



A GUIDE TO THE
SO PEOPLE

In 1975 the work among the So in Laos was abruptly ended when all missionaries were forced to leave the country. 34 years later OMF missionaries returned to central Laos and found less than 5 believers amoang the So. Since then the team has focused on mobilizing prayer and training up local disciples. Today they are witnessing an emerging movement among the So with over 300 new believers and 10 churches started in just a few years. Additionally, the So are reaching out to other minority groups with hundreds of new baptisms and several generations of new churches around the whole province.



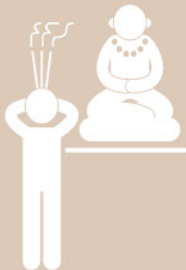
Descendants of some of the original tribes of mainland Southeast Asia. Pop. 120,000.



Subsistence farmers and hunter gatherers. Sticky rice is the main staple.



Traditionally So woman wear checkered head scarves.



Animism, spirit worship, ancestor worship, and Theravada Buddhism



In Laos, they're known for extreme poverty and lack of education.



About 0.2%, approximately 300 believers in Laos and 30 in Thailand.



The So people are descendants of some of the original tribes of mainland Southeast Asia, inhabiting the region thousands of years before many other modern day people groups. They speak a Mon-Khmer language and have several names: Mangkong, Kha So, So Tri and Lao Teung. Most So live in Khammouane Province of Central Laos. About 100 years ago a small population of So migrated to Sakon Nakhon Province in northeast Thailand.

