Akadicwat, Lira District

COMMUNITY PROFILE

A small community in northern Uganda, home to many widows and orphans – united by faith, farming, and an unbreakable spirit of resilience.

About the Community

Location

Akadicwat is located in Lira District, in northern Uganda.

Population

The community is home to many widows and orphans, brought together by strong bonds of care and support.

Tribe

The people of Akadicwat belong to the Langi tribe.

Crops Grown

- Maize
- Beans
- Groundnuts
- Sorghum
- Cassava

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Akadicwat Yahweh Pentecostal Ministry

A place that has grown not just as a church, but as a pillar of hope for the entire community.

1999 — 1

Founded by 30 faithful members, meeting under a tree at the pastor's home.

2 — **Early Days**

Rain and harsh weather interrupted prayers, but determination never faded. Members pooled funds to purchase one acre of land.

First Structure — 3

A simple building using local materials was constructed on the land – a symbol of unity and sacrifice.

4 — **Today**

A permanent church stands with **150 members** – mostly elderly, alongside children and youth.

Beyond Sunday worship, the church remains active throughout the week. Community outreach programmes include digging, constructing and repairing houses for the elderly and widows, as well as distributing essential items such as sugar, soap, and salt to the most vulnerable.

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Community Leaders

Pastor Charles Mery

At just **35 years old**, Pastor Charles leads the Akadicwat Yahweh Pentecostal Ministry with passion and humility. Married to Dorcus and a father of two boys, Charles began his faith journey in 2006. He served faithfully as a youth pastor for 14 years before being ordained as lead pastor. His messages focus on **unity, forgiveness, and repentance** – values that resonate deeply in a community building hope. Outside the pulpit, Charles is a farmer, working the land to support his family.

> "I am grateful that many people are giving their lives to Christ. Peace and unity are growing in homes as families pray and support one another."

> "We continue to pray for widows and orphans who face many hardships. We also ask for good health, as many suffer from illnesses, and for rain as farmers begin the new season."

Tonny Ogwang — Farming Group Leader

Tonny Ogwang, 37, is both a devoted church member and the leader of the Akadicwat farming group. Married to Jackline Adong, they have five children together. The farming group consists of **45 active members** – 30 women and 15 men – and has become a source of unity and mutual support. Tonny was chosen as leader for his strong character: respectful, a wise conflict resolver, and known for his disciplined lifestyle. His vision is simple but powerful: to ensure every family has enough food and that all children have access to education.

> "Being part of this group has brought unity in our community, and we have seen fewer cases of domestic violence in many homes."

> "We pray for good rainfall so farmers can harvest well. We also pray for good health, as many still suffer from illnesses like malaria and typhoid."

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Voices from the Community

Behind every statistic are real lives – stories of endurance, loss, and quiet hope.

MARY – A WIDOW

Mary's life tells a story of endurance. Widowed **10 years ago**, she was left to raise seven children alone. Without the means to pay school fees, none of her children were able to study. Today, they are all grown and married, but Mary now cares for **three grandchildren**.

> "It was a nightmare raising all seven children. At one point, I even thought of ending my life."

Her strength is fading due to severe back pain, limiting her ability to work. Yet her faith remains strong at the age of 62.

> "I continue to pray to God for good health."

BRIDGET – AN ORPHAN, AGE 9

Bridget's childhood has been marked by loss and hardship. She never knew her mother, who passed away when she was just two years old. Raised by her grandmother, she carries responsibilities far beyond her years – fetching water, collecting firewood, cooking, and working in the garden. Her father struggles with alcoholism and does not support her.

Fortunately, her grandmother has joined an Amigos farming group, which will soon **double her crop yields**. With a surplus to sell, it will be possible for Bridget to return to school as her grandmother will be able to afford the fees.

A brighter future is within reach for Bridget through the power of community farming.

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Prayer Points

We invite you to stand with the Akadicwat community in prayer. These are the needs they have lifted up:

Healing & Support

That widows and orphans are healed from grief and supported by extended family.

Land Protection

Protection of widows' land so they can continue to grow food to live.

Climate Resilience

Abundant harvests and predictable rainfall for the farming season ahead.

School Fees

That single parents can afford school fees by having surplus food to sell at market.

Spiritual Growth

Growth for the church and protection for the leadership in their calling.

Unity & Hope

That the whole community works together in harmony and with shared purpose.

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