

RESPONSE FROM CULTURE BASED QUESTIONNAIRES FROM BWARI CHIEFDOM

Name		
Gender		Male
Age group		30+
Tribe	Gbagyi	Gbagyi
Religion	Christian	Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	The man proposes to the woman, when there is an agreement. The date of introduction is fixed, the bride price is paid, and traditional marriage is conducted.	There is an agreement between the intended couples. After this, the elders of both families meet to deliberate payment of bride price. When bride price is paid, wedding can take place.
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	Both parties are called upon to hear from both of them.	Divorce is usually mediated by the families and elders of the couple. They work to reconcile the couple. If this does not work out, divorce arrangement is made. They arrange for child custody and how property is shared.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in you custom	The children would remain in their father's custody.	The custody of the children goes to the father.
What does your custom say about inheritance	When the father of the family dies, the children and wife get to inherit the property.	When father dies, the children get to inherit all the properties of their father. This also includes the farmlands.

How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	Festivals that are celebrated once a year is Christmas and new year.	Festivals include harvest celebration, which involves music, dancing, traditional food and rituals honouring ancestors. Community members come together, share stories and strengthen bonds.
Tell us about Other ceremonies	Other ceremonies include naming ceremony and traditional chieftaincy ceremony.	These include naming ceremonies and marriage rites.
How are chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	When the chief dies, the traditional council of the community will decide who to choose from the two ruling houses. In most cases it is done alternatively.	Gbagyi community's chieftaincy is often handled by the council of elders who select their leaders, balancing tradition with modern governance.
What unique attribute does your custom posses	The dressing and way of life.	Custom emphasize community respect for elders and traditional practices like farming and rituals. The strong traditions and story telling.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	It has sort of affected the community negatively as this has exposed youths to indecent dressing. The youth no longer show respect.	Migration to cities for white collar jobs. Many people have changed livelihood from farming to modern jobs. There is also cultural blending.
Other information		Gbagyi people are warm and accommodating to strangers. They respect

		people from other parts of the country who live with them. They share what they have especially from their farmlands.
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Name		Ezekiel D. Sarki
Gender	Male	Male
Age group	50+	50+
Tribe	Gbagyi	Gbagyi
Religion	Christian	Christian
How are marriage conducted in your tribe	The man pays an introduction fee to the family of the girl then a list from the girl's family is given to him. The man purchases all the items required and go back for introduction and dowry payment. Then the marriage is held.	The man first gives his in-law wine, then you go to your in-law's farm, sixteen (16) times for four years and serve them for seven years before your marriage will take place.
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	In the case where the dowry is paid in full, the woman leaves without the children. But where the dowry is not paid in full, the man has no claim to the children.	In Gbagyi culture, you will divorce your wife by sending her out of your house but if she refuses to go, you will go to court to get a divorce letter.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	In most cases, the children end up being taken care of by the extended family of the husband and by some extended family from maternal home.	The children belong to the husband but if the child is still a baby, the mother goes with the child while the husband takes the responsibility of food, shelter etc.

What does your custom say about inheritance	It depends on the family, in some families, both the male and female are entitled to share the family's asset. While in some families only the male child/children inherit everything.	If a father dies, the inheritance should be shared among the children only but not equally with the female child (meaning the male child/children takes more).
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	Before now, during major festivals, masquerades come out and parade the streets to add colour to the event but that has stopped now. It is done in conventional way.	KABAWANYAJE is being observed by women only RUBUGYE is being observed by men only. ZHIBA JE is the general annual festival.
Tell about other ceremonies	DKOGO day is celebrated on 3rd January every year.	1. Bmow Bmow 2. Kakage
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	The chieftaincy matter in Kogo is hereditary, where it is been handed down within the family.	They appoint a chief from the Royal family.
What unique attribute does your custom posses	1. Farming 2. Hunting	1. We still maintain farming system. 2. We still maintain appointment of chiefs from Royal family.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	Urbanization has affected the people of my community, as most of the farmlands have been sold for other purposes. Also, the youths now do not like to farm.	Yes, it has affected the community, as it has made things to change from how they were like the issues of marriage and other ceremonies.

