

Intercede for the Muslim World!

Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed (Rev 15:4)

Today's Prayer Requests: From Workers

MALI: A three-day outreach is being held this week (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) in a large city in Mali. The host pastor asks us to pray "for security; for the speakers, that God may use them mightily; and for discussions with seekers. Pray that the Lord would meet every need."

This pastor is currently working to revitalize a very small church, and he and his members will be involved in the follow up of people who express an interest in knowing Jesus. Pray that this ministry opportunity would breathe into this little congregation a fresh vision and sense of purpose, and that they may grow spiritually and numerically.

TOGO: A Bible school student asks us to pray for a classmate who, in the midst of a church-planting project, suddenly left his ministry to return to his former religion, Islam. At first he refused to let his fellow students pray for him, but after a time permitted their visits and prayers. The student who shares this request reports that his classmate has now begun attending church again. While the family has never openly opposed his attendance at church or Bible school, he explains, they have likely enlisted shamanistic help to oppose him spiritually. *Pray that these powers would be overcome, that this young man would be set free, and that his family would follow him in serving Jesus.*

2023 World Watch List: Kazakhstan (48/50)*

Kazakhstan, Central Asia's largest nation, lies just south of Russia. The Russian Empire had already annexed parts of the north, then the USSR imposed further changes on the nomadic, Muslim Kazakhs, forcing them to work on Sovietrun collective farms and factories. The Soviets also imposed atheism, closing Kazakh mosques and Russian churches. Upon independence in 1991, the nation became secular. Today most Kazakhs (about 70% of the population) have returned to Islam, heavily mixed with spirit worship. About 26%, mainly the Russian population, claim Christianity; most belong to the Russian Orthodox church. Evangelical and Pentecostal churches have been established since 1992, and today there are some 400 churches registered. Despite its guarantee of freedom of religion, the government takes care to squelch any religious activity (Christian or Muslim) they deem "extremist."

- Pray for believers from Muslim backgrounds. They are mistreated and rejected by their families, and risk losing their jobs and businesses or being fined or arrested by government authorities.
- Pray for protection for believers in small, unregistered fellowships. All churches must register and must have at least 50 members. Even groups meeting in houses may be raided and people, especially leaders, arrested.
- Pray for church leaders, for wisdom as they counsel seekers and disciple people to become bold witnesses.
- Pray for outreaches and training seminars held within Kazakhstan and in nearby nations by teams of church members, that these events would not be hindered and that they would bear lasting fruit.

Prayer Resources

*The 2023 World Watch List, ranking the 50 nations where believers suffer most: <u>https://tinyurl.com/wwl23uk</u> Global Initiative and its Jumaa Prayer Fellowship (a ministry of Assemblies of God World Missions, USA), information and resources concerning ministry to and prayer for Muslims : <u>https://reachingmuslimpeoples.com/</u>

Say Hello, prayer requests and resources on ministry to Muslim women: https://sayhelloinfo.com/

For statistics and information on people groups in every nation: <u>https://joshuaproject.net/;</u> for Unreached Peoples prayer cards to download and print: <u>https://joshuaproject.net/pray/cards</u>

For a weekly prayer topic about an aspect of Islam: https://prayingformuslims.com/

For suggestions on starting a prayer group: https://www.waast.org/pray-with-us/pray-for-the-unreached/

For news updates concerning persecuted Christians: <u>http://morningstarnews.org/</u>, <u>http://worldwatchmonitor.org/</u>, and <u>http://www.releaseinternational.org/</u>

For prayer requests from around the world: <u>https://www.icommittopray.com/</u>

To help you answer Muslims' questions about God's Word: <u>http://muslimsask.com/</u>, <u>http://answeringislam.org/</u>, and <u>https://jesustomuslims.org</u>