

ARAB VISION

FIFTEEN YEARS ANNIVERSARY

Issue 22, July 2012

The Singer and the Song

You may have read the poetic books written by Calvin Miller, telling about the Creator (God), who sends the Singer (Jesus) to earth to sing the Song (the gospel) and teach it to his disciples. Arab Vision's staff are men and women who are followers of the Singer and the Song has sounded through our Arabic Christian TV programs throughout the Arab world for the past 15 years!

In 1 Timothy 2:2 we are called to pray for our governments (that we may live peaceful and pious lives). This is not easy for our brothers and sisters in for example Egypt. They fear for the future of the Church and the consequences of the recent presidential elections, in which the Muslim Brotherhood candidate was elected as the new president of that country.

One of our production teams is currently working on a series of programs about the position of the church in society. How can churches and believers put themselves on the map and have a voice in the public domain, how can they, although they are a minority, participate in society in such a way that they mirror Jesus Christ? Please pray for wisdom and guidance for the producer of these programs!

Another team is preparing a series about Jesus' parables. Biblical education is so vital for the young, growing churches in especially North Africa.

I kindly ask you to pass this newsletter on to others, who may also be interested in our work in the Arab World.

Please remember us in your prayers and if possible, help us continue producing our life-changing TV programs by sending your donations towards our ministry!

May God bless you.

Umm al Farieq

Umm al-Farieq
International Director Arab Vision

Arab churches don't stop singing for their Lord!

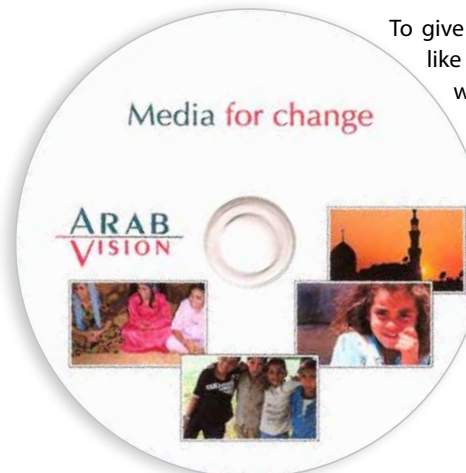
'We will not be moved'

Samma, one of the bible heroes, was in his lentil field when the Philistines came. Many of the Israelites fled, but Samma could not be moved. As they see the 'Arab Spring' unfolding around them, many Arab Christians in our time would like to flee but most choose to stay put.

"We are Arabs, this is our country, and we want to let our light shine in our nation," an Egyptian Christian recently told Arab Vision. "I'm not taking my family to Australia or Canada. How could we sing the Lord's praise in a foreign country? I belong in Egypt."

In Syria challenging times await the churches, especially if Bashar al-Assad's regime collapses. In Tunisia the churches have long been regarded with relative tolerance. What will happen to this tolerance now that a fundamentalist government has come to power is to be seen. In the Nuba-mountains of Sudan, Christians are being wiped out by Khartoum's Islamic regime. Many of our brothers and sisters in Egypt fear they will soon be more limited in their freedom, after the Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohammed Morsi won the presidential elections.

Should we give up on the churches in the Arab world? Arab Vision will not! Our Lord commanded us to go into the world and preach the gospel. Arab Vision seeks to continue doing this by producing its Christian TV programs. We have done that for 15 years now and praise God for the impact that has had in those past 15 years! Together with believers in the Arab world we will not throw in the towel, but we will continue spreading the gospel and praising the Lord wherever we can.



To give you a taste of our 'song of praise' we would like to send you a special anniversary music-DVD with 15 of our most beautiful, authentic Arabic Christian music-clips. Support the ministry of Arab Vision by making a donation and you will receive this music-DVD and our latest information film on DVD. Please check out our website www.arabvision.org to find out how you can make an online donation, and send your address details to contact@arabvision.org.



The role of the Church in changing societies

Listening to Arab church leaders

During the past months we worked on the pre-production stage of our series on the role of the Arabic Church in changing societies. Optimistically we call this our 'democracy project'. How can the churches take their position in the public domain and stop hiding behind their church walls? How can they be more visible in society and how can Christian believers better deal with the current situation in which people have become less afraid to speak their mind and many more people started thinking for themselves about their world, politics, choices in life, etc.

