

Moroccan Testimonies on TV Soon

The final editing phase has just been completed. Soon, 14 dramatized stories of Moroccans coming to faith in Jesus Christ will be broadcast on satellite TV, directly into the homes of millions of Arab viewers. A lot of effort has gone into the production of this unique project by Arab Vision, including over two hundred volunteer actors, actresses and production crew from various countries.

Each half hour episode is presented by a Moroccan host introducing the story the viewers are about to see. Then the story comes to life with dramatized reenacted scenes and the voice of the Moroccan convert narrating his/her personal testimony. Actors are used rather than the actual people for security reasons.

Each testimony is unique, though there is often a common trend: Moroccans becoming exposed to the Gospel through Christian media and many receiving a revelation from Christ confirming His deity.

(continued on back cover)



Night of Power

As we go to press, millions of Muslim Arabs are in the middle of observing Ramadan, the holy month in Islam characterized by fasting, long prayers and recitation of the Qur'an. The 'Night of Power' usually falls on the 27th day of Ramadan (expected to be on 17 September this year).

What is so special about this night? Muslims believe that the angel Gabriel first spoke to Mohammed and that the Qur'an was revealed to him on that night. That is why it is considered a blessed night, and to stand in prayer on this one night is said to be better than a thousand months of worship.

Every year, on the anniversary of the Night of Power, the gates of heaven are said to be opened wide, angels come to earth and Allah is especially merciful and attentive to prayers. Millions of Muslims around the world stay awake through the Night of Power, seeking his mercy and forgiveness.

It is not uncommon to hear stories of people seeing visions of Jesus during these days. Would you pray with us that many more Arab families would have a revelation of the truth in Jesus Christ during this time?

One of Arab Vision's most popular TV programs addresses the daily practical needs and issues of Arab women. During the last couple of months in particular, we have received a vast amount of feedback, questions and desperate cries for help from viewers across the entire Arab World.

A Lifeline for Arab Women

Many Arab women are desperate to find someone to talk to about their problems. This is often not possible in their confined family life and social circles because of the shame it could cause them and their family honor. Our women's TV program is opening a door of opportunity for them, not just to have someone to talk to, but to also receive Biblical counseling, prayer and invitation to respond to the Gospel.

From the daily feedback we receive from the viewers, it is clear that a number of Arab marriages and homes are falling apart. Here is one lady sharing her story.

My marriage started off as a wonderful love story, but now things have fallen apart. I am 28-years-old and have a young son. After my pregnancy, I had medical problems and put on a lot of weight. My husband now says that he no longer accepts me because I am ugly in his sight. I've tried everything to lose weight but it has not worked. Now, I am suffering from severe depression. My husband dislikes me and I hate myself. I don't know if anyone would ever answer me or even read my letter, but you are my last hope. I thought a lot about committing suicide but I am afraid God will not accept me into heaven. But I want to die and I pray a lot to God to take my spirit so that I can find rest.

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"Your program is more inspirational than Oprah or Dr Phil because you interview ordinary Arab women to examine and evaluate their lives."

An Arab woman's comment on our website

A Great Gospel

Dear friends,

The major event during the Islamic month of Ramadan, is the so called 'night of power'. Muslims believe that in that night, Allah sent the whole Qur'an down to mankind. As Christians, we believe that God revealed Himself in a much better way, by coming down to earth Himself in our Lord Jesus Christ.

What a great Gospel we have for the Arab World. God did not throw his law book at us, but He sent His Son to be the fulfilment of all laws, and to offer us a relationship with Him. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, want to draw us into their one eternal communal life. What a difference from Islam, where Allah is almost invisible - hidden behind his book and its rigid precepts.

Arab Vision is a community of Christian in the Arab World; through our TV programs we are drawing Muslims into true life with God through Jesus Christ.

