

Incredible that you discuss these issues...

The second series of *Hope for Tomorrow* has been filmed and broadcasting will begin in September. Subjects include trafficking, incest, marital infidelity, early marriage, emotional and physical violence and various other related issues.

Filming was done during long working days of at least 14 hours at temperatures of sometimes 45 degrees. Three female actors who had to act out some of the stories told by victims of violence refused to do the filming when they realised what the subject was. In one location we were denied access when the owner realised we were filming an episode about marital infidelity and incest.



Another time the screams of an actress were so loud (during an episode about FGM, when we filmed the part of the actual cutting), that the neighbours asked what was going on. They wanted to call the police but fortunately we could explain to them what we were doing and they were ok with it.

Most of the crew were Muslims and they found it incredible that we will broadcast and discuss such taboo issues openly on Christian TV channels.

Bookmarks available

To let your Arabic speaking friend, neighbour or colleague know about some of our Christian programs and how to contact people who can answer questions in his/her own language, we have produced attractive bookmarks. The verse on the front says "Ask and it shall be given to you, seek and you shall find, knock and the door shall be opened to you."

If you can use them, please send a mail to contact@arabvision.org and we'll be happy to send you some.



CONTACT & FINANCE INFO

Arab Vision Trust Fund is registered as a charity in Cyprus
email: contact@arabvision.org
website: www.arabvision.org

In the USA, checks can be sent directly to our American office. Arab Vision Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.
Arab Vision Inc. (USA)
1101 S. Broadway St. #120
Carrollton, Texas 75006

You may also donate by paying through our website www.arabvision.org. This is a secure payment facility.

Bank of America
Branch: 11868 Preston Rd, Dallas TX 75230
Account name: Arab Vision Inc
Account no: 004782094990
Routing no: 111000025
Federal EID no: 48-1270313

In Canada, 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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The fields are ripe...

When I was getting ready to write this column, I received the summary of results of our Facebook campaign we had to attract more people to the pages our follow-up team is managing. The summary only says, 'last month 134,766 people reached'.

This simple figure made me think of the words of the Lord Jesus, who told us that 'the fields are ripe for harvest'. We can see God moving in the hearts of people all over the Middle East and North Africa. Many are thirsty for truth and life.

In some countries, however, it is impossible to openly proclaim the Gospel and many people who would like to become followers of Jesus and openly confess Him, fear the harsh consequences of this choice.

That is why we use television and social media as tools to bring the good news. People can access the message in the privacy of their smart-phones and their homes. Our team uploads graphics and videos proclaiming the message of salvation, presenting the person of Jesus, and sharing testimonies of lives changed and miracles lived!

Thank you again for supporting us through your donations and prayers. Please continue to do so! We believe that every person - from whatever background - has a right to know the truth about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Today we see a much greater openness and respect in the Arab World for the Bible and the person of Jesus. Yes, the fields are ripe.

Gabino Boutros
International director Arab Vision

Children at risk

Nearly six million children across Syria are caught in the conflict and now depend on humanitarian assistance, with almost half of them forced to flee their homes. Some people talk about 'a lost generation' - children who grow up with severe mental and physical scars and suffering from a lack of education. Thirteen million children in the Middle East and North Africa are currently out of school and at risk of missing out on their education.

In Yemen nearly 462,000 children are today suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). Compounded by the cholera epidemic, a child under five dies in Yemen every ten minutes from preventable causes.

In Libya, the flow of refugees from its southern borders towards the coast is replete with opportunities for child sex traffickers.

As millions of families are suffering from the shock of losing their homes, issues inevitably arise within families. Parents may become depressed or even violent as a result of trauma and children are deprived of a secure and loving home.

In this issue we focus on a number of programs we produce for pregnant women and for children who suffer from trauma. But we also produce **with** children. *Mark my words* presents the Word of God through the mouth - or sign language - of children of the Arab World. Will you pray with us that this 'lost generation' will be found and cared for by loving people and that they will get to know the Good Shepherd?



Week of prayer for children in the Middle East

SAT-7, one of our major broadcasting partners, has launched an initiative for a special week of prayer across the globe from 5-12 November to pray specifically for the children of the Middle East and North Africa. SAT-7 is also preparing programs to meet the needs of the next generation through holistic programming and a new channel: SAT-7 Academy. Arab Vision has been asked to contribute programs for this channel. Would you please pray for wisdom for all involved so that we can be a great blessing for the children in the Arab World?



Muslim women from North Africa in touch with our follow-up team

Amira from Morocco wrote to us that she likes the subjects on our Facebook page and that she has invited her friends to join the page. We thank God for this positive response.

Abir from Algeria wrote that she wants to know more about Christianity. She asked questions about prayer and the practice of tolerance among people. We explained the Christian faith and will remain in touch with her.

Janat from Morocco wrote that she is afraid of people because they are mean to her. We talked about setting boundaries for healthy relationships and forgiveness from a Biblical point of view. She was very responsive to this.



