

Are you ready to be a voice crying out in the wilderness to make a way for the Lord?

Saudi Shia

Who are the Saudi Shia?

The Saudi Shia who live mostly in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia, make up approximately 12% of Saudi citizens and are the country's largest religious minority. The tensions between Shia and Sunni run deep in Saudi and the Shia are often marginalized by the ultra-conservative Sunni majority.

The Sunni /Shia conflict goes back 1,400 years originally due to a disagreement on succession. Since the original schism, though they both follow the Quran and practice the Five Pillars of Islam, there have become vast differences in tradition and practice. Although there have been times that the two have co-existed harmoniously throughout history, there have been seasons of intense sectarian violence.

Recent history and its return to fundamental Islam have brought many of the tensions to the surface.

The conflict has also become political with each faction backed by a global superpower. (Iran -Shia and KSA -Sunni and the keeper of Islam's holiest cities, Mecca and Medina.) The Shia Saudis often find themselves in a precarious tension between the two and often have their loyalties questioned.

As a result, they have faced discrimination in the public work sector, have been accused of idolatry, and have even had their mosques targeted for attack by Sunni militant groups.

Many hope that the emerging leaders will bring about reforms, which will ease the discrepancies between Shia and Sunni bringing about religious freedom.



4.2 million
yet to be reached



98%
of the population is online



Quick Facts

Population- 4,176,000

Progress- Unengaged and
Unreached

Language- Najdi Arabic

Bible Translation, Gospel
Recordings, and Radio

Broadcast- Available

Jesus Film- Not Available

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

— Isaiah 43:19 —

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
"Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness;
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God...
And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed."
— Isaiah 40:3,5 —



Pray

- Pray for religious freedom that would not only alleviate discrimination of the Shia, but open doors for true religious freedom to follow the Messiah.
- Pray for miraculous break through in this people who sit at the epicenter of Islam.
- Ask many would see and learn about the true path through social media.
- Ask the Lord of the Harvest to open doors for laborers.
- Ask that those few Saudis that have chosen to follow the Messiah would be strengthened in their faith and have a deep burden to stay and bring the truth to their own communities.
- Ask that the Lord would bring more dreams and visions and more workers to help interpret them.
- Pray that the impact of the kingdom would ripple from the birthplace of Islam to all Muslim peoples.



Engage

Those who want to use their professional degrees and work experience are a great fit for working in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. There are opportunities in many spheres, including but not limited to: engineering, medicine, fitness instruction, finance, and business consulting. There are also many teaching opportunities in the Kingdom, including adult ESL, and K-12 at many of the country's international schools. A certificate in the IB education system is helpful. There are even opportunities to become a graduate student at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology.

Though many speak English, it is more business language than heart language, and it is critical to speak Arabic well in order to have deeper conversations. Excitingly, there are new Arabic language learning opportunities in-country, as well as language schools in the region where one can learn Arabic as well as culture before taking a full-time job in Saudi Arabia.

Most in-country employment also provides a work visa, and tourist visas are becoming a new reality. There are lots of educational opportunities for children as well as many family activities in the cities.



Is God calling you to live among the Muslim peoples of the Middle East? Contact us.
We would love to help you get there!