

People of kao:

Kao, Nyaro, Funjar, and werni are tribes of Nuba origins who live in Southern Kordofan region of Sudan. Their territory is known as Kao-Nyaro, located in the farthest eastern part of Nuba Mountains, close to the White Nile river valley. People of Kao-Nyaro are farmers known for their well-built and skillful wrestling heroes who represent the symbol of integrity and pride of the village. Wrestling contests are held annually after the harvest season to decide on the winners and celebrates their victories. The wrestling contests are based on deep rooted traditions in which men ornament their beautiful figures with different clay colors which reflect their power and skills, while women beautify their bodies with distinguished juttet tattoos. Ornamentation is not limited to certain forms or patterns; however, every group has its own style based on dividing the body vertically and/or horizontally into two opposite sections, one section is left blank and the other is painted with dots, lines, and different forms. Body ornamentations reflect special values in ceremonial rituals, and its symbolic significance differs from one group to another according to the nature and type of events.