

New team members

A new international director with extensive experience in media work has been appointed by the international board; he began his work on 1 January. At the same time our international team has been strengthened by an operations director. Next to having general management responsibilities, she will also work on developing our programs for North Africa. Would you pray that the new team-members will soon settle into their roles in the team and ministry?



Catalogue of our Christian programs

Twenty years of Christian TV programs produced by Arab Vision have been categorised and compiled in a colourful catalogue which you can read or download at www.arabvision.org/our-projects. Many of the programs we produced are still available and you can order them on a DVD or a USB drive.

Victory over death

A complete program produced in 2016 on Easter and Pentecost of 33 episodes, 9 minutes each, is available for you on USB stick. You can watch several episodes with subtitles on our YouTube channel. If you'd like to share it with your Arabic speaking neighbours, colleagues or friends, mail us at contact@arabvision.org. A small donation to cover our costs would be appreciated.



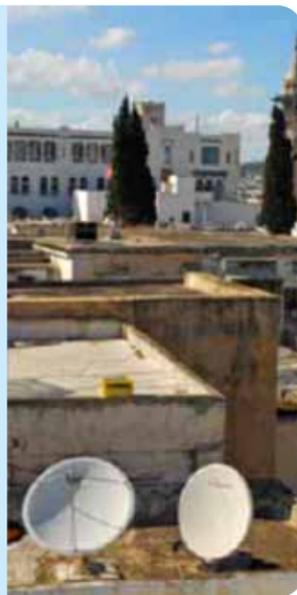
Now on TV

Miracle channel: www.miraclechannel.com

Kingdom Person II: How can we live according to Biblical principles and be a blessing for others? The program is based on the book *Kingdom Person* written by an Arabic Bible teacher and deals specifically with the question what it means to be a 'new creation'. (see also page 3)

Sat-7: www.sat7.org

Speaking the truth is one of our most recent programs in apologetics. In very short episodes of about 2-3 minutes an experienced Bible teacher explains a Biblical theme in just a couple of words. Watch one episode in the playlist *Presenting the Gospel* on our YouTube channel.



ARAB VISION

Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV and internet in the Arab world



CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

Arab Vision Trust Fund is registered as a charity in Cyprus
email: 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. (USA)
1101 S.Broadway St. #120
Carrollton, Texas 75006

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.

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

If you would like to make an online donation, you can do so via PayPal on our website www.arabvision.org

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

MEDIA FOR CHANGE



Issue 39, March 2017

Prayer aligns our hearts with God's heart

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages ... Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." (Matth.9:35a,37,38 ESV)

Why should we pray for missions? In prayer, we recognize that God is God and we are not. We acknowledge that God is sovereign. Yes, we have a responsibility to explain the message of Jesus. And yes, people have a responsibility to turn away from sin and trust in Jesus. But none of that will happen unless God shows up.

The way we express our dependence on God to do what only He can do, is through prayer. If we want to share Christ with the people in the Arab World and see them come to faith, and if we want to be found faithful to God and His call to make disciples, then we must devote ourselves to prayer.

Prayer aligns our hearts with God's heart and moves us in the direction of God's will. As we pray we find ourselves taking God at His word and doing what He calls us to do.

Please read this newsletter and pray for us, that we may continue to reach out to the people in the Arab World with Social Media and Television.

May God bless all the viewers, that they will be touched by God's love.

جايسو بوتوس

Gabino Boutos
International director Arab Vision

Searching for reconciliation

Sometimes the light breaks through in Israel and the Palestinian areas. Two peoples of different religions, cultures and interests are fighting about one land. Although starting a reconciliation project there is not an easy task, we encountered several, including Musalaha

(Arabic for reconciliation). There we met Palestinian Christians and Messianic believers courageously working together on a number of initiatives. We saw how the two founders of the organization, Salim Munayer (Palestinian) and Evan Thomas (Israeli Jew) embraced each other.



They still have different political opinions. Essential questions about justice and injustice are not swept under the carpet. But together they share the dependence on Jesus as their Saviour, which takes away the alienation and opens the way for confession of guilt, repentance and forgiveness. This is exactly the message that Arab Vision wants to bring to both the Arab and the Jewish world.

