



Transformation!

.... In Amr's Life

... Through the Spirit

.... Through our Productions

Column

Change through the power of the Holy Spirit

In the Arab World you see the veil all around you. Muslim women and girls wear them in different ways and in different colors. The veil is also worn by Arab Christians, in rural villages and during Orthodox church services.

Paul also writes to the church in Corinth about a veil, a veil that is being removed:

But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom - 2 Corinthians 3:16-17.

Through conversion, the change that the Holy Spirit ultimately works in us, both the veil over the Word of God and the veil over our hearts are removed. You are touched, your eyes are opened and you are deeply impressed by who Jesus is and what He has done for you. When Paul mentions this, he says, that from that moment of conversion a process of change begins. We celebrate that at Pentecost.



Rosemarie Strengholt
Arab Vision UK

Media for Change expresses exactly what our mission is: change in all kinds of areas of life through media. But the real transformation is the change that the Holy Spirit works in people's lives every day - both in our lives and in the lives of men and women in the Arab World.

Pray for veils to be lifted and for the Spirit of freedom to blow through the Arab World.

Story

Comfort in the life of Amr from Yemen

When reading the text from the column, I immediately thought of all those stories that are recorded every week. Online conversations with hundreds of people we are in contact with. Women and men, with their own challenges, pain, and questions. Because of our programmes, because of something they have watched or read online, they contact us. We walk with them and see how their lives change step by step: in the way they approach life, how they can be parents to their children, how they tackle their porn addiction or how they get to know Jesus. We would like to share just one story with you.

Amr is a guy from Yemen - a Muslim. He contacted us recently through the private messaging of our Facebook page 'Abgha Hayat'. When he started writing he actually poured his heart out: words full of pain and heartbreak. Reham, our counsellor, asked about the story behind his despair. He told her his problem had no solution, but Reham kindly insisted. She said it might help to talk. He then told her that his young wife had died, and that he is now feeling like a body without a soul. Also he shared that he has a 6 month old babydaughter. Reham and Amr talked a lot and, although Amr is Muslim, he let her pray for him. Reham could only pray and ask the Lord to comfort him. Amr really experienced this comfort in an almost physical way, and felt touched by it.

Then Reham shared with him that she has a similar experience. She lost her beloved husband suddenly, not long ago. Perhaps that was why she was exactly the right person to talk to him. Normally women come to the 'Abgha Hayat' social media platforms, as we reach out to Yemeni and Saudi women through this part of our ministry, so it was special that Amr was led to the page. It was also special that he met Reham there, who could sympathise with him almost like no other.

Please pray for Amr - he is still in contact with us. May he be drawn to the comforting love of our God and Father.

Some statistics of Abgha Hayat (2023-Q1 2024)

78,084 likes, responses, and shares of our posts
14,089 private messages
1,181 Bibles (or a portion of it) were sent at the request of responders

Now in production

Project Mark: **Please pray for courage and safety!**

We produced one clip on the parable of the sower from Luke 8 in Libyan Arabic - you can watch it [here](#). The plan was to produce 20 clips based on powerful Bible stories, but a few Libyan Christian brothers were arrested, causing the others to keep their heads down. Obviously these Christians cannot show their faces on screen, but at the moment even using their voices may be too dangerous.

Please pray for their safety!

When writing this, we had just finished filming **6 docu-drama episodes of 5 minutes each** on the spreading of the Gospel to Libya and beyond, starting with the evangelist Mark, and featuring Tertullian, Cyprian, Perpetua, and Simon of Cyrene.

Our Christian roots are found in North Africa and now, in the 21st century, we see the Christian witness in Libya and other North African countries grow!



Will our 21st century Christian brothers and sisters muster the courage to bear witness to Christ in their own beloved Libyan dialect? This is the challenge and they need your prayers!

Together with our Libyan friends, we feel that we are doing something significant. Libyans increasingly have access to bits and pieces of the Gospel in their own dialect, and the fact that the government is aware and considers it as a threat suggests that people are attracted to and affected by it.

Now in production

Protect her!

Help us in the battle against female circumcision

The practice of circumcising girls is a harmful (though difficult to banish) practice, despite legal prohibitions and religious condemnations.

Due to cultural beliefs, religious misconceptions, and social pressure it continues to exist and causes significant physical and psychological risks for countless girls and women in countries like Egypt and Somalia. The physical and psychological consequences of female circumcision are long-lasting and heart-breaking. Despite the fact that the percentage of girls being circumcised is decreasing, there is still a long way to go.

