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## Saudi Arabia

**Total area:**

2,149,690 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:**

33,000,000 (2017)

**Literacy:**

63%

**Official languages:**

Arabic

**GDP (PPP) per capita:**

\$55,229 (2017 est.)

**Life expectancy:**

74 years

**Religions:**

97% Muslim, 3% Catholic, <1% other religions

### Prayer points

**Forgiven not condemned**

A young married woman recently revealed to our Arabic partner that she had betrayed her husband and wanted to repent. Jesus didn't condemn the woman caught in adultery, but rescued and saved her. After praying, she gave her life to Christ. Pray for her and others like her. (Reach Beyond - February 2019)

**Pray for peace and stability in Saudi Arabia**

As Saudi Arabia transitions under its new leadership pray that God's hand would be over Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. Pray that peace and stability would be the markers of Saudi society and that new political changes would open up greater opportunities for gospel witness. (Frontiers - February 2019)

**Pray for Saudi Christians**

Saudi Arabia is the birthplace of Islam and remains a very conservative Muslim country. Since his appointment in 2017, the Crown Prince has resolved to make Saudi Arabia more moderate. Until recently, it was believed there were only 300 Saudi Christian believers worldwide. In fact there are thousands, the result of decades of prayer. Pray for protection over the growing number of Muslim background believers, that they would be bold to share their faith with others in their communities. Pray for God's hand to be on Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman as he leads his country in this time of transition and political change. Pray for peace and stability in Saudi society, encouraging more gospel workers to go there to share Jesus with those they live amongst. (Frontiers - December 2018)

## **Refugee Bridge**

What could be more comforting than hearing timely spiritual encouragement in your heart language when you're a refugee on foreign soil? At last there's an app for that called Refugee Bridge - this is being used to speak hope to people being displaced within the Middle East as well as those coming to Europe from the Middle East. It is designed to meet the emotional, psychological and spiritual needs of displaced people through practical and Biblical content in the Arabic language. Pray for those listening, that they might receive hope through these broadcasts, and that more might have access to vital resources. (TWR Europe and CAMENA (Central Asia, Middle East, North Africa) - November 2016)

## **Safe outlets**

It's not everyday that you hear a strong declaration of faith in Christ from someone raised in a Muslim majority country. But Hosni contacted the media team via WhatsApp with this urgent request for spiritual support: "I believe that Jesus is God... I need to know more about Jesus and the Bible." Pray that social media will continue to be a safe outlet for Muslims to seek Jesus. (Arab World Ministry of Pioneers - May 2016)

## **New monarch**

King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia died at the age of 90 on 23rd January after two decades in power. Pray for the nation's stability as the new monarch, King Salman, takes charge. May all those entrusted with leadership act justly, love mercy and walk humbly before God. Praise God for how He is changing lives in Saudi Arabia. Despite the ban on Bibles, Christmas and Christian websites, God's arm is not too short to reach into Saudi palaces, homes and hearts. May this new chapter open doors for the extension of God's Kingdom in this precious land. (Arab World Ministry of Pioneers - March 2015)

## **Reaching a digital generation**

Using the power of media, believers from Muslim backgrounds are effectively sharing Christ across the Arab world. Today, more than 125 million individuals use the internet in the Arab world providing a platform for both men and women, with otherwise limited access to Christian resources, to study God's Word. As a result, our media follow-up network encourages seekers to explore the gospel online and mentors believers through interactive Bible courses. (Arab World Ministry of Pioneers - September 2014)

## **Searching for truth**

Every month, hundreds of Bibles and thousands of evangelistic resources are downloaded by Arab Muslims exploring the Christian faith. The online ministry [maarifa.org](http://maarifa.org) sees several thousand Arabs exposed to the truth about Jesus every week. Last year, media workers received over 600 emails in just three months from Arabs searching and wrestling with the truth. The team follows up every message personally. Pray that millions of Arab Muslims will continue to be drawn to the website and have hearts open to the Spirit of God. (Arab World Ministry of Pioneers - March 2014)

## **Children's TV**

SAT-7 KIDS is a Christian satellite TV channel broadcasting in Arabic. Recent surveys indicate that it is watched by almost 2 million children in Saudi Arabia. Praise God that in this country that is so hostile and closed to the gospel, the good news is getting through right into people's living rooms. Pray that as children watch, the wider family will also watch and that many hearts will receive the simple message of the gospel through the programmes. (SAT-7 - January 2013)

## **Christian media**

God is working powerfully in Saudi Arabia through Christian media. It is exciting to hear of increasing numbers of seekers contacting Christian websites and TV stations for more information. Around 1.8 million children in this country are tuning into Christian shows. Many enquirers are encountering the truth about Christ for the first time, some by browsing on their mobile phones. Pray for more people to embrace the gospel, and for even the hardest hearts to be touched by what they see and

hear. Pray for media follow-up teams to reply to seekers with grace, truth and Spirit-filled wisdom.  
(Arab World Ministry of Pioneers - July 2012)

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