

THE BUDU KOYA FILM TEAM OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



"I believe many people would put their faith in Jesus Christ if only they could hear about Him. We want to make the *JESUS* film increasingly available to unreached people groups and to the local bodies of believers who are trying to reach them. I challenge you to consider being a part of The *JESUS* Film Ministry. Together, we can make great strides towards the goal of "sharing Jesus with everyone everywhere in his or her own language."

Jack Robertson,
National Director
The *JESUS* Film Project, Canada

**Combined
Population
250,000**

**Located
in
Central
Africa**

**Ethnic
Religious
Beliefs**

BACKGROUND

Democratic Republic of Congo is located in Central Africa and bordered by Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. It was formerly known as the Belgian Congo and more recently as Zaire before becoming the DRC.

French is the official language of DRC but relatively few people speak it. Swahili is widely spoken as is Lingala but in social settings among themselves Budu (Bodo or Kibudu) is spoken.

In 1482 Portuguese explorers came to the Congo and settled mainly on the coast however, they had very little influence on the country. Christian missionaries were chiefly responsible for raising the education level of the Africans and implementing medical services. Full independence was achieved from Belgium in 1960 however ethnic and personal differences fragmented the country giving rise to a series of repressive leaders, a pattern that has continued to the present.

The DRC's population is comprised of over 200 ethnic groups with religious divisions as follows: Roman Catholics, 50%; Protestant 20%; Kimbanguist 10%; Muslim 10%; Indigenous beliefs 10%. Though the majority of Budu give themselves a Christian identity a strong vein of their old beliefs still exists.

The Nepoko River flows through the Budu land and provided an impassable barrier preventing an assimilation of the people group. Over time the two versions of the language emerged—from one side the Budu Nita and from the other side the Budu Koya. Besides the physical and linguistical distinctions, the Budu people are very much the same. The combined population of the Budu is about 250,000 but it is difficult to state exactly the number of Budu Nita. Most are literate in Swahili, Lingala and French but only about 100 read their language.

While mineral wealth is the mainstay of the DRC's economy the Budu earn their meager income from subsistent agriculture growing mainly cassava, yams, corn, rice, peanuts, plantains and pulses and the sale of palm oil, living on about \$120 a year. They wear second-hand western clothes or loin cloths made from beaten bark. Tailored clothing is for special occasions. Their homes are basic square structures made of mud with palm thatched roofs. Families are patriarchal with decisions made by consensus of elders.



In order to accomplish the goal of helping to fulfil the Great Commission, we invite you to consider providing the funding of the **distribution** of the *JESUS* film in the Budu Koya language. Your investment could enable 250,000 people to hear and see *JESUS* in their heart language, perhaps for the first time in their lives.

THE BUDU KOYA FILM TEAM OF THE DRC

For a total investment of \$84,320 you can help distribute the Budu Koya *JESUS* film in the DRC.

Your investment includes the following:

DISTRIBUTION:

- Distribution costs to enable this indigenous film team to operate for 3 years.*
- Distribution costs include salaries, training, transportation and follow-up expenses.
- Also includes equipment set and motorcycle.

FOLLOW-UP:

- Follow-up strategy in partnership with Faith Comes by Hearing (FCBH). This is a scripture listening program that has been proven effective in discipleship and church planting particularly among the world's poor and illiterate people groups.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- The option you complete your pledge over a 2 or 3 period is available.
- You may send your cheque payable to "The *JESUS* Film Project", P.O. Box 300, Stn. A, Vancouver, BC, V6C 2X3. Please indicate your project name "**Budu Koya FT of the DRC**".
- Other giving methods: credit card (please call toll-free 1-800-563-1106)

* To recruit, train, and equip a film team and then utilize that team to reach an entire language group requires a substantial commitment in time and effort by our foreign partners. We therefore request that when a financial commitment to support a film team is made, that it be of at least three year's duration.

The *JESUS* Film Project, Canada intends to use all funds designated for this project in this project. However, if this project is no longer viable or if the financial needs of this project (including administrative and logistical costs) have been fully met, your gift made and received for this project may be used by The *JESUS* Film Project in its other charitable activities to reach people for Christ.