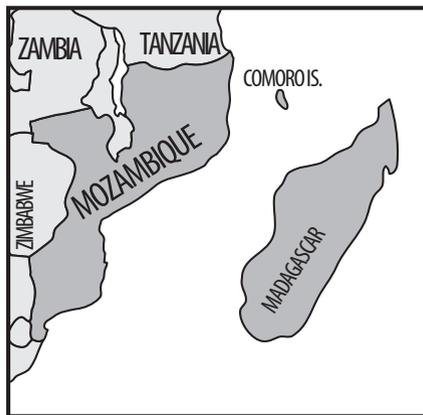
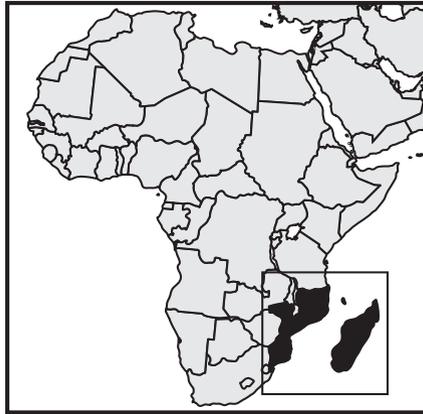


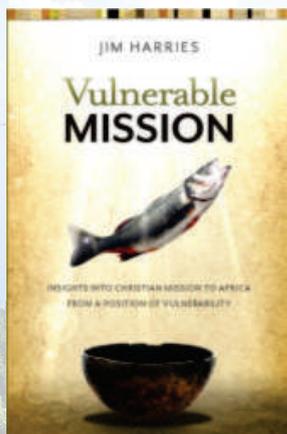
PRAY FOR

*A Disciple Making Movement Among Every
People in Coastal East Africa*





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Vulnerable Mission

Insights into Christian Mission to Africa From a Position of Vulnerability

In this compendium, Jim articulates the impact of the nature and shape of the interface between the West and Africa, and how that interface works or does not work. Read on if you are interested in Africa, mission, development, globalisation, communication, linguistics, theology, dependency, or power dynamics in intercultural perspective. The conclusions reached in the fourteen articles in this compendium endorse Jim's deepening conviction that some Western missionaries and development workers ought to engage in their ministries in Africa and the majority world using indigenous languages and locally available resources. To this end, Jim and some of his missionary colleagues formed the Alliance for Vulnerable Mission in 2007.

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Devotional Ideas

How can you make the most of this prayer digest:

- Some people use it as a supplement to their regular devotional time.
- Others enjoy reading and praying around the dinner table with the entire family.
- We encourage you to gather monthly with other Christian friends who are involved in this movement.

Every day at the top of the page you'll find the name of an unreached people group for which to pray. The small maps will help you locate the day's feature.

God is Moving on the Coast of East Africa!



The islands and coastal regions of East Africa are a vast area of beautiful blue water and clear skies. Ancient Arab *dhow*s with their blowing sails are still the main mode of

transportation. Fisherman pull in their nets by hand like they did in biblical times. There is a diverse mix of bright colored African fabrics worn in a more Middle Eastern style covering faces and arms. The food is also a mixture of African farmers' stock as well as spicy foods from India.

Amidst this array are many different people groups with their own languages, cultures, and traditions. There are also several religions found in the mix. For instance, Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs are commonplace religions on the coast of Kenya or on the island of Mauritius. Some, like the Gujarati of Madagascar manage to keep both Islam and Hinduism secondary to their strong bond of culture and language. A far more dominant religion for the region is folk Islam, a religion that expanded during the slave trade when some African traditional religious communities converted to Islam so they could save their peoples from slavery. This mixture of ancestor worship (complicated by witchdoctors) and a strict Islamic calendar of prayer and fasting is by far the most common religion found amongst the unreachable of the islands and coastal areas of East Africa.

By Shan Berry

God is Moving on the Coast of East Africa!

Mozambique and Madagascar

The Koti people of Angoche Island in Mozambique are one such group (see day 18). In the late 90s a Japanese church began to pray for them. After several years they felt it was time for a visit. After a shipwreck, like Paul, they found the islanders to



be open to the gospel and the chief and many of the islanders turned from folk Islam to the Lord. Scriptures have been translated by Wycliffe into the Koti language, and there is now a very active church. In fact, they have been sending their own missionaries to the mainland (the coast of Mozambique) in order to proclaim the good news to the Mwani people group.

The Mwani people group (day 19) live mainly along the northern coast of Mozambique and Ibo Island. They are also Islamic with a mixture of traditional religion. They are a matrilineal people group, which is rather unusual for Islamic people. There have been missionaries amongst this group for approximately 20 years. The scriptures have been translated into Kimwani and a regular radio program has been broadcast in their language for about 10 years. Yet little headway was seen until 2016, when there were several baptisms and fledgling churches started to reach out to those around them. After 20 years of backbreaking hard work, and in some cases fatal work by several missionaries, we have begun to see a church emerge amongst the Mwani people group.

Following Portuguese colonialism and a civil war, Mozambique was isolated from trade for several years. However, the coastal towns in Kenya and Tanzania had a bustling trade with both Europe and the East for decades. There are several unreached people groups (UPGs) of Asia found on this coastline. These groups may be third or fourth generation Asians who have grown up in East Africa. Family traditions and religions hold these Hindu or Muslim groups tightly together.

God is Moving on the Coast of East Africa!

The Gujaratis are one such group. They have an amazing network of trade across East Africa and the islands. As yet there is no church among the Gujaratis of Madagascar (day 12). They are also inadequately reached in other parts of East Africa or even in India.