Other information	Yes, I observe that the way Customary Court of Appeal has been handling cases of chieftaincy in some communities is not encouraging. The chieftaincy matter should be handled based on the history of the community without bias. I appeal that if such chieftaincy matter is brought to the court, the king maker of the community should be listen to about their history and how the chieftaincy issues are done.	
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Name		Daniel Barde Angye
Gender	Male	Male
Age group	40+	50+
Tribe	Gbagyi	Gbagyi
Religion	Islam	Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	When both parties are in love, the boy will send his relative to the girl's family. Then necessary requirements will be given to them. Then the bride price will be paid and marriage proper will take place.	The groom will perform agricultural labour signifying, that he can provide. The groom parent will send delegates to the girl's family with two (2) sets of plates to signify their intention. If accepted an intermediary known as "MIGBIYI" is chosen to handle negotiation process, then thereafter the bride price must have been paid. The bride is released to the groom.
In case of divorce, how is it being	If both parties are no longer interested.	It has been handled by both parents, elders

handled in your custom	The man will tell the wife to go, that he has divorced her. If the wife is pregnant, she will not go away until she gives birth before she will remarry.	and middlemen. Then the dowry is returned to the husband's family according to the number of children the wife born and the duration of marriage.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	When divorce happened the grown up ones go to their father, while the younger ones will stay with their mother. The man still takes care of the whole children.	The children belong to their father.
What does your custom say about inheritance	The deceased property/properties go to his children.	His property is inherited by his male children especially houses and land.
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	in Zhiba Je village, the festival is celebrated in April, ones in a year before the new rainy season begins.	They have annual celebrations that involves traditional festivals with masquerades, traditional attires, dancing, music with hunters show casing skill using bows, arrows and local guns
Tell us about other ceremonies	We have Muslim brothers and Christian brothers who celebrate Sallah and Christian who celebrate Christmas.	Community cultivation, this involves communal effort and celebrations. Funeral ceremonies designed to celebrate a life well spent.
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	The chief is the head of the village follows by Madaki (he is next in absence of the chief), then the Galadima Dawuda) father of the chief. Sarikin Pada, Makama Nwabayi (Sarkin Pada), Tukura, Jukko Secretary.	Chieftaincy matters are handled through a structural hierarchical and patriarchal traditional system where the king is the highest authority to ensure peace, harmony and preservation of Gbagyi heritages. Council of elders/king makers handle the task of ensuring peace and community affairs.

What unique attribute does your custom posses	In every five (5) years, we do general cleansing for protection purposes.	The Gbagyi women carry their heavy loads on their shoulders they are peaceful people. They have traditional clothes. They respect their ancestors and adhere to taboos that promote harmony and prevent evil.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	It affected our shrines and other traditional place of worship. In fact it affects our tradition/custom seriously.	Yes, the community faces widespread of displacement, loss of land from their ancestral homes. It has drained our communities, neglect even in the presence of the overwhelming development.
Other information		The communities are facing deforestation, low farm produce which has led to hunger and starvation.
Name	Adaka Gbagyi	Alh. Mohammed Gyazanyi Paspas
Gender	Male	Male
Age group	40+	
Tribe	Gbagyi	Gbagyi
Religion		Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	According to Gbagyi tribe, the elders come together to deliberate and pay the bride price before the marriage takes place.	Marriage is conducted through parents i.e. father and mother. Two delegates from the boy's family, on behalf of the boy must meet the parent of the girl to take permission to engage the said girl in marriage. Thereafter an agreement would be made on how much would be paid as dowry and other processes.

In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	Divorce is often mediated by family, elders. They work to reconcile couples if possible. If divorce proceeds, arrangements are made for children and property considering community norms.	The case of divorce in our custom is always carefully handled, depending on the problem leading to the divorce. It could be done through court processes or traditionally. If the issue can be settled between the husband and the wife without the court, the husband and the wife may decide to withdraw the matter out of the court and the wife will return to the husband through the intervention of both parents.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	Children of divorced couple belong to the father or guardian of the children based on the community norms.	The children of a divorced couple are usually under the custody of their father. The wife can beg the husband to allow her to have the children from time to time. Otherwise, the husband takes charge of the children.
What does your custom say about inheritance	Children inherit all forms of properties and other things like farmlands.	The property of a deceased is shared as follows; 1)for the wife, she takes one over eight (1/8) islamically. For the man that died without a wife and children the mother and the father take over the inheritance.
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	Festival like harvest celebrations involve music, dancing, traditional foods and rituals	The festivals are in different forms:- i)Annual festival known as ZHIBAJ in

