

RESPONSE FROM CULTURE BASED QUESTIONNAIRES FROM GARKI CHIEFDOM

Name	Happiness Ezra	Faith Ishaku
Gender	Female	Male
Age group	30+	40+
Tribe	Gbagyi	Gbagyi
Religion	Christian	Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	This follows a traditional process in which the man and his family members would visit the woman's family to indicate their interest. After this, bride price is negotiated which may include money, food items and drinks. Traditional rites are performed by the elders.	The man and woman come to agreement and there is mutual agreement between the two families. The bride price is paid, and they proceed to do the traditional marriage.
In case of divorce, how is it handled in your custom	Divorce is handled or guided by tradition. First of all, the elders from both sides try to resolve the issue. If this does not work, there will be arrangement on how to return all or part of the bride price.	Once the dispute between the couple is not settled, the bride's family will return the bride price before both parties part ways.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	This is decided by the family. In most cases, children stay with their father if they are older children. However, if the children are young, they stay with their mother.	The children stay with their father and the woman is free to remarry again.
What does your custom say about inheritance	In Gbagyi tradition, inheritance is mostly patrilineal. Property is passed from father to son especially the eldest son. Daughters may receive inheritance in	All the children get to share the inheritance

	form of gifts but do not usually inherit lands.	
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	The community come together to celebrate with dancing, drumming, singing and wearing traditional attire. There would be traditional food, drinks.	Ceremonies includes"- Naming ceremony Marriage ceremony and new yam festival
Tell us about other ceremonies	Ceremonies include: Naming ceremonies Initiation rites and burial ceremonies. These events involve prayers, blessings and gathering of family and community members.	
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	Chieftaincy matters are handled by elders and kingmakers. The chief is selected based on tradition, lineage and community agreements; elders also help in decision making.	The elders and palace officials are in charge.
What unique attribute your custom posses	The Gbagyis are known for their strong communal life, respect for elders and rich cultural traditions such as traditional dance, pottery and farming practices. They value unity and peaceful co-existence.	The Gbagyi people are loving, accommodating people who live together in peace and harmony.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	People migrate to cities for education and jobs leading to changes in lifestyle and reduce practices of some traditional practices. Although some	There is no more traditional display.

	practices have been preserved.	
Other information	Gbagyi people are one of the major ethnic groups in Central Nigeria. They are known for farming, pottery and craftsmanship. Their language and culture remain important to their identity despite modern influences.	

Name	Sandiya Umaru	
Gender	Female	Male
Age group	30+	40+
Tribe	Gbagyi/Garki	Gbagyi/Garki
Religion	Islam	Islam
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	When the parties involved (man and woman) have courted, they proceed to have an introduction between the two families after which the bride price is paid and list of items are bought before the traditional wedding.	The man's family members will go to the bride's family to consult with them. Then the bride price is paid and the list of items to be bought is accepted. Then, lastly the bride and the groom will fix a date for their wedding.
In case of divorce, how is it handled in your custom	The divorce is according to Islamic way. The couple will return the bride price before both parties part ways.	After several consultations with the parents of the two families and the elders in the community, if no resolution, the couple will then be made to go to their separate ways.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	The children will stay with their father and the woman is free to marry again.	The woman will leave the children with their father, except if there is a breast feeding one who will go with the woman, while the father will take care of the welfare of the child.
What does your custom say about inheritance	Both male and female children are entitled to inherit the property of their parents.	Either you are a man or a woman, when one dies, all the properties belong to either the man and his children or the woman and her children.
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	They celebrate festivals with their language, attire, masquerades, different cultural dances and instruments.	Most of our festivals are usually celebrated during festive periods like new year day, this is done by wearing local dresses

		and show casing our traditional and local foods.
Tell us about other ceremonies		Other ceremonies we observe are:- Marriage ceremonies which take place later in the year.
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	The community leaders, and elders are the ones who choose the chiefs.	We have three (3) ruling houses in our community. If one house produces a chief or king now, the next house will produce the next chief until when it goes round all the three houses which is rotational.
What unique attribute does your custom posses	The Gbagyi people are loving and accommodating people who live together in peace and harmony.	Gbagyi tribe are welcoming, accommodating visitors, hard working, hunters and fisher men. In our culture we also have respect for the head, better still we put loads on the shoulder.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	The younger generation do not know much about the past traditions. The decline in traditional activities. Some younger ones cannot speak their language.	Yes, because some of our culture has been affected by urbanization due to lack of land for the people to farm and our rivers are being polluted by industrial waste, preventing fishing.
Other information		