In other areas of Madagascar the growth of the church has been profound. Eighteen years ago there were approximately 13 unreached people groups in Madagascar, the church being predominantly Catholic. There was very little outreach or awareness of mission at that time. Today the evangelical church has grown in Madagascar with traditional mission efforts like Scripture Union in schools and the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES/UGBM) at tertiary institutions and universities. Now there are several indigenous mission agencies within Madagascar, sending their own people out to the unreached in the more rural areas.

One such group has been the Sakalava people which is traditionally animist. Their culture is dominated by taboos from the ancestors. They converted to a form of Islam so they could protect themselves from Arab slave traders. They also retreated to islands and isolated coastal areas, away from the French colonialists. In the 1990s Sakalava began to hear the gospel in schools and universities. Some became followers of the Lord and took the good news back to their home villages. One such person, Rosina Ferdinando, led a team of missionaries to her own people (days 1-3). They formed a church and translated Bible stories. There is not yet the full set of scriptures in the Sakalava dialects, but the church is hungry for God's word and Rosina is now the country leader for a missionary organization.

The Antakarana people (day 14) of northern Madagascar boast a similar history. Fiercely protective of their culture and traditions, they do not allow the Merina (a dominant people group from elsewhere) or mainland groups onto their islands. A small island in the Diego Bay is the center of their animist worship. Until recently the island of Nosy Mitsio was protected in a similar way. A missionary couple befriended the chief of the island three years ago and was allowed to bring a team of missionaries to the island to live and work among the people. Although islanders remain attentive to the word, a church has not yet been established on the island of Nosy Mitsio.

Unreached people groups on other islands in the region have had similar responses to the gospel. People have been showing themselves attentive to

God is Moving on the Coast of East Africa!

the word and open to discussion, but not yet taking the plunge to believe and receive Jesus into their lives. This is due to the fear of persecution if they “convert.” Family and community will almost certainly disown individuals who openly profess Christ. This emphasizes the need for praying for entire family groups to trust in the Lord, thus providing essential support and fellowship.

There are Opportunities!

An island that hosts many such reachable people groups is the island of Mayotte. This island is a department of France, and as such, has religious freedom. It is an ideal place for foreign workers and tentmakers, boasting good hospitals and schools as well as rich opportunities to proclaim the gospel to UPGs (unreached people groups). Its high standard of living suits doctors, teachers, and other professionals, as well as entrepreneurs.

Farming God’s Way (day 23) has been another tool which has been used to reach coastal UPGs, particularly in Tanzania and Kenya. This method of farming helps to retain the nutrients in the soil as well as to increase crop yield. It has also been used both as a tool to reach UPGs, and equip local missionaries with methods of sustainability and provision for their families while on the rural mission field.

The increase in the number of African missionaries being sent from churches within the East Africa region is a great encouragement. Many churches in Kenya, Tanzania, and Madagascar are waking up to the unreached within their own countries and in neighboring countries. Short term mission and awareness and prayer meetings are often devoted to their unreached Muslim neighbors and people groups. The Lord is certainly at work in this region where he is building his church!

Let’s Pray!

- Pray for an increase in the number of sent workers this year.
- Pray for a spiritual awakening among the unreached people groups in this part of the world, especially on the island of Nosy Mitsio.
- Pray for a spiritual breakthrough among the South Asian people groups that remain unreached in these coastal and island regions.
- Pray for the mobilization of the African church into missionary work.
- Pray that the Lord would ignite a flame that cannot be put out in the Indian Ocean islands.

MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHY, ROSINA FERDINANDO

IS 24:15, NIV

Therefore, in the east give glory to the Lord; exalt the name of the Lord, the God of Israel, in the islands of the sea.

Pray that the Lord will respond to our prayers for the islands and coastlands of East Africa by moving men and women to give him glory, and by taking his great name to the unreached.



Rosina Ferdinando

I grew up in a small village full of laughter and kids. We could play, sing, dance, or sit around the fire, listening to the elders telling stories to us.

I was introduced to various aspects of our Sakalava culture, worshipping ancestral spirits, and respecting the taboos and sacred places. I went to see the medium or witchdoctors when I was sick. My grandma was a medium. My mum was very respected because the ancestor spirits possessed her.

My father wanted all of us to go to school. I started with a Catholic school, then I attended an Adventist school, while living with a friend of my father who happened to be a pastor in a Protestant church in town. I became confused by hearing what was being taught at the schools and what I heard from the pastor. I wanted to know the truth.

One day students from a university invited students from my school to attend a Christian conference. It was there I got to know who Jesus is, why he had come to earth, and how he wants us to be his own. I gave my life to him. I became the first believer in my family. The students were from the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) in Madagascar. Some countries call it Interspersity Christian Fellowship.

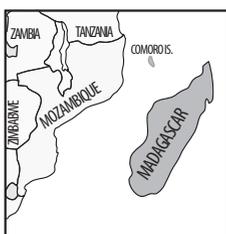
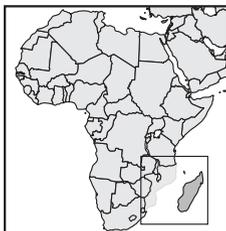
Pray for believers in Madagascar to be able to focus on Jesus.—SB, guest writer/interviewer

ROSINA FERDINANDO, CONTINUED

DAY

02

I was disciplined right away through Bible studies. After my university studies, I became a full-time worker with IFES Madagascar for many years. I attended many leadership training courses provided by IFES, locally and abroad too. I had been privileged to do two years studies at All Nations Christian College (ANCC) in the UK. It was at this time that I met with a small church in Manchester that was praying for my people, the Sakalava, without knowing where Madagascar is. They had never met anyone from my country.



