



## It is finished - John 19:30

When we look at the world around us, we may wonder 'is there any hope?'

At Arab Vision we often feel like that when we look around us in the Arab World. Just this week the announcement was made about the 2 million Syrian children who are so deeply traumatized that they need psychological help.

We feel like that when we think about girls being circumcised at the age of eight or ten, a cruel practice that is still the fate of more than 90% of the girls in Egypt and Somalia. Besides, Somalia is the number two country in the world where Christian persecution is worst.

We feel like that when we hear about or see the fighting and killing in Syria and Libya. Churches being attacked and destroyed in Iraq, Egypt...

And the list could go on and on...

People suffer, worldwide, in the Arab World.

This Easter season we will produce ten TV programs about the last days of Jesus' earthly life. These last days led to his suffering and, finally, his death on the cross. 'It is finished', three simple words, but they mean the world to us, they mean life to us, new life, hope...

Yes, there is hope for the world, for the Arab World.

Please pray for us that through our TV programs we may always share the message of hope, of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the source of living water, of life..

Please stand with us in prayer and please support our ministry financially.

It is finished. The Lord is risen, He is risen indeed!

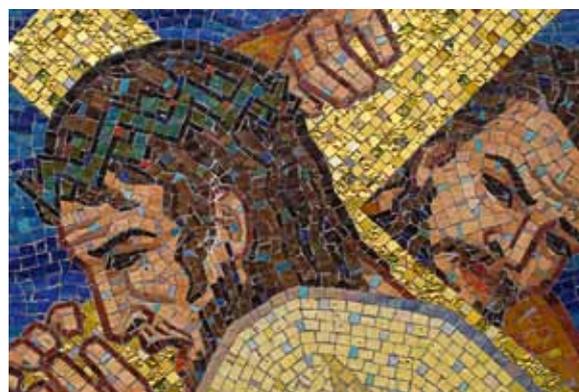
*Umm al Farieq*

Umm al Farieq  
International Director Arab Vision

## Simon, carry My cross...

*A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross - Mark 15:21 (NIV)*

Cyrene, Simon's hometown was a Greek city in north-east Libya, today's Shahhat. We don't know exactly what happened to Simon and his sons after the events in Jerusalem, but one thing is certain that Christianity has very deep roots in North Africa and it had a prominent role in the development of the Christian faith as we confess it today. The history of the early church in North Africa was also a history of suffering, carrying the cross, and martyrdom.



The price for sharing and living out Christ's message is still being paid today, both in North Africa as in the rest of the Arab World. Almost all the countries in the Arab World have a high ranking on the Open Doors annual persecution list.

On 24 February 2014, about 200 km west of ancient Cyrene, near the city of Benghazi, seven Egyptian Christians were killed. The ages of the dead range between 17 and 25. Since the revolution in Libya a number of attacks on churches have taken place; Christians have been arrested and tortured after being accused of proselytising. The recent killings have caused great fear amongst the Christians in Libya.

We received an urgent request for prayer from believers in the country, asking us to stand with them. "Pray that the voices of fear, violence and intimidation from within and without the country will be silenced."

Arab Vision is producing a series of programs about the Christian roots of Libya, Tunisia and Algeria. Through these programs we would like to show the witness from the Bible (Gospel of Mark) and from early church history. Would you please pray for the process of writing the script and for funds to make this production possible?

For more information on contributing to this program, see page 3.

If you are interested in the history of the church in North Africa, read the book by Robin Daniel, *This Holy Seed: Faith, Hope and Love in the Early Churches of North Africa* or visit <http://www.earlyafricanchristianity.com>

## A Gift from God:

*"For me you are a gift from God. Through you I am aware now of the suffering of my Christian ancestors during the early centuries in North Africa. This gives me more courage and confidence in Christ to endure what may await me in this country."*

Young man from Morocco

# Media for Change: No to female circumcision!

FGM/C, female genital mutilation or cutting is practiced in 29 countries, predominantly in Africa. Approximately 150 million women and girls have been circumcised. Every year three million girls are “cut” or circumcised. In the last two decades legislation has been introduced in many countries to outlaw the practice, but in order to really change the situation people need to be persuaded at grassroots level to stop this gruesome practice.

