



Barawani Swahili in Somalia



bahr-ah-WAH-nee swa-HEE-lee

The name Swahili literally means “coast,” and is the name given to several people groups that share a common culture (Uswahili), language (Kiswahili), and religion (Islam). They have subgroups; among them are the Barawani. The Swahili language has many different dialects. For about 2,000 years, the backbone of the Swahili economy has been commerce no matter what part of Africa they live in. They worked as cross-national merchants trading spices, slaves, ivory, gold and grain. Today, international commerce is still important to the Swahili but to a lesser degree. Many of the upper-class Swahili now manage small businesses, complete clerical work, and teach school classes. The Swahili have recently demonstrated an interest in Western culture. For example, in addition to attending Islamic schools, most children also attend non-religious schools to acquire a Western-style education.

Ministry Obstacles

Islam is one of the central parts of the Barawani Swahili identity. Anything Christian is seen as a foreign threat.

Scripture Focus

Being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; Colossians 1:11-12

Prayer Focus

May new believers among this people group walk in joy and love in the Holy Spirit.

Pray for the Lord to give the Barawani Swahili group the humility to see the only one who can save them from sin and spiritual death. Pray for the Lord to send his children as long-term ambassadors to the Barawani Swahili. Pray for a movement to Christ to occur among the Barawani Swahili that will spread to every country in eastern and southern Africa.



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People Name:	Barawani Swahili
Pronunciation:	bahr-ah-WAH-nee swa-HEE-lee
Country:	Somalia
10/40 Window:	Yes
Population:	326,000
World Popl:	1,196,000
Main Language:	Swahili
Main Religion:	Islam
Scripture:	Complete Bible
Online NT:	Yes
Jesus Film:	Yes
Audio Recordings:	Yes
Christ Followers:	Few, less than 2%
Status:	Unreached
Progress Level:	

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