IS 42:9, NIV

See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.

Pray that many young people in Madagascar will hear the voice of the Lord when he calls them to follow him into what seem like dangerous waters.

In God's providence, 10 years after my conversion, my mum was freed from the bondage to spirits and became a believer, the second in my family. Later my grandmother became a believer as well. My dad accepted Jesus just before he died.

For a long time my heart had been heavy and loaded with the desire to see my people reached for Christ, but I did not know how to tell them. I was scared of my family. I had been accused of being the one who led my mum far from ancestor worship. I became more encouraged after my mum's conversion, trusting that if God was able to free her from the bondage she had been in, He would be able to do the same to my entire people.

Pray for new believers in Madagascar to have strong faith.—SB, guest writer

ROSINA FERDINANDO, CONTINUED

REV 3:8, NIV

I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

Pray that the believers of Africa who are regarded by the world as having “little strength” will keep his word and be faithful to take his name to the unreached in their region.



I should have been a teacher. But the Lord had shown me clearly that he wanted me to serve him full time with the student ministry. This was not an easy decision because my family saw me as the one they could rely on to help them with finances after my studies. My mum called me a foolish girl who caused them shame in the community. But I had said yes to Jesus. I did student ministry for many years, discipling and seeing many students growing in faith and becoming obedient, faithful leaders.

Later the Lord opened the door for me to serve among my own Sakalava people, leading a group of missionaries from Africa Inland Mission (AIM), where he allowed us to see a group of Sakalava people become believers. We then trained them as leaders. The Lord later encouraged me not to just focus on my own people, but to serve him among all groups of people in Madagascar. I was called to work with many missionaries in AIM and build relationships with many mission organizations and churches.

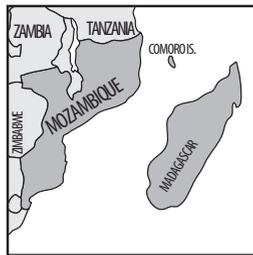
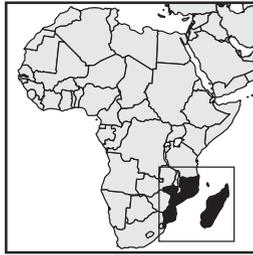
I am encouraged by the words from Rev 3:8a: “These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.”

Pray that the missionaries being raised up in Africa today will persevere even when Satan tries to shut the door in their faces.—SB

MWALI PEOPLE OF THE COMORO IS.

(This story illustrates attitudes of this people group.)

The young Mwali man read the neatly typed manuscript as the missionary sat on the other side of a long table in the large room, writing notes as he read from a book. The young man read aloud in his own language. “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...” He gazed at the missionary. “Your text says God took seven days to create the universe.” The missionary, a middle-aged man, set aside his writing tablet. “Yes it does.” “I’m confused,” said the young man. “I’m a Muslim. I was taught that Allah created the universe in a moment of time. At the university I was taught that the universe just evolved.”



The Muslim Mwalis live on the Comoro Islands. There are few, if any, followers of Jesus among them. Missionaries are translating the books of Genesis, Exodus, Mark, and Acts into the Mwali language, a task that will probably take years. About a dozen Mwalis have become curious about these books and now often meet with the members of the translation team. Some of them have begun following Christ.

Pray that the Bible translation team will be protected from disease, danger, and persecution. Pray for accuracy in these translations. May these translations lead Mwali people to love and obey the Lord.—WK

IS 55:11, NIV

... so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Pray that as God's word becomes more available to the Mwali people it will result in an openness to the Lord.

NZWANI PEOPLE OF THE COMORO IS

REV 19:9, NIV

Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God."

Pray that the Nzwani people will soon understand that there will be a much more important wedding than any they have ever attended, and that it will not be about gaining personal social status, but about giving praise to the King of kings.

Cepparo_iStockPhotos



(This story is intended to illustrate the attitudes of this people group.)

A young Nzwani couple and their parents eagerly gathered outside the village

mosque, waiting for it to open so they could get the paper work started. The groom-to-be gave his bride a nervous smile, and she shyly looked down as her father started saying what she was afraid he would say. "This wedding will be the biggest this village has ever seen! There will be lots of food; both lobster and filet mignon." She knew it was not out of generosity that he was making such promises. Such bragging provided status for her father. She would hear quite a bit more of this from both parents as the "big wedding season" stretched out into three months.

The Muslim Nzwani people live on Clove Island, one of the Comoro islands. There are few, if any, followers of Jesus Christ among them. Each year for one month Nzwani teenagers prepare to take part in the Big Wedding Season, forgetting about everything else.

Pray that members of the Nzwani people would understand that social status is fleeting, and they need to look to spiritual matters for fulfilment. Ask God to provide the contacts needed for missionaries who work among the Nzwani to effectively learn that language, so the Bible can be fully translated. A few Ndwani have begun to follow Christ. Pray that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit and draw others to the savior.—WK

NGAZIDJA PEOPLE OF THE COMOROS

DAY

06

(This story is intended to illustrate the attitudes of this people group.)



The Ngazidja man walked past the huts of his village, curious about the singing coming from one of them. They were singing about someone named Isa. He walked up to the open door of the hut and saw people sitting in rows, gazing at books they held in their hands. Several foreigners were among them. The man shook his head and walked away, not understanding what was going on. He didn't realize the books were hymnals, and the foreigners were missionaries. The young man had never attended a Christian church service before.

