

PRAY FOR CHAD AFRICA

Chadian families live in small square homes made of mud bricks or round **huts** with thatched roofs. They often share the home with their grandparents and have animals in the yard. Many families will have chickens for eggs and goats for milk.

Chadians grow **date trees** or plant millet. Wood is hard to come by in the desert and is used sparingly for cooking meals.

Most homes do not have chairs. People sit on **mats** called a 'birish'.



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Chadians love to **sing** and **dance**, especially at weddings or baby naming ceremonies. The sultan sometimes calls for special celebrations at his palace. When this happens the men and women will dress up in their cultural best and dance to the beat of a drum.

There are **141 people groups** in Chad each with their own language and culture. 75 of those groups do not know the 'good news' and 45 do not have any of the Bible in their language.

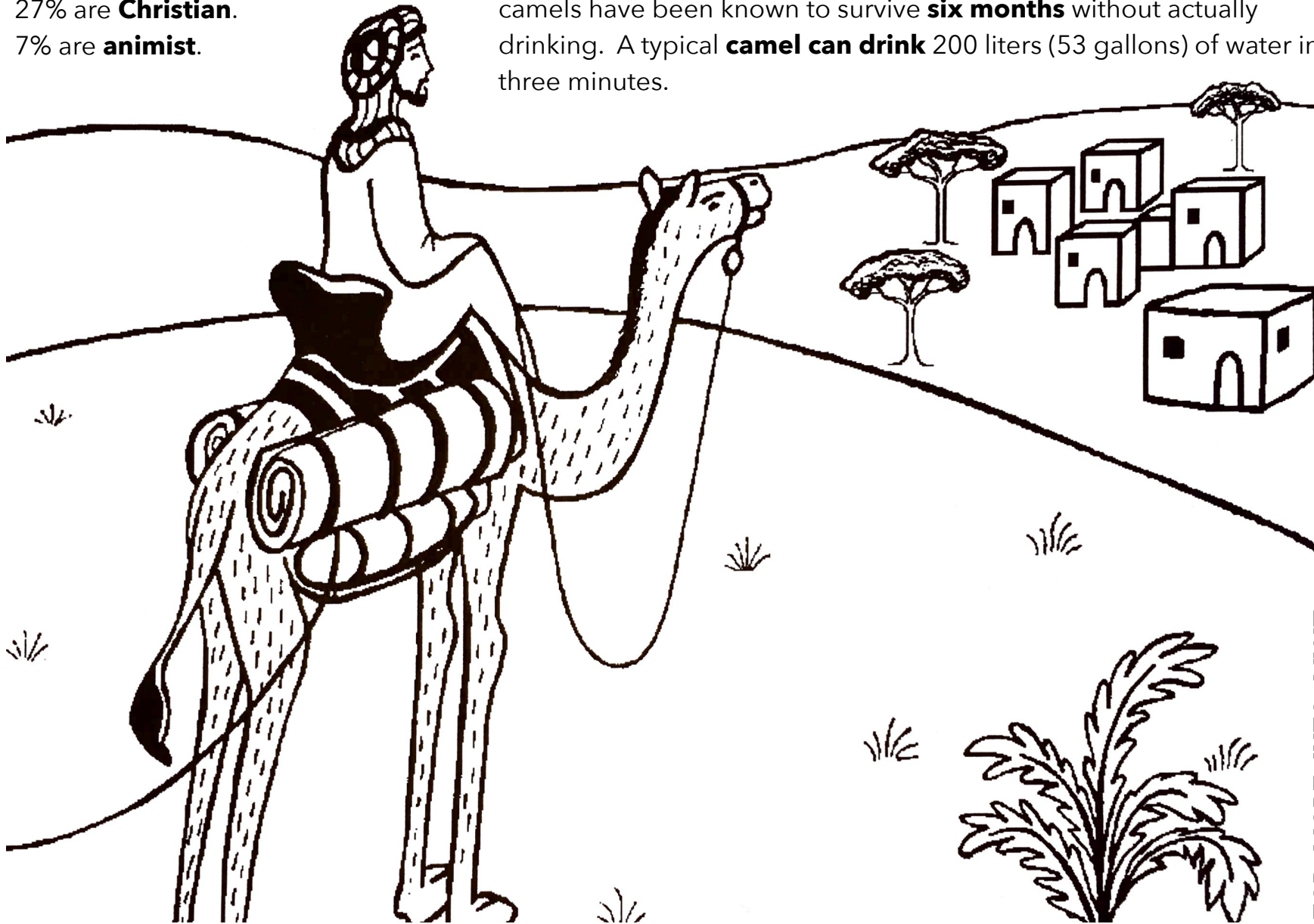


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Chad is a religiously divided nation. 57% are **Muslims**. 27% are **Christian**. 7% are **animist**.

