

## THE OLE OF BHUTAN

Drom walked along with her fellow villagers up the forest trail, past shadows cast by tall trees. The blue sky and puffy white clouds made a beautiful background for the dazzlingly green trees. But the ethnic **Ole** woman and her companions had no time to admire God's beauty; they had other things on their minds. Reaching the top of the mountain, they bowed in worship to the mountain god. Unlike most other people groups living in Bhutan, the **Ole** worship on a sacred mountain. They have never heard of the God who created the mountains and the sky, along with everything that has life.

The **Ole** are different from any people group living in Bhutan. This small ethnic group of slightly over 600 individuals, is believed to be one of Bhutan's early aboriginal peoples. Their villages are located in the remote Jowo Durshing mountain region (referred to by the British as the 'Black Mountains') in central Bhutan. Their language, Olekha bears no resemblance to any other known language. Olekha is so complex that even skilled linguists struggle to learn it.

Though the **Ole**'s religion contains elements of Vajrayana (Tibetan) Buddhism, it is vastly different from that of their neighbours as it combines Buddhism and traditional animism. There are unconfirmed reports of a few individuals who had turned to Christ.

- Pray against the spiritual deception over the **Ole**. May God be revealed to the **Ole**, that they may give glory and worship to the True God of Heaven who created the natural wonders of their homeland.
- Pray for doors to be opened for mission workers to reach the remote **Ole** people.
- Ask God for skilled linguists who are willing to learn the difficult Ole language so that they can communicate with this people group.
- Pray for the discipling and spiritual growth of the few individual believers among them.

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This is a series of useful prayer profile compilations to pray for people groups collated from various online sources. Please click on the links below for more info: <https://joshuaproject.net/>, <http://www.globalprayerdigest.org/>, <http://asiaharvest.org/people-group-profiles/>