



PRAYERPOINTS

A PRAYING PEOPLE IMPACTING A LOST WORLD

Least Reached Cities in Northern Africa and the Middle East

THE 14 CITIES FEATURED THIS MONTH ARE AMONG THE LEAST REACHED URBAN CENTERS IN NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST (NAME). IN THESE 14 CITIES LIVE OVER 58 MILLION INDIVIDUAL SOULS, CREATED FOR RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR CREATOR, BUT LIVING IN DARKNESS AS THEY WAIT TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION THROUGH JESUS.

What African City Means “Elephant’s Trunk” in Arabic?

The Blue Nile and the White Nile twist and turn through eastern Africa until they converge in Sudan’s capital city, Khartoum, to form the Nile River. In Arabic, Khartoum means elephant’s trunk, which is what this convergence resembles. Khartoum proper nestles at the junction of the two Niles, while the city of Omderman bustles on the Nile’s west bank, and Khartoum North sprawls along the north bank.

Khartoum is not only a convergence of rivers and cities, but it is also a meeting place for Sudan’s many peoples and ethnicities. Arabs, Nubians, Beja, Fur, Zaghawa, Nuba Mountain peoples, and more live, grow, study, work, and die in this megacity. While the majority of the people adhere to Islam, there are also followers of Jesus who worship regularly together. Intercede for these brothers and sisters in the Lord, asking that they



Street market in Khartoum, Sudan

stand boldly for God, sharing the truth in love with their Muslim neighbors. The window of opportunity to live and work in Khartoum is currently open. Ask that believers from around the world will obediently answer the Lord’s call to go, minister, and share the Good News. Pray for people of every tribe and nation living in Khartoum to seek God and find him.

1 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. After decades of civil war, Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia and a leading center of Islam, has been reclaimed by the government and is being rebuilt. Pray for people there to hear the Good News that years of war have prepared hearts to receive.

2 PEOPLES OF THE BAJIO OF MEXICO. There are still villages in Queretaro, Mexico, that have no known gospel witnesses. Ask the Lord to send or raise up leaders who are willing to go to these communities. Pray for persons of peace to be located.

3 DEAF PEOPLES. After two years of Bible storying with Sean* and Sandy,* believers see that they both believe and want to follow, but fear holds them back. Pray for them as they seek truth, that their fears will be met with peace by believing in Jesus Christ.

4 MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE: CAPITAL CITY AND PROVINCE. Pray for girls and women who are victims of abuse in Mozambique. Pray for their physical and emotional healing. Ask that God will become their strong tower. Pray that churches will walk alongside the traumatized and oppressed.

5 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES. South Asian believers are often fearful about sharing the gospel with Muslims. Pray that they will share boldly, that God will lead them to Muslims who are ready to believe, and that he will draw many South Asian Muslims to himself.

6 IRANIANS OF TURKEY. Pray for Iranian refugee believers in Turkey who are isolated from other believers. Pray that they will share the gospel with their neighbors and other Iranians. Ask that they will be encouraged while waiting for the United Nations to process their cases.

7 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Tel Aviv, a modern city in Israel of 500,000 people, is known for its art and culture. Pray for ministries to help those in great need, such as illegal immigrants, drug addicts, and prostitutes. Pray for secular Jews and Arab Muslims to find Jesus.

8 DEAF PEOPLES. In a South Asian city, workers met with a local believer and shared the gospel with the Deaf. One man believed and was baptized! After his baptism, seven others of the Deaf believed! Pray for them as they grow in the faith.

11 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. With limited infrastructure, solar panels provide energy for light bulbs and phones in Sanaa, the war-torn capital of Yemen. Pray for peace. Praise God that some have heard of Jesus, the Light of the world. Pray that this Good News will spread throughout Sanaa.

12 BUDAPEST, HUNGARY. A man in Budapest has heard the gospel repeatedly, but New Age teachings are keeping him in darkness. Pray that Jesus will touch this man's life and open his eyes to the truth about Christ.



9 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Algiers, the capital of Algeria, is also the political, economic, and cultural center of the land. People are frustrated with overcrowding, which is becoming an issue in this port city. Pray that they will hear the hope of the gospel.

10 ORCHID LAND, EAST ASIA. In East Asia, when believers gather to pray and read the Word, they are often nervous because of crackdowns on religion. They're doing their best to equip others and share the gospel, but it's not easy. Pray for them to boldly speak the truth and trust God.

13 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Pencil-thin Muslim minarets, domed Coptic churches, and apartment complexes form the skyline of Cairo, Egypt, where over 20 million people live. Pray that every individual will hear the gospel through various media, the written Word, or personal witness.