	honouring the ancestors. Community members come together, share stories and strengthen bonds.	Gbagyi, this is done around April and June, before farming season which is believed to be for the purpose of better yielding of crops (farm produce).
Tell us about other ceremonies	-harvest festivals -naming ceremonies -marriage rites	
How are chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	In Gbagyi community chieftaincy is often handled through a council of elders, selecting leaders, bringing tradition with modern governance.	
What unique attribute does your custom posses	Customs emphasize community unity, respect for elders and traditional practices like rituals, strong traditions and story telling.	The Gbagyi women carry their heavy loads on their shoulders they are peaceful people. They have traditional clothes. They respect their ancestors and adhere to taboos that promote harmony and prevent evil.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	-migration to cities for work -cultural blending and modernisation -changes in tradition	Yes, the community faces widespread of displacement, loss of land from their ancestral homes. It has drained our communities, neglect even in the presence of the overwhelming development.
Other information	-Gbagyi tribe are people who care for	The communities are

	others and welcome visitors to their community. -Gbagyi tribes are accommodating people from different places and give visitors what they have especially farmland.	facing deforestation, low farm produce which has led to hunger and starvation.
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Name		Bulus Wakili Zhiko
Gender	Male	Male
Age group	50+	50+
Tribe	Gbagyi	Gbagyi
Religion	Christian	Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	After courtship, families of both parties come to an agreement. A list is given to the groom which he is to bring along side with the bride price. Marriage is influenced by the customs and norms of the place.	1)Introduction money 2)Dowry 3)Traditional marriage 4)Original marriage
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	Divorce is prohibited except for a cogent reason.	Husband and wife are called for special advice before appropriate action will be taken.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	Custody of the children goes to the father; however, children would shuttle between father and mother for upbringing.	The children are taken by the father, and the wife takes the youngest ones while the father takes care of their welfare.
What does your custom say about inheritance	The male children have the larger share of the inheritance.	According to customs and traditions, the inheritance is shared equally among the female which portion is lesser than that of the male children. The kinsmen are responsible for the sharing.
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	They celebrate harvest/planting seasoning by appeasing the forefathers and deities asking for rain and a good harvest.	It is called Zhiba Je I (small) which is celebrated in April. The second one is Zhiba Je II (big) – it is celebrated on the 3rd week of October; both are celebrated every year.

Tell us about other ceremonies	Children or each child in the family owns a shrine that their father consults on behalf of children.	-wedding celebration -other celebrations
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	This is handled by the ruling families. There are historical records of kings. They would select kings from the ruling house.	Chieftaincy title is handled and selected by the king makers.
What unique attribute does your custom posses	A Royal tomb in the palace where kings (Sarkin Dada) are buried.	
Has urbanization affected the people of this community community in any way	People migrating to the community has affected farmlands as more modern structures are built.	Urbanisation significantly affects communities often acting as catalyst for economic growth and modernization, while simultaneously introducing social environmental and structural challenges while it offers better access to services like education and healthcare.
Other information	As a result of westernization, most values and norms have been watered down.	

Name		
Gender		
Age group		
Tribe	Gbagyi (Tokule)	
Religion	Christian	
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	Coming to the bride's parents to ask for her hand in marriage, then the bride price is paid (dowry). Then the traditional marriage is conducted.	
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	The man and the woman are called to hear from them. Then effort is made to settle them locally, if not, they are sent to court for settlement.	
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	In our custom if the dowry has been paid, then the children are taken by the father in that case.	
What does your custom say about inheritance	If the father died, the inheritance belongs to the deceased children and wife.	
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom		
Tell us about other ceremonies	Other ceremonies are marriage ceremonies according to	

	customs and traditions. Also, chieftaincy ceremonies are celebrated.	
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	If a chief dies, then the traditional council will seat and decide among two ruling houses where the chief will come from. Then the other house will be the next out of the two picked to rule.	
What unique attribute does your custom posses	The uniqueness that our customs possess include mode of dressing, rules while marrying from another tribe, etc.	
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	The mode of dressing has changed and respect for elders is not as it was before due to urbanization which has affected the community negatively.	
Other information		