

# 10

## Largest Unreached People Groups In The Middle East



**WINDOW INTERNATIONAL NETWORK**

# Introduction

## **Middle East Countries In The 10/40 Window:**

- Gaza Strip
- Iran
- Iraq
- Israel
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Syria
- Turkey
- West Bank



- » The Middle East lies at the juncture of Eurasia and Africa, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean.
- » Civilizations of the Middle East date back to ancient times, and the region has been a major center of world affairs throughout history.
- » The Middle East is a strategically, economically, politically, culturally, and religiously significant region, home to some of the peoples least reached by the hope of the Gospel.
- » Home to more than 550 million people, it is the birthplace and spiritual center of Islam, Christianity, and Judaism, among other religions.
- » It is home to numerous long-established ethnic groups and languages.
- » Arabic (with all its dialects) is the most widely spoken and written language in the Middle East.
- » Islam, in its many forms, is the largest religion in the Middle East.
- » The economies of Middle Eastern countries range from being very poor to extremely wealthy.

# 10 Largest UPGs' List

Below are the top 10 largest Unreached People Groups (UPGs) in the Middle East countries in the 10/40 Window region.

## 1) Turk

### Population:

Global: 65,298,300  
In The Middle East:  
59,767,200

## 2) Persian

### Population:

Global: 42,528,200  
In The Middle East:  
39,374,000

## 3) Azerbaijani, Azeri Turk

### Population:

Global: 17,687,100  
In The Middle East:  
17,365,000

## 4) Arab - Iraqi

### Population:

Global: 17,694,500  
In The Middle East:  
16,623,000

## 5) Kurd, Kurmanji

### Population:

Global: 15,638,800  
In The Middle East:  
14,793,400

## 6) Arab - Syrian

### Population:

Global: 17,356,600  
In The Middle East:  
13,121,800

## 7) Arab, North Iraqi

### Population:

Global: 10,336,900  
In The Middle  
East:10,330,000

## 8) Arab, Palestinian

### Population:

Global: 11,043,500  
In The Middle East:  
9,633,000

## 9) Kurd, Central

### Population:

Global: 8,241,500  
In The Middle East:  
8,191,000

## 10) Kurd, Central

### Population:

Global: 6,354,000  
In The Middle East:  
6,354,000



# 1 - Turk

**TURK - ranks FIRST in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 65,298,300
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
68 out of 68
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.02%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 59,767,200
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 3  
(Iran, Iraq, Turkey)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.08%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Turkish
- Religious Persecution: Yes



## **About The Turks:**

- The Turks are predominantly nominally Sunni Muslims.
- They have many ethnic beliefs as well. For example, some believe that men have the power to curse others by giving them the 'evil eye.'
- The majority of Turks live in their home country, but significant numbers live elsewhere.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (complete, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- Strongholds of Islam.
- Memories of deep national resentment towards Christianity and a desire to join Europe while remaining Islamic may stand as barriers.
- Hostility and persecution of Christians are severe among the Turks.

# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



In Turkey, about 60% of Turks live in major cities. About 40% of Turks are living in villages, employed in the agricultural sector, and using natural resources to earn a living.

Pray for the LORD to bless the works of the Turks to provide for the needs of their families.

## EDUCATION



Pray for all the children of the Turks to have opportunities to continue their studies and to hear the Gospel.

## RELIGION



Although the Turks have Christian resources in their language and many mission agencies working among them, they remain strongly Muslim.

Pray for the divine love to supernaturally fill the hearts of the Turks so that they may be receptive to the Gospel.

## GOVERNMENT



Ask the LORD to save key leaders among the Turks who will boldly declare the Gospel.





# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Ask the LORD to raise up more prayer warriors to break through the strongholds of Islam upon the Turks.  
- (The Holy Bible, 1 Timothy 2:1-2)
  - Pray for a spiritual hunger among Turks that will be satisfied by none other than the only Savior, Jesus Christ. - (The Holy Bible, John 6:35)
  - Pray for the believers to reach out in faith and love to the Muslim Turks among them. - (The Holy Bible, Matthew 22:39)
  - Pray for a Disciple-Making Movement among Turks to spread far and wide. - (The Holy Bible, Ephesians 4:11-12)
  - Pray that many Turks living abroad will be reached with the Gospel and will make an impact on their homelands.  
- (The Holy Bible, John 4:39)
-

# 2 - Persian

**PERSIAN - ranks SECOND in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 42,528,200
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
40 out of 43
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
2.47%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 39,374,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 4  
(Iran, Iraq, Syria, Turkey)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.98%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken:  
Persian, Iranian
- Religious Persecution: Yes





## **About The People Group:**

- By definition, Persians (also known as Iranians) are an ethnic group native to Iran. However, due to religious and ideological persecution, many Persians fled the country during the revolution.
- Before the Arab invasions, the Persian religion was Zoroastrianism. Shia Islam became the national religion of Iran in the sixteenth century. Today, most Persians are Shia Muslims and are radical in their adherence to Islamic laws and principles.
- Their society is strictly male-dominated, and family and political rule belong to the men.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (complete, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- Strongholds of Islam.
- It is illegal to evangelize and, conversion to other religions is punishable by death.
- Persecution of Christians is severe among the Persians.

# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



Pray for the Persians to have a stable society where they are allowed to work and care for their families. Pray for the LORD to bless their works to provide for the basic needs of their families.