Camels are a common form of transportation in Chad. A camel can travel around 100 miles in a day. During winters in the Sahara Desert, camels have been known to survive **six months** without actually drinking. A typical **camel can drink** 200 liters (53 gallons) of water in three minutes.



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Chadian families are big. Most families have **six to eight children**. It is not easy raising a family in Chad. One in eight children will die before the age of five years old because of malnutrition or sickness. Families will often travel long distances on the back of a donkey.

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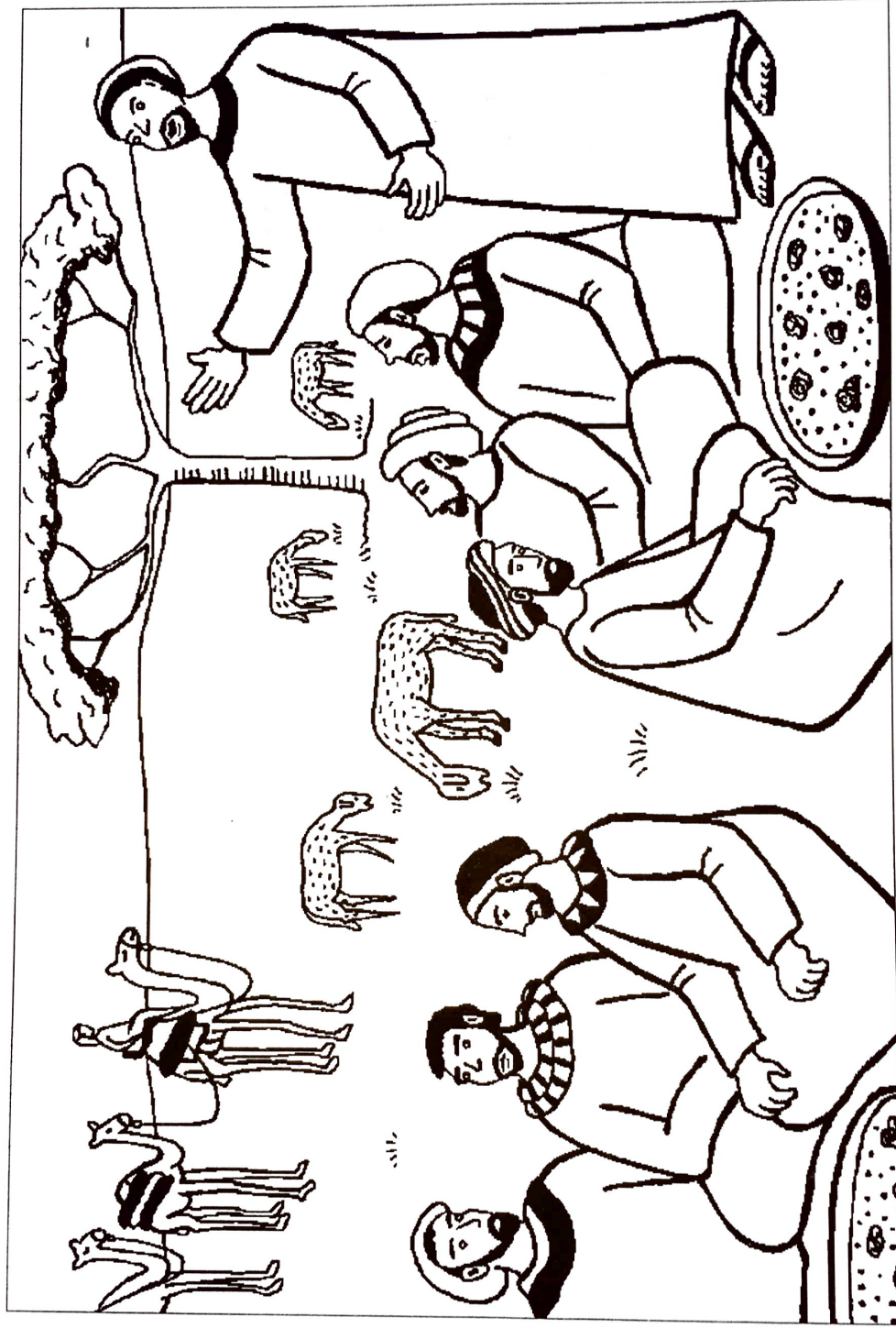
There are a lot of **jobs** to do in a Chadian village. Girls help **draw water** out of the well and carry it by donkey or on their head. Boys help bring millet from the field or **find grass** for their herds.