More than 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone female genital mutilation. This year, nearly 4.4 million girls will be at risk of this harmful practice. This equates to more than 12,000 cases every day.

Arab Vision is preparing the production of **5 short clips, compiled into a 15-minute film**. In each clip an aspect of the (damage of the) practice of female circumcision will be highlighted: health, religious, social impact, psychological harm, legal implications. The format will be a mix of dramatised scenes, girls commenting themselves, and interviews with specialists. Both men and women will be interviewed.

Stand by these young Arab girls and help us combat circumcision.

Watch [here](#) a short video on FGM



Arab Vision: A Community

With our colleagues in the Middle East we form a community, with great passion to serve Arabs and share the hope that the Gospel of Jesus Christ brings: Hope that is so important in a world on fire! Our staff do not consider their work at Arab Vision as 'just a job', although they are happy with the good salary we can pay them, which is vital in the dramatically poor economic situation in their country.

Four families on our staff have a child who needs special treatment or medication. These often high cost are not covered by any insurance, and are a (too) heavy burden on their salary. We would like to truly demonstrate the community that Arab Vision is, and feel free to involve you as the people who support our ministry by prayer and donations. Would you consider donating specifically towards our Fund for Children? The colleagues (parents) involved felt really touched once they were told about the initiative to help them give their child what he or she so desperately needs.

This year we need £3,000 to help those four families. We will support children with autism, multiple disabilities, and diabetes; we want to give them a hopeful future.



Will you help?

Thanks and warm regards!
Umm al Farieq
International Director of Arab Vision

Life-changing Movies

Abigail

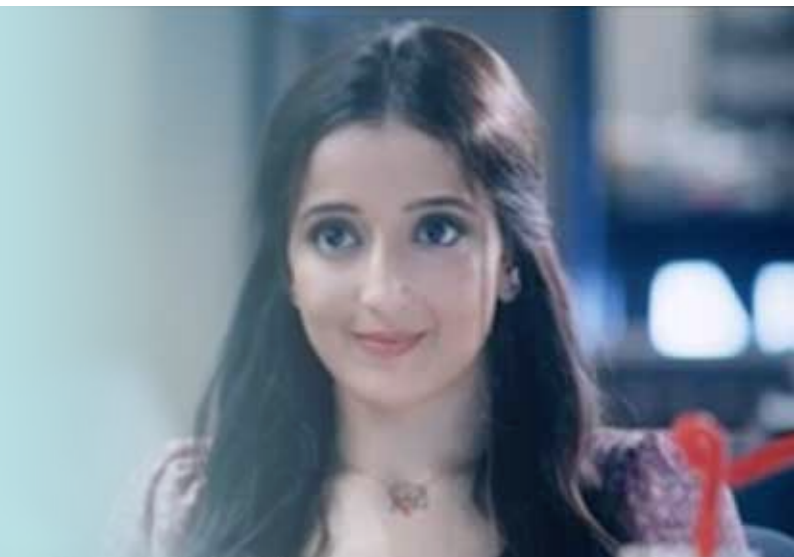
The domestic situations faced by Arab men and women is an important reason for contacting our counselors. Domestic violence (by men and women), raising children, and the relationship with in-laws are among the main causes of stress, problems and depression. That may be the reason why **'Abigail'**, an episode from our 'Women in the Bible' series is so popular. Abigail suffered from her husband's behaviour, but nevertheless acted in a wise and sensible way. An encouragement for the many women who recognise themselves in her.

The film with English subtitles can be watched [here](#).



Gamila

The short film **'Gamila'** has been watched many times since its release early March. Almost 380,000 times in the Arab world. Also, the English and Dutch subtitled versions are popular on our YouTube channel. [Watch](#) the film if you haven't had the chance yet, and let us know what you think.



Your Help Needed

Through this newsletter you get an impression of the impact of our ministry: a life story, some impact statistics, links to films that people watch. Day by day our follow-up team deal with people who are looking for change in their lives; they have 250 conversations daily.

Obviously, there is always a need for funds involved to realise our projects and reach out to Arab people. We are grateful for foundations, churches, funds, business people, and individual donors who have been faithfully making our work possible for the past 27(!) years.

➤ **Help us produce programmes like combatting female circumcision and reaching out to Libya.**

Bless the families of our staff who deal with high medical cost for their children's treatment.

Support the work of our counselors in the follow-up team. And if you can not choose: send us a general donation.

➤ **Most of all, pray for the Arab World.**



**ARAB
VISION**

Donate

contact@arabvision.org
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:
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