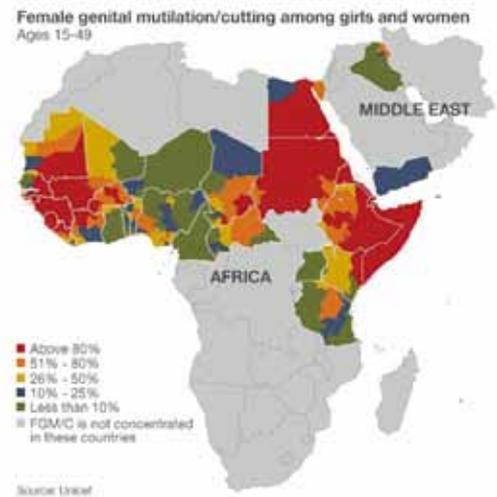


In Egypt FGM is legally not allowed, but it is still practiced on a large scale. Approximately 90% of the girls are being circumcised before they have reached the age of 12.

We hope that all those in authority will pronounce a loud NO to female circumcision. To strengthen and support that voice, Arab Vision is producing a new documentary on FGM to point out its negative and harmful aspects.

We are grateful for the contribution of EO (Dutch Christian Television) to make the production of this new documentary possible.

You can watch our video-clip introducing facts, figures and women’s stories on our website: [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org)



Arab Vision has produced several documentaries on the practice of FGM throughout the years. We were very happy when we could produce a program featuring an entire village that had abandoned FGM! Beside TV broadcasting, the documentaries are used by several local NGO’s who are involved in grassroots development work. We are hoping that churches and church leaders in the region will speak out against this awful habit, so that entire Christian communities will stop circumcising their daughters!

“ I watch your programs every day and I became a Christian two years ago. My sister became Christian six months ago. I’m asking your prayers that we both will share our faith with our parents and brother, and that they will follow Jesus.”

Baji – Algeria

## They killed Him not...

Almost everyone in the Arab World grows up with the words from the Koran: “but they killed him not, nor crucified him.” (Sura 4 verse 157) Christians in this part of the world are often confronted and challenged by this well-known verse. That is why we want to boldly proclaim the message of the death and resurrection of our Lord.

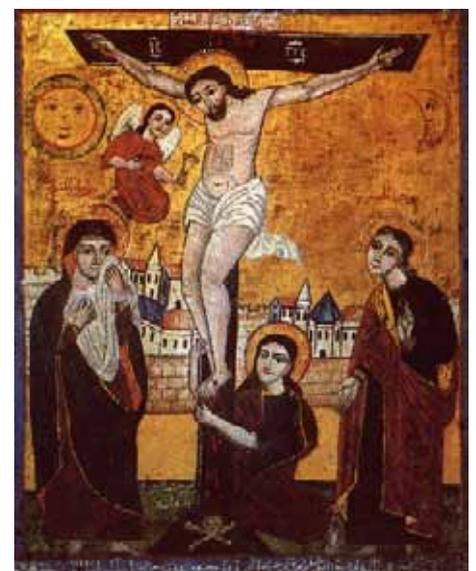
Together with SAT-7, one of the main satellite channels for the Arab World, we are producing a series of ten episodes about the events leading up to Christ’s crucifixion and His resurrection.

The focus of the series will be on the events in Christ’s journey to Jerusalem for His final earthly Passover celebration.

Please pray with us that the words, images and music will be used by God in a special way to touch the hearts of the viewers. The series will be broadcast during the Easter season this year and again in 2015 (probably by four more satellite channels!)

A big thank you for all of you who already contributed to the production and broadcasting of this series! We still need €1200 (US\$1500) to cover the cost for editing. Please consider giving a special Easter gift to share the gift of Easter with millions of Arab men and women!