We have now done several interviews with church leaders and other leading people for this documentary series, and here is an impression from our producer:

"By working in this project I discovered that many Christians are great political thinkers and people with vision, who have good insight in the issues that concern Christians. I interviewed church leaders who have really smart ideas about the situation of their country, what it needs, and how Christians can participate in society more effectively. I feel privileged to be involved in this production as the producer of the programs as it gives me the opportunity to be inspired by men of faith, who want to spread their ideas about how to be salt and light as Christians, through our TV programs. I am grateful that I can contribute to share this knowledge and insights to my own church and to society as a whole, by 'just doing my work.'"

Audience responses



“ Hello, I am an Iraqi woman. Now I live as a refugee in Jordan. Please, pray for my two daughters and me because we are alone as strangers. ”

“ I'm going to be a father soon and seeking to get the series about 'raising children'. I'm sure it will be helpful to me on a personal level as well as for our ministry. ”



“ First, my name is Yousef Adam. I was a Muslim and still am in front of people, but I saw Jesus and got to know Christ and believed in Him but I am afraid to show my faith in front of the people, as they might kill me. Please, I need help from somebody. ”



I never thought about myself as a great board-member, and I was a bit surprised when in 1997 the Arab Vision international board asked me to become part of it.

After a few years of serving in that board I also served in the Arab Vision board in The Netherlands. I was fascinated by the opportunities of spreading the Gospel through television in the Arab world, and by the impact of Christian TV on the millions of people God wants us to reach. For me, being part of the ministry, it was all about touching people's lives with the powerful message of the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the past fifteen years many Arabs were touched through these TV programs and for me it has been a privilege to contribute to plans and strategies, direction of the ministry, etc. Arab Vision's work must continue, especially in this time of tension and turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa. Please stand with Arab Vision and support the production of the life-changing TV programs!

Herman Takken

Jesus' teachings through his parables

More of the Gospel for Kabylia

Christianity is founded on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus frequently used parables as a means of illustrating profound, divine truths. Stories such as these are easily remembered, the characters bold, and the symbolism rich in meaning.

We are preparing 13-26 programs featuring the parables of Jesus. Initially we thought to make it a bible-study series, filmed in a studio. But we changed the format into drama, to be filmed on location, hopefully in Algeria itself. Thus this will become a fare more lively series, inviting for people who are not familiar to the teachings of Jesus, to watch.



The focus of this series is also on young Christian believers, and the leaders of the young Churches. They need solid food and satellite TV is a powerful means to reach so many people at the same time.

One of our presenters regularly travels into Algeria and the Kabyle area: 'I am impressed, excited, and also a bit concerned sometimes, to find out how many people in the streets start talking to me, telling me that they

know me from television. These moments are often emotional, as people tell me they are so grateful for the Christian TV programs.'

Please pray for the growing churches in Kabylia, and pray for the preparations of another series in the Kabyle language: that the series may build up many young believers in their faith, and invite many others to start thinking about becoming Christian believers. Pray for the presenters and the producer of the series.

Your help needed

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING – 12000 US\$ NEEDED

We have produced 52 bible programs with a respected Arab pastor, who used to provide biblical training at a Bible society in the Middle East. In the programs he explains the basic principles of the Christian faith. Through the programs he trains evangelists how to share the Gospel in a way that is easily understood by non-Christians.

All 52 episodes have been filmed, but we need additional funds to edit the complete series.

Please help us to finish this production so that the series can be broadcast soon!

JESUS' PARABLES FOR ALGERIA – 7500 US\$ NEEDED

The Church in Kabylia in Algeria has been growing fast during the past years. This young Church with young leaders and pastors is in urgent need for solid biblical education.

Arab Vision is producing a series of Jesus' parables on location in Algeria in the Kabyle language. Because we are shooting on location and not in the studio we need an extra 7500 US\$ to produce the series. If you want to contribute specifically to this project, please specify that in your payment description.