Arab Christians proclaiming the Gospel on TV and internet in the Arab world

MEDIA FOR CHANGE

Baby on board!

Maternal mortality is still unacceptably high. About 830 women die from pregnancy- or childbirth-related complications around the world **every day**, reports the World Health Organisation.

The cause is often a lack of basic health care and a very limited knowledge of topics related to sex, pregnancy and child birth. Female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage and HIV/ AIDS complicate matters even further. Nearly half a million Syrian refugees and displaced women are pregnant, according to new UN figures, so we have decided that at least one of the episodes will be produced with a refugee woman who is pregnant who can speak about the extra challenges she faces being pregnant and away from home, often in dismal circumstances.

Many women in the Arab World spend a significant amount of time on the backseat of taxis, often together with a friend. That is where discussions on every topic take place. We would like to produce a real life TV series *Baby on board! Backseat talks with pregnant*



women. Two women chatting together on the back seat of a taxi about the joy of being pregnant, but also about taking care of your body, recognising danger signs and getting medical support when needed. You will find more information on page 3.

Presenting faith through community-life

Coptic Christians in Egypt are the largest Christian community in the Middle East. The Coptic Orthodox Church is one of the oldest, still surviving churches in the region. There are, however, many Copts who are no longer actively involved in church-life. Missing the strong community-relationships, they run the risk to drift away from their faith as well.

Arab Vision seeks to strengthen the Coptic Church in Egypt, by setting up a project that will invite Coptic Christians back into the rich community-life of the church - and the life of the Christian faith.

We will reach out to Copts through get-togethers. People are invited to share a weekly community meal. There they will hear the faith presented in a manner which will revive their enthusiasm. After seven meetings of sharing meals and faith presentations, they will attend a conference where they will have the opportunity to renew their commitment to the faith and to the church community. Subsequently they will receive follow-up to help them persevere in their commitments.

We plan to produce 8 videos of about half an hour each, presenting the faith through topics like baptism, confirmation, Eucharist, penance and reconciliation, marriage, serving in the church community (vital elements in the Coptic Church) and community-life.

Please pray for the preparations of this project, for the people who need to be trained to lead the small discussion groups, for the speakers in the videos that they may deliver powerful messages of encouragement and enthusiasm, and for the overall organization.



Let me tell you about the day that....

Story-telling to overcome trauma and to build self-esteem

There are thousands, if not millions of traumatized children in the Middle East; packed in refugee camps, or on the run from danger, violence and death. Most of all they need shelter, safety and food, but they also need to find ways to continue their lives after everything they have gone through, everything they have seen, and all they have lost



Story-telling is an effective way for children to find their strength and to deal with whatever happened in their lives. Story-telling is not only a proven way to overcome trauma, but can be good for any child to strengthen its self-esteem and identity.

Arab Vision is involved in an initiative of story-telling by and for children, and we are planning to support this by filming children's stories, told, written or drawn, so that they can be used to help other children, in different circumstances, but struggling with similar issues.

We hope to film ten videos of children from five different places, so that a wide variety of backgrounds will be represented.



Mark my words...

Mark my words is a production with Bible verses read by children. People are watching TV or are on Facebook and suddenly there is a child reading out a Bible verse. Even if they don't know the source, they will accept them as wise words, words full of love.

We have done some pilots, including one with a child who has Down syndrome and a deaf boy using sign language.

There is good interest from various satellite broadcasters and we will also distribute the 365 short clips by social media throughout the Arab World. See *Can you help* for more financial information.

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ سَيِّدَنَا
مَا أَمَجَّدُ اسْمَكَ فِي كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ
حَيْثُ جَعَلْتَ جَلَالَكَ فَوْقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ!

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.



Can you help?

Baby on Board –
US\$ 18,250

Maternal mortality is very high in developing countries. About 830 women die from pregnancy- or childbirth-related complications around the world every day. The new series *Baby on Board* about pregnancy will consist of 9 episodes of 10 minutes each. The total budget for production and follow up for 6 months is around US\$ 18,250. Can you help us produce this series? There are no TV programs or video-clips yet on satellite TV in the Arab World about these topics. (See page 2 for more information)

Presenting faith through
community life –
\$2500 per session

There are many Copts in Egypt who are no longer actively involved in church-life. Missing the strong community-relationships, they run the risk to drift away from their faith as well. To strengthen the faith of Coptic Christians we will produce a series of 8 videos of about 30 minutes each. People are invited to share a weekly community meal and watch the video together so that their faith will be revived. (See page 2 for more information) Can you help us finance one session?

Mark my words –
US\$ 100 per clip

Mark my words is a production with Bible verses read by children. We would like to produce 365 clips. Production of one clip will cost approximately € 100. Various broadcasters are very interested in this production and we will also distribute the 365 short clips by social media throughout the Arab World.

اعلموا أن الرب هو الله.
هو صنعنا وله نحن شعبه
وعنبر مرعاه.

Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

