

# **Arab Vision's Identity & Philosophy**

#### Identity

Arab Vision is a Christian organization aiming to serve all churches of the Middle East, the Arabian Peninsula and North Africa. Arab Vision accepts the <a href="Lausanne Covenant">Lausanne Covenant</a> and the <a href="Manila Manifesto">Manila Manifesto</a> as well as the <a href="Grand Rapids Consultation on Evangelism and Social Responsibility">Grand Rapids Consultation on Evangelism and Social Responsibility</a> as good descriptions of its Christian commitment. The ethos of Arab Vision and its programming are well described by the <a href="Ethical Standards of the Fellowship of European Broadcasters">Ethical Standards of the Fellowship of European Broadcasters</a> (FEB) and by the <a href="Principles of Christian Communication of the World Association for Christian Communication">Principles of Christian Communication of the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC)</a>.

## **Philosophy**

The witness to Jesus Christ entails the kerygmatic ('preaching') witness, the diaconal ('service') witness, and the koinonial ('community') witness. We only witness fully to Jesus Christ when these three elements are all part of our witness.

#### Kerygma

Our Christian message, the 'full counsel of God', centres on God, the Creator of the World, who sent his son to the world to reconcile the world to him by his life, death and resurrection. We understand the Gospel as expressed in the historic Christian councils of the first centuries AD.

### Diakonia

There is a need for programs that portray the present life of servant hood of the Arab churches in regard to their own members and to society, and to show how Arab Christians throughout history and today have played an important role in the development of Arab society as well as in caring for individuals.

#### Koinonia

As Christ has chosen to reveal himself in the unity and in the community of the Church, it is important to show the fellowship of believers in the media; how they worship, how they meet, how they work together, how they solve problems, how they live, etc.

# **Arab Vision's approach**

Arab Vision is committed to supporting Christians in the Arab World, both in their spiritual journey and in their efforts to transform society. Our programs are strategically designed to help develop mature disciples of Jesus Christ. We do so by bearing witness to the one body of Christ and not to any specific denomination.

Our programs present the Lord Jesus Christ and his Church; it is done in a non-confrontational manner, with an ethos of love and friendliness. This approach is the most suitable for supporting MBBs (Muslim Background Believers) and for creating an interest in the Gospel among Muslims, considering the sensitive situation of the Church in the Arab World.

The method of communication is linked to the content of our message. We cannot communicate the crucified Lord in a 'crusading' manner. We also recognize the distressing social and political forces that have often shaped the region, its people, and their perceptions. We know that the Gospel can be seen as 'offensive' to Muslims when it speaks of the need for changing one's heart, but we do not want to create offense by using unwise methods.

In our productions we stress God's transforming power in all areas of human life. The Gospel addresses the whole person and all people. An integral part of discipleship to Christ is a vision for a just society. This involves a commitment to human rights, to the poor, to minorities, to women, to refugees, to the powerless, and to those with special needs. In our productions we support the struggle of these people for a dignified life.

Part of that dignity is the right people have to be approached in their own spoken language. As the Gospel is for all people, Arab Vision produces culturally sensitive, thought-provoking videos to help all Arab people to better understand and respond to the Christian message. Our experience is that there is openness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ amongst people of all backgrounds in the Arab World.