The Ngazidja people live on the Comoro Islands, located in the Indian Ocean. They are a Muslim people group. Only a few Ngazidja have become followers of Jesus Christ. In recent years Bible translation work has begun among this people group. The translation team has learned enough of the language to compose worship songs. The singing of these hymns has created curiosity among Ngazidja Muslims.

Pray for God's anointing on those writing worship songs so that their songs will connect with the local people. May songs of praise spark a movement to Christ among this people group. Pray that the few Ngazidja believers will continue to find the courage to worship openly. Pray that the Bible translation work would continue unhindered.—WK

NUM 23:19, NIV

God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?

Pray that the Ngazidja people will soon worship the God of action!

SHIBUSHIS OF THE COMORO IS

IS 43:18-19, NLT

But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.

Pray that throughout this month the Lord will do something in your heart, so you will anticipate his mighty acts on the Comoro Islands.

Insularis



Enjoy this view of Maore!

The island of Maore is beautiful! Lush forests rise and fall with the hills, forming a striking contrast with the turquoise coastal waters, quickly

deepening to the bluest azure. But to the couple who had just arrived on this French territory of the Comoros Islands, the beauty was overshadowed by uncertainty.

They came in answer to a call. God had set in their hearts the Shibushi tribe, one of the main peoples of Maore Island. At this point there are no disciples of Christ among this people group.

The young husband and wife had left their home to travel to this unfamiliar part of the world. Though they were sure of their task, difficulties still loomed. Bureaucracy had to be navigated such as residency papers, a driver's license, car insurance. They were expecting the arrival of a child, a great joy, but also a responsibility more pressing in their new situation.

In all, they hoped to proclaim Christ to the Shibushi through their example. A family devoted to Jesus would be a powerful testimony to the kingdom of God. Though hard work and many adversities stood in their way, God's salvation accomplished in the lives of the people of Maore would be worth it all.

Pray that this couple will display Christ to the Shibushi and continue to do so with joy, no matter what the circumstances. Pray that through them God's Spirit would do a great work and bring the Shibushi people to repentance and salvation.—WM

MALAYS ON THE COMORO ISLANDS

DAY

08

(This story is intended to illustrate the attitudes of this people group.)

Arissa wasn't ready for the question that came from her six-year-old daughter Damia, but she knew it would come sooner or later. "Mommy, why are the other girls in my school black, and I look so different from them?" Arissa took Damia in her lap and began to tell her why. "Way back, hundreds of years ago, our great-great-great-great grandparents came here to the Comoro Islands from Malaysia, a beautiful country in the far east. They came, they worked hard, they traded. Some grew spices so people all over the world could enjoy tasty food. And they always worshipped Allah, whether they were in Malaysia or here."

Arissa told her most of the story, but not all of it. Some Malays came as traders and merchants, but others came as slaves to do the hardest work with almost no benefit. Just like in Malaysia and Indonesia where they first came from, the Malays are Muslim, but they blend Islam with traditional religion and superstitions. They believe in curses, the power to do harm through the evil eye, and in powerful, wicked spirits as well as Allah.

Pray that believers in Africa will send someone to tell the Malay people about the Christ who came that we would have life to the fullest, and not have to be in bondage to fear.—KC



Create Int'l

IS 42:4, NIV

... he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.

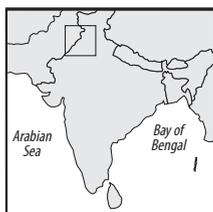
Pray that the Malay peoples in Africa will put their hope in the inevitable salvation of the Lord.

PUNJABI SIKHS IN MAURITIUS

IS 49:1, NIV

Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant
nations: Before I was born
the Lord called me; from
my mother's womb he has
spoken my name.

*Pray that the Punjabis in
Mauritius will hear and
respond to the words of
true prophets like Isaiah.
He was called by God to tell
the church of his wonders
among the nations.*



(This story is intended to illustrate facts about this people group.)

It's nice to meet you, Simar!" The Punjabi Sikh from India shook hands with a local Sikh while waiting for a bus in Port Louis, Mauritius. "This is my first visit and I'm curious about our people in Mauritius. What is your story?"

Simar replied, "Originally my great-great-great grandparents were sent here by the British in 1846. They worked on the sugar plantations. My father became successful working in banking, and I'm working in the trading market. Would you like to come to my home and meet my family? We have a beautiful home near the beach."

With a population of almost two million, the Punjabis (almost all are Sikh) in Mauritius are economically and professionally very successful. They can be found working in the areas of commerce, trading, banking, tourism, politics, teaching, and medicine.

Sikhism has its roots in the teachings of Guru Nanak. The basic principles are honest hard work, and helping others in need. Sikhs in Mauritius are friendly, but most of them are not open to discussing spiritual matters regarding the claims of Jesus.

Pray that the Sikhs of Mauritius will have ears to hear the teachings of Jesus. Pray there will soon come a time when they will be disciplined in his ways.—PD

MARATHI SPEAKERS IN MAURITIUS

(This story is intended to illustrate attitudes of this people group.)

Himmat, a Hindu Marathi speaker in Mauritius, spoke with passion as he was interviewed after receiving the second-best actor's award by the International Theater Institute on World Theater Day. "I am confident that the future of theater in Mauritius is bright, and we will be able to shine even on the international scene. Determined, I started writing my own scripts and created a new theater club. Over the past years, my team and I won several awards. I'm a faithful Hindu; before I write or act I always give offerings to Ganesh, the lord of obstacles. When I get stuck in my writing, Ganesh clears the way."

