

# PRAYER DIARY

May 2024



## Türkiye

### WEDNESDAY 1 MAY TÜRKIYE

Pressure on the very small Christian population in Türkiye has been increasing over recent years, with rising religious nationalism fanning the flames of animosity towards the Church. Pray for God's protection over Turkish Christians and for the hearts of the majority population to be softened.

### THURSDAY 2 MAY EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY

Many communities are still in the process of rebuilding after the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that hit Türkiye in early 2023.

Pray for relief from the knock-on effects of displacement, food scarcity, poverty, mental health crises and limited access to healthcare.

### FRIDAY 3 MAY WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

Today is World Press Freedom Day. In Türkiye, the majority of the media is under government control and journalists who criticise the administration are undermined or even arrested. The media has repeatedly spread misinformation about and stoked prejudice towards the Christian community. Pray that viewers of SAT-7 TÜRK will hear God's truth.

### SATURDAY 4 MAY YAKAMOZ

The SAT-7 TÜRK film *Yakamoz* is about the peaceful co-existence of two families, one Turkish and one Greek, during the time of the great population exchange between Greece and Türkiye in 1923. A Christian message of peace shines through the story. Pray that non-Christian viewers will be challenged by stories of God's grace.

### SUNDAY 5 MAY PEACEMAKERS

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

Pray for those in positions of power in Türkiye. Pray that their hearts will be inclined towards peace.

### MONDAY 6 MAY ALEV FROM TÜRKIYE

Alev, a young woman from Türkiye, told SAT-7, "I lost my mother and I'm very lonely. Your programmes are very good for me – they give me peace." Pray for Alev and others who are experiencing the loss of a loved one. Pray that others will find comfort in SAT-7's programmes and the message of life.

### TUESDAY 7 MAY CHURCH ATTACKS

On 28 January, two men attacked a Catholic church in Istanbul, killing one person. IS claimed the attack. Pray for the safety of worshippers in Türkiye and that God would soften the hearts of those who perpetrate hatred.

Pray that SAT-7 PARS will show God's love to seekers in Iran, Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

### **WEDNESDAY 8 MAY** IMPRISONED

In Türkiye, citizens can be detained for up to two weeks without a charge. Many Christians have faced detention under suspicion of spreading 'religious propaganda'. Pray for prisoners to be released and for an end to harassment from the authorities.

### **THURSDAY 9 MAY** FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Pray for SAT-7's Turkish Instagram Live programme, *Frequently Asked Questions*, which responds to viewers' questions about Christianity. Pray that this digital initiative will reach new audiences and meet people where they are.

## **General**

### **FRIDAY 10 MAY** IRAQI CHRISTIAN YOUTH

Hard-pressed on every side by threats from extremist groups and societal

pressure, many young Iraqi Christians are understandably leaving the country. However, older generations of Christians fear that this will cause the Iraqi Church to dwindle out of existence. Pray that God will raise up young leaders to secure the future of the Iraqi Church.

### **SATURDAY 11 MAY** TASTE AND SEE

Pray for the success of the new Azeri-language programme *Taste and See*, a cooking show which weaves in discussions about Christian life and beliefs. Give thanks that programmes in Azeri are helping to communicate the Gospel to an even wider audience.

### **SUNDAY 12 MAY** HE LIVES IN US

"The one who keeps God's commands lives in Him, and He in them. And this is how we know that He lives in us: We know it by the Spirit He gave us" (1 John 3:24).

Pray that SAT-7's biblical teaching programmes will show new Christians in the MENA how to live lives that are pleasing to God.

### **MONDAY 13 MAY** SAMI FROM EGYPT

Sami, a father from Egypt, said, "I love SAT-7 KIDS because all the presenters speak from their hearts, and because of that, their words reach our hearts and our children's hearts as well. I watched SAT-7 as a child, and now my children do too." Give thanks that SAT-7 KIDS is bringing the Good News to whole families.

### **TUESDAY 14 MAY** CATALYST

The new SAT-7 ARABIC youth programme *Catalyst* demonstrates how to apply the wisdom of the Bible to everyday life. Pray that young viewers will learn how following God can be the catalyst for positive change in their lives.

### **WEDNESDAY 15 MAY** INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

Today is the International Day of Families. Pray that SAT-7's family-focused content will reinforce family relationships and give Christian parents resources to raise their children with the knowledge of God.

## **THURSDAY 16 MAY**

### **GOLPAND**

Deena, a young girl from Iran, had great things to say about the youth programme *Golpand*. "The programme has had a big impact on my life and on the things I do. The stories we are told, and the questions discussed, add so much to my understanding, as do the Bible verses that are shared at the end of the programmes." Pray that more young people like Deena will grow in their knowledge of God through *Golpand*.