2 LAPTOPS URGENTLY NEED REPLACEMENT – 2250 US\$ NEEDED

One of our producers and the business manager of the production department urgently need their laptops replaced. Please consider making a donation for this concrete and urgent need!



Mark Marlowe: 6 years board chairman

In modern times, media of one form or another have been the midwife of revolutions. The 'Arab Spring' is no exception. But a greater revolution has been taking place in thousands of human hearts across the Middle East as the Word of God has been coming through satellite broadcasting. It has been my privilege to serve the Arab Vision mission as a board member for six years in this time of great opportunity, unparalleled in history. Without question, uncensored, appropriate and culturally sensitive Christian satellite programming has been a principle element in the spread of the church across the Middle East and North Africa.

I have admired AV leadership's desire to develop programs, which speak biblically to the full dimensions of life – the spiritual as well as communal, civic, physical, and humanitarian. It is my prayer that AV expands its programming reach significantly for the glory of God

My prayer is that Arab Vision will continue to grow and that many more people will be reached with the gospel for the glory of God!

If you want to pray regularly for the Arab world and the ministry of Arab Vision, please sign up for our bi-weekly email prayer letter.

**Fill out the form on our website
www.arabvision.org.**

Please visit our website www.arabvision.org to check out how to make your donation online.

New studio and new series of TV programs

Arab Vision has a new studio and we are all excited about it! Even though the place is not large, we are able to shoot professional HD-format programs in this place.

Our first series of programs shot in this new studio was finished last week; in 15 programs of 25 minutes each, we treated the subject of salvation by the Lord Jesus Christ. Why are people not as perfect as they like to be? Has God made us so imperfect? What happened?

The programs start at the Genesis-story of Adam and Eve. We show how people have tried to create their own solutions to the problem of sin; all of our prayers, good deeds, fasting, repentance before God, are well intended, but they are just as useless as the fig leaves Adam and Eve created.

The cosmic impact of the disobedience of mankind needs a cosmic solution. God himself offered the answer to our problem of sin and separation from Him, through the death of his Son Jesus Christ.



While we were shooting these programs, it was over 40 degrees outside; our air conditioners still had a few problems; the electricity also proved problematic; some of the decorations were damaged in transport. But our team was so excited to shoot in our new studio that they worked well together and they praised God for his salvation – and for these beautiful new TV programs.

Please pray for the peoples in the Muslim world when they will be observing Ramadan from 20th July until 18th August. Fasting during these particularly hot months is very hard. Please pray that many will find Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior as they seek God's presence more than usually.

CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

Arab Vision Trust Fund
PO Box 21258
1505 Nicosia, Cyprus
E-mail: contact@arabvision.org
Website: www.arabvision.org

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

Arab Vision, Inc.
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.

In Canada, the United Kingdom, 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
PO Box 10244
Auckland 1030
NEW ZEALAND

Interserve
10 Huntingdale Blvd
Scarborough, ON
M1W 2S5
CANADA

Interserve
5/6 Walker Avenue
Wolverton Mill
Milton Keynes, MK12 5TW
UNITED KINGDOM

15 years Arab Vision!

Abu Banaat:

Still supporting Arab Vision

In 1997 I created Arab Vision to make Christian Arabic television programs. The need for these programs was great. The need is still great. Because of satellite television millions of Arabs watch gospel-centered programs every day.

After I had led the organization for some time I decided the time was ripe for some new faces. My 'baby' Arab Vision had grown up and in 2010 I let it go. I can say with pleasure the organization continues to pursue the vision.

Through this beautiful work many Arab Christians are encouraged and countless Muslims are made familiar with the gospel. I continue to support Arab Vision as much as I can. I hope you do the same through prayer and by donations.



Coptic bishop: impact on Christian families in rural areas

Bishop T. is a very passionate Coptic bishop who was on the board of Arab Vision for several years. In that time he once told us: "For a couple of years now, no Christian girl has become Muslim in my diocese. I am convinced this is directly related to the Christian education that rural families get from Christian programs like Arab Vision's."

**ARAB
VISION**

Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab World