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Column

The new year often brings with it a hope for change. A change in our own behaviour, in our circumstances, and in the things going on in the world. We all long for change. Arab Vision, through its different projects and programmes is working to create change in 2024. We pray for change in the world, for peace in those countries the mainstream media has all but forgotten.

We are excited about the impact Arab Vision is currently having in the Arab World, and we hope you are too. We are so thankful for all the support you have shown us over the years, for all your prayer, interest, and financial support. Without supporters like you we would have no way of making the impact we do.

So, when you take a look at all the things this newsletter has to offer, please consider the change you are making, and the change you can continue to make. From prayer for our Beloved project to hosting dinner parties for Peace in a Broken World, there are many ways of helping to further the change Arab Vision has set about to make. Please join us in 2024 as we work towards a future for the people in the Arab world.



Rosemarie Strengholt
Arab Vision UK

Thanks for supporting our mission,

Partner in our project

Peace in a broken (Arab) World

Our Arab colleagues in the Middle East are now producing a programme series focussing on the concept of peace. The peace that only comes from our heavenly Father through his Son Jesus Christ entails so much more than the absence of war and conflict. It means abundant life, a deeply experienced wholeness. Biblical notions on peace are shared through brief meditations and music videos: 15 episodes and 30 songs. Our social media team is preparing for sharing the programmes on social media platforms and Youtube, and our follow-up team is ready to listen to responders, take them on a journey to a better understanding of God's peace. Our satellite TV broadcasting partners will broadcast the series as well. Cost including production, social media campaigns and follow-up are £12,300, of which £6,200 has been donated already. We still need £400 per episode.

سلام
PEACE
שלום



Help making a difference, please send your donation now.





Conflicts and hope in the Arab World

Today we are witnessing what is almost a competition for visibility in the international media, as there are so many conflicts going on at the same time. For months the war in Ukraine controlled the headlines, until the vicious attack of Hamas on Israel on 7 October, and the massive killing of Palestinians after that.

Lord, have mercy.

Syria

Eleven years of conflict in Syria has caused the biggest refugee crisis in our time. More than fourteen million Syrians have been fleeing from the ongoing violence; this is about half of the Syrian population. For many, many Syrians this means a decade of unimaginable suffering, and the end is not in sight yet.

Lord, have mercy.

“**Tawfiq**, Christian from Syria

‘I am really touched to learn about the forgiveness by the blood of Jesus Christ.’

Sudan

Who has any idea about what is going on in Sudan, where more than ten thousand people were killed in the past six months, and another six and a half million displaced? Darfur, scene of war and genocide 20 years ago, has become a region from where hundreds of thousands of people have been fleeing again.

Lord, have mercy.

Yemen

In Yemen an almost forgotten war is going on as well - More than eight years ago, Houthi militias took control of the capital Sana'a. That moment marks the beginning of a long and complex conflict between different parties. The Houthis are fighting the anti-Houthi coalition, which includes the Yemeni government, supported by Saudi Arabia. The war has had disastrous consequences for the people of Yemen. Three quarters of the population is dependent on humanitarian aid and more than four million Yemenis have fled. Much food has become unaffordable, people are malnourished and diseases such as cholera and corona are spreading rapidly. According to the United Nations, the world's worst humanitarian crisis is in Yemen.

Lord have mercy.

“**Mahdi**, Muslim from Yemen

‘I admire the teachings of Jesus, and I started understanding and believing the Bible with my mind and my heart.’

“ **Shadah**, from Sudan

‘Please explain more about the Christian faith. I have already read the Gospel of John via a Muslim friend.’

Do you want me to elaborate on Libya? Which other countries in the Arab World do we forget?

We at Arab Vision strongly believe in the Prince of Peace, who was sent to all humankind by God the Father.

We will not stop sharing hope and messages of peace to mend Arab people’s hearts and lives.

We are grateful to be able to share glimpses of hope: testimonies of Arab people who did find the Prince of Peace, or are on a quest to find Him, coached and counselled by our team of follow-up workers.



Filming in progress

Beloved

A word of thanks to those who have sent a gift for our project Beloved! Filming started in November: we interviewed Arab people in the street about male-female role expectations in marriage, family, and society.

In short clips we will present a healthy, biblical picture of godly men, deeply loved by God, their heavenly Father. We want to show that this love is unconditional and that men do not need to resort to machismo or displays of power to create their own identity. We want to challenge men in the Arab World to be role models in society, church, and familie, based on biblical principles.

Please continue praying for this project.



New Sandy Tales

Libyan and Algerian Arabic, Kabyle



We love to announce that we have produced the first series of Sandy Tales in Libyan and Algerian Arabic, and in Kabyle - Berber language in Algeria.

Watch Psalm 23 in Libyan Arabic

Note that the narrator's voice is slightly distorted. Her real voice is more beautiful, but it is too big a danger to be recognised. Please pray for the safety of these brave Libyan Christians who reach out to their fellow-Libyans with great compassion.



I want to be baptised

Anwar from Algeria

Arab Vision's follow-up team tirelessly works to interact with people responding to our social media posts and videos. The interaction may vary from a 👍 as a response to a positive remark, to a long-lasting online relationship. Heartbreaking stories about domestic violence, and joyful stories about having become a follower of Christ are shared.

Anwar from Algeria responds to a programme about 'Forgiveness'. Our counsellor asks him whether he knows Jesus. To his surprise Anwar tells him that ten years ago he decided to become a follower of Christ, but until now he has not been baptised. He really want to take that step but feels too shy to take that step. "Please pray for me, that I will find the courage to follow my desire to be baptised", Anwar asked. Will you join us in that prayer?

Thousands of online conversations, long and short, take place each month. Our follow-up workers have a lot on their plate, and they cope by sharing a lot with each other, by intervision with other follow-up teams in the region, and by ongoing training.



A typical month shows these impact figures:

- 21356 unique private messages
- 4723 online conversations
- 1036 people being counselled
- 1001 Bibles and/or Christian materials sent
- 1 or 2 confessions of faith
- 1 or 2 individuals referred to a face-to-face contact or a local church

Arab Vision produces thought-provoking, high quality videos and social media content. All this invites people to respond. That's in a way where the mission starts: caring for the people by listening to them, praying for them, advising them, referring them.... in order to help them take life-changing decisions. If you particularly want to support our follow-up ministry, please make a donation and put 'follow-up' in your payment description. You can either use the QR code on page 3 or the bank details on the back. Thank you!

Fundraising Dinner



Join our fundraiser for Arab Vision! Eat for peace.

Do you enjoy cooking for friends and family? Invite them for a fundraising meal. Where people really meet each other, peace and blessing break through.

Set a contribution for the meal, and send it as a donation to Arab Vision.

Your donation will be used for our project *Peace in a Broken World*, see page 3 for more information.

Organise your fundraising dinner between now and Easter 2024.

Let us know if you need more information about Arab Vision and the project to share with your guests, by sending us an email.



contact@arabvision.org
www.arabvision.org

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In the UK you can send your gift direct to our bank:
Lloyds Bank Plc Account name: Arab Vision
Sort Code: 30-97-24 Account no: 49415760

Or if you have a Stewardship account
<https://account.stewardship.org.uk/Give>

Cheques can be sent to:
23 Mill Lane, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 2AS