

Email

Dear Friend

We continue to pray for Muslims as they fast and pray throughout Ramadan, praying for regions of the world where very few Muslims follow Jesus. As we have enjoyed Easter this last weekend and the promise of new life that it brings, let's pray that many Muslims around the world also find new life in Jesus.

If you have not yet received a copy of 30 days of prayer for the Muslim world you can still order one from us, or access the material digitally here: <https://www.worldprayerguides.org.uk/>

May God bless you mightily as you intercede this week.

For His Glory in the Nations

Charlie

Prayer Coordinator

Monday 18th April

Country: Kazakhstan

Region: Central Asia

The Original Stringed Instrument

A mournful melody fills the small auditorium as Aibek plays the kobyz. He holds the violin-sized instrument like a cello, with its base balanced between his legs. Dense, rich overtones resonate from the kobyz's wooden cavity as Aibek plucks the horse-hair strings. Aibek's repertoire includes entertaining folk tunes as well as classical pieces. But for Kazakhstan's pre-Islamic nomads, the kobyz offered more than entertainment. This ancient instrument, which may have been the earliest prototype of the violin, was believed to have supernatural powers. In the hands of a skilled player, the kobyz imitates the sounds of howling wolves, galloping horses, and crying swans. Shamans and traditional spiritual medics used the sacred instrument to try to communicate with spirits, cure illnesses, and break curses.

Hope for Today

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

— Psalm 40:3

Ways to Pray

- Pray that Muslims in Kazakhstan will encounter Christ, who is worthy of all praise and glory, and put their trust in Him.
- Pray for the Kazakh church to raise up a generation of gifted musicians who will lead people in worshipping Jesus Christ.
- Ask God to open doors for more teams of workers to live in Kazakhstan and share the Good News of the Gospel.

Tuesday 19th April

Country: Yemen

Region: The Middle East

The Dagger of Peace

Tucked in a small workshop in a winding alley, Jamal hammers away at a steel blade. He comes from a long line of smiths and can trace his family's business back more than 500 years. The double-edged daggers Jamal makes are called jambiya. Yemeni men fasten the short, curved daggers to embroidered belts strapped around the waist. These ornamental daggers serve as symbols of status, honour, and cultural identity. They are also a functional symbol of peace, as jambiya are rarely drawn in violence. In most cases, men resolve their disputes by relinquishing their blades to a mediator. Like many Yemenis, Jamal knows that the jambiya cannot bring the peace his country needs. Since 2014, Yemen's civil war has devastated the country and caused widespread suffering. But Jamal hopes that someday his homeland will experience reconciliation.

Hope for Today

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

— John 14:27

Worship

Listen to the song Prince of Peace by Hillsong United:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lV1udeCo1Q>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lV1udeCo1Q>

Ways to Pray

- Pray that Yemenis like Jamal will discover Jesus Christ as the one true source of peace.
- Pray for an end to Yemen's horrific civil war and protection for the men, women, and children most affected by the devastation.
- Ask God to draw unto Himself Yemeni leaders who will guide the country toward a peaceful resolution.

Wed 20th April



Country: Senegal

Region: The Sahel

The Upside-Down Tree

Dieynaba makes the best baobab juice in town. Thick, sweet, and creamy, the juice has a slightly chalky consistency and tastes like a mixture of pear, banana, and mango. Dieynaba adds two secret ingredients to her baobab juice: evaporated milk and a touch of nutmeg.

Baobab trees can survive thousands of years in Senegal's hot, dry savanna. To Dieynaba, the trees look like dancing women. Others say they look as if they were planted upside down. The tree's fruit grows as football-shaped gourds that are filled with white, powdery pulp rich in vitamin C and calcium.

While many in her community use her baobab juice to treat stomach ailments, Dieynaba longs for a deeper remedy for her region still suffering the effects of years of civil unrest. She wants to see hearts healed and an end to fear and distrust.

Hope for Today

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life ... on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

— Revelation 22:1–2

Ways to Pray

- Pray that God would prompt Senegalese Muslims to seek and find true healing through Christ, who defeated sin, death, and disease on the cross.
- Pray for men and women in Senegal to lean not on their own understanding but to acknowledge Jesus as Lord.
- Ask God to expand the Senegalese church and launch movements in surrounding villages.

