



WeAreN

Arab Vision is one of the many organisations supporting the campaign WeAreN. Islamic State militants marked Christian houses in Iraq with the letter N (of Nasrani, Christians) in Arabic, to single them out for harsh treatment. Thousands of Christians all over the world have taken the symbol as sign of solidarity with Iraqi Christians.

Previously we made TV programmes especially for Iraq and Kurdistan and this Christmas we are producing a programme for all those who are being persecuted in the Middle East.

It is only Jesus' light that conquers, only Jesus' grace which gives life and peace. We pray that many Christians will be encouraged by this Christmas programme which, with your help, we will co-produce and broadcast with SAT-7. We don't have all the funds yet, so please have a look at page 3 to see what is still needed. Your prayers are much appreciated!



WeAreN

That is also applicable for Messianic Israeli believers and Palestinian Christians. Where hatred seems to have the upper hand, initiatives are taken by Christ's followers who don't want to be each other's enemies, however difficult that may be. These are the great themes of the Gospel: guilt, forgiveness, reconciliation. With the Musalaha organisation (Arabic for reconciliation) we are producing a documentary about its work. You'll read more about it in this newsletter.

WeAreN

Will you pray with us? Will you help us again? Thank you!

On behalf of the Arab Vision team I wish you a blessed Advent and Christmas season!

Umm al Farieq

Umm al Farieq
International Director Arab Vision

Embrace hope! Embrace life!

"Death to the Shia!" calls a Sunni Muslim and a car bomb attack kills 38 people in a Shia area of Baghdad. "Death to the Sunni!" calls a Shia suicide bomber and kills 68 people in a Sunni mosque in Iraq. "Death to the kufaar – the unbelievers!" shouts the IS warrior and down comes his sword for another beheading. "Death to the Jews!" say two

Palestinian men who enter a synagogue in Jerusalem and kill five people there. "Death to Arabs!" scrawls a settler on the wall of a house in a Palestinian village and burns it down.

The list can go on and on, so does the cycle of violence and death. Thousands of people are imprisoned by contempt and hatred for 'the other', often coupled with racist and/or religious views, resulting in growing polarisation, not only affecting the Arab World, but also many parts of the Western world.

It feels rather naive - almost alien - to write about reconciliation, a **life-giving movement** in which relationships are restored and lives are healed.

For more than 20 years the Musalaha (Reconciliation) movement in Jerusalem has been working with Palestinian and Israeli believers in Jesus. The work is based on the belief that Christ's death and resurrection is the foundation of reconciliation, and that forgiveness and healing can only come through following His example and obeying His word.



Arab Vision, in partnership with Musalaha, is planning the production of a 45 minute documentary focusing on the teaching of biblical principles of reconciliation, including some of Musalaha's activities, testimonies of participants and comments from Christian leaders on both sides. It will be produced in two languages, Arabic and Hebrew, and subtitled in English.

Continued on page 3





Media for Change

New productions:

Christian apologetics: *Sharing the Gospel now*

Who is God, what is He like? Why do Christians believe in three gods? Who is Jesus and what is so unique about him? Where does Mary fit in the picture? Do Christians actually pray and fast? If so, how, when and why? These are just a few questions that Muslims often ask about the Christian faith. The goal of this new series is to explain the truths of the Christian faith in a clear but inviting way. Muslims who have been taught Islam and the Qur'an throughout their lives can find these biblical principles hard to accept. The presenter of the program is a Christian from a Muslim background. The series consists of 13 episodes of 12-15 minutes each. Follow up will be done through email, phone and social media.

Women in the life of Christ *Biblical Insights for Modern Times*

Jesus' treatment of women was revolutionary, breaking the social norms of His times. Even the earliest biblical records of Christ's interactions with women give primary evidence that He treated all women with respect, affording them dignity and special standing that was unheard of at the time.

Christ's life is an effective model for Arab men and women to follow.

The focus of this series will be on women Jesus encountered in His life on earth. We will look at Mary the mother of Jesus; Mary and Martha, sisters of Lazarus; the Samaritan woman; Mary Magdalene; the woman with the issue of blood and others.

Christ recognised the immense value of each woman and showed the extent of God's own appreciation for her in the circumstances in her life.