## EDUCATION



Persians' society is strictly male-dominated.

Pray for the Persians to treat their girl children equally and to provide them with an adequate education.

## RELIGION



Many are coming to faith in Christ through supernatural encounters with Jesus. Also, many are encountering Christ through satellite TV and Christian stations.

Praise God for His supernatural ways of encounters among Persians.

## GOVERNMENT



Their society is strictly male-dominated, and family and political rule belong to the men.

Pray for a breakthrough in the social and cultural norm. Pray for God to raise more women political leaders to shine for His Glory.



# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Pray that the LORD would meet the Persians in supernatural ways where missionaries cannot go. - (The Holy Bible, Luke 1:37)
  - Pray for a spiritual hunger among the Persians that will result in a great movement to Christ in the region. - (The Holy Bible, John 4:14)
  - Pray for a way for the Persian believers to meet openly. Pray for religious freedom in their homeland and their host countries as well. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 5:12)
  - Pray that God will grant wisdom and favor to missions agencies focusing on the Persians. - (The Holy Bible, Ephesians 4:11-12)
-



# 3 - Azerbaijani, Azeri Turk

**AZERBAIJANI, AZERI TURK- ranks THIRD in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 17,687,100
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
6 out of 6
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
1.42%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 17,365,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 3  
(Iran, Syria, Turkey)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.5%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Azerbaijani,  
South
- Religious Persecution: Yes



## **About The People Group:**

- They originated from Azerbaijan; many left the country for financial reasons.
- Azeri Turks live in Iran and Azerbaijan, but smaller numbers live in Turkey and Syria. There is a smaller diaspora of them scattered in various Western countries as well.
- Azeris are at home generally in Turkish society, except for religious differences. Turks are Sunni, and Azeris are Shi'as. They speak Azerbaijani and Turkish.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (complete, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- It is illegal to evangelize and, conversion to other religions is punishable by death.
- Although the Azeri Turks have Christian resources in their language and many mission agencies working among them, they remain strongly Muslim.

# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



Most Azeris immigrated from Iran and Azerbaijan looking for better economic opportunities in neighboring countries.

Pray for the Azeris to have a stable society where they are allowed to work and care for their families. Pray for the LORD to bless their works to provide for the basic needs of their families.

## EDUCATION



Azeri children need help in enrolling and staying in schools in their host countries.

Pray for all the children of Azeri to have opportunities to continue their studies and to hear the Gospel. Pray that Azeri parents will be able to provide for the needs of their children.

## RELIGION



It is illegal to evangelize and, conversion to other religions is punishable by death.

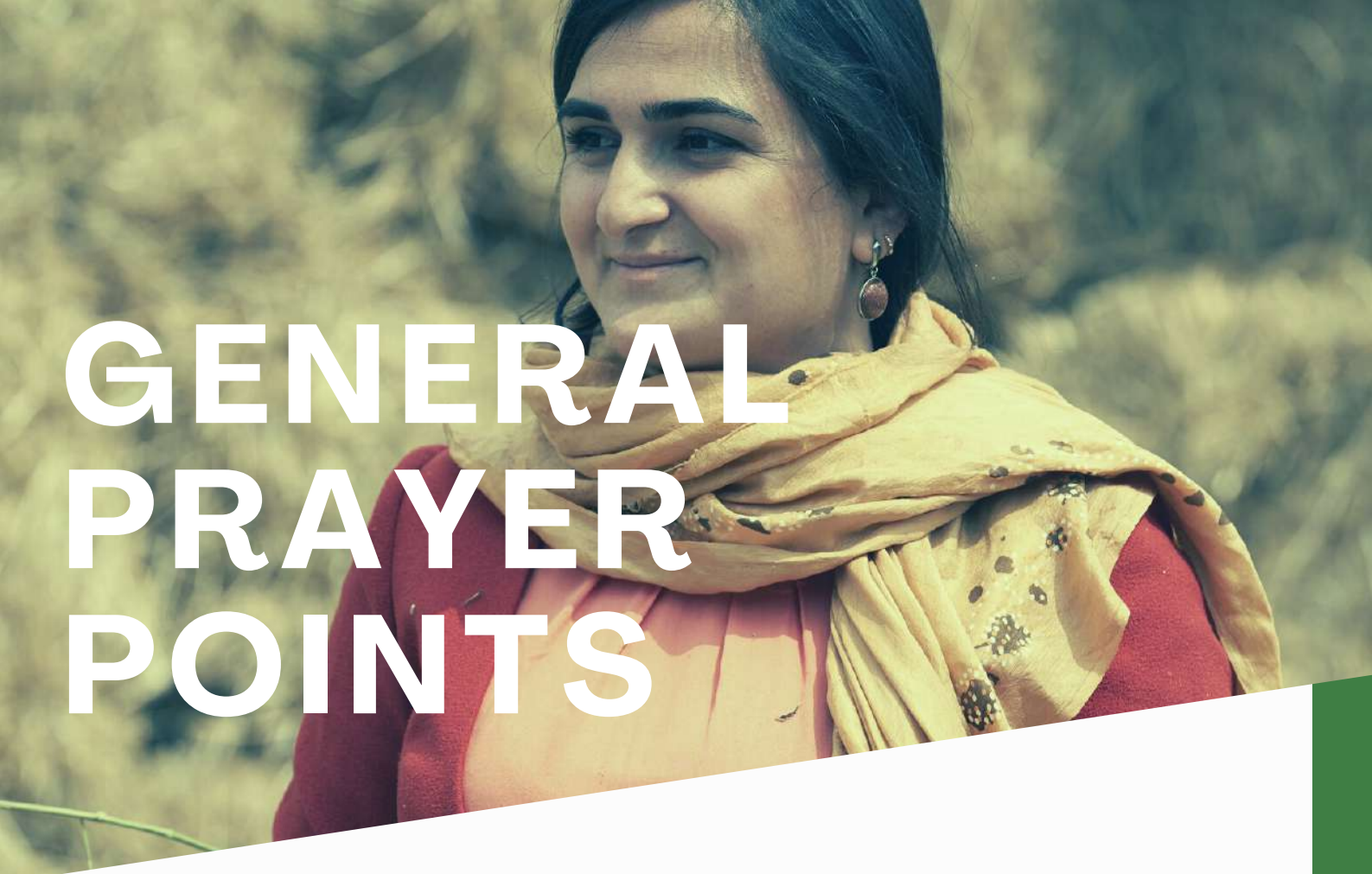
Pray for the religious freedom to share the Good News with the Azeris. Pray for divine protection upon believers among Azeris.

## GOVERNMENT



Pray for the LORD to touch the lives of the key leaders among the Azeris to declare His Kingdom among their people group and to share the Gospel boldly.





# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Pray for the Lord to thrust out workers to take the blessings of Christ to this people group. - (The Holy Bible, Isaiah 6:8)
  - Pray for the Wisdom for the Christian organizations to train evangelistic workers, Church planters, children's workers, and Pastors. - (The Holy Bible, James 3:17)
  - Pray for the Heavenly Wisdom for the mission agencies for the Holy Bible translation works. - (The Holy Bible, Ephesians 4:11-12)
  - Pray for a Christ-oriented Church planting movement to begin among Azeris. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 5:12)
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# 4 - Arab-Iraqi

**ARAB, IRAQI- ranks FOURTH in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 17,694,500
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
21 out of 24
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
1.31%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 16,623,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 4  
(Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.09%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Arabic,  
Mesopotamian Spoken
- Religious Persecution: Yes





## **About The People Group:**

- Iraqi Arabs descended from a people group cluster called the Levant Arabs.
- "Levant" is a broad term that includes several groups of Arabs: the Iraqi, Jordanian, Palestinian, Arabic Jewish, Chaldean, and Syrian Arabs.
- Many thousands of Iraqi Arabs left Iraq following the 2003 Iraqi war, looking for stability and better economic opportunities in neighboring countries.
- Islam has greatly influenced the lives of Iraqi Arabs.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (partial, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- Strongholds of Islam.
- As long as the violence continues, the Iraqi Arabs, both in their homeland and in their host countries will continue to experience daily disruptions of their lives.
- The greatest spiritual need that must be met among the Iraqi Arabs is training for evangelistic workers, Church planters, children's workers, and Pastors.



# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



In their host countries, Iraqi Arabs are not legally permitted to take a job. This has made most of them find employment in the underground economy.

Pray for the Iraqi Arabs to have a stable society where they are allowed to work and care for their families. Pray for the LORD to bless their works to provide for the basic needs of their families.

## EDUCATION



Iraqi Arabs children need help in enrolling and staying in schools. Young girls are considered ready for marriage by age nine.

Pray for all the children of Iraqi Arabs to have opportunities to continue their studies and to hear the Gospel. Pray for the Iraqi Arabs to treat their girl children equally and to provide them with an adequate education.

## RELIGION



Christians among the Iraqi Arabs face persecution.


Pray for the religious freedom for the believers among Iraqi Arabs to worship the LORD openly. Pray that Iraqi Arab Christians would be protected from harm and persecution.

## GOVERNMENT



Pray for the LORD to touch the lives of the key leaders among the Iraqi Arabs to share the Gospel boldly.

Pray for the end of fighting in Iraq so that the Iraqi Arabs can be able to return to their homeland.



# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Pray that the Iraqi Arabs will find a safe home where they can prosper physically and spiritually. - (The Holy Bible, Proverbs 10:22)
  - Pray for the Wisdom for the Christian organizations to train evangelistic workers, Church planters, children's workers, and Pastors. - (The Holy Bible, Ephesians 4:11-12)
  - Pray for the Heavenly Wisdom for the mission agencies for the Holy Bible translation works. - (The Holy Bible, James 3:17)
  - Pray for a Christ-oriented Church planting movement to begin among Arab Iraqis. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 9:31)
-

# 5 - Kurd - Kurmanji

**KURD - KURMANJI - ranks FIFTH in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 15,638,800
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
33 out of 33
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.15%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 14,793,400
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 6  
(Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.79%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Kurdish,  
Northern
- Religious Persecution: Yes







## **About The People Group:**

- The Kurd - Kurmanjis are tribal people and many of them lived, until recently, a nomadic lifestyle in the mountainous regions of Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran.
- Today, Kurd - Kurmanjis are the largest ethnic group in the world without a state of their own. Tribalism is still a factor among them, promoting many different factions which weaken the possibility of an independent homeland.
- In Turkey, where the largest contingent of Kurds live (40 %), the Kurds are seen as a threat by the Turkish government, which has continually sought to assimilate the Kurds into Turkish society through forced resettlement.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (complete, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- This people group is strongly fragmented and is often split by internal disagreements. So far in history, the Kurd - Kurmanjis have never really managed to unite in their common cause.
- Many Kurd - Kurmanjis of the lower regions are not organized in tribes, but even there, strife is common between the different clans and communities.

# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



Physically, the Kurd - Kurmanjis live in very poor conditions. Good water supplies are scarce, and they are exposed to diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis.

Ask the LORD to call qualified Christian medical professionals who are willing to go and share their medical expertise as well as Jesus Christ with this people group.

## EDUCATION



Schools are ill-equipped and there are too few of them. Kurd - Kurmanjis need the liberty to educate their children in their own language.

Pray for the Kurdish children to have access to well-equipped schools, and all other basic needs to continue their education.

## RELIGION



The Kurd - Kurmanjis have followed Islam for many years. Although the New Testament is now available in their language, there are few known Northern Kurd believers.


Ask God to strengthen, encourage, and protect the small number of Kurd - Kurmanjis who are Christians. Pray for open doors to share the Gospel with this people group.

## GOVERNMENT



They are divided by both outside influences and internal strife. Politically, they are oppressed by the government.

Pray for the end of political oppression upon Kurd - Kurmanjis. Pray for the LORD to touch the lives of the key leaders among them to share the Gospel boldly.



# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Ask the Holy Spirit to soften the hearts of the Kurd - Kurmanjis towards Christians so that they will be receptive to the Gospel. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 16:14)
  - Pray that God creates a hunger for the Holy Bible and spiritual truth in the heart of the Kurdish people. - (The Holy Bible, John 14:6)
  - Praise God for the increase in young Kurd - Kurmanjis who are turning to Christ as they are disillusioned with the Islamic regime. - (The Holy Bible, Psalm 40:2)
  - Pray for a Christ-oriented Church planting movement to begin among Kurds - Kurmanji. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 5:12)
-



# 6 - Arab-Syrian

**ARAB, SYRIAN- ranks SIXTH in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 17,356,600
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
8 out of 38
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
9.48%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 13,121,800
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 7  
(Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, West Bank / Gaza)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
5.36%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Arabic, North Levantine Spoken
- Religious Persecution: Yes



## **About The People Group:**

- Syrian Arabs descended from a people group cluster called the Levant Arabs.
- "Levant" is a broad term that includes several groups of Arabs: the Iraqi, Jordanian, Palestinian, Arabic Jewish, Chaldean, and Syrian Arabs.
- Most Syrian Arabs are Sunni Muslims who are dedicated to the ways of Islam. There is a small minority that is part of traditional Christian groups.
- Syrian Arabs are among the peoples who have fled the fighting in Syria in hopes of finding a peaceful home.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (partial, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- Strongholds of Islam.
- As long as the violence continues, the Syrian Arabs, both in their homeland and in their host countries will continue to experience daily disruptions of their lives.

# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



Syrian Arab Refugees have often lost just about everything, including family members.

Pray for a safe home for the Syrian Arabs to get their lives back and lead productive lives. Pray for the LORD to bless their works to provide for the basic needs of their families.

## EDUCATION



Syrian Arabs' children need adequate education and opportunities to earn a living. Since these are not being met, there are "protective measures" including early marriages and child labor.

Pray for the end of child marriages and the child labor system. Pray for educational opportunities for all the children of Syrian Arabs.

## RELIGION



Christians among the Syrian Arabs face persecution.

Pray for the religious freedom of the believers among Syrian Arabs to worship the LORD openly. Pray that Syrian Arab Christians would be protected from harm and persecution.

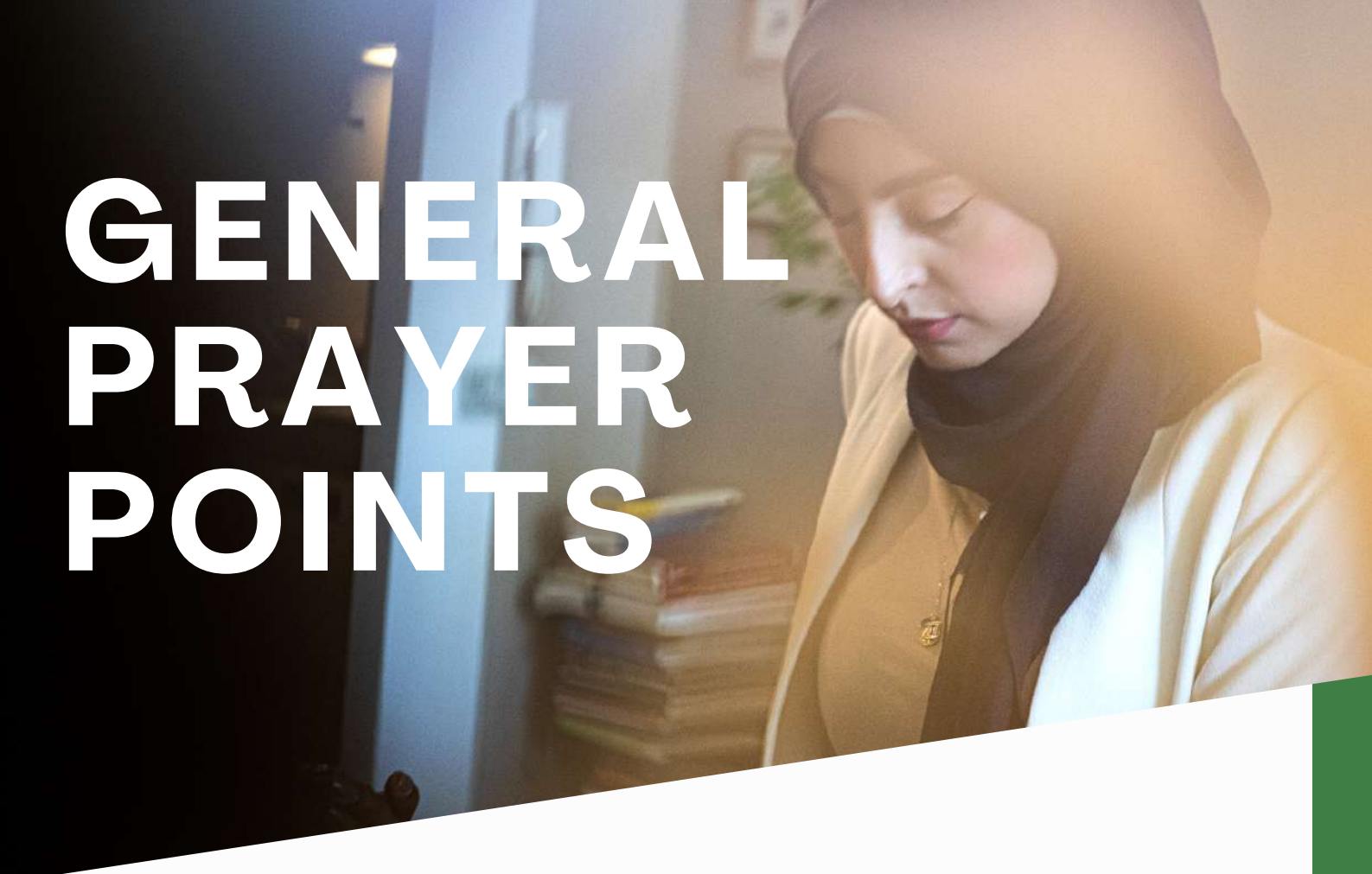
## GOVERNMENT



Pray for the LORD to touch the lives of the key leaders among the Syrian Arabs to share the Gospel boldly.

Pray for the end of conflict in Syria so that the Syrian Arabs can be able to return to their homeland.





# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Pray for those traumatized and suffering to find hope, healing, and peace in Jesus. - (The Holy Bible, Jeremiah 29:11)
  - Pray that their traditional Muslim culture will soften, creating open doors for the Gospel to be preached among them. - (The Holy Bible, Ezekiel 36:26)
  - Pray for Syrian Arab believers to be blessed with peace and joy in the Holy Spirit in such a way they can reach out to the others who suffer from psychological trauma. - (The Holy Bible, Isaiah 43:2)
  - Pray for the Heavenly Wisdom for the mission agencies for the Holy Bible translation works. - (The Holy Bible, James 3:17)
-

# 7 - Arab-North Iraqi

**ARAB, NORTH IRAQI- ranks SEVENTH in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 10,336,900
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
5 out of 5
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.69%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 10,330,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 4  
(Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Turkey)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.65%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Arabic, North Mesopotamian Spoken
- Religious Persecution: Yes



## **About The People Group:**

- Islam has greatly influenced the lives of the North Iraqi Arabs.
- Most are either Sunni or Shia Muslim. Though there is a slight majority of Shia Muslims among North Iraqi Arabs, the Sunnis are more likely to be refugees in other countries in the region.
- There are also some traditional Christians among the North Iraqi Arabs. Some Iraqi Christians have chosen to stay or even return to Baghdad to live as salt and light among their neighbors.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (partial, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- Strongholds of Islam.
- As long as the violence continues, the North Iraqi Arabs, both in their homeland and in their host countries will continue to experience daily disruptions of their lives.
- The greatest spiritual need that must be met among the North Iraqi Arabs is training for evangelistic workers, church planters, children's workers, and pastors.



# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



In their host countries, North Iraqi Arabs are not legally permitted to take a job. This has made most of them find employment in the underground economy.

Pray for the North Iraqi Arabs to have a stable society where they are allowed to work and care for their families. Pray for them to know God as their provider and lean on Him.

## EDUCATION



North Iraqi Arabs' children need help in enrolling and staying in schools. Young girls are considered ready for marriage by age nine.

Pray for all the children of North Iraqi Arabs to have opportunities to continue their studies and to hear the Gospel. Pray for the North Iraqi Arabs to treat their girl children equally and to provide them with an adequate education.

## RELIGION



Christians among the North Iraqi Arabs face persecution.