14 ISAAN OF THAILAND. Pray for the Isaan Team in Thailand. They're preparing for work in new areas and will begin to regularly visit one village community in particular. Ask for wisdom and opportunities for the team to share the gospel there.

15 CHENNAI, INDIA. Life is rough in a slum resettlement in Chennai. It has a high rate of suicide and domestic violence as well as a lack of education and job opportunities. Pray for more laborers and a spiritual breakthrough in this harvest field.

16 WASSULU OF MALI, GUINEA, AND COTE D'IVOIRE. The prosperity gospel has taken root in some Wassulu churches. Pray for workers and biblically solid Malian Christians to have wisdom. Pray that the truth of God's Word will stand and that the false teachers will repent.

17 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Injustice and sectarian divide among religious groups cause chaos in Baghdad, Iraq's capital city. Pray that leaders will be unified at the negotiating table. Pray that all will hear about the hope and peace that comes through salvation in Jesus.

18 LAST FRONTIER. Pray that the starving children in orphanages among an unreached people group will receive the special food that is needed to address malnutrition. Pray that they hear, understand, and believe the gospel.

19 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Casablanca, the economic capital and transportation hub of Morocco, has over 6 million people. A few groups meet regularly, but most believers depend on the internet for spiritual needs. Pray these will have fellowship, sharing hope in the city.

20 BRITISH OF ENGLAND. Leona* was skeptical when she first encountered Oikos Church in England. But she found a caring community that she enjoyed, and she later brought her mother and a friend. Leona is now a part of that church family! Pray for this new believer's growth and for this ministry.

21 DEAF PEOPLES. When Danny* saw the gospel, he immediately believed and was baptized. He quickly began sharing the gospel with the other Deaf in his village. Pray for Danny, a new believer himself, as he continues to learn Bible stories and share them.

22 PEOPLES OF RIAU PROVINCE, SUMATRA, INDONESIA. Pray for local believers to live out the gospel with courage and obedience. Pray for Baptist churches in Riau to disciple the members in sharing the truth of God. Ask for more believers in Riau to gain a passion for reaching the nations!



23 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Every person in Damascus, the capital of Syria, has been affected by the 9-year war. Traumatic stress is chronic in families. Pray for help through counselors and trained laymen. Pray that the Prince of Peace will heal broken lives and bring peace.

24 CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES. Entry into Central Asia is often difficult. Pray that God will open new avenues for Christian workers and allow those already serving in the area to find favor with authorities so that they can continue the work.

25 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Immigrants moved to Marseille, France, looking for a better life. Instead, they found high unemployment rates, poor housing, and rampant drugs and crime. Pray that they will turn to Jesus who can bring salvation and joy in their lives.

26 NEWCOMERS, EAST ASIA. Pray for Luna,* a devout Buddhist who goes to the temple every week to seek peace. Pray that she will come to know the Prince of Peace and that God will use believers to share the truth of the gospel with her.

27 KATIO OF URABA, COLOMBIA. Pray for a remote Katio village as missionaries and national partners seek to encourage the church there and share Bible stories. This community has a significant demonic presence, and many have suffered greatly as relatives have committed suicide.

28 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Saudi Arabians in Riyadh are experiencing social changes as women now have permission to drive and restaurants aren't required to be segregated by gender. Pray that religious restrictions also will decrease and that people hear the Good News of Jesus.

29 NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Impressive skyscrapers, mansions, and sports arenas rise from desert sands. The Muslim citizens of Doha, Qatar, are among the richest in the world. But wealth doesn't give eternal life. Pray that they will hear about salvation through faith and accept it.