Name	Bala Happy	Abdullahi Ibrahim
Gender	Female	Male
Age group	30+	20+
Tribe	Gbagyi/Garki	Gbagyi/Garki
Religion	Christian	Islam
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	In Gbagyi tribe, at first the two intended couples must visit the families of both parents for recognition. After that the man's relative will visit the lady's family for traditional rights. The traditional rites must be completed before the wedding date is set by the intending couple.	After the consent of the lady and consulting with the parents of the lady. Then, the introduction is carried out, after which the list is collected, a date is fixed for the traditional engagement where bride price is paid.
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	In case of divorce, the woman leaves and goes back to her parents picking only her belongings; nothing will be given to her from her husband's side.	
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	In a situation such as this, if there are children above the age of ten, they will stay with their father. But if they are below the age of 10, they can go with their mother, but the father will take full responsibility of the children.	The children are being taken care of by the parents depending on who has the well withal to take care of the children
What does your custom say about inheritance	If properties are involved, it will be shared to the children.	Inheritance is shared to the children including the girls.
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom		Festivals are celebrated in an open ground with different displays in the presence of dignitaries.

Tell us about other ceremonies		Other ceremonies are:- -Coronations -Weddings -Farming -Harvesting ceremonies
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community		The palace adequately accommodates this with the help of the elders and kingmakers.
What unique attribute does your custom posses	Gbagyi people are known to carry calabash filled with woods (firewood) at either side of their shoulders and we have “tuwo” as our traditional food.	We are good, loving people, living in unity, oneness and caring people as our culture demands.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	Yes, the people in our community do not have farmlands for farming anymore because of establishment of estate which has occupied all our farmlands in exchange for small amount of money. Our cultural ways of life are generally affected as well.	Yes, we do not have many festivals again and our people are forgetting our culture.
Other information		

Name		
Gender	Female	
Age group	20+	40+
Tribe	Gbagyi/Garki	Gbagyi/Garki
Religion	Christian	Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	Marriage among the Gbagyi people is family centred. The man's family shows interest and investigate the bride's background. A formal proposal is made for her family. The bride price is paid and the date for the wedding is set.	Marriage under Gbagyi custom is in this order: -Meeting of the two families. -List of items for the wife to be -The bride price paid -The wedding date is set by the couples to be
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your community	The divorce is handled by the families, the elders will try to intervene, if it fails then the separation is approved by both families. The bride price may be returned.	
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your community	The younger children may stay with their mother for care while the older children may stay with their father.	the children stay with the father. The child that is still too young stays with the mother, while the father takes care of the welfare of the child.
What does your custom say about inheritance	Inheritance is majorly shared among the male and female children.	The properties are shared among the children and their mother by the elders of that family, that the decease is from.
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom		The head of all the chiefs will be invited. -Local drinks will be shared

		-Traditional foods will be presented as well.
Tell us about other ceremonies		
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community		It is a rotational chieftaincy between two houses. When the current ruling house goes, then the next ruling royal house is voted in which is conducted by the kingmakers.
What unique attribute does your custom posses	Strong believe in peace, hospitality and conflict resolution through the elders. Very deeply rooted culture in farming and land ownership. Traditional strong family and communal living system. Strong respect for tradition and elders.	
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	Yes, loss of and, displacement and many communities losing ancestral farmlands. -shift in occupation -better access to education and healthcare Overall, it has brought both opportunities and cultural pressures on traditional life.	Yes, it affected the ways of life of the people of our community. -it has reduced the love among the Gbagyi people -it has made several youths to go wayward -farming system has been adversely affected.
Other information	The culture emphasizes simplicity, respect within the community and strong cultural identity.	

