

Prayer and Praise

ALGERIA: THE CRY FROM A FIRST-GENERATION CHURCH

Algeria had a flourishing Christianity between the fifth and seventh centuries AD, which gradually disappeared after the Arab invasions.

Although new churches were started under French rule, since independence in 1962 an entirely local church has been born among the Berber people, growing at an astonishing rate – several thousand new believers are baptised every year.

Within this 'First-Generation Church' there is a great need for discipleship, strong biblical teaching and encouragement for believers to daily live out their new-found faith.

SAT-7 is responding to this need by broadcasting a range of programs, which are watched by around 1 million regular Algerian viewers.

Viewers can experience worship services and biblical preaching through *My Church in Algeria*, a weekly broadcast from a large, Kabyle-speaking (Berber) church in Northern Algeria.

Bible Teaching from Algeria explores the main concepts of Christianity and provide practical guidance from the Bible in answer to questions of new believers.

Free Souls features strong personal testimonies of women from Algeria and other North African countries who tell how they chose to follow Christ, even at great personal risk.

One Algerian Berber viewer responds, "Every Tuesday night I call my friends in the village (some of them are not believers) and ask them to join my family to watch together the testimonies of brothers and sisters in *My Church* who came to know the Lord ... Please pray for salvation for all these friends. We need these kinds of programmes!" ■

Please pray:

- Thank God for the thousands of new believers, and the growth of the Berber church.
- Pray for the continued spiritual hunger, and growth, of this young Church in Algeria.
- Pray for all SAT-7's programs aiming to encourage and equip these Berber believers.



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In a Berber church in Algeria

Prayer News

MAKING HOPE VISIBLE

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TURKEY: THE CRY OF ISOLATED BELIEVERS

These are difficult times for the small minority of Christians in Turkey (0,5% of 77 million Turks), feeling the effects of mistrust and suspicion.

Several foreign Christian workers have been deported; churches have faced harassment from local authorities; in one city, all churches (Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox) have been ordered to close. In addition, churches have faced threats and attacks from radical Islamists.

SAT-7 TÜRK is answering the cry of these isolated believers, through encouragement, sound Christian teaching, and Christian fellowship and worship. Its dedicated team travels to different locations across Turkey and surrounding countries, meeting and interviewing Christians.

This newest channel in the SAT-7 family is becoming increasingly visible in supporting the Christian community and presenting good news to the wider community. It is the only Christian channel available on government-owned Türksat (±55 million viewers within Turkey), and since 2016, is also available on the digital subscription service D-Smart (6 million viewers).

The Preachers of Anatolia gives different church leaders from churches in small Turkish cities and towns an opportunity to discuss topics and share teachings from the Bible. *180 Degrees with Christ* shares Turkish Christians' testimonies in powerful 15-minute episodes.

Prayer Time's presenters discuss issues raised by Turkish viewers, who are then encouraged and supported through prayer. ■

Please pray:

- For peace following the recent referendum.
- For Christians in Turkey to draw closer to God; and share their faith wisely with family and friends.
- For SAT-7 TÜRK's team travelling across Turkey and surrounding countries.
- For SAT-7's programs to have the resources and insight to respond effectively to the needs of Turkish Christians.



Prayer Requests from Viewers

Please pray for the following viewers
while reading their messages:

From a viewer in Iran – “I was born in a poor family. My father was an addict. I gave my heart to Jesus while watching a SAT-7 program. I have found peace but still have problems. Pray for me.”

From a viewer in Germany – “I’m Turkish but living in Germany. I cannot read or write, but I have started to learn by myself. I want to learn about God. Pray for me.”

From a viewer in Morocco – “After my baby’s birth, everyone was shocked I didn’t put a religious “holy book” under his pillow. My parents aren’t angry but worry what neighbours will do. Pray for my safety.”

From a viewer in Iran – “I used drugs but I’ve started a new life with my Lord Jesus. Today my life is organized and has meaning. Thank God for giving me a second chance.”

One non-Christian viewer in Turkey contacted SAT-7 to say, “I began to feel anger towards God because of all the evil wars and sorrows in the world...But when I watch [SAT-7], I understood how I should think, and I recognised that God is good and evil things do not come from God. Now I have a hope inside of me, and I owe it to your channel.”

JAILED HOUSE CHURCH COUPLE FLEE IRANIAN AUTHORITIES

Imprisoned and blacklisted by the authorities because of their Christian activities, Arshia and his wife Mahanaz felt they had no choice but to flee Iran.

The couple shared their story with SAT-7 PARS for a [special documentary](#) filmed throughout Greece and Turkey about Iranian and Afghani Christians who have had to leave their homelands because of persecution.

The SAT-7 crew discovered that Arshia and Mahanaz had come to faith through the help of another SAT-7 staff member. They had a personal relationship with this person inside Iran, and were delighted to meet more of the SAT-7 family.

Baptized in Armenia, they returned to Iran and led a house church from their home in the mountains. The couple was discovered by the authorities, imprisoned and blacklisted. Upon their release, they were told they would be arrested again if they continued practicing their faith and would face severe consequences.

Arshia and Mahanaz felt they could not meet with other believers for fear of endangering them. Feeling silenced and isolated, the couple decided to flee Iran. Leaving everything behind, they walked for four days from Iran to Ankara, Turkey.

The couple have been living in a refugee camp for over a year now. “It is challenging,” says Arshia. “However, God is good. We go to the Iranian church here and can worship freely.”

A month after the filming, Arshia thanked SAT-7 for praying. He and his wife have managed to find employment in a restaurant. They are still waiting for their documents from the camp to receive permission to move on and make a home elsewhere. ■

- **Please pray for Arshia and Mahanaz as they continue to follow Christ – wherever He may lead.**

Prayer Requests from Viewers



Please pray for the following viewers
while reading their messages:

From a viewer in Iraq - “My teenage daughters were captured, and I have not seen them in three months. I fear the worst. Intercede for their protection and escape.”

From Danial in Iran – “Praise the Lord for those who have translated God's Word into our language so that we may worship Him in our mother tongue. Pray for me to grow in my faith. Please pray for me to remain faithful to God and His Word.”

From a viewer in Turkey – “I am not a Christian but learned about Christianity through your channel. I want to know about Jesus’ life. Pray for me to find a Bible.”

From a viewer in Egypt – “I am facing animosity from my co-workers because of my faith. Please pray for me to deal with it in the right way.”

From Iman in Iran – “Praise God for all of you. We introduced our Lord to my cousins, and both have come to faith and have given their hearts to Christ. One of my cousins has just immigrated to Germany with her two children. Are there any churches in that city that they could connect with? Thanks for your help. Blessings.”