

## THE LHOMI OF NEPAL

Chhejap carefully wiped the bloodstained knife clean. He had completed the mandatory animal sacrifices of three sheep to the patron deity of his village. Tomorrow his entire household will begin sowing the millet seeds in the field, a common practice for most **Lhomi** villages in September. The **Lhomi** farmer hoped that all the spiritual ceremonies would be sufficient to ensure a good millet harvest for the year.

The **Lhomi** (population: 5,000 plus) are found in the remote Arun Valley in eastern Nepal which lies close to Tibet, China. Referring to themselves as 'Shingsaba', they raise sheep for wool as well as for meat. This independent little tribe grows millet for making gruel and beer. The **Lhomi** claim their own language and culture which is different from the larger ethnic peoples.

Their religion has been referred to as "unrefined Buddhism," because unlike most Buddhists, they practice blood sacrifices. They look to the spirit world to ensure that their millet and other crops thrive.

Nepal's **Lhomi** people have some awareness of the Gospel because of a large foreign missionary contingent previously based in northeast India. Some **Lhomi** people (6.0%) have put their faith in Christ and are now sending evangelists to other people groups. The majority of **Lhomi** themselves, however, remain in spiritual darkness and need the help of Christian radio, films and other resources. Since a large percentage of the **Lhomi** are unable to read, access to the Bible is mostly through narration.

- Praise God for the spiritual breakthroughs. Pray that the few believers may be adequately disciplined and grow spiritually.
- Pray that God will open doors, raise up workers, and make a way for all **Lhomi** to hear of salvation in Christ Jesus.

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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/>