Although the 17,000 Hindu Marathas comprise a minority group in Mauritius they have made important contributions to the economic, social, political, and cultural development of the country.

They are devoted Hindus who faithfully celebrate all the festivals to Hindu gods. They are not open to the gospel. Hindus who put their faith in Jesus are often rejected and persecuted by those who are closest to them such as friends and family members.

Pray that the Marathi speakers will have their eyes open to the truth of Jesus.—PD



REV 1:9, NET

I, John, your brother and the one who shares with you in the persecution, kingdom, and endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony about Jesus.

Pray that the Marathi speakers on the island of Mauritius will listen to the words that the Apostle John spoke 2,000 years ago. Pray that they will respond by devoting their lives to Christ.

HINDUS IN MAURITIUS

PS 145:1-4, RSV

I will extol thee, my God and king, and bless thy name for ever and ever. Every day I will bless thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

Pray for the Hindus of Mauritius to recognize the greatness of God and tell of his works to others.



A South Asian man

Rachit, a Mauritian, had never felt the peace and happiness he was experiencing as he prepared to be baptized by his new

Christian friend Robert. He and his wife and children had been practicing Hindus all their lives until they came to accept Jesus through the witness of Robert and his friends. After asking the Lord to forgive him of his sins, especially all the years he had worshiped hundreds of Hindu gods, Rachit was baptized by Robert. Smiling, Rachit came up from the water and motioned to his wife, Meesha and their three children to come into the water. Robert baptized each of them. After this another family was baptized. The Christians rejoiced with the new believers, and they made plans to come together each week for a Bible study.

Over 47 percent of the Mauritians are practicing Hindus. An evangelical team has found success in reaching some of them through helping the poor with outreach programs related to education. Home churches are growing as believers are training others to share their testimonies and start Bible studies.

Thank God for what he is doing among Hindus in Mauritius! Pray for the Holy Spirit to draw thousands more to his loving arms.—PD

GUJARATIS IN MOZAMBIQUE AND MADAGASCAR

DAY

12

Hanif, a Gujarati merchant, migrated as a young man to Saudi Arabia. But after 24 years, he moved with his wife and daughter to Mozambique, where he opened a provision store. His dream of success in Africa was cut short six years later when assailants entered his house, snatched two cell phones and a laptop from his wife and daughter, then fatally shot Hanif. This was, unfortunately, not an isolated incident, but part of a spate of attacks on Gujarati immigrants.



Many Gujarati merchants and their families live in Mozambique and Madagascar. Endowed with savvy business skills and dedicated to financial success, they flourish wherever they transplant themselves. The Bible is available in Gujarati, but the people need to meet believers who can live out a different definition of success.

Ask God to humble these Gujarati businessmen to see their need for repentance and salvation so that they might spread the gospel to their families. Ask for strength, protection, and boldness for the handful of Gujarati believers in the face of rejection by their communities. Pray for a seminar in Madagascar that plans to bring together people interested in ministering to Gujaratis. Pray for a Christian agency that organizes sports and English language clubs for youths.—CMW

2 CHR 14:11B, NET

Help us, O Lord our God, for we rely on you and have marched on your behalf against this huge army. O Lord our God, don't let men prevail against you!

Pray for God to act on behalf of the Gujaratis to protect them from dangerous criminals. Ask God to give them the chance to take refuge in the Lord.

NORTH KOREANS IN MADAGASCAR

PS 37:1-6, RSV

Fret not yourself because of the wicked, be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb. Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will dwell in the land, and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your vindication as the light, and your right as the noonday.

Pray that the North Koreans in Africa will learn that trust in the Lord is the most wonderful security they can ever experience.



There is another Asian group living in Madagascar, and many of them came in the name of art. According to the *Calvert Journal*, “North Korea [exported] plans, workers, and materials to Africa completely free of charge; only since the year 2000 has the North Korean state received payment for its efforts ... In the 1970s, North Korea supported Madagascar by building the presidential

Iavoloha Palace and agricultural waterways free of charge. So today, Madagascar considers North Korea a “close ally.” Madagascans over 60 express their respect for North Korea’s founder, Kim Il-sung, without hesitation. Even though Pyongyang long ago severed ties with the world at large, Madagascar remains home to “a legacy of North Korean arms and military support.”

Fifteen thousand North Koreans live in Madagascar. Almost all of them are non-religious and the community is considered unreached. Plentiful gospel resources are available in Korean.

Pray that these resources will make their way into the hands and the hearts of the unsaved. Please pray that the estimated one percent who profess Christ will be emboldened to share the gospel with their non-religious neighbors. Ask God to do for the North Koreans what he has already done for South Koreans—give them faith!—CMW

ANTAKARANA IN MADAGASCAR

(This fictional account is intended to explain the challenges facing this people group.)



McIninch

“We ask, O Lord, that you would reveal yourself as the almighty one throughout the sacred mountain. Break down the stronghold of Satan and free the Antakarana to worship you.” More nodding. Several soft amens...

As the small mission team huddled together in a hut in northern Madagascar interceding for the Antakarana people, what they did not see and could not have known was that their prayers were being answered. Always faithful, God had heard them and, in response, was softening the hearts of strategic members of this unreached people group, speaking to them by his Holy Spirit, calling them out from darkness into his unquenchable light.

Approximately 400,000 Antakarana people live in the northern part of Madagascar, speaking their own language rather than the official language. They are almost all Muslim. Along with Islam, they also worship ancestors. As one mission organization put it, “Every detail of their lives is controlled by a complicated system of taboos and ceremonies. One mistake could bring the curses of the ancestors upon them.”