[See page 3: your help needed]



# In the spotlights: Imed

Imed is a teacher, author, poet, and journalist and is actively involved in producing and presenting Christian TV programs for the Arab World. Throughout the years we have closely cooperated with Imed and we're happy to report that this month Imed will join Arab Vision's team and will be producing programs focusing mainly on North Africa.

Imed originally comes from Tunisia. His father sent him to a Koran-school hoping that his son would one day become an imam. In his teens Imed began to read books about Christianity, but it was not until he was teaching and got hold of an Arabic New Testament that he had an encounter with God and decided to follow Jesus.

At first his new behaviour was tolerated, but as soon as others were influenced by his testimony and became Christians as well, pressure from his family and friends increased to such a level that he even received death threats.

He says: "I have faced persecution in my home and country, at work and in my professional career after becoming a Christian. A few years ago I had to flee Tunisia, my church, and my life as I knew it, because of personal death threats against my family and me.

Working in media in my region is the best way to communicate and explain new ideas to my people, and it gives them some privacy to choose to watch or not, especially in the context of a "shame and honour" culture.

In addition, appearing on TV gives more credibility and respect for the speaker to his audience in the Arab World. Knowing that, many years ago we started the first teaching-evangelistic TV show, produced by Arab Vision".

Please look at page 4 for some of Imed's poetry.



Shooting with new film camera

## A big thank-you!

Thank you very much for the donations we received to buy an urgently needed film camera! Our production crew is already using the camera in current TV productions.

## Your Help Needed!

### Sharing the Easter message with millions of Arabs

[US\$ 1500 or € 1200 needed for 10 programs of 30 minutes]

We are grateful to be able to produce a series for Easter again this year!

As we are writing this newsletter, shooting has already started, choices for music made, and speakers for the programs invited.

Please consider giving a generous Easter gift towards this series to enable us to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ's suffering and resurrection with millions of men and women throughout the Arab World!

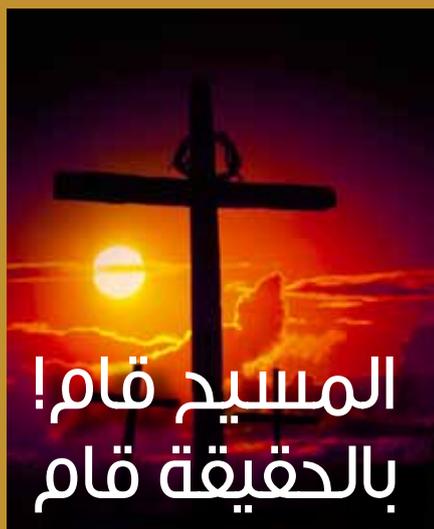


### Light for North Africa [€ 7500 or US\$ 10,000 per episode]

We are writing the scripts for this beautiful documentary series about the roots of Christianity in the North African countries of Libya, Tunisia and Algeria. We will shoot on location in those three countries, which will be complicated and costly. If you (as an organization) want to adopt one episode of this 13 programs' series, please let us know.

Although the total budget is high, we appreciate your small donations towards these programs highly as well!

For a full project proposal, please contact us at [contact@arabvision.org](mailto:contact@arabvision.org)



*Al Masih qaam,  
bil haqiqati qaam!  
Christ is risen, He is risen  
indeed!*

Celebrate Easter together with Arab Christians. Visit us at [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org) and enjoy the beautiful Easter hymn Al Masih qaam, bil haqiqati qaam! Sing along with the chorus, download the clip, pass it on to your friends and let the world be filled with a Resurrection Song!

## Hope for Somalia Christmas series

We are now preparing the first Christian TV program series in the Somali language ever. We are so grateful for the immediate response after our December newsletter; we received all funds needed for the production of the 26 episodes! We just need some additional funds for the editing of these programs, €2500 (US\$3500). Filming will probably take place around June or July of this year. Once the programs are edited we will make them available for satellite TV broadcasting and internet.

Please pray with us for the presenter and the producer of the series; that these programs will be a source of hope, comfort and new life to the millions of Somalis living in their own country and in the Diaspora.