## **FRIDAY 17 MAY**

### **MY LIFE JOURNEY**

*My Life Journey* is a worship programme that highlights the testimonies of Arab believers. Kheir, a young viewer from Algeria, said, "I was born into a family from a different background. I heard the message of Jesus through hearing Christian songs. I pray your songs will be a source of blessing for the Arabic world, especially in North Africa."

Pray that *My Life Journey* will inspire viewers with worship and stories of how God changes lives.

## **SATURDAY 18 MAY**

### **PARABLES EXPLAINED**

The new SAT-7 PARS programme *Parable and Metaphor* unpacks the parables of Jesus and helps viewers to apply this wisdom to their everyday lives. Pray that Persian-speaking viewers will be blessed by these timeless teachings and come to understand more about Jesus.

## **SUNDAY 19 MAY**

### **PENTECOST**

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John 14:26).

This Pentecost Sunday, praise God that He has poured out his Spirit on us and on our brothers and sisters in the MENA.

## **MONDAY 20 MAY**

### **SAT-7'S SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE**

In 2023, SAT-7 had encouraging levels of engagement across our social media platforms in the MENA. We had almost 12 million Instagram video plays,

2.5 million Facebook likes, 27 million YouTube views, 1.1 million users of the SAT-7 PLUS platform and over 103,000 conversations with viewers. Praise God for these numbers and the people behind them.

## **TUESDAY 21 MAY**

### **PUZZLE**

The popular SAT-7 KIDS programme *Puzzle* is a game show in which children aged 12-15 work together to solve exciting challenges, while learning about important topics such as kindness, equality and Christian values. Pray that *Puzzle* will continue to delight and inform young viewers.

## **WEDNESDAY 22 MAY**

### **WATER CRISIS IN MOROCCO**

Morocco has been in the midst of a water shortage over the past year, caused by drought, over-extraction of groundwater for agriculture and a growing population. Pray that the government's measures to tackle the crisis will be successful.

## **THURSDAY 23 MAY**

### SAT-7 PODCASTS

Praise God for the launch of SAT-7's two new podcasts, *7-minute Briefing* and *Voices of the Middle East*. Pray that listeners in the UK will be informed and inspired as they learn more about the MENA region.

## **Elderly People**

### **FRIDAY 24 MAY**

#### ELDERLY PEOPLE

Despite the cultural values of honouring and respecting older people, the reality in many parts of the MENA is that the elderly face isolation, neglect and mistreatment. Our next few prayers will highlight the challenges facing the older generation in this region. Pray that love and support will be shown in practical ways.

### **SATURDAY 25 MAY**

#### PENSIONS IN IRAN

Many pensioners in Iran are suffering due to the government's mismanagement of state pensions. Those approaching the ever-increasing retirement age are angry and uncertain about the future. Pray for

this precarious situation and that elderly Iranians will be provided for.

### **SUNDAY 26 MAY**

#### WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING

"Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?" (Job 12:12).

Pray that the elderly among the churches in the MENA will be valued, and that their wisdom and life experience will enrich their fellowships.

### **MONDAY 27 MAY**

#### SHARING THE GOSPEL

Elsa, a woman from Iran, asked SAT-7 for prayer. "These days I am sharing the Gospel with my family, including my 80-year-old mother. Please pray that she will come to faith." Pray that God will use close family relationships like these to bring the older generation to faith through their children.

### **TUESDAY 28 MAY**

#### ELDER ABUSE

Abuse of elders is a significant but underreported problem in the MENA. According to WHO, 30-50% of older

people experience abuse or neglect. Pray that Christians in the region will demonstrate a Christlike love and care towards the elders in their families and communities.

### **WEDNESDAY 29 MAY**

#### INTERGENERATIONAL WISDOM

The new SAT-7 PARS programme *Inner Revolution* features conversations between people of different generations about weighty topics like war, poverty and faith. Pray that the wisdom of older Christians, as well as listening to younger generations, will encourage viewers to open their hearts to the 'inner revolution' that God wants to work in them.

### **THURSDAY 30 MAY**

#### A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

Tarlan, a senior lady from Iran, contacted SAT-7 to say, "It is hard to express what a wonderful honour it is to be a child of God. Now in my 70s, I believe that God saved me from cancer so that I would have the opportunity to invite Jesus into my life. Hallelujah, glory to the Lord our Healer." Praise God for Tarlan's healing and that she was given the opportunity to put her faith in Christ.

## **FRIDAY 31 MAY**

### **PASSING THE TORCH**

Older generations of Christians in many countries in the MENA are praying for young believers whom they can train up to lead their churches, ensuring that Christian witness in their communities continues for generations to come. Pray for this passing of the torch as older believers pass on their wisdom.

*Names of viewers throughout have been changed.*

**SAT-7 UK**

Registered Charity No. 1060612  
PO Box 3941, Chippenham SN15 9HQ  
01249 765865  
respond@sat7uk.org