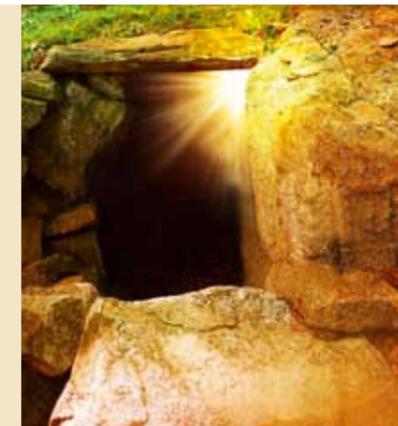
This trip to various reconciliation projects left us with mixed feelings. On one hand hope is kindled that there is an alternative for hatred and violence in this ever turbulent part of the world. On the other hand we came to the sober conclusion that the rapprochement is still on such a small scale, that the larger political scene in the Middle East hardly feels its impact. However, these projects certainly are inspiring. *continued on page 3*

Easter greeting

فَلَمَّا رَأَيْتَهُ سَقَطْتُ عِنْدَ رِجْلَيْهِ كَمَبِّتٍ. فَوَضَعَ يَدَهُ الْيُمْنَى عَلَيَّ قَائِلًا لِي: «لَا تَخَفْ. أَنَا هُوَ الْأَوَّلُ وَالْآخِرُ وَالْحَيُّ. وَكُنْتُ مَيِّتًا. وَهَذَا أَنَا حَيٌّ إِلَى أَبَدِ الْأَبَدِينَ! أَمِينَ. وَلِي مَفَاتِيحُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ. رُؤْيَا يوحنا ١: ١٧، ١٨

Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." (Rev. 1:17,18 NIV)

The Arab Vision team wishes you a very blessed Easter.



From our viewers:

Mahmoud lives in a town with 365 mosques and no churches. When God spoke to him through dreams, he began to learn about the Christian faith and started to read the Bible. Now he knows that Christ came to earth to redeem him. After having watched our program *God is Able*, Mahmoud got in touch with us and shared some of the difficulties he faces. He comes from an Islamic background and he would like to be baptised. Unfortunately the church leaders were reluctant to baptise him because it could create problems for the church. Please pray for Mahmoud that doors will be opened for him, so he can be baptised.

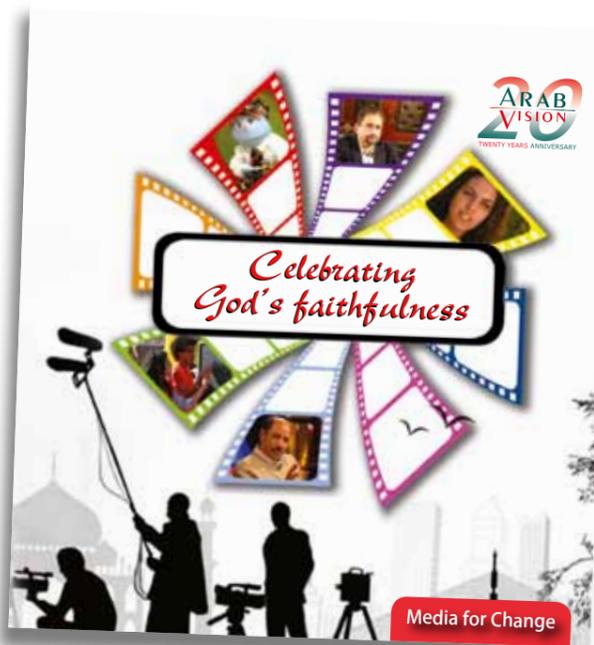
20 years Arab Vision – celebrating God’s faithfulness

“We realized that there was a great lack of Arabic Christian TV programs. There were possibilities to broadcast but there were no actual indigenous TV programs. We stepped into this void and started to make those types of programs and we were the first organization to make Arabic Christian TV programs in the heart languages of the people in the Arab World on a large scale. People responded very enthusiastically, especially when they saw programs in their own language. Many people wrote to us that they even joined the church; the churches began to grow in Algeria for instance.”

Abu Banaat, founder of Arab Vision in 1997, is recalling the beginning of the ministry. He was often asked by people how Arab Vision defines Christian TV. He explains: “I personally always define Christian television as programs made with your Christian worldview; that can be Bible preaching, but it can also be a program against female circumcision. That is part of my Christian worldview.”

With television you don’t necessarily tell people how to think, but you want to help them to start the thinking process. We wanted to make thought-provoking programs! For instance about mentally challenged children and people with physical handicaps; programs about their rights in society, about human rights in general. That’s part of our Christian worldview. People have rights because God loves every person!”

We have produced an anniversary DVD with several interviews plus a selection from 20 years TV programs; a testimony to God’s faithfulness in 20 years media ministry in the Arab World. The anniversary production is available on DVD, USB stick and via a link.



Searching for reconciliation (continued from page 1)

An example is the Palestinian boy and the Jewish girl who participated in a desert trip, organised by Musalaha. These young people had never met before. Perhaps both of them had been at a checkpoint during clashes with teargas, but on different sides of the wall. At the beginning they were rather hostile toward each other, but in the emptiness of the Negev desert they were dependent on each other. Chats at the campfire broke down stereotypes and Bible studies provided healing to the hearts.



