



Volume 1, Issue 2
1 September 2009

Ramazan: Month of Prayer & Fasting

As you pray and fast for the South Asian peoples this month, remember the 457 million of them who are Muslims. One-fourth of the world's Muslim population consists of South Asians who live in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Nepal. This month Muslims all over the world are continuing their 30-day period of fasting and prayer called "Ramazan" or "Ramadan" which is observed every year. This year the fast began on August 22 and will continue through September 21. Muslims throughout South Asia and the world are fasting and praying from dawn until dusk "in submission to Allah." Pray that as Muslims observe this 30-day fast, they will come to know the God who wants to communicate with them personally. Pray that they will have dreams and visions of Isa Masih (Jesus Christ) and that devoted Christians will share the Good News with these who are seeking to submit to God in the best way they know how. Ask God how He might want to use you to reach out in love to your Muslim acquaintances, neighbors, business associates and classmates.

Sept. 1, 2009

Pray for R who is a follower of Isa and wants to share with his family members. Pray that "when he opens his mouth, words may be given to him to fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel to which he is an ambassador in chains."

Sept. 2, 2009

Pray for S who professed Jesus in the 1980's but in the last 7-8 years has returned to Islam. S lives in a war zone and has little contact with the followers of Isa. Please pray for S to return to Jesus with all her heart. Pray for wisdom for J as she tries to encourage this dear friend from a distance.

Sept. 3, 2009

Pray for M a Muslim widow seeking to put her three children through University studies. She has had much exposure to the Good News. Pray that the Holy Spirit would draw M and her children to Himself.

Sept. 4, 2009

Ramazan acquires the character of a nationwide fair, with the Muslim areas becoming bright and lively towards the evening and remaining awake almost throughout the night. Throughout the days of celebrations, people following Islam observe a stringent fast, which is broken only at dusk, after offering prayers to Allah. Pray that as Muslims fast and pray this month, they will encounter the One who said, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst" (John 6:35, NASB).

Sept. 5, 2009

This month Muslim women are burdened with many tasks as they not only try to fast and pray but also prepare all the special meals required to "break the fast" and celebrate Eid. Breakfast meals must be prepared by 4 a.m. Prayers will be participated in around 5 a.m., noon, 3:30, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. and then the feasting begins. Pray that Muslim women will come to Jesus who said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28, NIV).

Sept. 6, 2009

Pray that Muslims would have opportunities to learn about the details of Jesus' death and resurrection. Pray for Christians to have real perseverance in telling the story. Pray for a chronological Bible storying training that will take place this month in K. Ask God to bring believers who have a desire to share about Jesus and to form new churches in the city. Pray

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that those who come will go where God asks them to go and faithfully tell the stories so that many will come to Christ.

Sept. 7, 2009

Pray that Muslims would come to believe that God Himself wants to communicate directly with them. Pray specifically for Muslims you may know personally. Pray for Muslims in your city, region and nation. M asks that "you pray for three more Muslim seekers who are very close to becoming Muslim Background Believers (Mbbs). Pray the Holy Spirit would continue to woo their hearts until they can't hold out any longer, knowing His Truth."

Sept. 8, 2009

Pray especially for F a new Mbb female believer. Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work in her heart as she lives with a passionately, entirely committed believer. Pray that Father will use both F and H to draw many couples to Himself. Pray even now that Father would bless F and H with children who will choose to know and serve Jesus with all their heart, mind, soul and strength and who love their neighbors as themselves.

Sept. 9, 2009

It is reported that more than half of the world's poor and needy are Muslims, and the majority of these are women and children. Pray for disillusioned Muslims throughout South Asia to find Jesus. Pray that they would have an opportunity to see and hear the gospel presented in culturally relevant ways.

Sept. 10, 2009

Pray for encouragement for persecuted Christians living in regions dominated by Islam, so that they maybe able to continue to stand firm. Pray especially for Kashmiri young men who are coming to know Jesus.

Sept. 11, 2009

Pray for the establishment of many new "jamats" (house churches) among former Muslims. Praise the Father for new groups which are starting in one of South Asia's major cities. Pray that these "jamats" would continue to stand strong and grow daily.

Sept. 12, 2009

Pray for God to open doors for the gospel to be communicated in the midst of opposition (1 Cor. 16:9). Thank you for praying for seminary students who learned how to share the love of Jesus Christ in word and deed. Please ask God to give these students direction and boldness to train others how to evangelize and make disciples of Muslim men and women whom God is bringing to Himself.

Sept. 13, 2009

Pray for God to open the hearts of Muslims in South Asia so that they realize who He really is (Acts 16:14). Pray especially for Mr. S, a local believer living in a Muslim country who has slipped back into alcoholism. Ask the Lord to break this terrible addiction and lead him back to wholeness so that he might be a witness of the transformation that Jesus can bring to those in his country.