For our audiences, the message that God came to be with mankind, is liberating. It means that persecuted Christians are encouraged – God is Immanuel: He is with us. For Muslims, it enables them to see beyond the laws, the books, the prophets, and meet with God Himself through His only Son, Jesus Christ. He is the true way to God as He is God.

May we ask you to consider partnering with us, through your prayers and your generosity? In this newsletter, we show you some of our TV projects, and more important, the effectiveness of these TV programs. They draw Muslims to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and they support the persecuted churches of the Arab World.



Abu Banaat
Arab Vision International Director

From the Viewers



“I started following Christianity two years ago and have been reading the Bible ever since. I need your prayers and help because I want to be baptized, but the people I ask here are afraid to help me since I am a Muslim. I will be giving up my family and society, so I really need your help.”

Viewer from Egypt

“My husband has been a Christian for 8 years, and during that time he has been a continual testimony of love and faithfulness in our marriage. I accept Christ now because I see what He has done in my husband's life.”

Viewer from Tunisia



Producing Now...

SIGN LANGUAGE INSERT

Research indicates that the number of deaf people in Arab countries is higher than the global average, yet not much is done to cater for their needs. We are in the process of adding a sign language presenter screen to 13 episodes of one of our most popular programs.



KURDISH PROGRAMS

The first filming phase of this pioneer TV project for the Kurds is scheduled for mid September in Iraq. The full project will entail the production of 52 TV programs during the next 2 years. Millions of Kurds will soon be able to watch these Christian programs in their own language.



JOURNEY THROUGH ART

A Moroccan Christian uses his art to share his testimony with the viewers. He paints pictures on the canvas that illustrate his faith in Christ, and explains them verbally at the same time. This is the second series of this creative production for Morocco. It is being filmed now and is expected to be completed by the end of year.



A Lifeline for Arab Women (continued from page 1)

Our follow-up team responded to this lady and she was delighted to have someone caring and wanting to help her. Her last message read: **Thank you so, so, so much! I didn't expect that anyone would care about my problem.**

There are many others crying out for help. **I don't know what to say, I'm desperate and tired. I hate myself and hate this world and need to talk to somebody** - a voice message left on the program's phone number last month. Another viewer wrote: **I decided to tell you about my problem since I watch your program. I've been married for five years and have one child. My husband travels a lot! I feel very disconnected from him and have started relationships with others through phone calls. I have become a phone addict. Please answer me.**

The numbers and individual problems can become overwhelming. Each month, there are hundreds of new women contacting us and asking for advice and help. The presenters of the program recently challenged viewers to consider helping other women around them by passing on the Biblical teachings and practical advice they are receiving from the broadcasts. It is very encouraging to see some viewers responding to this challenge and reaching out to others.

I am a 41-year-old woman living now in Europe. I was born in a Christian family but I got to know Jesus Christ personally as Savior through your programs. He changed my life and touched me with His great love. After watching your program yesterday, I decided to follow your advice to reach out to people around me. I work in a medical lab and have opportunities to be a witness for the love of my beloved Jesus.

Would you take a moment now to pray for the millions of Arab women being touched by our programs? Find out in the section below how you can help support this vital ministry for them.



Your Help Needed

Every Bit Counts!

BE PART OF THE OUTREACH TO THE ARAB WORLD

Quite often, people contact us to say that they are excited by the work of Arab Vision but do not have the financial means to help with big donations. Of course, big donations are welcomed because TV work can be expensive, but we also have smaller needs. Maybe we can challenge you to contribute towards one of those this month. Below are some urgent projects that need a little help from you. We have trimmed them down to 'bite-size' amounts, but every bit counts! Your donation may only be a small part of the total required, but we are confident that God would multiply your sacrificial gift and the 'little' will add up to be more than expected!

24 HOURS OF INTERNET BROADCAST (\$186)

We will have our TV programs on a 24/7 internet channel at the end of this year, reaching a potential audience of 24 million Arabs who have access to high speed internet. Your donation of \$186 covers the cost of broadcasting Arabic Christian TV programs for a full segment of 24 hours on this channel.