In the documentary, which consists of three 15 minute episodes, attention is given to the various aspects of the process of reconciliation, always presenting both a Jewish and a Palestinian perspective. In part 1, Christian theologians discuss the Biblical principles. Then in part 2, the principles are put into practice at Musalaha. Finally, in part 3, we see Jewish people and Palestinians living together in a village near Nes Ammim, and students from different backgrounds coming together at the Magnificat Institute, a music college in the old city of Jerusalem. “What does it matter if one is Palestinian and the other one Jewish, as long as we succeed in performing Bach’s violin concerto in A-minor together?”



While the sharing of common goals binds people together, sharing faith in Jesus Christ, the Messiah, creates an even stronger bond. The apostle Paul writes that people from different backgrounds recognise in each other a brother or sister; unity in faith brings people together; differences in opinions lose their sharp edge and it can even come to a sincere embrace. We see that become a reality in the documentary.

Shukran – Thank you!

Perhaps we don’t say it often enough, but we are certainly very grateful for all the donations which make our ministry possible. We realise we frequently ask for money, but that is because we are excited about the possibilities and we see how our programs are often such an encouragement to people.

Thanks to your generosity we were able to produce the second series of Kingdom Person and a Christmas program A cloud of witnesses.



Kingdom Person

Our Kingdom Person series has proved to be very popular with our viewers. The Facebook page connected to this program has more than 13,000 likes and there has been a great deal of interaction. The second series of Kingdom Person has been broadcast by SAT-7 and will soon be broadcast by Miracle channel. The themes include how to become a mature Christian and resemble Christ, how to deal with suffering, and how to integrate spiritual, psychological and theological aspects in living a Christian life. You can watch some clips from this series (with English subtitles) in the playlist Strengthening the Church of our YouTube channel.

A cloud of witnesses

Our Christmas program A cloud of witnesses consists of 15 episodes about people who were eyewitnesses during the time of Jesus’ birth. Over the Christmas holiday it was broadcast twice daily. On our YouTube channel you can watch several short clips to get an impression of the program.



Can you help?

Youth hold the key -
13 x 10 minutes
US\$1500 per episode



Many drama series can be watched on satellite TV in the Arab World, but very few of them convey the truths of the Bible. There is a need for effective drama which reveals an important message people can use in their daily lives.

We are developing a series in drama format about young people in the Bible and how they were used in God’s plans. This series will strengthen the identity of Christian youth and it will make the older generation aware of the fact that the church needs to take the young people serious.

Mark my words –
365 short clips
US\$100 per episode

Mark my words is a production with words from the Bible read by children. People easily accept the words of children. Even if they don’t know the source they will accept them as wise words, words full of love.

The short clips will be distributed by social media throughout the Arab world. We plan to produce them in various languages of the Arab World.

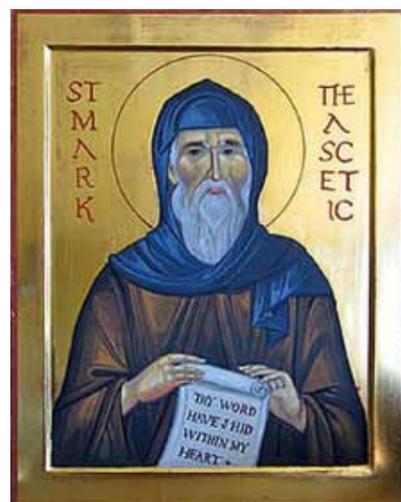
“Darkness precedes light; thus we should bear trials, until the knowledge of truth shines within our souls.”
St. John Saba

Easter Program: He is here!

Call Him ... He is here
With every fear we face ... He is here
He is here, because He is alive
We are producing a new program for Easter 2017 in which we will focus on the joy of Jesus’ resurrection and celebrate that “He is here, because He is alive!”
The violence and suffering in the Arab World often make us think: “Where is Jesus? Is He listening? Does He feel what we are going through?” Knowing that Jesus has gone through death and knowing that He is alive, gives us comfort and hope.
We are producing 15 x 10 min episodes of worship songs and a devotion. One episode costs approximately \$1100. Would you be able to help us?

Words of Wisdom

Over the centuries the writings of the church fathers have given us many inspiring and encouraging quotes. Based on these quotes, we are producing 365 short clips designed to make people stop and think – or even stop and talk about them.
The clips will be broadcast daily via satellite TV and will be used on Facebook as an invitation to discuss issues of faith. The clips will cater for everyone in society. The audio element of the narration will enable the visually impaired to follow the quotations, while the written quotations on screen will enable those with hearing impediments to read the quotes.



“Read the Holy Scripture by practicing it and do not boastfully exaggerate in reading without practice, just to know theological opinions”

St. Mark the Ascetic

