

## 1. Description

1.1 Name(s) of society, language, and language family:

Language of Gabon

Alternate names include; Adouma, Aduma, Badouma, Douma, Liduma (1)

1.2 ISO code (3 letter code from ethnologue.com):

639-3: dma (1)

1.3 Location (latitude/longitude):

Latitude: -1.0, Longitude: 11.75

1.4 Brief history: Archeologists believe that Gabon was inhabited as early as the Old Stone Age due to the tools found at dig sites, however little is known of its people. The Myene had arrived in Gabon by the 13<sup>th</sup> Century and settled as a fishing community.

Gabon's ethnic groups are Bantu and arrived after the Myene. In 1839, the first lasting European settlement was started by the French. (2)

1.5 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors:

Not Found

1.6 Ecology (natural environment): Are able to provide themselves with almost everything they need. They only buy soap, salt, and medicine. Produce enough bananas, plantains, and sugar to export to nearby cities. (2)

1.7 Population size, mean village size, home range size, density

9,840 as of 2000. (1)

## 2. Economy

2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s): Cassava (2)

2.2 Main protein-lipid sources: Fish (2)

2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns?: not found

2.4 Food storage: Not found

2.5 Sexual division of production: No sexual division

2.6 Land tenure: The villages own 3 miles out into the forest. Then divided by families and past down paternally or maternally. Rest is owned by government. (2)

2.7 Ceramics: not found

2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns: Export surplus foods to other nearby cities (2)

2.9 Food taboos: not found

2.10 Canoes/watercraft? Yes, they are expert canoe craftsman and are experience fisherman. (2)

## 3. Anthropometry

3.1 Mean adult height (m and f): not found

3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f): not found

## 4. Life History, mating, marriage

4.1 Age at menarche (f): not found

4.2 Age at first birth (m and f): not found

4.3 Completed family size (m and f): Large, 3 or more children with possible 2<sup>nd</sup> wife (2)

4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f): not found

4.5 Age first marriage (m and f): not found

4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce: uncommon (2)

4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously: not found

4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry?: not found

4.9 Inheritance patterns: Paternally (2)

4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict: not found

4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals: not found

4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy): not found

4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these "other fathers" recognized? Any child born in marriage is considered the husbands even if the child came from another father (2)

4.14 What is the belief of the mother's role in procreation exactly? (e.g., "receptacle in which fetus grows") not found

4.15 Is conception believed to be an incremental process (i.e., semen builds up over time)? Not found

4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape not found

4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin) not found

4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms? They are encouraged to have several children before marriage so yes. (2)

4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring: not found

4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children? The father if married, if not married, grandparents (2)

4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females not found

4.22 Evidence for couvades: not found

4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older): not found

4.24 Kin avoidance and respect? Not found

4.24 Joking relationships? Not found

- 4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations not found
- 4.26 Incest avoidance rules not found
- 4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony? Only legal if they get it done in a mayor's office (2)
- 4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name? not found
- 4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?) not found
- 4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)? Arranged by parents for business purposes (2)
- 4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who: not found

### **Warfare/homicide**

- 4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare: not found
- 4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death: not found
- 4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing: not found
- 4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations): peaceful with neighbors (2)
- 4.18 Cannibalism? No (2)

### **5. Socio-Political organization and interaction**

- 5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size: not found
- 5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality): not found
- 5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes): Elders act as advisors for the villages (2)
- 5.4 Post marital residence: not found
- 5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense): 3 miles out from center of village (2)
- 5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex): the young respect the elders and stay close to parents (2)
- 5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships: not found
- 5.8 Village and house organization: Mother is in charge of house and children (2)
- 5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses): not found
- 5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere? Sleep in beds (2)
- 5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc: not found
- 5.12 Trade: With other villages. No real use for money (2)
- 5.13 Indications of social hierarchies? Elders in the villages are seen as advisors (2)

### **6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)**

- 6.0 Time allocation to RCR: not found
- 6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine): Some medicine men that lead ancestral worship (2)
- 6.2 Stimulants: not found
- 6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal): After death, bodies are rubbed and anointed to remove rigor mortis. Because of the tropical climate, the bodies are interred within two days. They are buried in a wooden coffin. The deceased then joins the ancestors who are to be worshiped with the Bwiti ceremonies. (2)
- 6.4 Other rituals: worship of the ancestors led by the ngangas (2)
- 6.5 Myths (Creation): not found
- 6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games): not found
- 6.7 Sex differences in RCR: no difference (2)
- 6.8 Missionary effect: Majority of population is Christian (2)
- 6.9 RCR revival: not found
- 6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs: That the dead join their ancestors (2)
- 6.11 Taboo of naming dead people? Not found
- 6.12 Is there teknonymy? Not found
- 6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.) not found

### **7. Adornment**

- 7.1 Body paint: no body paint (2)
- 7.2 Piercings: not found
- 7.3 Haircut: short/ buzzed (2)
- 7.4 Scarification: not found
- 7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.): not found
- 7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment: carved masks (2)
- 7.7 Sex differences in adornment: not found
- 7.8 Missionary effect: not found
- 7.9 Cultural revival in adornment: not found

### **8. Kinship systems**

- 8.1 Sibling classification system: not found
- 8.2 Sororate, levirate: not found
- 8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.): not found

**9. Other interesting cultural features (list them): not found**

**Numbered references**

1. [http://www.ethnologue.com/show\\_language.asp?code=dma](http://www.ethnologue.com/show_language.asp?code=dma)
2. <http://www.everyculture.com/Cr-Ga/Gabon.html>
- 3.