ARAB WOMEN'S PROGRAMS (\$250)

You can read in this issue the tremendous needs of the Arab women who watch our programs. With \$250, you can support the production of 5 minutes of these programs. They are typically broadcast more than once, so the 5 minutes you support will reach the viewers many times.

KABYLE PROGRAM SUBTITLES (\$250)

For the growing young church in Algeria, we recently produced a much-needed Christian leadership TV series in the local Kabyle language. The production is complete, but we need to add Arabic subtitles before it can go on air. Your donation of \$250 covers the subtitle cost for each episode.

DISTRIBUTION FOR BROADCASTING (\$700)

Our programs are distributed to a number of Christian satellite stations covering the Arab World. Some of them are not able to pay the cost of receiving these programs. Can you help with the distribution process? A donation of \$700 covers the costs of copying and delivering 13 full episodes to the station for broadcast.



You can make your donation securely online at www.arabvision.org or by direct bank transfer (details on the back cover). For more information please e-mail us at contact@arabvision.org

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In one of the stories, a Moroccan woman becomes curious about Jesus, but is not sure whether to believe in Him or not. One day, while she is traveling with her husband on a train, she suddenly notices that a red cross has appeared on her arm. She shows it to her husband, but he dismisses it as a rash or a mark from an injury she must have sustained.

She continues praying and seeking the truth. One night, she wakes up to discover more red crosses on her body. She quickly wakes up her husband and persuades him to pray with her to Jesus - to show them if He is real. Then two Arabic words in red appear on her skin: Rab (Lord) and Yasoo'a (Jesus). The writing is so clear that the husband can no longer dismiss it. He immediately calls a friend in the middle of the night to share the news that Jesus is Lord! Both the wife and husband decide to become followers of Christ that evening.



During the filming of this story, the director showed actual photographs of the cross markings and words that had appeared on the Moroccan woman's body. The couple had taken these photographs to validate their testimony and be reminded of it in the future. There was a reverent hush among the actors and production crew as the filming continued. It was clear that God had revealed Himself to this Moroccan couple in a miraculous way. To be able to portray the powerful testimony of His grace to this couple through this TV production was an honor and a privilege for all involved.

WHO'S COUNTING?

The Dramatized Moroccan Testimonies TV Project is the most ambitious North African production by Arab Vision this year. It required many months of planning and co-ordination.

Various churches and partner groups participated to help produce these stories. Here are some figures from the project.

3 directors shared the 14 stories

5 countries filmed in (March to August)

8 cameramen used in total

120 DV tapes used for filming all scenes

235 total volunteers, cast and crew

80,000 kilometers traveled (50,000 miles) by the project team

CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

Arab Vision Trust Fund

PO Box 21258
1505 Nicosia, Cyprus
E-mail: contact@arabvision.org
Website: www.arabvision.org

Financial support for Arab Vision's work can be deposited in our head office bank accounts in Cyprus.

Arab Vision Trust Fund

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Swift BIC: BCYPCY2N
Name of Bank: Bank of Cyprus Limited
Address of Bank: 54b Demokratias Street, Latsia CYPRUS

Checks can be made out to 'Arab Vision' and sent to our head office in Cyprus.

In the USA, checks can be sent directly to our American office. Arab Vision Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.

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In Canada, the United Kingdom, 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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Job Opening

Arab Vision is seeking to recruit a new Managing Director for one of its companies in the Arab World which is responsible for graphic/print design, web design and distribution of TV programs.

Besides being committed to Arab Vision's goals and having the required managerial skills, applicants should be competent English speaker, be willing to travel in the Arab World, and be motivated to keep abreast of professional/industrial developments.

Visit www.arabvision.org and click on 'Job Openings' to see a full job description. Write to us at contact@arabvision.org if you are interested or have any further questions.

**ARAB
VISION**

Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV in the Arab World