

## EGYPT: A DIFFERENT CRY

Population: 94.7 million; 90% Muslim; 10% Christian  
Literacy: 82.2% men; 65.4% women

At a time when Christians have been violently targeted – most recently by the bombing of two churches on Palm Sunday – SAT-7's Egypt team have worked hard to support their brothers and sisters. In February, when some five hundred Christian families fled Northern Sinai after seven targeted killings, SAT-7 broadcast a special edition of the live worship show *Keep on Singing*.

“We felt we needed to send out a message to the people that we are a church awaiting heaven,” said producer Andrew Gamal. “**We aren't escaping reality but we have faith that the Church belongs to heaven.** Christians hope in the hand of God to lift us up in the middle of dire circumstances.”

Despite such attacks and other forms of pressure, the Egyptian Church is by far the largest in the Middle East and it is conscious of its responsibility. Many Egyptian Christians long to see the fulfilment of the promise in Isaiah:

*“Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing on the earth. The Lord Almighty will bless them, saying, ‘Blessed be Egypt my people...’”* Isaiah 19:24-25



International Conference of Prayer in Egypt

SAT-7 News & Prayer articles are available in full at:  
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### PRAY

#### Wednesday 24 May

Pray that the Egyptian government would allow respectful freedom of speech and dialogue.

#### Thursday 25 May

Pray for sensitivity and wisdom as SAT-7 seeks to encourage and give a voice to suffering Christians.

#### Friday 26 May

Give thanks for SAT-7's dedicated Egypt team as they seek to serve Egypt and the wider Arab region.

#### Sat 27 - Sun 28 May

Ask that God will answer the cries of Egyptian Christians.

#### Monday 29 May

Pray that SAT-7 youth programmes will answer young people's search for purpose and true freedom.

#### Tuesday 30 May

Give thanks for a growing number of associate media ministries in Egypt that broaden the range of SAT-7 programming.

#### Wednesday 31 May

Ask that SAT-7 will share the message of God's love and transforming power for Egypt and the whole region.

**MAKING GOD'S LOVE VISIBLE  
ACROSS THE MIDDLE EAST  
AND NORTH AFRICA  
THROUGH CHRISTIAN TV**



# NEWS AND PRAYER

May 2017

## TURKEY: THE CRY OF ISOLATED BELIEVERS

Population: 77 million; 99.5% Muslim; 0.5% Christian  
Literacy: 99% men; 93% women



Istanbul, Turkey

These are difficult times for Christians in Turkey. The country has suffered an increase in terrorist attacks in major cities

and been in an extended state of emergency following the attempted coup in July 2016. The impact of the result of last month's divisive referendum on constitutional changes to presidential powers remains to be seen.

Turkey has one of the lowest proportions of Christians per population in the world. SAT-7 TÜRK is answering the cry of isolated believers, giving encouragement and providing sound Christian teaching, as well as a means to access Christian fellowship and worship.

As the newest channel in the SAT-7 family, SAT-7 TÜRK is becoming increasingly visible in supporting the Christian community and presenting good news to the wider community. From 2015, SAT-7 TÜRK has been the only Christian channel available on Türksat, the government-owned satellite, watched by an estimated 55 million viewers within Turkey.

SAT-7 TÜRK's Audience Relations Manager Ümit Teymur explains, “**Despite all the current problems in our country, we broadcast messages of the power and love of Jesus Christ to give the hopeless hope.**”



### PRAY

#### Monday 1 May

Pray for peace following the recent referendum and political uncertainty.

#### Tuesday 2 May

Pray for *Handmade*, our daily live show for women and plans to promote it through advertising.

#### Wednesday 3 May -

**World Press Freedom Day**  
Pray that an independent press will be able to address issues of truth and justice.

#### Thursday 4 May

Pray for isolated Christians in Turkey, that they will be able to draw closer to God through SAT-7's programmes.

#### Friday 5 May

Pray for Christians, for wisdom in sharing their faith with family & friends.

#### Saturday 6 May

Pray for SAT-7 TÜRK's team travelling across Turkey and surrounding countries as they meet and interview Christians.

#### Sunday 7 May

Ask that SAT-7 would have the resources to respond to those contacting us as they face suffering and oppression.

