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# Yemen

**Total area:**

527,829 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:**

25,408,000 (2013)

**Literacy:**

45%

**Official languages:**

Arabic

**GDP (PPP) per capita:**

\$2,476 (2017 est.)

**Life expectancy:**

65 years

**Religions:**

100% Muslim, <1% other religions

## Prayer points

### Humanitarian crisis needs prayers for peace and restoration

Four out of five people in Yemen need humanitarian assistance, making it the world's largest humanitarian crisis of our time. Civil war, economic collapse, and the mass displacement of people have generated a situation that continues to deteriorate and push already exhausted communities to the brink. 20 million people in Yemen cannot access adequate health care, nor do they have enough food to eat, and nearly 18 million people do not have access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. Please pray for communities in Yemen affected by conflict and displacement. Pray that God will bring peace and restoration to this nation. Please pray for the millions of people in need of food and clean water. Pray that their daily needs will be met and that they will be able to receive humanitarian aid. Ask God to help Medair reach vulnerable communities with emergency healthcare and nutrition services, especially women and children who are most at risk and suffering from malnutrition. (Medair UK - May 2021)

### The Gospel in Yemeni dialects

Arab Vision is working with a small team of expatriate Yemeni believers to present the Gospel in Yemeni dialects and to support local Christians. One response was from Ghalib (a pseudonym) who became a Christian 30 years ago through Christian radio programmes: "The war came and the area around my house became a battlefield. Death was everywhere." He finishes, "I am delighted that I found you on this Facebook page and I love talking to you!" (Arab Vision - May 2021)

### Challenges in Yemen

Many challenges are being faced by the people of Yemen. Please give strength and wisdom to those

who are working to prevent the spread of coronavirus in the country. Please also bring an end to the terrible conflict there, which is pushing more people into extreme poverty. (Tearfund - November 2020)

### **Yemini Arab people**

Yemini Arabs are mostly Muslims and conversion to Christianity is dangerous. Only 0.08% of Yemen's population knows and follows Christ, and evangelism is against the law, punishable by death. Yet the Church in Yemen continues to grow, and more people are turning to Christ than ever before! Praise the Lord for Yemini believers. (WEC International - October 2020)

### **Reaching Yemen**

Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the Arab world. It is also a country least reached by the Gospel. War and desperate hunger stalk the land. Pray for salvation, especially in the northern tribes and for women whose situations can be harsh and limited. (Operation Mobilisation - September 2020)

### **Somali people**

There are nearly 11 million ethnic Somalis in Somalia. They are a very individualistic people, sharply divided into clans, and fights often occur between the clans, resulting in many deaths. Somalis enjoy telling stories and learning history through their poetry. Pray that many Somalis will come to know Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. And ask God to grant favour and wisdom to mission agencies focusing on the Somalis. (WEC International - July 2020)

### **Online support for vulnerable women**

Since the Middle East and North Africa have gone into lockdown, our Nisa'a team has been supporting families across the region. Nisa'a provides an online women's magazine that reaches into 10 countries and with face-to-face workshops to support vulnerable women. The team are now looking to resume the 'Heart Story' workshops, but online. These workshops give vulnerable women a chance to express their needs and stories in a safe space; often the only chance they have to be themselves and to be vulnerable. Join with us in praying for the Nisa'a team and all the women they support across the region. (Middle East Media - May 2020)

### **The Horn of Africa and Yemen**

For some time, WEC has had a goal of establishing work among the peoples of the Horn of Africa, particularly Somalis. Initially, workers would be seconded to other organisations. We long for the Lord to send us people with a calling to this part of the world. Please ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up workers. Please pray for the many women who have been raped, divorced and left by their husbands, and the many children who have been smuggled out of Somalia and into exploitation or abandonment. Many of them are in camps in other parts of the Horn of Africa and are in desperate need of hope. Ask God to touch the hearts of Christians in northern Ethiopia so that they will be willing to share God's love with the Somalis in the southern provinces. Pray that his love will break down any cultural divisions. Pray for WEC's leaders in Africa as they seek to see the work advance among Somalis. Pray for tools for mobilising new workers and for highlighting the needs of the region. Thank the Lord for the work already being done among Somalis in the UK and the USA, and pray that these initiatives will be the first fruit of a mighty harvest. There are very small believing communities in various cities and towns in Yemen. Pray for God to knit these communities together in Christ as they care for one another in practical ways. Pray for God's protection upon them. Years of war in Yemen have created a nation of people who have buried loved ones, been injured physically and suffered extreme psychological trauma. Pray that God will stabilise the situation in Yemen, and bring peace to any Christians there who are living in the midst of huge upheaval. Pray for the people of Yemen to hear God's word and come to follow Jesus. Please pray for Somalis in the UK: that they will come into contact with the gospel while there. Pray for Christians in the UK to be good witnesses and to show God's love towards all in their communities. Pray that this witness will provide opportunities for good conversations about faith. (WEC International - January 2020)

## **Yemen Civil War**

The Yemen civil war has displaced people, caused famine and disease: cholera claimed nearly two and a half thousand deaths since April 2017. Almost one third of the total suspected cases are children under five years old. Pray for all who need water, for peace in Yemen to end the current food crisis. (Tearfund - February 2019)

## **Conflict in Yemen**

Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the Middle East and has faced decades of instability. Since 2015, civil war has gripped the country and left the people in desperate need of humanitarian aid. More than 9,000 Yemenis have been killed, over 50,000 injured and 3 million people have fled their homes. Millions of people face shortages of food and water, and less than half the country's health facilities are operational. Approximately 16.4 million people currently have no access to healthcare. Pray that the UN and the Saudi-led coalition would work together to reopen ports and resume the delivery of food, medicine and humanitarian aid. Ask God to protect the Yemeni people, bring an end to the conflict, and establish his peace in their land. Pray that believers will be bold to share their faith. (Frontiers - September 2018)

## **Young lives in Yemen**

Please pray for the children of Yemen, who due to the current conflict are growing up with a very abnormal understanding of normal life. Many children have not been able to attend school, have not had common childhood immunisations or access to basic healthcare, and do not receive a proper diet. Many of them have lost family members due to the fighting. Pray for the Lord to wrap his loving arms around them. May his people in that land respond to these needs and show his love and compassion to these young lives. (Arab World Ministry of Pioneers - July 2018)

## **Longing for fellowship**

Nadeen, a born and raised Yemeni woman in her late twenties, is not new to the faith. Before a civil war broke out in her country in 2015, she had already accepted Christ. A Christian woman she met at university was able to read the Bible and pray with Nadeen. When she graduated and her discipleship partner left the country, Nadeen was alone. She says "in my heart, I longed to participate in prayer meetings with other believers and learn more." Through a Facebook account she was able to find fellowship, and she even learned of a secret community of believers in her city. Pray for Nadeen and her family - along with other believers in Yemen today. (Open Doors UK and Ireland - May 2017)

## **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)

## **Unable to buy food**

Aid agencies warn that Yemen faces a terrible disaster. The combination of rising global food prices, severe water shortages, local conflict and a seriously weakened government have left around ten million people unable to buy food. Many children and babies are severely malnourished, and some are not able to survive. Yemen is the poorest country in the Arab world with unemployment around 40%. Please pray for God's intervention in this drastic situation - for the Yemeni people to receive the urgent help they need, for food to be made available at affordable prices so that people can feed their families and for our Father to make His presence known to the Yemeni people. (Arab World Ministry of Pioneers - September 2012)

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