The series consists of two parts: the first part is about women in Christ's life. The second part will be about women from the Old Testament. Each part will consist of 13 episodes of about half an hour.

From our viewers:

CHRISTIAN TV CHANNELS WERE MY NEW FAMILY

“More than ten years ago the Lord healed me physically and spiritually with His powerful love and peace. He also gave me a hunger for His word and for fellowship with other believers. Christian TV channels were the new family that God gave me. I started searching for new believers to share the Word with them. So, I went to the nearest church in my town but, with fear and hesitation, the priest said to me, ‘We do not receive local believers in the church!’

This was a shock and I felt so grieved, but the Lord promised to be with me. Days went by and finally I thought that the internet would be my only way to meet other believers. So I bought a computer and my granddaughter helped me to find other believers on the net, so I was able to have some (virtual) fellowship with them. God answered my prayers and I finally met some of them face-to-face and got baptized.”

65-year old man from North Africa



Picture does not portray the man from the story.

Embrace hope! Embrace life! - continued

After the July war in Gaza, Salim Munayer, director of Musalaha, writes, "The last cycle of violence has affected our societies; some feel betrayed, some are depressed, and others feel their principles have been compromised. Some are expressing themselves with bitterness and hate for the other side. Both Israelis and Palestinians feel they have lost their joy, and are questioning the future."



In a conflict situation the other party is too often regarded as inferior or is even dehumanised. However, getting involved with "the other", really listening and establishing a relationship is a long, fragile and difficult process which suffers setbacks and requires persistence.

Musalaha organises activities in which children learn to relate to children from "the other side" and play together; young people hike in the desert and have to learn to rely on each other and trust each other; women meet together and share one another's sorrows and pain. People are brought together so that relationships can be established and nurtured.

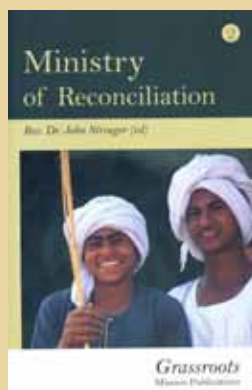
"Right now, our challenge is to hold on to hope," Salim continues in his article. "Hope is the refusal to accept the current destructive reality. When we continue to talk about reconciliation, we continue to embrace hope. We continue to believe in the possibility of a better present. We want to speak peace, seek peace, and maintain our hope."

If you would like to participate in this movement of hope and reconciliation and want to know more about the documentary that Arab Vision will produce in cooperation with Musalaha, look at Your Help Needed on page 3. Please pray with us that this film will be an effective tool in opening people's eyes for the necessity and possibility of reconciliation. For more information about Musalaha, see www.musalaha.org

The Ministry of Reconciliation is the second book in our *Grassroots Mission Publications* and focuses mostly on issues of reconciliation and mission in the Arab World.

For anyone with an interest in mission and the Church in the Muslim World, this is a very valuable book. The writers are all long-term Christian workers in the Muslim World. Copies can be ordered for US\$10 a piece .

Contact us via www.arabvision.org or send a mail to contact@arabvision.org



Media Training:

The 'facebook-generation' is very involved with society and dreams about change, fairness and openness but their voice is rarely heard above the official, state-controlled media in the Arab World. Arab Vision believes in diversity in society and is not afraid to give people a voice. It puts this into practice by providing media training for young adults. The training covers various essential aspects of filming and editing of short video-clips which can be posted on social media. As a final assignment students are asked to produce a short video-clip in which they show that they have mastered the skills that have been taught.



One of the trainees writes:

"This training is for us very important! We often use video without the know-how so when we heard about the training we went and we are very excited with this team of professional trainers with great experience. They were willing to give us experience in the field of directing, photography and editing; how to make a movie and show it to the world. After the theoretical part we were

asked by the trainers to make a movie and present it. We wrote a story, shot, directed, and edited it. I had some experience in working with video, but when I attended this training, I felt fantastic, it was all very useful. The script I wrote was quite complicated, but I got much help from the trainers and it was a success for me and my group."

