

# LIUZHOU 柳州

With a population of 1.1 million people, the city of Liuzhou is the largest city located in the northern part of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in southwest China. Approximately 27,000 immigrants move to Liuzhou every year, adding to the population of the city which is expected to be near 1.5 million by the year 2010.

More than 80% of the population of Liuzhou are ethnic Han Chinese. Among the remaining 20%, however, are a wide variety of ethnic minorities, including more than 130,000 Zhuang people, 4,500 Yao, 3,800 Hui Muslims, 3,400 members of the little-known Mulao nationality, 3,200 Dong, and 2,200 Miao. In addition, there are smaller communities of Bouyei, Manchu, Shui and Maonan people in Liuzhou.

**Population:**  
829,966 (1990)  
1,115,400 (2000)  
1,498,900 (2010)

**Province:**  
Guangxi

#### Major Ethnic Groups:

**Han** 81.6%  
**Zhuang** 16.0%  
**Yao** 0.5%  
**Hui** 0.5%

**Christians:**  
4,500 (0.4%)

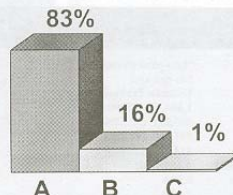
The history of Liuzhou dates back to the Tang Dynasty (618-907 AD), when Liuzhou was a backwater and military outpost on the edge of the territory of the "uncivilized barbarians" (minorities). Court officials who had done their jobs poorly or who were otherwise disgraced were exiled to Liuzhou, a punishment considered impossible to bear by many officials, who committed suicide instead. When the Communists took over China in 1949 Liuzhou was still a sleepy town. During the 1950's and '60's, however, Liuzhou was transformed into an industrial town and the population mushroomed. Today, Liuzhou is the largest city on the banks of the Liu River and an important stop on the southern China railway system.

There is little to see in Liuzhou, although a "minorities cultural village" has been constructed on the outskirts of the city, allowing tourists to see a selection of Guangxi's minority peoples in their traditional dress. Energetic visitors to Liuzhou can climb several peaks for a view of the city, if the pollution haze is not too bad. Liuhou Park in the north of the city has a pleasant lake and a small temple dedicated to the memory of Liu Zongyuan, a famous Chinese poet who lived from 772-819 AD.

Liuzhou is considered something of a poor relative of



#### Status of Evangelization (Awareness of Christ and the Gospel)



A = have never heard the Gospel or the name of Christ  
B = were evangelized but have not yet become Christians  
C = Adherents to any form of Christianity

Guilin. It is larger, more polluted, and contains less spectacular scenery. From the spiritual perspective, however, Liuzhou is teeming with countless lost and needy souls.

There are approximately 4,500 Christians in Liuzhou, a mere 0.4% of the population. The official Three Self Church in the city also operates a sewing factory, which employs around 100 workers. The main Three Self church has eight "meeting points" in various locations around the city. There are also a small number of Catholics and unregistered Protestant believers in Liuzhou.

Because of its former small population, Liuzhou was not considered an important target for missionaries prior to 1949. Most of the believers in the city today are immigrants who have brought the Gospel with them from other parts of Guangxi. The vast majority of the people of Liuzhou, however, have never heard the Gospel before in their lives.



The Liuzhou Christian Church on Weixin Lane.



Liuzhou has quickly become a crowded, bustling city of more than 1.1 million people. Less than one percent of the city's inhabitants profess to follow Christ.

#### Pray for Liuzhou

- 1 Pray the Light of the Gospel would soon pierce through the barriers that have separated the people of Liuzhou from the Kingdom of God.
- 2 Pray the Name of Jesus Christ would be deeply revered by the people of Liuzhou. Ask God to have mercy on those people who have never heard what Christ has done for them.
- 3 Pray the Christians in Liuzhou would be emboldened and empowered to take the Gospel to every lost soul in their city.

#### Overview of Liuzhou

Pronunciation : "Loo-joe"  
Old Spelling : Liu-chow  
Location : Guangxi Zhuang Aut. Region, southwest China  
Population : 829,966 (1990 census)  
Males : 431,218 (51.96%)  
Females : 398,748 (48.04%)  
Households : 210,179  
Average household : 3.95 people  
Divorced people : 7,811  
% of population : 0.94%  
Centurions (1990) : 19 people aged 100 or more  
Immigrants to City : 26,954 per year  
From same province : 23,353 (86.6%)  
From other provinces : 3,592 (13.3%)

Employed people : 455,757 (54.9% of total population)  
Main Industries : Industrial 46.8%; Professional 13.2%; Agriculture 12%  
Educational : University: 1.8%  
Attainment : High School: 61.4%  
(highest level) Primary School: 28.6%  
attended) Never attended any level of school: 8.2%  
Population under 15 : 23.2%  
Adult Literacy : 93% (men 97%; women 83%)  
Major Nationalities : Han 677,431  
Zhuang 132,529  
Yao 4,552  
Hui 3,803  
Mulao 3,382  
Others (28 groups): 8,269  
Christians : 4,500 (0.4%)