

## 1. Description

- 1.1 Name(s) of society, language, and language family: Tsogo, language of Gabons
- 1.2 ISO code (3 letter code from ethnologue.com): TSV
- 1.3 Location (latitude/longitude): Lat: -1.75 Long: 11.50
- 1.4 Brief history: One of the oldest populations in Gabon, the people is called Mitsogo
- 1.5 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors: The French made them into slaves, along with other neighbors; some children attend primary school
- 1.6 Ecology (natural environment): Semi-green, lowland tropical forest
- 1.7 Population size, mean village size, home range size, density: population unknown

## 2. Economy

- 2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s): vegetables, roots, nuts, and wild fruit
- 2.2 Main protein-lipid sources: They hunt leopards, wild pigs, antelopes, monkeys, fish, crab, small mammals
- 2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns?: Spear hunting along with dogs, and snare hunting by a single hunter, or small group. Some use guns, but more typically do not.
- 2.4 Food storage:
- 2.5 Sexual division of production:
- 2.6 Land tenure: a lot of nonpermanent huts
- 2.7 Ceramics:
- 2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns:
- 2.9 Food taboos: some clans eat elephants, and others have a taboo against eating elephants
- 2.10 Canoes/watercraft?

## 3. Anthropometry

- 3.1 Mean adult height (m and f):
- 3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f):

## 4. Life History, mating, marriage

- 4.1 Age at menarche (f):
- 4.2 Age at first birth (m and f):
- 4.3 Completed family size (m and f):
- 4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f):
- 4.5 Age first marriage (m and f):
- 4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce: frequent intermarriage
- 4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously:
- 4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry?:
- 4.9 Inheritance patterns: no inherited ties
- 4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict:
- 4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals:
- 4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy):
- 4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these "other fathers" recognized?
- 4.14 What is the belief of the mother's role in procreation exactly? (e.g., "receptacle in which fetus grows")
- 4.15 Is conception believed to be an incremental process (i.e., semen builds up over time)?
- 4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape
- 4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin)
- 4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms?
- 4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring: little bit of trading of natural resources
- 4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children? If mother is out visiting another village, the children were taken care of by grandparents, aunts, and uncles on the mother's side of the family
- 4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females
- 4.22 Evidence for couvades
- 4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older)
- 4.24 Kin avoidance and respect?
- 4.24 Joking relationships?
- 4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations
- 4.26 Incest avoidance rules
- 4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony?
- 4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name?
- 4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?)
- 4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)?
- 4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who: intermarriage happens, so conflict arises from that

## Warfare/homicide

- 4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare:
- 4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death: usually peaceful with neighbors
- 4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing:
- 4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations): high mobility between neighboring societies
- 4.18 Cannibalism? No

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

- 5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size: 15-20 huts, with approx. 70 people, average camp size is 6-8 huts with up to 20 people at a time
- 5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality): road-side villages with semi-permanent and permanent huts, younger people come and go during rainy season, elders stay there permanently; high mobility between camps and villages
- 5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes): Clans,
- 5.4 Post marital residence: some people break away to establish new villages due to disputes within the clan about intermarriage
- 5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense): neighboring camps/villages visit, so clan friendships are important
- 5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex): boys and men all hunt together
- 5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships:
- 5.8 Village and house organization: relatives live near by
- 5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses):
- 5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere?
- 5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc: clan-based
- 5.12 Trade: Trades forest products for bananas, materials and tools
- 5.13 Indications of social hierarchies? Live next to neighboring farmers and are not discriminatory; not much distinction of social status

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

- 6.0 Time allocation to RCR: Saturday they have Bwiti mass
- 6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine):
- 6.2 Stimulants: iboga- hallucinogen taken during Bwiti Easter and other ceremonies
- 6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal): Seasonal- Easter, also for baptism and communion
- 6.4 Other rituals: Same calendar as Catholic religion, but all rites of initiation is done at night, and many involve hallucinogens
- 6.5 Myths (Creation): They consider it to be Christian, so a lot of the same beliefs are used, during the hallucinogen trip, he encounters his ancestors and the dead, and others encounter God directly. They have a lot of spiritual symbolic meaning, connected with the plants they are surrounded by etc.
- 6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games): Social gathering to support whoever is being initiated
- 6.7 Sex differences in RCR:
- 6.8 Missionary effect: Bwiti is kept secret because of resistance of the Christian missions
- 6.9 RCR revival: The president of Garbon practiced Bwiti, and because of this it resurfaced and it has gained more acceptance
- 6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs:
- 6.11 Taboo of naming dead people?
- 6.12 Is there teknonymy?
- 6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.): The Mitsogo people take iboga for 4 days, progressively taking bigger dosages each day, human sacrifice used to be used, but now they sacrifice chickens.

## **7. Adornment**

- 7.1 Body paint:
- 7.2 Piercings:
- 7.3 Haircut:
- 7.4 Scarification:
- 7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.):
- 7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment:
- 7.7 Sex differences in adornment:
- 7.8 Missionary effect:
- 7.9 Cultural revival in adornment:

## **8. Kinship systems**

- 8.1 Sibling classification system: Everyone is a brother, but you do stay very close with family members
- 8.2 Sororate, levirate:
- 8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.):

## **9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):**

### **Numbered references**

1. [http://www.africa.kyoto-u.ac.jp/kiroku/asm\\_suppl/abstracts/pdf/ASM\\_s28/6\\_knight.pdf](http://www.africa.kyoto-u.ac.jp/kiroku/asm_suppl/abstracts/pdf/ASM_s28/6_knight.pdf)
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