

# Arab, Moroccan in Germany



Photo: Jacques Bismuth



*"Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."*

People Name	Arab, Moroccan
Country	Germany
Status	Unengaged Unreached
Population	67,000
Language	Arabic, Moroccan
Religion	Islam - Sunni
Written Scripture	Yes
Oral Scripture	Yes
Jesus Film	Yes
Gospel Recordings	Yes
Christ Followers	No
Churches	No
Workers Needed	1
Workers Reported	0

## BACKGROUND

There are more than 250 million Arabs who make up the majority populations of 22 nations. They represent the largest, most diverse, and most politically influential Muslim ethnic group in the world.

While there are several characteristics that determine whether or not a person is a true Arab, one trait is always evident: a proud sense of being an Arab. Their physical, geographical, and religious aspects all vary greatly; however, the ability to speak Arabic (or an Arabic dialect) and identification with the Arabian cultural heritage are, perhaps, the two most essential elements.

In the modern Arab world, traditional values have been altered. This can be attributed to the pressure to urbanize, industrialize, and de-tribalize. Today, few of the modern Arabs live as desert shepherds; and significant Arab communities can now be found in almost all of the western world.

## WHAT ARE THEIR LIVES LIKE?

Today, many Arabs live in cities and towns. This has caused traditional family and tribal ties to be broken down. Women, as well as men, now have greater educational and employment opportunities. These and other changes have created a new "middle class" in their society.

The Diaspora Arab communities fit into this new "middle class" category. Because the Diaspora Arabs have been exposed to western culture on a grand scale, their traditional culture and way of life have undergone many changes.

For most Diaspora Arabs, there have been a greater variety of job opportunities. This has aided their poor living conditions, but has also weakened traditional family ties. There is greater freedom for women to leave the home, fewer arranged marriages, and less social pressure to conform to traditional religious practices.

The early Islamic period was a time when "Arab identity" meant that all Arabs had descended from a common male ancestor. Thus, being an Arab brought recognition, honor, and certain privileges.

## WHAT ARE THEIR BELIEFS?

It was early in the seventh century that Mohammed first preached the tenets of Islam to the Arabs. His successors quickly spread the word of Allah far and wide. Wherever Arabs went, they left elements of their Arab culture, including their religion.

The historical link between Arabs and the Islamic religion is still very strong. Today, most Arabs are Muslims, belonging to a number of sects: the Shia, the Alawi, the

Zaidi, and the Sunni. Sunni Muslims are the predominant group.

## WHAT ARE THEIR NEEDS?

Fundamentalist Muslims are very outspoken against Christianity. Prayer is needed to break down the barriers.

## PRAYER POINTS

- \* Pray urgently (deomai) for the Lord to thrust out (ekballo) workers to this people group. (Mt 9:37-38, Lk 10:2 and Jn 4:35)
- \* Pray for the Holy Spirit to equip, empower, and guide these laborers to bear fruit through disciple-making and church-planting movements within this people group. (Mt 18:8, Mk 4:8, Jn 15:8)
- \* Ask the Holy Spirit to multiply these movements until there is no place left in this people group where Christ is not preached or known. (Mt 24:14, Mt 28:18-20, Acts 19:10, Rom 15:23)
- \* Ask that these movements transform this people group's culture to fully glorify God and represent His Kingdom on earth. (Mt 6:9-10, Rom 12:2, 2 Cor 3:18)
- \* Pray for every opposing spirit to give way to the liberating, life-giving gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the coming King. (James 4:7, 2 Cor 10:4-5, 1 Cor 15:58, Mt 18:18)