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People in Chad do not use forks. They eat food with their **hands** on a large plate shared with their family and friends. Their favorite food is grilled **lamb** with rice or millet paste with **okra** sauce. Men and women often eat separately.



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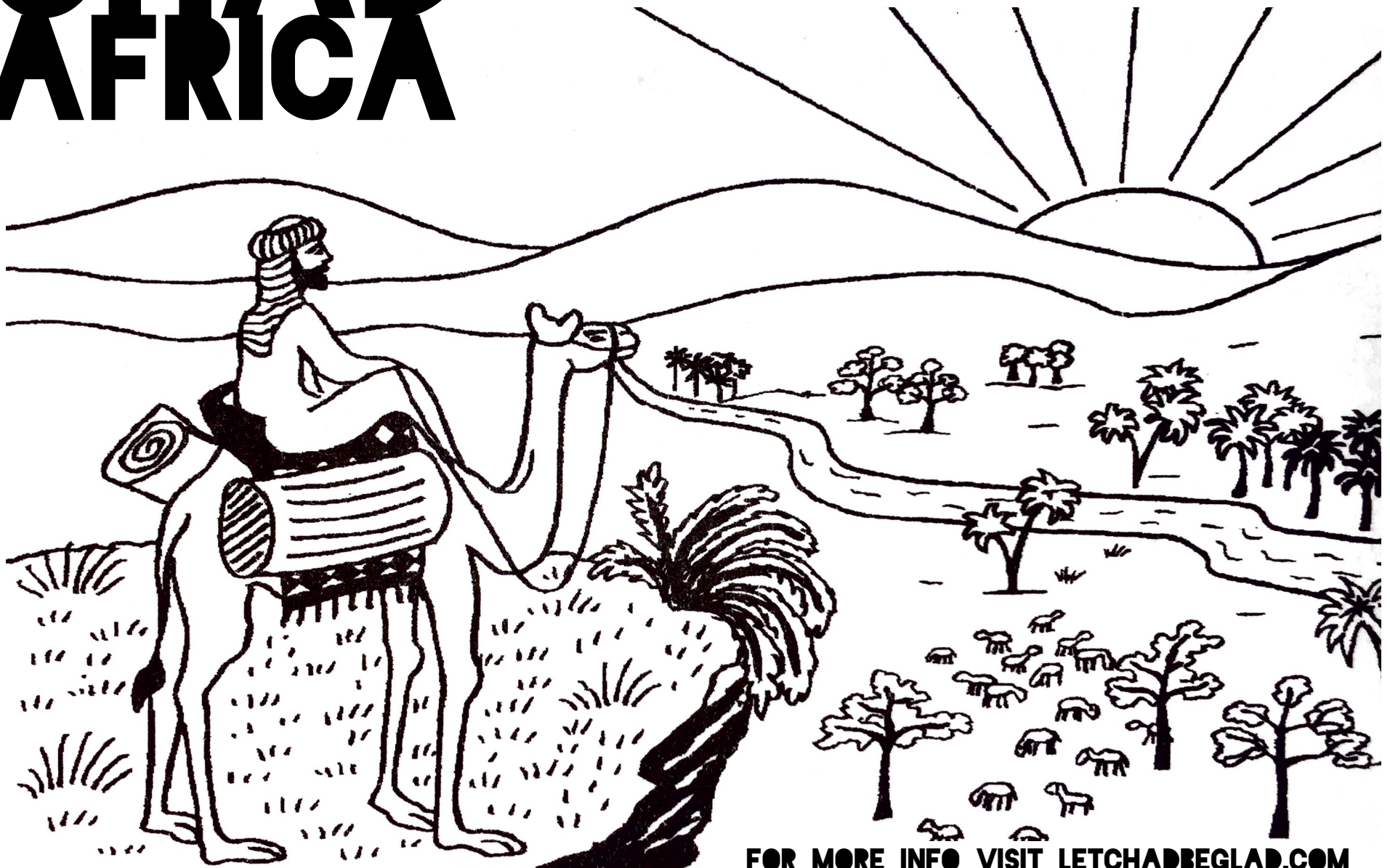
Men in Chad wear a tunic called a '**jalabaya**' which is like a really long dress shirt. Women wear a large piece of fabric that is wrapped around their body called a '**lafay**'. Women also wear jewelry like large earrings and nose rings. Men and women will marry young - often as teenagers.