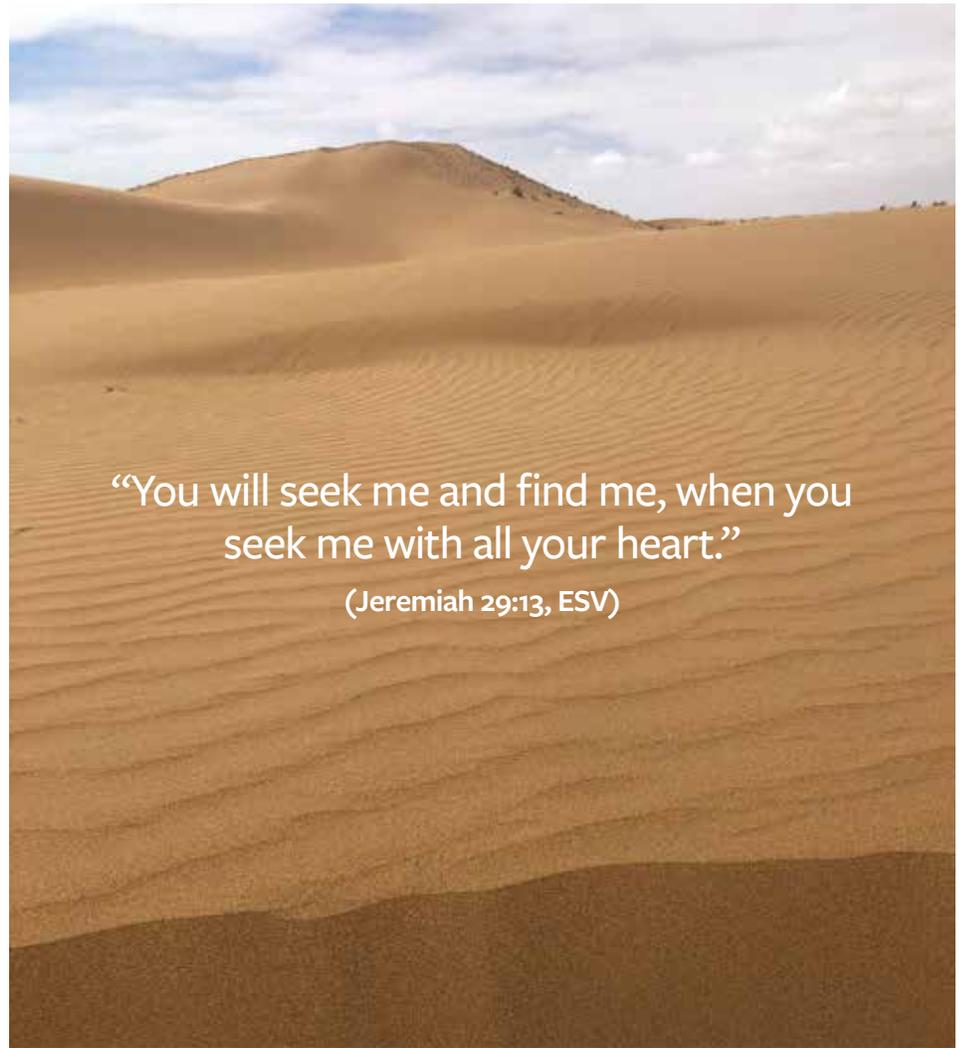
30 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES. A believer shared the gospel with Alex,* a Muslim, who works at a souvenir shop. Alex listened intently. Fear of persecution is strong there, but God is working! Pray for Alex and others like him who need forgiveness.

31 CHURCH PLANTING IN ZIMBABWE. Zimbabweans are suffering economic collapse, drought, and hunger that's among the worst in the world. Pray for rain. Ask God to help the missionary team there know how to best serve the suffering people.

Tripoli and Nouakchott: Two of North Africa's Least Reached Cities

Tripoli, Libya's capital and largest sea-port, has over 2 million people. Libyan Arab Muslims are in desperate need of the gospel. Pray that God will orchestrate the translation of the Bible into Libyan Arabic and that his Word will get into the hands of every person. Ask God to use strong family ties to lead whole households to faith.

Half of Mauritania's population live in the capital, Nouakchott. The growth of this city is from nomads relocating due to desert droughts. As one of the world's poorest countries, its families struggle with basic needs. The literacy rate is 50 percent, with fewer girls than boys going to school. While slavery is illegal, it pervades the social structure. Pray that the Bible will be translated into Hassaniyya Arabic and that Bible stories will be told to nonliterate. Ask for Nouakchott's Sunni Muslims to have access to the gospel. Pray that God's church will be established in these cities.



“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.”

(Jeremiah 29:13, ESV)

*Names changed

NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES

PRIMARY RELIGIONS



MUSLIM
81%



ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
COPTIC CHRISTIAN
15.4%



JEWISH
3%

528

UNREACHED UNENGAGED
PEOPLE GROUPS



557

MILLION PEOPLE

imb

Every church.
Every nation.

PRAYERPOINTS is available as a free email or print subscription. Please go to www.imb.org/prayer-points to subscribe, or call (800) 999-3113, if you need assistance.

You can also find PRAYERPOINTS on the IMB Pray app - available for iOS and Android devices. Find more prayer opportunities and resources at IMB.org/pray as well as on Facebook and Twitter.

CG 17M 2/20 P7422-5