

1. Description

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

Society: Jabo

Language: Jabo

Language family: Niger-Congo (Kru)

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

ISO 639-3: grj

1.3 Location (latitude/longitude):

“The Grebo are located in eastern Liberia, in Maryland County, Lower Grand Gedeh County, eastern Grand Kru County, and southeastern Sinoe County.” (1)

Latitude:

Longitude:

1.4 Brief history:

“The Grebo tribes, occupying the southernmost part of the Republic claim to have migrated from Sudan to the banks of the Cavalla River during the sixteenth century to escape the raids of would-be enslavers.” (4p386)

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

“Heartily embraced” Christianity (4p388)

Missionaries led to dictionaries; the language was originally transcribed by Bible translators (4)

1.6 Ecology (natural environment):

Live along the Cavalla River (4)

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

Population size: 61,600 in Liberia (5)

Mean village size: Unknown

Home range size: Unknown

Density: Unknown

2. Economy

2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s):

Farming (4p387)

2.2 Main protein-lipid sources:

Fish and livestock and hunting. (4p387)

2.3 Weapons:

Guns are fired at funeral ceremonies (4p388)

2.4 Food storage:

Unknown

2.5 Sexual division of production:

“Labor on the farm was divided between men and women, with the men underbrushing, felling trees, burning the farm, clearing it and ultimately, if necessary, building fences around it to protect the crop. The women planted, weeded, drove out birds, and harvested.” (4p387)

2.6 Land tenure:

dsfsf

2.7 Ceramics:

Molding earthenware vessels. (4p387)

2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns:

Unknown

2.9 Food taboos:

Unknown

2.10 Canoes/watercraft?

Some now take up stevedoring. (4p387)

3. Anthropometry

3.1 Mean adult height (m and f):

Male: sdfsd

Female: sdfs

3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f):

Male: Unknown

Female: Unknown

4. Life History, mating, marriage

4.1 Age at menarche (f):

sdfsdf

4.2 Age at first birth (m and f):

Male: Unknown

- Female: Unknown
- 4.3 Completed family size (m and f):
Male: Unknown
Female: Unknown
- 4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f):
Unknown
- 4.5 Age first marriage (m and f):
Male: Unknown
Female: Unknown
- 4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce:
Unknown
- 4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously:
Marriages:
Males: Unknown
Jabo are polygamous (4p388)
- 4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry?:
Bride purchase: Unknown
Bride purchase price: Unknown
Bride service: Unknown
Dowry: Unknown
Dowry is returned after a divorce (4p388)
- 4.9 Inheritance patterns:
Patrilineal; sons inherited property even if their father's wives were still alive; the wives were also considered property and inherited by the sons (4p388)
- 4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict:
Unknown
- 4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals:
Activities: Unknown
Attitudes: Unknown
- 4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy):
Patrilocal exogamy at the clan (and sometimes tribe) level. (2)
- 4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these "other fathers" recognized?
Unknown
- 4.14 What is the belief of the mother's role in procreation exactly? (e.g., "receptacle in which fetus grows")
Unknown
- 4.15 Is conception believed to be an incremental process (i.e., semen builds up over time)?
Unknown
- 4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape
Unknown
- 4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin)
Unknown
- 4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms?
Unknown
- 4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring:
Unknown
- 4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children?
Unknown
- 4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females
Unknown
- 4.22 Evidence for couvades:
Unknown
- 4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older):
Unknown
- 4.24 Kin avoidance and respect?
Unknown
- 4.24 Joking relationships?
Unknown
- 4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations:
Patrilineal (4)
- 4.26 Incest avoidance rules:
Unknown
- 4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony?
Yes (4)

4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name?

Unknown

4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?)

Exogamy is preferred (2)

4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)?

Arranged marriages: No (4)

Arranged by: N/A

4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who:

Unknown

Warfare/homicide

4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare:

Unknown

4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death:

Out-group: Unknown

In-group: Unknown

4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing:

Out-group: Unknown

In-group: Unknown

4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations):

Unknown

4.18 Cannibalism?

Cannibalism had been reported by Jabo people /"informants" (2).

Cannibalism has been reported in the area since at least 1668 (3)

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size:

Unknown

5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality):

Unknown

5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes):

Priests, kings, chieftains, councils (4p391)

5.4 Post-marital residence:

Patrilocal (2)

5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense):

Unknown

5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex):

Secret societies for both men and women. (4p392)

5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships:

Unknown

5.8 Village and house organization:

Huts were originally round, but are now built in all other shapes. (4p387)

5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses):

Unknown

5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere?

"Only a few tribesmen used beds; most slept on the floor on mats and wooden pillows" (4p387)

5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc:

Jabo society is clan based (4)

5.12 Trade:

Unknown

5.13 Indications of social hierarchies?

Yes; "funeral ceremonies varied according to rank or class" (4p388)

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

6.0 Time allocation to RCR:

Unknown

6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine):

Priests and high priests (4p388)

6.2 Stimulants:

Unknown

6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal):

Birth: Unknown

Death: Death rituals involved feasts, killing at least one cow based on status. (4p388)

Puberty: Unknown
Seasonal: Unknown

6.4 Other rituals:

Unknown

6.5 Myths (Creation):

Unknown

6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games):

Games; ““They indulge in a number of games and sports, such as wrestling.” (4p388)

6.7 Sex differences in RCR:

Male: Unknown

Female: Unknown

6.8 Missionary effect:

Missionaries brought Christianity to the region (4)

6.9 RCR revival:

Unknown

6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs:

“[They] believe, as did the ancient Romans, that the dead hold the same rank in the spirit world that they did in this life.”
(4p389)

6.11 Taboo of naming dead people?

Unknown

6.12 Is there teknonymy?

Unknown

6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.)

“Prior to the introduction of Christianity – which they heartily embraced – among these tribesmen, their religion was based on legends, though they seem to have had some nebulous idea of God.” (4p388)

7. Adornment

7.1 Body paint:

Unknown

7.2 Piercings:

Unknown

7.3 Haircut:

Unknown

7.4 Scarification:

Unknown

7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.):

Unknown

7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment:

Unknown

7.7 Sex differences in adornment:

Unknown

7.8 Missionary effect:

Unknown

7.9 Cultural revival in adornment:

Unknown

8. Kinship systems

8.1 Sibling classification system:

Unknown

8.2 Sororate, levirate:

sdfsdf

8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.):

Unknown

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

Exogamous (2)

Cannibalism is reportedly present (2; 3)

Wives are passed down to their husband's sons (4)

Numbered references

1. <http://www.sil.org/silesr/2002/SILES2002-074.pdf>

2. WPA Federal Writers' Project. *Life History Manuscripts from the Folklore Project, 1936-1940*. Online version: Library of Congress American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 - 1940, Item 27 of 312 (Nebraska), "Charles Blooah"
3. Liberia: Past and Present: <http://www.liberiapastandpresent.org/RitualKillingsIndex.htm>
4. Cassell, C. Abayomi. (1970) *Liberia: History of the First African Republic*. New York: Fountainhead Publishers.
5. https://www.ethnologue.com/show_language.asp?code=grj