

Kebena of Ethiopia

Alternate Name: Qebena
Population: 72,600
Language: Alaba-K'abeena;
Kambaata: Qebena
Location: Only in Ethiopia in the Southwest Gurage Zone, between the Omo and Bilate rivers. Durame is the main town.
Religion: Islam
% Christian: 3.0% (70% Orthodox, 20% Protestant, 10% Independent)
% Evangelical: 1.0%
Christian resources available: Global Recordings and Online New Testament



The Kebeba were part of the Hadya Kingdom. At the end of the 19th century, Qebena became an autonomous state ruled by an Imam.

The Kebeba were originally semi-nomadic. Their economy is based on subsistence farming. They grow wheat, teff, maize, sorghum, oil seed, enset (false banana), chat, coffee and fruits. They depend mostly upon rain for their crops, though there is river water that could be used for irrigation. Their climate is mostly temperate.

They are bordered by the Gurage in the north, the Gurage and Kembata in the east, the Tamaro in the south and the Omo River to the west.

The Kebeba Development Association strives to promote the Kebeba history, culture and language. There are century old mosques, underground caves, waterfalls, and a battlefield that are potential tourist attractions in the Kebeba woreda.

Unlike their southern kinsmen, the Hadya, who are mostly Christian, the Kebeba are Muslim.

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Kebena music video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThNB11mOlqE>

Prayer Points

- Pray for the Ethiopian churches in the diaspora & in Ethiopia to mobilize their people & resources to reach the Kebena for Christ.
- Ask God to send people to intercede for the Kebena.
- Pray that God will send laborers, especially from the Hadya to reach the Kebena.
- Ask God to loosen the hold of Islam upon their lives.
- Pray that the effectiveness of evangelistic resources in their language

Information from The Joshua Project at www.joshuaproject.net;

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kebena>

"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



For information on adopting the Kebena

www.hornofafrica.org

www.engagers.org



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