Pray for the Antakaranas to be released from the bondage of Islam and ancestor worship, and make them willing to enter the spiritual freedom of the savior. Pray for the Lord to raise up many people to pray for the Antakarana people daily.—CL

PS 5:2, NET

Pay attention to my cry for help, my king and my God, for I am praying to you!

Pray that the Lord will answer prayer for the Antakarana people to be helped and delivered by the savior.

MAORE COMORIANS IN MADAGASCAR

IS 42:16, NLT

I will lead blind Israel down a new path, guiding them along an unfamiliar way. I will brighten the darkness before them and smooth out the road ahead of them. Yes, I will indeed do these things; I will not forsake them.

Pray that the peoples who have been uprooted in Africa will put their hope in the God who will give them an eternal home, one that is far superior to any they could imagine.

(This fictional account is intended to explain the challenges facing this people group.)

“**W**hen can we go home?” the

little girl whined. “We’re going home,” her mother answered wearily. It had been a long day in the market selling produce, and now they were pushing the cart toward their modest house. “No,” the girl argued, “Home to the Comoros.” Her mother stopped and just looked at her daughter. “Madagascar is our home now,” she said with resignation in her voice. “But what about grandmother and grandfather? When will we see them?” The mother shrugged and continued pushing the cart. “I don’t know, honey. I don’t know.”



The Comorian people living in diaspora are not refugees of war, they are victims of a failing economy. Approximately 5,100 have sought financial refuge in nearby Madagascar.

Like many of the other residents of Madagascar, the Comorian people are Muslim, but mix in a liberal amount of folk religious elements. They believe in and practice the use of charms, magic, and curses.

Pray for the Comorians to be delivered from the shackles of animism and Islam, and that they will be introduced to the kingdom of God. Pray for the Lord to bring them both spiritual and economic prosperity.—CL

YEMENI ARABS IN MADAGASCAR

Madagascar, the world's fourth largest island, is one of its poorest nations. Seeking temporary respite from their lives, many in Madagascar visit "coiffeurs," or local barbershops, to chat, relax, and chew *khat*, a plant that produces a short high. The effects of *khat* are compared to drinking several cups of strong coffee, effective for staying awake or stimulating conversation.



Khat chewing is intrinsic to social life for Yemeni Arabs in Yemen as well as in Madagascar. One Yemeni *khat* merchant describes it as "alcohol for Muslims." Though it is legal in Madagascar and permitted by Islam, *khat* is an expensive habit with long-term spiritual and economic consequences. *Khat* chewing might be considered morally neutral in Yemeni Arab culture, but like all other addictions, its illusory comforts present a distortion of rest and a lie to its users. Jesus intends to lead his people into richly satisfying lives, and recreational drugs stand in the way of that abundance.

Pray for the Yemeni Arabs to receive liberation from addictions to khat. Pray that Jesus would reveal himself as a source of true rest. Pray for amazing encounters with Jesus that would make the temptations of this world fade away.—EC

JN 10:10, NIV

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

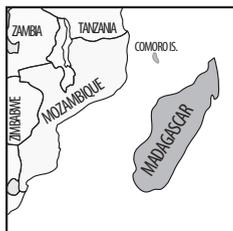
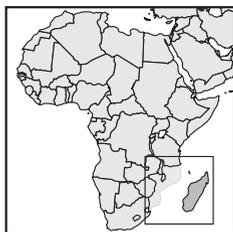
Pray that the Yemeni Arabs would understand the stark difference between Satan's bait and the true abundance that Jesus offers.

JESUS FILM IN MADAGASCAR

PS 119:9, NET

How can a young person maintain a pure life? By guarding it according to your instructions!

Pray that the JESUS Film viewings in Madagascar will result in tens of thousands putting their trust in the words of the Bible.



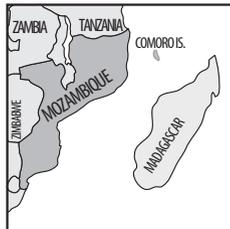
There is a way to help non-believers to read the Gospel of Luke: Have them see the JESUS Film in their own language! Through the faithful efforts of videographers venturing into rural villages, the seeds of the gospel are bearing fruit in Madagascar. A team led by a man named Max presented the JESUS Film in Malagasy (Madagascar's official language) to a village where crocodile and

ancestor worship was rampant. Max's family lived with the villagers for two weeks, learning about their customs and building trust and friendship. When the team presented the film, the first the villagers had ever seen, the audience was at first overwhelmed by the crucifixion scene, and then overcome with joy at Jesus' resurrection. When Max and his team invited the villagers to follow Jesus and offered prayer for deliverance from darkness, nearly every person said yes. The church-planting film teams are continuing their work over the course of the next six months in Madagascar, visiting new villages, forming relationships, and sowing the seeds of the gospel.

Pray that God would accomplish his purposes through their ministry and that the word of God would take root in the hearts of the people. Pray that there will be many who will be disciplined in the ways of Jesus, and that his ways would be shared far and wide throughout Madagascar.—EC

KOTI PEOPLE OF MOZAMBIQUE

No self-respecting tourist would want to visit Angoche, a dilapidated, remote town in Mozambique. The Kotis, one of the poorest ethnic groups in Mozambique, live in Angoche surrounded by armed conflict, a failing economy, and a dearth of natural resources. About one in a hundred are believers, and the rest are Muslim.



