Somali

The Somali live scattered across Somalia and portions of Ethiopia, Kenya, Yemen and Djibouti. Many more are dispersed across the Middle East and several Western nations.

The Somali share a common language, adhere to a single faith, and share a cultural heritage that is an integral part of their nomadic lifestyle. Although all Somalis profess strong allegiance to Islam, they hold stronger primary loyalties to self, family and clan, in that order.

Their name is derived from the words "so maal," meaning "Go milk a beast for yourself!" To Somalis, this is actually a rough expression of hospitality. But Somalia is a land characterized by poverty. The 2010 estimate of the yearly per capita GDP was only the equivalent of USD $600.

Life in Somalia’s capital, Mogadishu, has been ravaged by clan rivalry. It seems no one cares if a member of another clan starves. Thousands of automatic weapons are held by men and boys who steal food meant for the relief of those who are starving. Some sell the food to support their drug habit of chewing khat leaves. Khat, a mild stimulant promoting sleeplessness and talkativeness, is a social pasttime.
Somali

UNREACHED

ASSESSMENT

Somalia is considered one of the most lawless nations in the world. Efforts at Christian mission have met with little success. A common saying is "A Christian Somali is a dead Somali." Any attempt at open Christian witness is either ignored or met with violence. Christian ministries among Somalis must concentrate on service as a means of building good will so that Christian dialogue may take place.

APPEAL

The complete Scriptures is available in standard Somali. Messengers have learned that Somalis respond to the gospel when it is presented in biblical poetic stories. Currently a team of 10 committed believers is preparing for ministry among Somalis in East Africa. Thousands of believers in Kenya and other parts of the world are praying for their salvation and for peace to come to their troubled homeland of Somalia.

An angel appeared to the father of John the Baptist to clarify that his son’s ministry was “to make ready a people prepared for the Lord” (Luke 1:17). You are invited to join others in praying for an anointing of the Holy Spirit upon the Somali team that they too will be effective in leading people to Jesus, the Savior and prepare them to spend eternity with the Lord.

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