## ALGERIA: THE CRY FROM A FIRST-GENERATION CHURCH

Population: 40.3 million; 99% Muslim; <1% Christian  
Literacy: 87% men; 73% women



Free Souls filming on location

What is now Algeria was once home to Saint Augustine (AD 354-430), one of the Church's foremost theologians. Christianity flourished here between the fifth and seventh centuries

but gradually disappeared after the Arab invasions. Since independence in 1962 a new church has been born among the Berber people. Its astonishing growth in the last few decades is thought to be the fastest in the Arab world.

**SAT-7 is responding to these new needs by broadcasting a range of programmes to encourage and disciple Algerian believers.**

*Bible Teaching from Algeria*, presented by Pastors Saleh Shlah and Farid El-Amry, explores the main concepts of Christianity and provides practical guidance from Bible to help individuals with questions that they may have as new believers. Viewers have the opportunity to experience worship services and biblical preaching through *My Church in Algeria*, which broadcasts every week from a Kabyle-speaking church, with a thousand-strong congregation in Northern Algeria.



SAT-7  
Free Souls  
presenter

## PRAY

**Monday 8 May**  
Give thanks for the growth of the Berber church and for the several thousand new believers who are baptised every year.

**Tuesday 9 May**  
Pray for SAT-7's series, *Free Souls* that features strong personal testimonies of women from Algeria.

**Wednesday 10 May**  
Pray that live on-air testimonies will continue to be an inspiration and encouragement to others.

**Thursday 11 May**  
Pray for *Bible Teaching from Algeria* as it helps people to understand how they can communicate with God each day through prayer and worship.

**Friday 12 May**  
Pray for the continued spiritual hunger of this young Church in Algeria.

**Sat 13 - Sun 14 May**  
Ask that SAT-7 will effectively share God's love with seekers and disciple believers with the truth of God's word.

**Monday 15 May**  
Pray for Algerian Berber viewers who contact SAT-7 to share that "We need these kinds of programmes!"

## IRAN: THE CRY FOR MEANING FROM YOUNG MEN

Population: 82.8 million; 99.4% Muslim; 0.3% Zoroastrian, Christian, Jewish; 0.3% other  
Literacy: 91.2% men; 82.5% women



Iran has the highest rate of drug addiction in the world, with at least 2 million Iranians in a population of 75 million addicted to illegal substances. Young men are at the centre of this phenomenon – with high unemployment, gender segregation and a ban on alcohol, drug use is seen as the only outlet for many.

**SAT-7 Farsi-speaking channel, SAT-7 PARS, is addressing this issue head-on with a suite of hard-hitting shows tackling the subject of drugs and drug addiction, particularly among young men.**

SAT-7 has co-produced a social drama, *Swamp*, with famous Iranian actor Omid Ahangar, that considers the cost of drug addiction in society. The story is about the friendship between a journalist and a former drug addict, Nader, who has lost everything; it highlights how a relationship with God can change destructive patterns in an individual's life. Set to broadcast over the next month, *Reality of Drugs in Iran* is a 45-minute documentary presenting the testimonies of three people who have been involved with illegal substances: a woman whose husband was a drug addict, a former drug addict and a reformed drug dealer.

SAT-7's viewer support teams receive an extremely high number of prayer and counselling requests concerning substance abuse. Viewers tell us about the impact that SAT-7 programmes are having on their lives. As one viewer wrote, "Every day I thank God for all of you ... you are a voice of hope to us."

## PRAY

**Tuesday 16 May**  
Pray for Iranian young men facing numerous pressures that pushes them to seek escape in substance abuse.

**Wednesday 17 May**  
Ask that the drama, *Swamp*, would show how God can change lives.

**Thursday 18 May**  
Pray for SAT-7's viewer support teams responding daily to requests for prayer and counsel.

**Friday 19 May**  
Pray for the *Reality of Drugs in Iran* documentary to reach and impact many through the testimonies of former drug addicts.

**Sat 20 - Sun 21 May**  
Pray for organisations working to reduce the supply of drugs across the region.

**Monday 22 May**  
Pray for more Christians to have the courage to share their testimonies of freedom through Christ.

**Tuesday 23 May**  
A verse to pray for young Iranian men:

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."  
Matthew 11:29-30