

# Agew

**Alternate names:** Agaw, Agau

**Population:** 1,463,000

**Language:** Agaw, Awngi (spoken by the Awi), Xamtanga (spoken by the Hamir), Qimant (or Qemnaty, spoken by the Quimant), Amharic, Tigray

**Location:** The Amhara region near Lake Tana, along the border with the Tigray region in Ethiopia and also Eritrea

**Religion:** mostly Orthodox, syncretistic form of Christianity; Christo-pagan religion

**% Evangelical:** < 1%

## **Christian resources available:**

For the Awngi language, there are Bible portions, but no complete Bible; audio recordings and Jesus Film; for the Qimant language, there are Bible portions and audio Bible teaching; for the Xamtanga language only the Jesus film

The Agew people cluster is made up of the Northern Agaw in Ertrea, known as Bilen, the Western Agaw known as Qemant (or Qimant or Kemant), the Eastern Agaw known as Xamta (or Hamir, Xamir) and the Southern Agaw known as Awi.

The Agew are probably the original inhabitants of much of the northern Ethiopian highlands who were either forced out of their original settlements or assimilated by semitic speaking Tigray-Tigrinya and Amhara peoples. They are part of the Cushitic branch of the Afro-Asiatic family. There is a group that is trying to advocate for nonviolent resistance to the Amharization of the Quemant people and for their self dignity and self rule.

The Agew people ruled during the Zagwe dynasty of Ethiopia from about 900 to 1270. The Zagwe kings built churches carved into rock.

Many Agew are bilingual, speaking their own language and either Amharic or Tigray.

Awis are predominately farmers. The Awi culture is similar to Amharas, except for the North Gonder Zone Awis.

The Quemant have close historical ties with the Beta Israel and had a Hebraic religion, with elements of Judaism, however, now only 1% adhere to the Qemant religion and 99% of them are Orthodox.

# Agew

**Alternate names:** Agaw, Agau

**Population:** 1,463,000

**Language:** Agaw, Awngi (spoken by the Awi), Xamtanga (spoken by the Hamir), Qimant (or Qemnaty, spoken by the Quimant), Amharic, Tigray

**Location:** The Amhara region near Lake Tana, along the border with the Tigray region in Ethiopia and also Eritrea

**Religion:** mostly Orthodox, syncretistic form of Christianity; Christo-pagan religion

**% Evangelical:** < 1%

## **Christian resources available:**

For the Awngi language, there are Bible portions, but no complete Bible; audio recordings and Jesus Film; for the Qimant language, there are Bible portions and audio Bible teaching; for the Xamtanga language only the Jesus film

The Agew people cluster is made up of the Northern Agaw in Ertrea, known as Bilen, the Western Agaw known as Qemant (or Qimant or Kemant), the Eastern Agaw known as Xamta (or Hamir, Xamir) and the Southern Agaw known as Awi.

The Agew are probably the original inhabitants of much of the northern Ethiopian highlands who were either forced out of their original settlements or assimilated by semitic speaking Tigray-Tigrinya and Amhara peoples. They are part of the Cushitic branch of the Afro-Asiatic family. There is a group that is trying to advocate for nonviolent resistance to the Amharization of the Quemant people and for their self dignity and self rule.

The Agew people ruled during the Zagwe dynasty of Ethiopia from about 900 to 1270. The Zagwe kings built churches carved into rock.

Many Agew are bilingual, speaking their own language and either Amharic or Tigray.

Awis are predominately farmers. The Awi culture is similar to Amharas, except for the North Gonder Zone Awis.

The Quemant have close historical ties with the Beta Israel and had a Hebraic religion, with elements of Judaism, however, now only 1% adhere to the Qemant religion and 99% of them are Orthodox.

## Prayer Points

- Pray for the Ethiopian churches in the diaspora and in Ethiopia to mobilize their people and resources to reach the Agew for Christ.
- Ask God for a move of the Holy Spirit among the Agew peoples.
- Pray for God to send intercessors and laborers for the Agew.
- Ask God to open the hearts of the Agew to hear and receive the gospel.
- Pray for God to provide evangelistic resources in their languages.
- Ask God for a disciple making movement among the Agew.

You can watch Agew music videos at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2FuRmv86AY>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zn-F4vopKM>

“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed?  
And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?  
And how are they to hear without someone preaching?  
And how are they to preach unless they are sent?  
As it is written ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!’  
Romans 10: 14 - 15



Information from The Joshua Project at [www.joshuaproject.net](http://www.joshuaproject.net); [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agaw\\_people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agaw_people), <http://www.tigraionline.com/articles/kemant-amharization.html>, another resource with interesting information that has no date is: <http://www.missionaryairfaresearch.com/pdfs>



For information on adopting the Agew

[www.hornofafrica.org](http://www.hornofafrica.org)

[www.engagers.org](http://www.engagers.org)



## Prayer Points

- Pray for the Ethiopian churches in the diaspora and in Ethiopia to mobilize their people and resources to reach the Agew for Christ.
- Ask God for a move of the Holy Spirit among the Agew peoples.
- Pray for God to send intercessors and laborers for the Agew.
- Ask God to open the hearts of the Agew to hear and receive the gospel.
- Pray for God to provide evangelistic resources in their languages.
- Ask God for a disciple making movement among the Agew.

You can watch Agew music videos at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2FuRmv86AY>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zn-F4vopKM>

“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed?  
And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?  
And how are they to hear without someone preaching?  
And how are they to preach unless they are sent?  
As it is written ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!’  
Romans 10: 14 - 15



Information from The Joshua Project at [www.joshuaproject.net](http://www.joshuaproject.net); [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agaw\\_people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agaw_people), <http://www.tigraionline.com/articles/kemant-amharization.html>, another resource with interesting information that has no date is: <http://www.missionaryairfaresearch.com/pdfs>



For information on adopting the Agew

[www.hornofafrica.org](http://www.hornofafrica.org)

[www.engagers.org](http://www.engagers.org)