Despite this gloomy picture, Julian and Annie visit often. Julian is helping the Koti people build their own community center. Julian reports, “The new buildings are providing for the needs in the community such as education, health, hygiene, and linguistics. Another significant measure is the continuity of commitment and engagement from the community of faith and hundreds of people continuing to become followers of Isa.” Julian sums up his experience among the Koti like this, “Having spent a challenging week with my friends who fed us from their empty tables, I would say ... they are more than worth it!” He went on to tell of a young couple who moved eight hours up the coast to reach the unreachable in a location where there is no drinking water within eight miles. The Kotis have translations of some Bible portions in their language. There are no audio recordings of scripture teaching available.

Pray for boldness, discernment, and protection for new Koti believers as they reach out to their neighbors.—AS

IS 60:9, NET

Indeed, the coastlands look eagerly for me, the large ships are in the lead, bringing your sons from far away, along with their silver and gold, to honor the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has bestowed honor on you.

As we pray for the peoples on the coastlands of Africa, pray that they will put their trust in the Lord their true God.

MWANI PEOPLE OF MOZAMBIQUE

EX 6:6, NIV

Therefore, say to the Israelites: “I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.”

Pray that the Mwani people will long for being freed from the bondage of spiritual slavery.



The Mwani people tell stories of Muslim traders who invaded their land 1,100 years ago. The entire Mwani tribe became Muslim so they could avoid being enslaved. Now the Mwani call themselves Muslim, but they also follow an African traditional religion. Mwani means “beach,” so not surprisingly, this 105,000 strong group of fishermen and farmers live close to the water along a 200-mile stretch of the northern Mozambican coastline.

The New Testament has been translated into Mwani, but most of them cannot read their own language. Fortunately, there is an audio recording on-line. Global Recordings Network (GRN) has audio Bible teaching in four dialects of Mwani, and the JESUS Film is also available in their language.

Ten years ago a team of evangelists planted the gospel seed among them that has blossomed into a harvest. A missionary couple has planted a church among them. Two established mission organizations, CAPRO (a Nigerian mission agency) and AIM Int’l., are now training Mozambican missionaries. A Christian radio station, Radio Nuru, now broadcasts in Mwani.

Praise the Lord for many new Mwani believers! Pray that mission efforts among them will bear much fruit. Pray that Mozambican churches will support their new missionaries with faithful prayer and finances.—AS

MAKHUWA NAHARAS PEOPLE OF MOZAMBIQUE

DAY

20

The Makhuwa are a major population group in Mozambique, comprising up to 40 percent of the population. The Nahara are a Makhuwa subgroup who live along the northern coast of the



nation. They are fishermen by trade. Because they live by the coast, many of these villages are only accessible by boat, making it hard to reach them. Being a very conservative people who dislike change as well as a dishonest people who distrust others, they tend not to connect well with outsiders. In addition, they place no value on modern education, and this has consequences. They have an exceptionally low educational level and little input from the outside world.

Religiously, the Nahara are rooted in Islam, although many are lacking in understanding of their religion. What results is a blend of Islam and animism, similar to what can be found in other regions of Africa. Due to the high concentration of ancestor worship in the Makhuwa Nahara culture, there is much reliance on witchdoctors, whom they consult in a vain attempt to protect against their high infant mortality rate.

Pray that the Makhuwa Nahara people would be open to hearing about Christ and his ways. Ask the Lord to call more workers to the harvest, especially from nearby groups of believers. Pray that the Makhuwa Nahara people would be open to education, and that they would put their trust in Christ rather than in the power of witchdoctors.—BK

1 KINGS 8:37-40, NLT

If there is a famine in the land or a plague or crop disease or attacks of locusts or caterpillars, or if your people's enemies are in the land besieging their towns—whatever disaster or disease there is—and if your people Israel pray about their troubles, raising their hands toward this temple, then hear from heaven where you live, and forgive. Give your people what their actions deserve, for you alone know each human heart. Then they will fear you as long as they live in the land you gave to our ancestors.

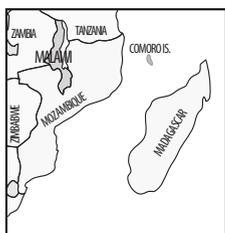
Pray that whatever the Lord is using to drive or draw the Makhuwa Nahara people of Mozambique to himself, they will respond with repentance, believing he will act to save them.

YAO MUSLIMS OF MALAWI

PROV 20:12, NET

Ears to hear and eyes to see—both are gifts from the Lord.

Pray for these gifts to come to the Yao people of Africa.



Although they trace their history to the northern hill country of Mozambique, the majority of the Yao people now live in Malawi. Much of the migration took place in the 1800s due to famine and tribal division.

They soon become traders of ivory and slaves with their Arab neighbors. The Yao never united. Instead they remained under the rule of local chieftains. Today they continue to live in compact villages under traditional headmen. Primarily an agricultural people in the modern world, the Yao use slash-and-burn techniques to grow their primary crops. They grow corn, sorghum, beans, and peanuts for food, and tobacco as a cash crop.

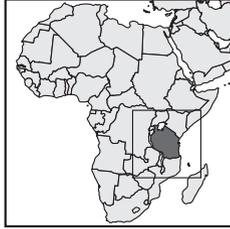
The famous David Livingstone was a witness to the slave trade in Malawi, and his reports spurred a mission movement into the area. As with all areas under British control, the lucrative slave trade ended in Malawi in 1859, stemming the nation's influx of wealth. Not much more than a decade later, Islam began to move in, becoming the dominant religion of the Yao people by 1920.