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33% of Chad is in the Sahara desert, which means it is a very **dry** and sweltering **hot** country. In northern Chad, it rains only 8 inches a year (20 cm). The average temperature is over 115 F (46 C). There is not a lot of grass for the herds to eat,



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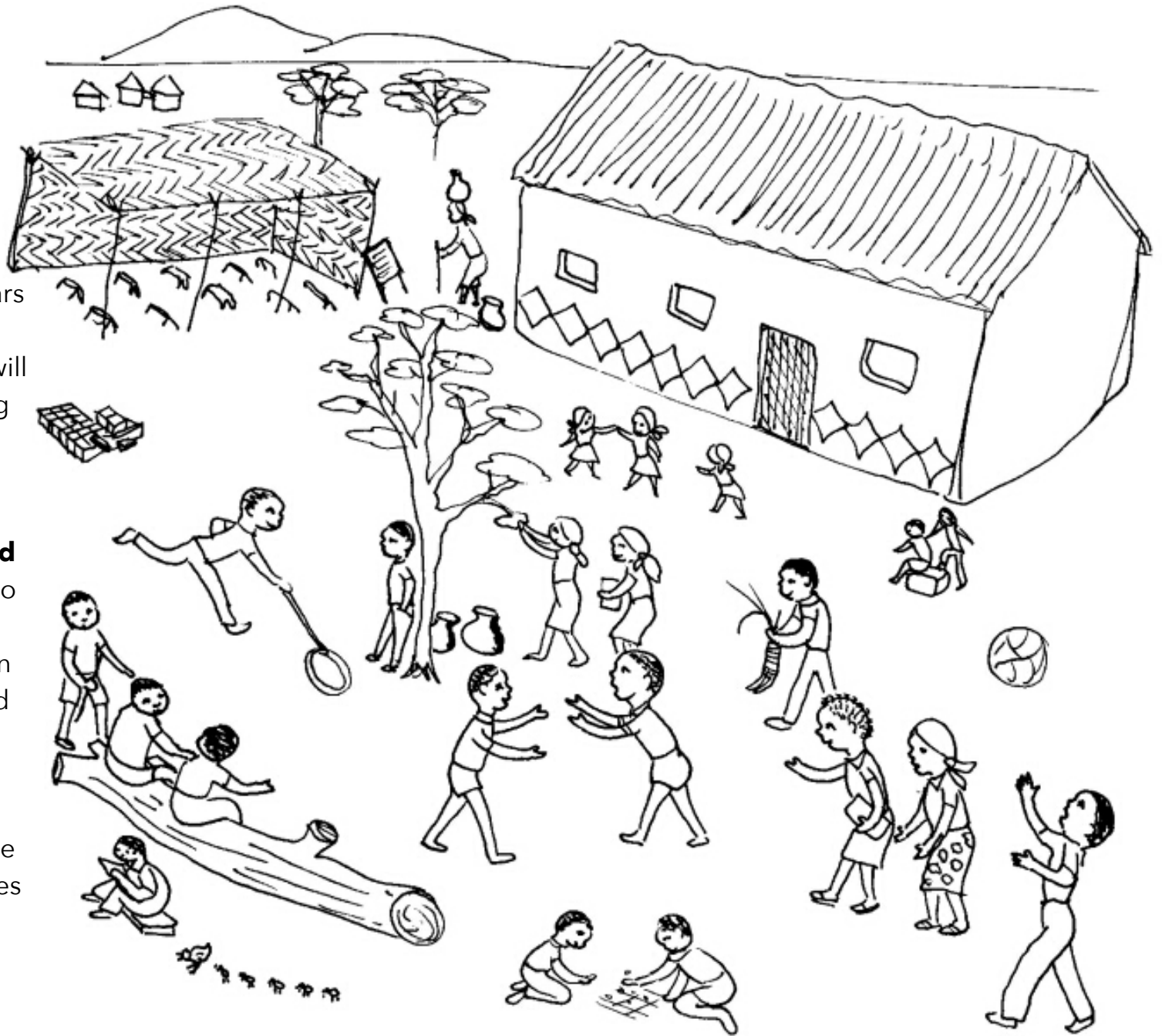
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More than **50% of the population is under 18** years old. If there is going to be a movement of the gospel it will likely happen with the young generation.

