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## Northern Ghana Church Planter Moses Azinim

Moses Azinim is married to Pori and has four children, Wisdom, Gifty, Prosper, and Miraclou ranging in age from 2-12 years old. Moses was born in an Islamic family from the Kusasis and Hausa people groups. Growing up as a Muslim, he studied Arabic and hated to hear the name of Jesus. There was a school near his house where Christians used to meet for fellowship and he would often go there during their meeting times to disturb them by throwing stones at them.

One day one of them came out from the classroom to beat him and the Pastor stopped him from it. The Pastor invited Moses to his house where he shared the Word of God with him and gave him a Bible tract to go and read. The Pastor led Moses to receive Christ that very day.

After he started attending Church his family rejected him and he had to move out and stay with the Pastor for three years. After Senior Secondary School the Pastor sent him to a Bible College and from there Moses became a Pastor. After the Bible College, Moses planted his first church with the help of his Pastor, and shortly after another flourishing church was planted in Moses' hometown.

Moses recently graduated the Church Planter Intensive training from NCM's partner ministry Globeserve. We have now sent him to plant churches among the [Hausa](#), Kusasis, and [Fulani](#) People Groups.



## Fulani People

Many centuries ago, the vast number of Fulani tribes migrated from northern Africa and the Middle East into Central and West Africa. Today, most of them are semi-nomadic shepherds who travel with their flocks, always searching for better grazing land. The Sahara Desert forms their northernmost boundary, while the tsetse flies limit their movement to the south. Over the years, some of them have moved from being exclusively shepherds, to being scholarly, influential leaders in their communities.

### What Are Their Beliefs?

Virtually all of the Liptako are Muslims. Children are taught religious foundations in Islamic schools. However, the elders are responsible for teaching them tribal values and traditions. The elders thrive on telling tribal stories to the next generation. To the Fulani, children are the future. They do not believe in an afterlife, so children are the only means by which they can live on from generation to generation. They believe that through their sons, their names and features will remain. If a Fulani dies with no children, it is as if he dies twice.

## Hausa People

The Hausa are the largest ethnic group in West Africa, and a majority of them are Muslims.

The Hausa are originally from an area known as "Hausaland," a region covering 75,000 square miles and straddling the borders of Niger and Nigeria. They first began to settle in Ghana about 500 years ago.

In the fifteenth century, the first Muslim traders from Hausaland arrived and settled in the northeastern section of Ghana. With the expansion of trade in the eighteenth century and the "holy wars" of Fulani in the nineteenth century, Hausa immigration to Ghana increased. Hausa traders, Muslim priests, and Hausa-speaking slaves helped to spread the Hausa culture in Ghana.

The Hausa of Ghana are virtually all Muslim. This is a high percentage in a country where a small percentage of the population is Islamic. Both the Qadiriyyah brotherhood and the Tijaniyyah order have followers there. Nevertheless, the religious practices of the Hausa have been mixed with local traditions. For example, they believe in a variety of spirits, both good and bad. Traditional rituals include making sacrificial offerings to the spirits and to the spirit possessed. Most rituals are performed by family members, but specialists are called upon to cure diseases. The Hausa priests, or malams, are thought to have the best charms. According to the malams, different magical formulas have different effects. The priests claim to have cures for every aspect of human concern.