Your Help Needed

Getting the right things right
US\$20,000 or €16,000

Biblical principles for reconciliation

This documentary will feature Israeli and Palestinian Christians in their tough search for justice, mercy and forgiveness. If I am reconciled through Jesus Christ, how can I take steps to be reconciled with my enemy?

Your prayers and financial support for this project will be greatly appreciated.

Kyrie Eleison US\$5,000 or €4,000

Encourage Christians in the Middle East

This year we will produce a special Christmas program to encourage and comfort Christians in Iraq and Syria and in other countries, who continue to face severe persecution and killing, and/or have lost their homes and live as refugees in desperate circumstances. There is an urgent need of **£3,000** to complete this program that will be broadcast around Western and Eastern Christmas. In 2013 Arab Vision's one-hour Christmas program was broadcast **15 times** during the Western/Eastern Christmas season.

Light for Kurdistan - US\$7,500 or €6,000

The truth about my faith in the Sourani language

Some time ago we produced an evangelistic series in the Sourani language, the main language of Kurdistan. Topics included *Was the bible corrupted? How could Jesus be born as a man and be truly God?* and *The cross and the resurrection*. It is a series of 33 episodes of 25 minutes each. We are in need of funds to broadcast the series, to re-shape the programs to use them for internet campaigns (YouTube and Facebook), and to arrange effective follow-up. Please help us to spread the light among the Kurdish people through your prayers and gifts.

Where most needed

Any general donation

We regularly receive donations, marked as 'where most needed', and we often use those donations to cover the cost of our follow-up ministry, as this cost is not covered by designated funds.

Questions to Umm al Farieq

Why does Arab Vision ask for money? Why don't broadcasters pay for the productions?

The organisations which broadcast our programs often have to raise funds to cover the costs of broadcasting, and some of them also produce programs which stretches their resources even further. Sometimes we share the costs for producing a program, like we do with SAT-7 for the Christmas program. There is a huge demand for authentic programs in

Arabic and the other languages spoken in the Arab World. If we could produce more programs they would all be welcomed by the broadcasters.



What are the developments on the Hope for Somalia project?

The series of evangelistic programs in the Somali language which we planned to produce has met with considerable delay and we are not quite certain yet whether we can actually produce the series. Would you please pray for this project? This would be the first series of programs in which the Gospel will be explained by a Somali Christian. Please join us in prayer!

Thinking outside the box

In some countries of the Arab World the educational systems are focused on learning by rote, without teaching students to understand or reason. This has disastrous consequences for their development. They don't learn to think about choices, develop alternative solutions or to plan ahead which may result in anger and frustration when faced with challenges in later life. Arab Vision is involved in developing TV news programs for children and teenagers to teach them to form their own opinions about issues in life and world events. Among more than 15 contributions, Arab Vision's pilot program was awarded first prize by a children's jury. We expect to start the production of these programs in the near future.



CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

Arab Vision Trust Fund

is registered as a charity in Cyprus
email: contact@arabvision.org
website: www.arabvision.org

Arab Vision is a registered charity in England (no. 1154993). In the UK, 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
The Long Lodge
265-269 Kingston Road
Wimbledon
London SW19 3NW

NB: new address for Arab Vision UK!

In the USA, checks can be sent directly to: our American office. Arab Vision Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.

Arab Vision
P.O. Box 110354
Dallas TX 75011
Arab Vision Inc. (USA)
P.O. Box 110354
Dallas TX 75011

You may also donate by paying through our website www.arabvision.org. This is a secure payment facility.

Bank of America
Branch: 11868 Preston Rd, Dallas TX 75230
Account name: Arab Vision Inc
Account no: 004782094990
Routing no: 111000025
Federal EID no:
48-1270313

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.

Interserve PO Box 231 Bayswater Victoria 3153 AUSTRALIA	Interserve 10 Huntingdale Blvd Scarborough, ON M1W 2S5 CANADA
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Interserve
PO Box 10244
Auckland 1030
NEW ZEALAND

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 or write to us at contact@arabvision.org



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Media for Change

Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab world

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Website Renewed

Come and visit us again at www.arabvision.org and browse our news articles, read newsletters, get the latest news on our projects, watch video-clips on our YouTube channel, etc! Please let us know if anything is not working properly yet or if you have ideas for improvement.



Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab world