
Kazakhstan

**Total area:**

2,724,900 km²

Population:

18,050,488 (2017)

Literacy:

78%

Official languages:

Kazakh and Russian

GDP (PPP) per capita:

\$25,669[(2016 est.)

Life expectancy:

68 years

Religions:

62% Muslim, 34% Russian Orthodox, 2% Protestant, 2% other religions

Prayer points

Dungan in Central Asia

Though originating in the Kansu and Shensi provinces of north-western China, the Dungan now live mostly in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. They speak a variant of Mandarin Chinese and are primarily arable farmers. The Dungan in Kazakhstan are more committed to Islam than are those in Kyrgyzstan, and the older generation observe Islamic law strictly, but young people tend to be more indifferent to Islam. Pray for the development of ministry to Dungan communities and for an open door for the gospel. Pray too that God will give creative ideas to local Christians living in these countries, as they seek to reach the younger Dungan generation who are more open to change. (WEC International - July 2021)

Tatar in Central Asia

The nearly 6.5 million Tatars are Sunni Muslims but there is some evidence that suggests they have a thirst for the word of God. Pray for labourers to work among the Tatars: evangelists, church planters, English teachers and those who can help to set up small businesses. (WEC International - July 2021)

Dungan/Hui people of Central Asia

The Muslim Dungan originated in the Gansu and Shaanxi provinces of north-western China. Today, Dungan from those areas live in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. Here they speak a dialect of Mandarin Chinese and are primarily arable farmers. Many raise dairy cattle, too, and some also grow opium. They are well known for their hospitality. The Dungan in Kazakhstan are more committed to Islam than are those in Kyrgyzstan. The older people observe Islamic law strictly and the elders run village mosques, but young people tend to be indifferent towards Islam. Pray for the Dungan: that they will be open to the gospel and have many opportunities to hear the good news of Jesus. (WEC

International - February 2021)

Church networks are increasing

Kazakhstan in Central Asia has thankfully not been greatly affected by the coronavirus crisis. Many of the people living there are poor and long for genuine democratic freedoms and a better quality of life. It is a predominantly Muslim nation. The vast majority of Kazakhs are unreached with the good news and there is a great need for more gospel workers to go there. Encouragingly, new outreach initiatives are beginning to bear fruit and house church networks are increasing. Let's ask the Lord for more gospel workers in Kazakhstan and for the good news of Jesus to spread far and wide, transforming Muslim communities with the love of Christ. (Frontiers - August 2020)

The Ingush people

The Ingush people have suffered greatly at the hands of Russia. Only Jesus can bring them true peace and victory over anger and bitterness. Originally from Russia's Caucasus region, the Ingush number over 420,000 in that region, with approximately 20,000 more in Kazakhstan where they were deported during WWII. The Ingush people are Sunni Muslims, with many following Sufism, the mystical branch of Islam. Pray for faithful intercessors for the Ingush people. Ask for Spirit-filled witnesses to bring Jesus' grace, peace and self-giving love to Kazakhstan's Ingush. (Frontiers - September 2017)

New Patterns of Family

The legacy of the Soviet Union's brutal approach to family values lives on in Kazakhstan. Divorce is normal, parenting centres on control rather than love, and many millions have grown up without a stable father-figure, let alone one who shows them what love looks like. Fatherlessness is the root of so many social problems here, and the good news of God's Kingdom for families is desperately needed. Cry out for the fatherless of this nation, that they would be drawn to the healing love of their Heavenly Father. Pray for those working in discipleship and family focussed ministries here, that new patterns of family would be learned and godly Fathers emerge. (Frontiers - July 2017)

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