Name	Agnes Danjuma	
Gender	Female	Female
Age group	30+	20+
Tribe	Kpebi/Gbagyi	Gbagyi/Garki
Religion	Christian	Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	The families of the couple to be will introduce themselves, the husband will agree with the wife to be parents and the list for engagement items is given to them. The two families fix date for the wedding.	This first thing to do in Gbagyi tribe is the introduction of the two families, then paying bride price/dowry. Then the traditional engagement. Then lastly, is the wedding with beautiful cultural display.
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	If the two families are not able to settle them, the wife then return the bride price before the marriage is dissolved.	The parents of the couple/elders in the families come together with the couples to discuss on issues between the couples and find a way to resolve the issues and advice them on marriage that is all about for peace and understanding,
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	The children will stay with the father. The breast feeding baby stays with the mother till the baby is weaned and ready to live with the father.	From experience these kids suffer from the mistakes of their parents. Some go to the father while babies are taken care of by their mother.
What does your custom say about inheritance in your custom	The inheritance is shared among the children in the presence of the family elders.	In case of inheritance, the children share the properties among themselves with their mother providing if she is still there. At times, it causes issues among the children.
How are festivals being	Festivals are celebrated with different traditional	The Gbagyi people have unique and very

celebrated in your custom	performances and with different masquerades. Some masquerades come out depending on the festival.	rich cultural festivals, people do come out in their “Abagu” attire, masquerade display different types of Abagu, and musical instruments and beautiful cultural display
Tell us about other ceremonies	Many ceremonies are celebrated based on the occasions like wedding, child naming, farming, harvesting, etc which are carried out at different times.	
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	The palace and elders that are king makers are responsible for taking care of chieftaincy matters in traditional ways.	
What unique attribute your custom posses	Our culture possesses hospitality, unity, empathy, and concern for every human regardless of where you come from and it is done customarily.	Gbagyi people are peaceful and loving people. They are known for farming and do have unique farming skills. Very creative with crafts and have very good display of talent.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	Yes, urbanization has made some celebrations not to hold again especially the planting and harvesting festivals.	Yes, places where people have memories and lands are being occupied. People are left with no option than to adapt and forget all the memories or places they once had a memory with.
Other information		

Name	Gideon Kpezhiyi	
Gender	Male	Female
Age group	40+	30+
Tribe	Gbagyi/Kubwa (Garki)	Igala/Ogugu in Kogi state (Garki)
Religion	Christian	Christian
How are marriages conducted in your tribe	The couples court for sometimes. Then their families are made to come together in form of introduction. The list for engagement and bride price is gotten. The engagement takes place along with payment of bride price. Then the date for wedding is set by both couples to be.	The man pays the bride price after introduction to the family of the wife. He collects the list for the traditional marriage. Then set the date for the wedding along with the wife to be.
In case of divorce, how is it being handled in your custom	The families of both the husband and wife are informed about the decision to put an end to the union before the bride price is returned. Then the couples can choose to go apart and they are free to remarry.	Both families come together to see how if the issues will be resolved. Divorce is not really encouraged in the custom.
What happens to the children of divorced couple in your custom	The basic care is done by the father but the children may choose to stay with who they want at early age, until when they are old enough to go and stay with their father.	The wife is allowed to keep the children while the man (husband) pays for their welfare.

What does your custom say about inheritance	The inheritance is shared among the children and the wife (wives) depending. The male children get bigger shares.	Men are the only ones entitled to inherit while women do not have right to inherit.
How are festivals being celebrated in your custom	Festivals are performed traditionally with masquerades and different cultural displays.	We have different types of festivals. For instance, we have the Ogba festival where those who are dead for long are being remembered and celebrated.
Tell us about other ceremonies	We celebrate different types of ceremonies like wedding, child naming, planting, harvesting and general community farming season etc.	Here we have the Kegu ceremony where the traditional worshippers go about and pay homage to their deities.
How is chieftaincy matters being handled in your community	Chieftaincy is left to the elders and palace cabinets to handle.	If your father is a chief, it is a royal lineage rotated until it gets to the last person and that is how it is been organized.
What unique attribute does your custom posses	The uniqueness of our culture is that we have festivals and are entertaining, and we are accommodating, peaceful and welcoming.	Our way of dancing is so unique and beautiful.
Has urbanization affected the people of this community in any way	Yes, a lot such as we do not celebrate some of these festivals again.	Yes, urbanization has affected the people positively as it has helped them. Some things they do not enjoy before the coming of urbanization are being enjoyed by our people.

Other information		