



A GUIDE TO THE
MIEN PEOPLE

The Mien people originated in southern China and gradually migrated to Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand in Southwest Asia. Some also live in several Western countries (primarily the United States, Canada, and France), where they resettled as refugees from the conflict in Laos in the 1970s.



Mien traditional clothes are very colourful. It takes almost a year to make a set of Mien women's traditional clothes.



Most are located in the mountains; in southern China, Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand. Population - about 840,000.



The Mien are farmers and grow rice in the terraced field.



Mien is a Hmong-Mien language. Many old Mien people are not able to speak their national languages.



Traditional religions are Taoism, ancestor veneration, and animism.



There are Mien churches in Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos. However, in China they still remain unreachable.



Because of urbanization, many young people go to big cities and factories for jobs, leaving old people, women, and children behind in their villages.



**MEKONG
MINORITIES**

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