources:** Jesus Film, Story of Jesus Audio, Online N.T.

### **What Are Their Beliefs?**

The Allabas are nearly all Muslim, although there has been a great endeavor to plant churches among them in recent years. There are some Christian Believers among them now, but the majority are Sunni Muslim. The Allabas are nearly all Muslim, although there has been a great endeavor to plant churches among them in recent years. There are some Christian Believers among them now, but the majority are Sunni Muslim.

### **What Are Their Needs?**

Their biggest needs are schools and clinics for more villages, and wells for villages that are without drinking water. Their very self-confident nature causes them to reject outside influences, and in the rural areas they are only now starting to allow their children to attend schools.

### **Prayer Points**

- To depend on God Almighty for their physical and spiritual needs.
- For the Lord to thrust out workers to the Alabas in Ethiopia.
- For a movement to Christ among the Alaba people this decade.

**Information from The Joshua Project at [joshuaproject.net](http://joshuaproject.net)**



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