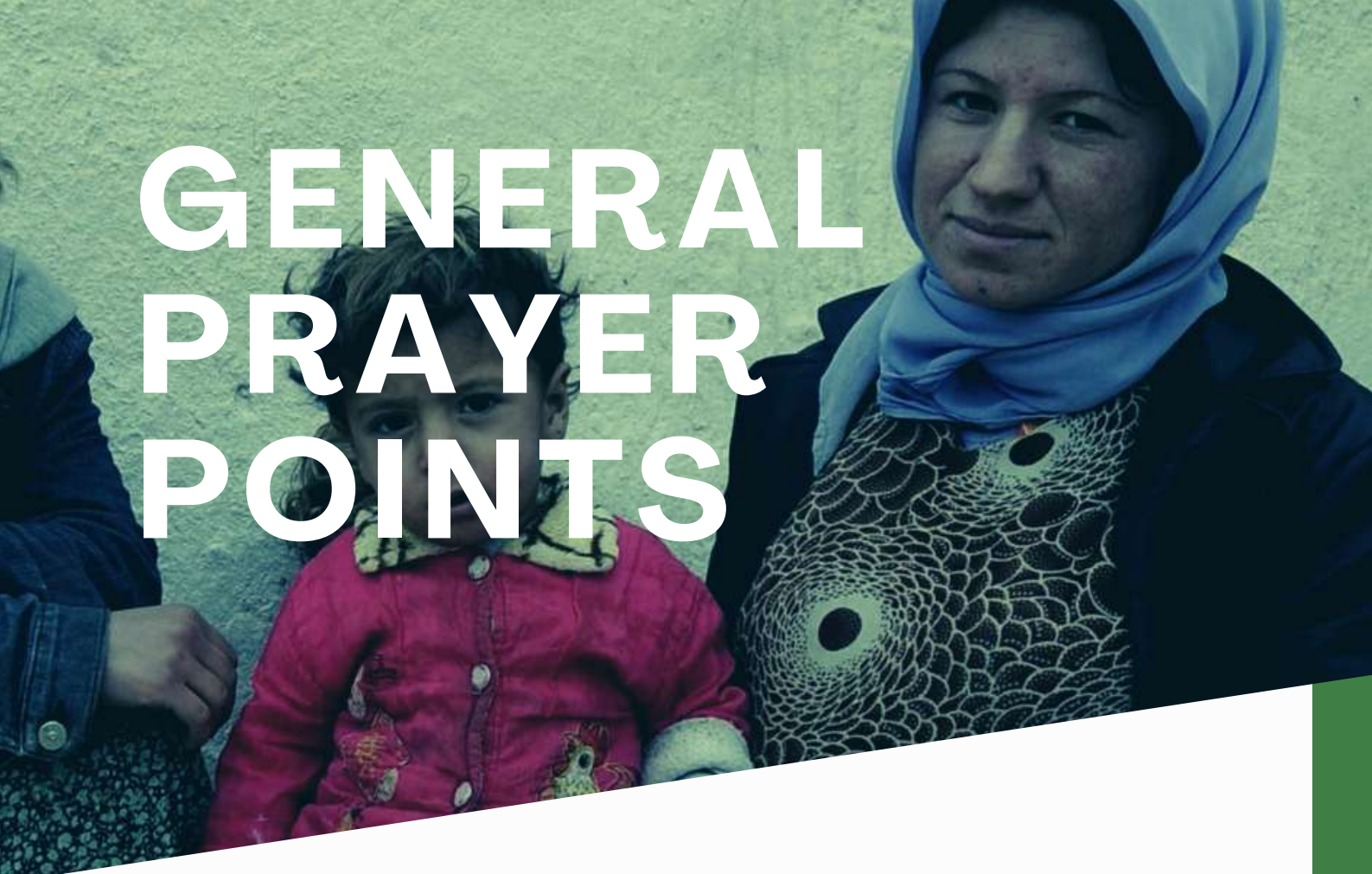
Pray for the religious freedom for the believers among North Iraqi Arabs to worship the LORD openly. Pray that North Iraqi Arab Christians would be protected from harm and persecution.

## GOVERNMENT



Pray for the LORD to touch the lives of the key leaders among the North Iraqi Arabs to share the Gospel boldly.

Pray for the end of Conflict in Iraq so that the North Iraqi Arabs can be able to return to their homeland.



# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Pray for a spiritual hunger that will lead North Iraqi Arabs to Jesus Christ as the answer to their spiritual needs. - (The Holy Bible, John 6:35)
  - Pray for an unstoppable movement to Christ among North Iraqi Arabs. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 2:47)
  - Pray for the Heavenly Wisdom for the mission agencies for the Holy Bible translation works. - (The Holy Bible, Ephesians 4:11-12)
  - Ask God to use believers to begin Bible studies and Church planting among North Iraqi Arabs. - (The Holy Bible, Matthew 10:18)
-

# 8 - Arab, Palestinian

**ARAB, PALESTINIAN- ranks EIGHTH in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 11,043,500
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
12 out of 25
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
4.6%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 9,633,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 6  
(Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank / Gaza)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
8.38%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Arabic, South Levantine Spoken
- Religious Persecution: Yes





## **About The People Group:**

- Today, there are Arab Palestinians worldwide. The majority live in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (WBGS). Others consider themselves refugees and live in many countries (mainly the Middle East, Europe, North and South America).
- Palestinians are predominantly adherents of Sunni Islam with a minority Christian community. The Holy Land, the birthplace of Jesus Christ, and the land from where Christianity spread over the entire world are also the birthplace of the Palestinian Church.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (partial, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- Strongholds of Islam.
- Evangelization efforts among Palestinian Arabs are challenging due to restrictions in many of the countries, as well as general antagonism to Christianity.

# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



Unemployment has hit large families the hardest. Where fathers and older brothers were the only breadwinners in the family, the loss of income means hardship for the whole family, and many live below the poverty line.

Pray for them to have a stable society where they are allowed to work and care for their families. Pray for them to know God as their provider and lean on Him.

## EDUCATION



Palestinian Arabs' children need help in enrolling and staying in schools.

Pray for the children of Palestinian Arabs to have opportunities to continue their studies and to hear the Gospel.

## RELIGION



Christians among the Palestinian Arabs face persecution.

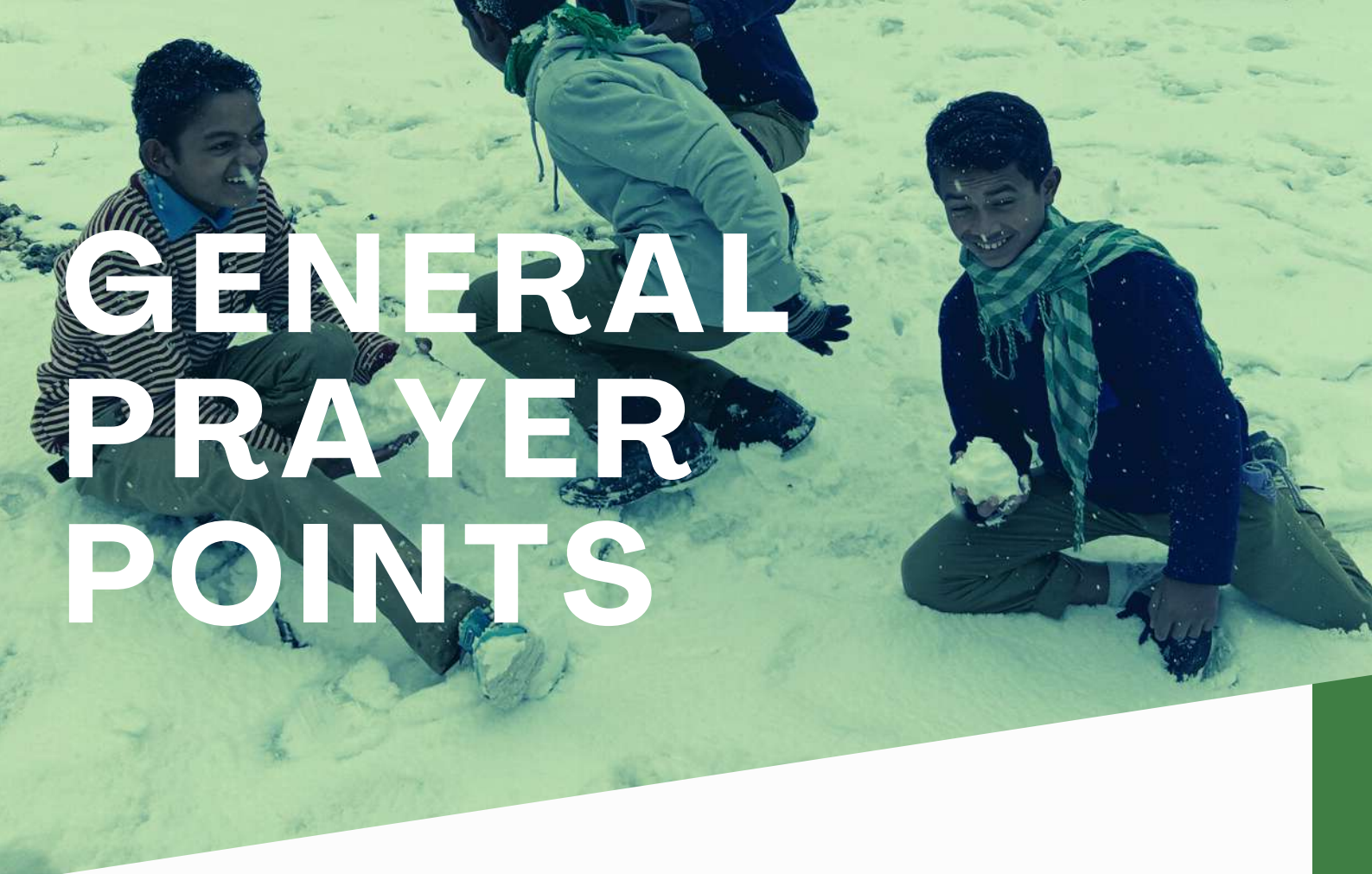
Pray for the religious freedom for the believers among Palestinian Arabs to worship the LORD openly. Pray that Palestinian Arab Christians would be protected from harm and persecution.

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



The women are very skilled in the traditional Palestinian embroidery and create beautiful traditional patterns.

Pray for the LORD to transform these skilled Palestinian women like Dorcas in the Scriptures helping the people in need so that their lives will be testimonies that win souls for Christ.



# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Ask God to give Palestinian Arab believers opportunities to share the love of Christ with their own people. - (The Holy Bible, 2 Timothy 4:2)
  - Pray that their traditional Muslim culture will soften, creating open doors for the good news to be preached among Palestinian Arabs. - (The Holy Bible, John 14:6)
  - Ask the Lord to raise up a strong Disciple-Making Movement among the Palestinian Arabs in this decade. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 11:26)
-



# 9 - Kurd - Central

**KURD - CENTRAL - ranks NINTH in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## Global Stats:

- Population: 8,241,500
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
5 out of 5
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.11%

## In The Middle-East:

- Population: 8,191,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 2  
(Iran, Iraq)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.13%

## General:

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Kurdish,  
Central
- Religious Persecution: Yes



## **About The People Group:**

- The Kurds are tribal people and many of them lived, until recently, a nomadic lifestyle in the mountainous regions of Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran.
- Today, Kurds are the largest ethnic group in the world without a state of their own. Tribalism is still a factor among Kurds, promoting many different factions which weaken the possibility of an independent homeland.
- In Turkey, where the largest contingent of Kurds live (40 %), the Kurds are seen as a threat by the Turkish government, which has continually sought to assimilate the Kurds into Turkish society through forced resettlement.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (complete, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- This people group is strongly fragmented and is often split by internal disagreements. So far in history, the Kurds have never really managed to unite in their common cause.
- Many Kurds of the lower regions are not organized in tribes, but even there, strife is common between the different clans and communities.

# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



Physically, the Kurds live in very poor conditions. Good water supplies are scarce, and they are exposed to diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis.

Ask the LORD to call qualified Christian medical professionals who are willing to go and share their medical expertise as well as Jesus Christ with Kurds.

## EDUCATION



Schools are ill-equipped and there are too few of them. Kurds need the liberty to educate their children in their own language.

Pray for the Kurdish children to have access to well equipped schools, and all other basic needs to continue their education.

## RELIGION



The Kurds have followed Islam for many years. Although the New Testament is now available in their language, there are few known Northern Kurd believers.

Ask God to strengthen, encourage, and protect the small number of Kurds who are Christians. Pray for open doors to share the Gospel with the Kurds.


## GOVERNMENT



Kurds are divided by both outside influences and internal strife. Politically, they are oppressed by the government.

Pray for the end of political oppression upon Kurds. Pray for the LORD to touch the lives of the key leaders among the Kurds to share the Gospel boldly.





# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Ask the Holy Spirit to soften the hearts of the Kurds towards Christians so that they will be receptive to the Gospel. - (The Holy Bible, Ezekiel 36:26)
  - Pray that God creates a hunger for the Holy Bible and spiritual truth in the heart of the Kurdish people. - (The Holy Bible, John 4:14)
  - Praise God for the increase in young Kurds who are turning to Christ as they are disillusioned with the Islamic regime. - (The Holy Bible, John 14:6)
  - Pray for a Christ-oriented Church planting movement to begin among Kurds, Central. - (The Holy Bible, Acts 11:26)
-

# 10 - Kurd - Turkish-speaking

**TURKISH-SPEAKING, KURD- ranks TENTH in the top 10 largest UPGs in the Middle-East countries in the 10/40 Window.**

## **Global Stats:**

- Population: 6,354,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached:  
1 out of 1
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.01%

## **In The Middle-East:**

- Population: 6,354,000
- Number Of Countries Unreached: 1  
(Turkey)
- Average % of Christian Adherents:  
0.01%

## **General:**

- Largest Religion: Islam
- Main Language Spoken: Turkish
- Religious Persecution: Yes



## **About The People Group:**

- The Kurds are tribal people and many of them lived, until recently, a nomadic lifestyle in the mountainous regions of Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran.
- Today, Kurds are the largest ethnic group in the world without a state of their own. Tribalism is still a factor among Kurds, promoting many different factions which weaken the possibility of an independent homeland.
- In Turkey, where the largest contingent of Kurds live (40 %), the Kurds are seen as a threat by the Turkish government, which has continually sought to assimilate the Kurds into Turkish society through forced resettlement.

## **Available Resources:**

- The Holy Bible (complete, both online and offline).
- The 'JESUS' film and other audio/video recordings.

## **Barriers:**

- This people group is strongly fragmented and is often split by internal disagreements. So far in history, the Kurds have never really managed to unite in their common cause.
- Many Kurds of the lower regions are not organized in tribes, but even there, strife is common between the different clans and communities.



# Prayer Focus

## ECONOMY



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Ask the LORD to call qualified Christian medical professionals who are willing to go and share their medical expertise as well as Jesus Christ with Kurds.

## EDUCATION



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Pray for the Kurdish children to have access to well-equipped schools, and all other basic needs to continue their education.

## RELIGION



The Kurds have followed Islam for many years. Although the New Testament is now available in their language, there are few known Northern Kurd believers.


Ask God to strengthen, encourage, and protect the small number of Kurds who are Christians. Pray for open doors to share the Gospel with the Kurds.

## GOVERNMENT



Kurds are divided by both outside influences and internal strife. Politically, they are oppressed by the government.

Pray for the end of political oppression upon Kurds. Pray for the LORD to touch the lives of the key leaders among the Turkish-speaking Kurds to share the Gospel boldly.



# GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- 
- Ask the Holy Spirit to soften the hearts of the Kurds towards Christians so that they will be receptive to the Gospel. - (The Holy Bible, 2 Corinthians 4:3-4)
  - Pray that God creates a hunger for the Holy Bible and spiritual truth in the heart of the Kurdish people. - (The Holy Bible, John 14:6)
  - Praise God for the increase in young Kurds who are turning to Christ as they are disillusioned with the Islamic regime. - (The Holy Bible, Psalm 28:9)
  - Pray for a Christ-oriented Church planting movement to begin among Turkish-speaking Kurds. - (The Holy Bible, Ephesians 5:27)
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# Acknowledgements



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## Contact

**Window International Network**

**PO Box 49127, Colorado Springs,  
CO 80949-9127 USA**

**Phone: (719) 522-1040**

**Fax: (719) 277-7148**

**Email: [contact@win1040.org](mailto:contact@win1040.org)**

**Website: [www.win1040.org](http://www.win1040.org)**