ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT - 2020 DATA

Central Asian Peoples

Highlights

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD
Dear Partners,

In Revelation 7:9, the Apostle John describes a vision of a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. The IMB exists to serve Southern Baptists as we work together to usher in this beautiful picture of heaven.

Join us in praising God for the significant impact your IMB missionaries are making in getting the gospel to the nations. And please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to reach the unreached today.
Our mission is to serve Southern Baptists in carrying out the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations.

Our vision is a multitude from every nation, tribe, people and language knowing and worshiping our Lord Jesus Christ. (Rev. 7:9-10)

STRATEGIC ANCHORS

+ Advance the missionary task among unreached peoples and places
+ Advance relationships with Southern Baptists and global partners
+ Advance efficiency and effectiveness of global operations
Six Components of the Missionary Task

- Evangelism
- Discipleship
- Entry
- Exit to Partnership
- Leadership Development
- Healthy Church Formation
- Abide in Christ
Central Asian Peoples

Highlights

- 39,663 heard gospel witness
- 2,009 new believers
- 1,208 leadership trainings
- 16,191 opportunities to respond
- 762 baptisms
- 2 new engagements

NEW CHURCHES PLANTED: 30

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INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD
Central Asian Peoples

POPULATION 381,851,650

6,627

DYING DAILY WITHOUT CHRIST

Approximate numbers calculated using IMB global population and evangelical Christian estimates, excluding the United States.

And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. — Acts 10:42

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD
For a number of years, church planting teams have tried to make inroads into one particularly closed region with little success. This year, after being denied entry to the region twice and deciding to try again, an IMB worker stood at the border and told his local friend that God alone is in charge of their comings and goings. The man replied that he better pray, because the government officials were saying “no” yet again. The worker immediately prayed out loud in Jesus’ name asking for God’s favor. When the local friend asked border guards for permission one last time, he was surprised to hear the word “yes”. God is opening doors in Central Asia.

A church planting team received a list of people requesting New Testaments as a result of digital outreach efforts. Before anyone on the team could follow up, a man on the list showed up at a worship time, thanks to the invitation of a local believer—evidence that God was pursuing him through a variety of ways and people. Some workers met up with him a few days later and shared the gospel with him. Within a few weeks he stopped drinking, repented of his sins and began following Christ. He said, “I used to think that I was free, but I was blind…. Through you, the Lord reached me and opened my eyes.”
Central Asians understand intuitively the value of life-on-life discipleship. During a COVID-19 lockdown in his town, a pastor welcomed a family from another people group to live in the same house as his family for the purpose of ministry and starting a new house church. A single woman and her children, representing yet another unreached people, also moved in at the same time. Initially an unbeliever, she soon put her faith in Jesus and followed Him in baptism. Every evening the group gathered to read Scripture and pray together, and others from the community began to join them.

Five years ago, IMB workers took a vision trip to the heartland of an unreached people group where only a few believers were known to live and no church existed. Since then, three churches have been planted and a number of people have been baptized. One of those new believers tells of reading the Bible online and then having dreams that he couldn’t understand. God sent him a friend who was able to explain the dreams. That same friend baptized him in the presence of a number of other believers gathered from the young churches.
At a leadership training camp a woman stood to teach a short lesson, supported by other women praying for her. She said, “This is the first time I have ever taught in front of a group.” Six years before, this woman had raged against her husband’s salvation. Married at 13, her difficult life was not made easier by her husband’s decision to follow Jesus. However, God softened her heart and she chose to follow Jesus. She has grown into a woman of the Word and of prayer.

Many Central Asian peoples spent much of 2020 under government quarantine due to COVID-19. Despite this, in an effort led by local believers to bless and evangelize their own people, one unreached group saw more than 13 people come to faith. Several believers who had been out of fellowship returned to church. Over 67 families received food, and more than 30 received copies of Scripture. According to IMB workers, the growth among this group exceeded that of any three-month period in years.
2025 Targets

TO ENGAGE UNREACHED PEOPLES AND PLACES

TARGET ONE — Send an additional 500 missionaries

TARGET TWO — Mobilize 500 global missionary partners on IMB teams

TARGET THREE — Engage 75 global cities with comprehensive strategies

TARGET FOUR — Mobilize 75% of Southern Baptist churches to prayerfully and financially support the IMB

TARGET FIVE — Increase giving to the IMB by 6% annually
2025 Targets
TO ENGAGE UNREACHED PEOPLES AND PLACES

TARGET ONE
ADDITIONAL 500 MISSIONARIES

TARGET TWO
500 MISSIONARIES ADDED EACH YEAR

TARGET THREE
GLOBAL CITIZEN WE CONSIDERED STRATEGIES
75%

TARGET FOUR
75% OF CHURCHES SUPPORTING MISSION ABROAD

TARGET FIVE
INCREASE MANKINDS SENT TO THE LORD 6%
Please Pray

+ Intercede for U.S. churches as a praying people impacting a lost world.

+ Pray for wisdom as missionaries and local believers expand the use of virtual connections in Bible study and leadership training.

+ Ask the Lord to deepen relationships among global Baptist conventions, leading to 500 global missionary partners joining IMB teams.

+ Intercede for mission leaders who daily make strategic decisions about where to send missionaries and resources to see the Kingdom advance.
Please Pray

+ Pray for the 79.8 million forcibly displaced people worldwide to have opportunities to hear the gospel as they move and resettle.

+ Ask God to bless the 29,713 newly formed groups and churches with spiritual fruitfulness.

+ Pray for the 353,860 participating in ongoing Bible study to grow in knowledge and obedience.

+ Pray for God’s wisdom and favor in strategically engaging 75 global cities.
Let’s reach the nations together

info@imb.org