



SPOTLIGHT:

MALI

THE BELLAH PEOPLE

Casteism and racism are deeply entwined concepts. The term 'Bellah' was originally used to label all black people living in the Sahel-Saharan area. In Mali, the term means, 'slaves of the Tuaregs'.

They are not recognised by the Malian State, and many are deprived access to public services and aid.

The Bellah people, including their children, are often victims of robbery, rape, abduction and murder.

As with the general population of Mali, most Bellah people are Muslim but there is an increasing number of Christian Bellah people.

OVERVIEW

MARGINALISED GROUP:
THE BELLAH PEOPLE

POPULATION SIZE:
300,000 – 500,000

AREA:
**ACROSS NORTH AND
SOUTH MALI**

MAIN LANGUAGE:
BELLAH OR TAMASHEQ

DISCRIMINATION:
**STIGMA, REFUSED
RECOGNITION, VIOLENCE,
SLAVERY, RESTRICTED
POLITICAL INFLUENCE**

THE CHRISTIAN NETWORK AGAINST CASTE DISCRIMINATION

CNACD exists to challenge the entrenched, antiquated beliefs of caste systems and to help foster positive change.