Sept. 14, 2009

Pray that new believers throughout South Asia will be strengthened in faith and in love despite the many pressures and persecutions that threaten them (2 Thessalonians. 1:4). Pray for Ib, a young leader who used to earn a living teaching Muslim people to pray. God intervened in his life in 2008 and through reading the Bible he came to Christ. His wife found out and became angry. Although threatened with death by his in-laws, Ib remains faithful to his wife who refuses to be emotionally and physically intimate with him until he returns to Islam. Ib is counting the cost of following Jesus Christ. This is real and

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painful, yet he is not willing to turn his back on Christ! Please pray for the salvation of his wife and her family. Pray that God will bring reconciliation between them through the blood of Christ.

Sept. 15, 2009

Please pray for the people of K to know and understand the one straight path to heaven through Jesus Christ. A health training session will be offered for key medical leaders who are followers of Jesus and are seeking to transform their communities with Truth and healing. In addition to this, a team will be coming to help some communities living in poverty to have good, clean drinking water and, at the same time, to learn about the Living Water. Please pray for those who will be sharing the Good News during the month. Ask for boldness and wisdom, and pray that they will have "divine appointments." Also, please pray for the ones who will be listening, asking for hearts to be open to the Truth.

Sept. 16, 2009 – Studies reveal that 1.6 billion Muslims do not know one single Christian. Pray that South Asian Christians will have a heart of compassion toward Muslims as they reach out to their neighbors, colleagues, and fellow students (Matthew 9:36). Pray that they will be alert to those who are truly seeking to know God.

Sept. 17, 2009 –**Night of Power** – Muslims believe that the 27th night of Ramzan (Kadir Gecesi (Lailat al Kadr) is the night the Qu'ran was revealed to Muhammad, therefore it is a very holy night to them. They often recite the Qu'ran on this night while making special requests to Allah. Significant numbers of Muslims will be praying all night genuinely seeking help from God. Over 25 percent of Muslim Background Believers share that dreams were key in drawing them to Jesus. Pray that those seeking to find God tonight

would truly find "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

Sept. 18, 2009

With 105 million Muslims, India is the second-most-populous Islamic nation in the world. Muslims form India's largest minority and constitute almost 12 percent of the country's total population. When Jesus looked upon the masses, he had compassion upon them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. He then commanded that we pray for laborers for the harvest (Matthew. 9:35-38).

Sept. 19, 2009

Pray especially this month for the Bhatiara of Uttar Pradesh, India, numbering approximately 260,000. The Bhatiara were traditionally innkeepers and provided shelter for those traveling, since it was never safe to travel at night. Although some Bhatiara are still working in this capacity, it is estimated by community elders that today 20-30 percent of able-bodied Bhatiara are without permanent jobs and are looking for meaning in life. Pray that as the Bhatiara and their Muslim friends throughout South Asia have fasted and prayed this month, they will come to know the One who can give them true meaning and purpose in life.

Sept. 20, 2009

An international brother requests that you continue to pray for the believers who have taken the "holy bath." Pray that as they learn and obey the Word of God, they will baptize those who were afraid or just were not ready to walk in a newness of life. He writes, "We know this is not for salvation, but by doing this, they will walk with 'the cross before and the world behind' them."

Sept. 21, 2009

Reportedly, 141 Biharis currently live in the United States. While many Indians make their way to the United States, it is less likely that those from poorer Bihari

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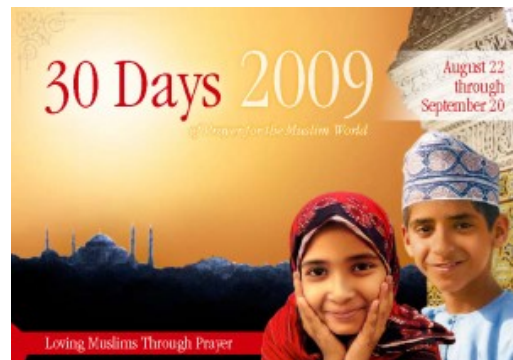
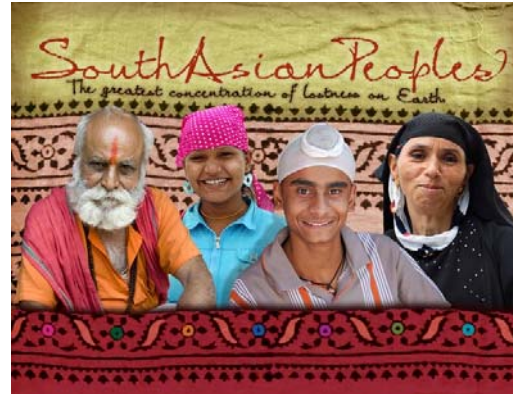
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communities would have success in doing so. Please pray that the Biharis who have migrated to the United States will learn about Jesus while there and will accept Him as their only Savior. Pray that they then will share what they have learned and experienced with the 17 million Bihari Muslims and other Biharis living back in India.

Sept. 22, 2009 – Ramazan is officially over and now begins “Eid ul Fitr” which is synonymous with joy and thanksgiving. Muslims will wear the new outfits they have purchased or had especially made and will enjoy a time of feasting and celebration together. Pray that this will truly be a time of praise and celebration as Muslim Background Believers have come to know the Father’s most precious gift – Jesus!

**“Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. 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. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”
(2 Corinthians 3:15-18, NIV)**

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PrayASAP@wigtake.org