


**Population in China:**

500,000 (1982)

761,000 (2000)

981,600 (2010)

**Location:** Guizhou

**Religion:** Ancestor Worship

**Christians:** 20,000

## Overview of the Chuanqing

**Countries:** China

**Pronunciation:** “Chooan-ching”

**Other Names:** Chuangqing, Chuanchun, Lao Han, Pu, Pu Ren, Tun, Fang Teo Ren, Old Han, Sher-tu, Sher-feizu, Da Jiao Ban, Da Xiuzi

**Population Source:** 400,000 to 500,000 (1982 *Minzu Shibie Wenxian Ziliao Huibian*); “More than 200,000” (1952 Fei Xiaotong)

**Location:** *Guizhou:* Zhijin, Nayong, Dafang, Shuicheng, Guanling, Qingzhen, Puding, and Luzhi counties

**Status:** Counted in census as an *Undetermined Minority*
**Language:** Chinese

**Dialects:** 0

**Religion:** Ancestor Worship, No Religion, Daoism, Christianity, Mahayana Buddhism

**Christians:** 20,000

**Scripture:** Chinese Bible

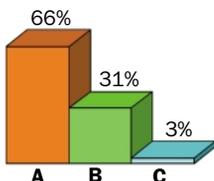
**Jesus film:** None

**Gospel Recordings:**

Mandarin: Guiyanghua #04574

**Christian Broadcasting:** None

**ROPAL code:** None

**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

**Location:** A 1982 study listed “between 400,000 to 500,000” Chuanqing (Black-Dressed People), in Guizhou Province.<sup>1</sup> Most are concentrated in Zhijin and Nayong counties, with others in Dafang, Shuicheng, Guanling, Qingzhen, Puding, and Luzhi counties.

**Identity:** The Chuanqing view themselves as a distinct people group. Although they speak a Chinese language and historically belong to the Han race, the government has placed them in a list of *Undetermined Minorities* in China.<sup>2</sup> In the 1950s their application for full status as a minority group was rejected. The decision was that the Chuanqing were “originally members of the Han nationality,” and that their characteristics were “manifestations of the special features of Han in certain regions in an earlier period, not the characteristics of a separate nationality.”<sup>3</sup> This upset the Chuanqing, who applied again in the late 1970s. “Encouraged by the political thaw, many groups whose recognition as independent nationalities had been rejected in the fifties re-petitioned for recognition; eighty groups totaling over 900,000 persons petitioned in the province of Guizhou alone, including the Chuanqing.”<sup>4</sup> Their application was again rejected.

**Language:** The Chuanqing speak *Guizhou hua* — the local dialect of Chinese. After many centuries of interaction with the Miao and the Bouyei, the language of the Chuanqing

contains many loanwords from those languages.

**History:** The Chuanqing were formerly known by a variety of names including *Pu Ren*, meaning “garrison people”.<sup>5</sup> The Chuanqing (like the Chuanlan) are descended from Chinese soldiers who were sent into Guizhou in the eighth and ninth centuries to quell Miao rebellions. The Chuanqing came from Jiangxi Province and provided forced labor for the army. There were numerous armed clashes between the Chuanqing and Chuanlan. The Chuanqing “clung to their own dialect for generations. The women dressed differently, arranging their hair in three sections. They celebrated separate festivals and followed different marriage customs.”<sup>6</sup> Later, many Chuanqing were forced to serve as tenants under the Yi landowners.

**Customs:** Some of the customs and dress of the

Chuanqing are reflected in the various names their neighbors call them. The Yi call them *Sher-tu* or *Sher-feizu*, meaning “white-skinned Han” or “snake-eating Han.” Other locals call the Chuanqing *Da Jiao Ban* (Big Foot) and *Da Xiuzi* (Big Sleeves).<sup>7</sup>

**Religion:** The long history of the Chuanqing is supported by the presence of several ancient religious temples in the Anshun area, including the Wen Miao Confucian temple built in 1368, the Buddhist White Pagoda dating from the Ming Dynasty, and Tian Tai Shan Buddhist Temple built in 1616.

**Christianity:** There are a number of churches in the Anshun area — mostly Catholic — which contain Chuanqing believers. Catholic missionaries were active in the area in the past, resulting in more than 150,000 Catholics spread throughout Guizhou today.<sup>8</sup>



Dwayne Graybill