In the December 2013 Newsletter we asked your support for the production of a Christmas program to encourage the Arab World with the message of Light and Salvation in the midst of darkness. You gave generously and we were able to produce a program with testimonies of Arab Christians from Lebanon, Sudan, Syria and Egypt. Please visit us at [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org) and enjoy the Christmas program video-clip.



## What others say about us:

"We highly value our longstanding partnership with Arab Vision. The programs they produce are being widely used on SAT-7's Arabic channels and today are touching the lives of millions of people across the Arab World. I highly commend them to you, for your prayers and support – helping them to continue producing such top quality and relevant programs."

Dr. Terence Ascott, Founder and CEO of SAT-7 ([www.sat7.com](http://www.sat7.com))

## Poetry

Imed also writes poetry in Arabic; here are some lines from his works with a translation.

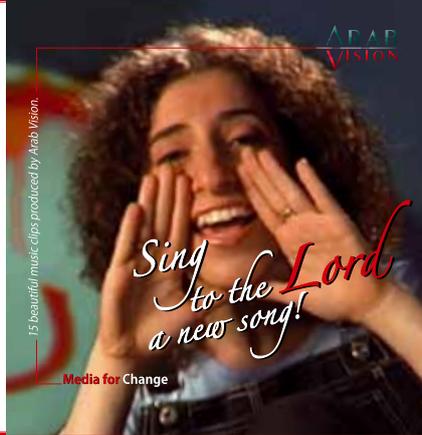
لم يز عجبك سؤالي ربي إنما أز عجبك النفاق  
نحن من يقتل ويسرق ويكسر العهود  
والإتفاقيات... نحن نفاق نحن من أغتصب  
وأغتسل مع كل الصلوات  
أسئلتى حيرة من أبتعد عن الله سنوات  
عاشرت الخطيئة فسارت هي المرآه  
وأجوبة الله قداسة ومحبة الفادي  
صليب وكسر للموت خلاص ونجاة

My questions did not upset you Lord,  
But what really does is our hypocrisy.  
We are the ones who kill, and steal;  
We break covenants and do not respect  
agreements.  
We are the ones, who commit sinful acts,  
Yet wash our bodies before every prayer.  
My questions arise from the confusion of  
a person,  
Who has lived far from God for many years.  
My sin was my companion;  
The lens through which I see the world.  
God's answer is holiness.  
The love of my Redeemer  
Is a cross that defies death;  
My rescue and salvation.

## Special offer

### Sing to the Lord a New Song!

DVD with 15 Christian Songs in Arabic. Arab Vision offers you a wonderful collection of 15 Arabic songs to pass on to your Arabic speaking friends, colleagues or family or to anyone who loves to listen to Arabic music. If you would like to receive the DVD, please mail to [contact@arabvision.org](mailto:contact@arabvision.org)



## CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

**Arab Vision Trust Fund**  
is registered as a charity in Cyprus  
email: [contact@arabvision.org](mailto:contact@arabvision.org)  
website: [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org)

**In the United Kingdom**, you can send your gift direct to our bank:  
Bank: Lloyds Bank Plc  
Account: Arab Vision  
Sort code: 30-97-24  
Account no: 49415760

**Alternatively, cheques** can be sent to:  
Arab Vision  
Room S0078  
120 Kingston Road  
Wimbledon  
London SW19 1LY

**In the USA**, checks can be sent directly to our American office. Arab Vision Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.  
P.O. Box 110354  
Dallas TX 75011

You may also **donate by paying through our website** [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org). This is a secure payment facility.

**In Canada, Australia and New Zealand**, cheques can be sent to Interserve with a cover letter indicating that the money is meant for Arab Vision.

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"I have converted and I am very afraid, but I know that I'm on the right path."

Anonymous – Jordan

Would you like to receive regular prayer requests about the Arab world and the work of Arab Vision, please subscribe to our email prayer letter through our website [www.arabvision.org](http://www.arabvision.org) or write to us at [contact@arabvision.org](mailto:contact@arabvision.org)

ARAB  
VISION

Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab World