



**Population in China:**  
 40,000 (1998)  
 42,300 (2000)  
 54,500 (2010)  
**Location:** Yunnan  
**Religion:** Animism  
**Christians:** 400

## Overview of the Hmong Njua

**Countries:** China, Vietnam

**Pronunciation:** "Hmong-Juua"

**Other Names:** Blue Miao, Green Miao, Hmong: Njua, Qing Miao, Lu Miao, Miao Njua

**Population Source:**  
 40,000 (1998 M. Johnson);  
 Out of a total Miao population of 7,398,035 (1990 census);  
 Also in Vietnam

**Location:** SE Yunnan: Malipo and Maguan counties

**Status:**  
 Officially included under Miao

**Language:** Hmong-Mien, Hmongic, Western Hmongic, Farwestern Hmong, Hua Miao, Southern Hua Miao, Green Miao

**Dialects:** 0

**Religion:**  
 Animism, Polytheism, Christianity

**Christians:** 400

**Scripture:** New Testament 1975; Portions 1955

**Jesus film:** Available

**Gospel Recordings:**  
 Hmong: Blue #00492

**Christian Broadcasting:**  
 Available (FEBC)

**ROPAL code:** BLU00



Paul Hattaway

**Location:** Approximately 40,000 Hmong Njua live in Malipo and Maguan counties in Wenshan Prefecture, in the southeastern part of Yunnan Province. Small numbers of Hmong Njua are also located near Sa Pa in northern Vietnam.

**Identity:** The Hmong Njua are not the same ethnic group, nor do they speak the same language as the identically named Hmong in Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos. In their language, the same word is used for both *green* and *blue*. For this reason, the Green Hmong have been listed as *Blue Hmong* in many publications. In an attempt to simplify the situation some scholars have listed them by their autonym, *Hmong Njua*. Chinese sources use the names *Qing Miao* or *Lu Miao* to describe this group. Hmong Njua women's clothing in China is very similar to the clothing of the Hmong Leng group. In Vietnam, however, the Hmong Njua clothing style is very different. "All the clothing is made from heavily indigo-dyed hemp cloth with no embroidery. Both women and men wear knee-length trousers and a long jacket... because of cold weather in Sa Pa."<sup>1</sup>

**Language:** The Hmong Njua language is closely related to, yet different from, the Hmong Daw and Hmong Leng. It is part of the Farwestern branch of the Hmongic language family.

**History:** As a result of the numerous wars waged against the Hmong during the Qing Dynasty, most of the survivors "dispersed in several directions."<sup>2</sup> The Hmong in Vietnam and Laos migrated from China at the end of the 1700s and the beginning of the 1800s. "Due to geographical separation... the two Hmong Njua groups [China and Vietnam] have no extensive socio-cultural contact and do not consider each other to belong to the same group."<sup>3</sup>

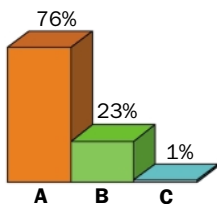
**Customs:** There are several ways for young Hmong Njua to show their admiration for each other.

In some areas, lovers give each other fruit tree saplings which they plant together. For years to come they go into the woods together and tend to their growing trees.<sup>4</sup> Some crops harvested in southern Yunnan include sugarcane, tea, hemp, cotton, and maize.

**Religion:** Most Hmong Njua are animists. They are susceptible to being deceived by strong influential figures. One of their legends tells of a Hmong savior who will come and lead them into their own land where they will be left alone in peace.<sup>5</sup> In recent years thousands of Hmong in Vietnam have followed a miracle-working leader who claims to be the Hmong savior.<sup>6</sup>

**Christianity:** Although there are large Christian communities among the Hmong Njua in Vietnam, their counterparts in China are an unreached people group. More than half have yet to receive a clear presentation of the gospel. The *Jesus* film is available in "Blue Miao" — the only translation completed in any Miao/Hmong language. Most Hmong Njua in China are able to understand it, depending on the amount of contact they have had with their Hmong Daw neighbors.<sup>7</sup> Many Hmong Njua can also understand the Hmong Daw gospel radio programs.

### Status of Evangelization



**A** = Have never heard the gospel  
**B** = Were evangelized but did not become Christians  
**C** = Are adherents to any form of Christianity