More than **50% of children do not go to school beyond primary school.** Boys will go on to help their fathers with the herds and girls will go on to help their mothers around the home.

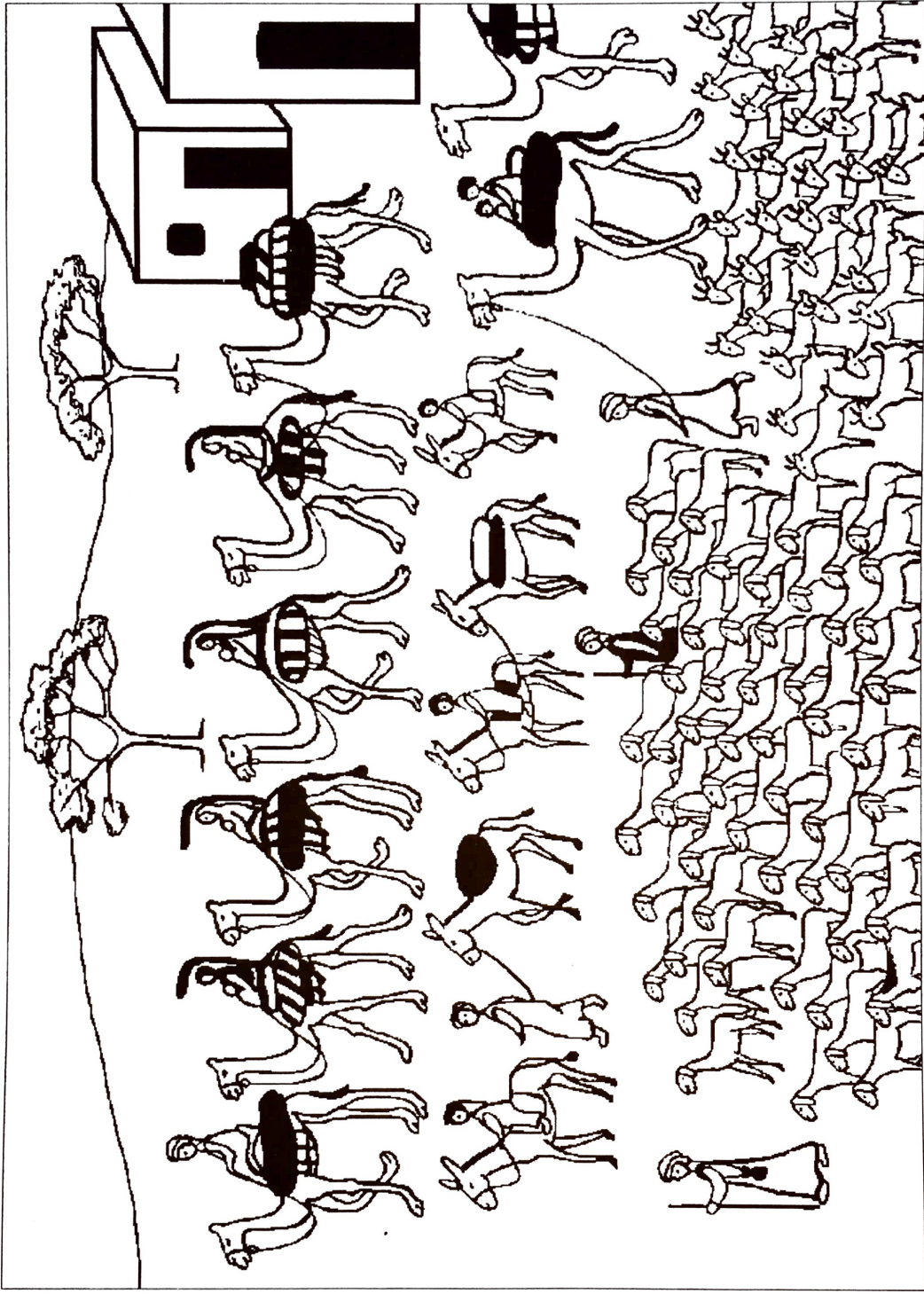
What kinds of games do Chadian children play? See if you can spot some activities common to Chadians.

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Most men in northern Chad **care for animals** such as goats, sheep, cattle and camels. Some families are nomadic and travel with their herds. There are more animals sold to neighboring nations each year than people that live in Chad. The population of Chad is **15,000,000 people**. That's a lot of animals!



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