Thursday 21st April

Country: Malaysia

Region: Southeast Asia

Spinning for the Win

Iskandar has spent years preparing to compete in his town's annual top-spinning contest. Now the 21-year-old stands at the edge of a large circle, watching another contestant wind several feet of cord around a gasing—a large, heavy, handcrafted top—to launch it from his shoulder.

Iskandar has a different approach. He wraps the cord around his gasing. Then with a surge of power, he whips the cord and flings the top like a frisbee. The goal is to get his top to spin the longest. The town's current record is just over 80 minutes.

Gasing competitions are serious affairs in Muslim villages across Malaysia. In the past, local shamans would ask spirits to bless the tops before the game started. With the spread of conservative Islam, they now have imams offer prayers of blessing for the competition. Iskandar's life revolves around top spinning. His passion for gasing outpaces his interest in Islam, and sometimes he fears that his spiritual neglect will cause God to be angry and reject him.

Hope for Today

"I will give thanks to you, O Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me."

— Isaiah 12:1

Worship

Listen to this worship song At The Cross by Chris Tomlin:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zev5tHjCB_s

Ways to Pray

- Pray that Malaysian Muslims who fear God's wrath will hear the Word and embrace Christ's promise of forgiveness and love.
- Ask God to send teams of believers to Muslim villages like Iskandar's to share the Good News of salvation.
- Pray that the grip of Islam will loosen its hold in rural Malaysia so that hearts will open to the Gospel.

Friday 22nd April

Country: Turkmenistan

Region: Central Asia

A Symbol of Home and Family



Batyr tickles his infant grandson. The boy squeals with glee and wiggles on a felt wool carpet. Light streams in from the “eye” of the yurt, the central crown where the roof struts intersect into a concave cross. Batyr lives in an ancient city in Turkmenistan, a desert country bordered by Afghanistan and Iran. Like many local families, he lives in a modern house. But he prefers to spend his time in the yurt set up next to his home.

His ancestors were nomads who herded their sheep, goats, and camels between pastures and oases. The nomads lived in portable yurts that stayed cool in the summer and warm in the winter. The world has changed dramatically in Batyr’s lifetime, and younger people seem uninterested in their ancestors’ way of life. Batyr wants to show future generations how to stay rooted in their traditions, but he senses that something is missing. He has recently heard that some people believe God is like a Good Shepherd, and now he wants to know more.

Hope for Today

Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

— Psalm 119:90

Ways to Pray

- Pray for Turkmens like Batyr to hear the Gospel, embrace Christ, and raise up a generation who will begin a new tradition of serving the Lord.
- Pray that children in Turkmenistan will grow up hearing the Word and believing in Jesus.
- Pray for God to call more men and women to go to Turkmenistan and plant churches that multiply and bear fruit.

Saturday 23rd April

Country: Russia (Dagestan)

Region: The Caucasus

The Highland Superfood

Nuriyat runs her own business in Dagestan, a mountainous republic in southwest Russia. Her shop is small, but it's always bustling with loyal customers. She owes her success to the quality product she sells: urbech, a nutrient-dense spread similar to peanut butter and made from finely ground seeds. Nuriyat's shop carries several varieties: flax, pumpkin seed, apricot kernel, poppy seed, and more. She sources her urbech from a mountain village where families use large, centuries-old stone mills to grind the seeds into a paste.

Urbech has long been a staple in the regional diet. Economical and portable, the high-protein spread sustains highland shepherds working in the harsh, mountainous climate. Urbech can be added to baked goods, sauces, and salads, but many people simply enjoy it with bread. Like many Dagestanis, Nuriyat believes urbech is the secret to a long, healthy life. Yet no one has told her about Christ, who invites her to feast with Him for eternity.

Hope for Today

Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.

— Isaiah 55:2 (NIV)

Ways to Pray

- Ask God to send teams of laborers to Dagestan to invite Muslims to enjoy spiritual food that will truly satisfy.
- Pray that Dagestanis will understand their need for the Saviour who died to forgive their sins.
- Pray for a movement of faith in Christ to spread through Dagestan's cities, towns, and villages so that all people will know that He is Lord.