Pray that Yao Muslims would receive a revelation of the Lord Jesus through dreams, visions, and through the word. Pray that they will have open ears and hearts to embrace the savior. Pray for success for the groups who are laboring to reach the Yao. Pray for indigenous believers to be raised up to disciple the Yao people.—BK

ZARAMO PEOPLE OF TANZANIA

(This story is intended to illustrate aspects of Zaramo beliefs.)

Kuo walked carefully down the path to the cave of Kolelo. He didn't want to fall and drop the black goat he was carrying for the sacrifice. The medicine man was waiting for him at the cave's entrance. Suddenly, he felt a gust of wind and heard the rustling of leaves. He began to shake. Surely this was a bad omen!



The Zaramo people dwell in a horseshoe shaped area around the coastal city of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. They are poorly educated, and their lives are filled with fear. They sense witchcraft and evil in everyday events, which is a major handicap for believers who witness to them. They view Christianity as the religion of “outsiders.” Primarily, they practice a type of folk Islam, mixing in appeasement of evil spirits, which they see in everything. Kolelo is the main spirit.

The Zaramo have a huge celebration when a baby girl is born because they are a matrilineal society with the inheritance of land passing down through the females. It is not uncommon for a Zaramo man to have several wives. He gets to enjoy more land!

Pray for believers living among the Zaramo to be fearless witnesses as they share with them the many “fear nots” of faith. Pray for Christ-centered churches to spring up that lead to discipleship.—JS

EX 14:13, NIV

Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again.”

Pray that the Zaramo people will seek the deliverance of the Lord for all who call upon his name.

FARMING GOD'S WAY

PS:65:11, NIV

You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.

Pray that the peoples of East Africa will understand that abundance comes from the Lord.



Missionaries and non-government organizations (NGOs) around the world are taking advantage of “Farming God’s Way,” a technique for enriching the soil and crop yield of farmers all over the world. Africa is the most poverty-stricken continent on earth, home to 750 million subsistence farmers who often cannot feed their families much less sell enough to exist. This organization believes that Farming God’s Way is the solution for turning Africa from being the “begging bowl” to the “breadbasket of the world.” They quote Hosea 4:14b, “My people perish because of a lack of knowledge.” They are sharing the solution with the poorest of the poor of many unreached peoples, and success stories abound.

This technique involves no plowing, 100 percent mulch covers (referred to as God’s blanket), and crop rotation. Hard rock earth covered with mulch for several years has turned into nutrient rich soil. The testimonies abound for Farming God’s Way. It is given as a gift to denominations and mission agencies that are employing its methods to meet the physical needs of the poor. These groups then also share God’s other gifts with these tribes, including salvation in his Son, Jesus Christ.

Pray that this farming technique will literally be the physical salvation for the poorest of the poor in many unreached people groups. Pray for this revelation to lead them to hunger for all of God’s truth.—JS

THE DISTANT BOAT MOVIE

DAY

24

How do we reach the whole world for Christ as the great commission commands? We send missionaries to share the good news. The



Western world has taken the lead in the missionary movement, but now is the time for benefactors of mission efforts to become senders and goers themselves! Africa still has over 900 unreached people groups. The churches in Tanzania and Kenya are well established, but are disproportionately absent in the work of making disciples “among all nations.”

A new film project, “The Distant Boat” wants to change that. “The Distant Boat” is a feature-length movie drama with an aim to stir the heart of the African church toward greater involvement in frontier missions. Movies are greatly loved in Africa.

The story revolves around a young urban Kenyan, Max, who has it all—a dream job, a best friend, and the woman he hopes to marry; but in the midst of a personal crisis he meets Yusef and his people who have no church and no Christian witness. Yusef is a fisherman who saves Max’s life, but Max realizes someone needs to save Yusef’s life spiritually. Max realizes that God might be calling him to be a missionary.

Pray that this film will wake up African believers to their responsibility to share with their unsaved countrymen the person of Jesus Christ. Pray that many Africans will become senders and goers.—JS

IS 43:18-19, NET

Don’t remember these earlier events; don’t recall these former events. Look, I am about to do something new. Now it begins to happen! Do you not recognize it? Yes, I will make a road in the desert and paths in the wilderness.

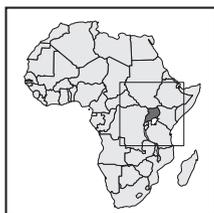
Pray that believers who watch “The Distant Boat” will anticipate the Lord working through them to build his kingdom!

AFRICAN MUSLIM DIALOGUES

IS 5:16, NIV

But the Lord Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will be proved holy by his righteous acts.

Pray that the imams who come in contact with the Lees will understand that it is the Lord who is righteous and just.



Muslims often have many physical and material needs that should be addressed before they are ready to hear what Jesus has for them.

Ugandan Muslims are sorely in need of medical attention and help with improving their agricultural yields. Carol and Jacob Lee work in both these areas. They were privileged to be invited by top Islamic imams to dialogue with them about their religions—Islam

and Christianity. One astute imam shared a common thought that both he and the Lees believe: “Being rude to the person to whom you are explaining your beliefs does no good thing in winning them to your side.” In such a setting, Christians and Muslims give one another a fair hearing.

Jacob, given the first slot of time, decided to explain the gospel in story form, the setting being a rural village, something to which all could relate. The Ugandans in this area desperately need medical attention. Malaria is one of their chief problems. The Lees always bring anti-malaria meds when they visit. Another real need is help in improving their crop yields. A co-worker with the Lees shared with the group, “Growing Bananas as a Business,” a topic which had been requested by several Muslims at the last dialogue. She shared with them all aspects of drip irrigation during the dry season.

Pray that future dialogues with the imams will open their eyes to all that Jesus has to offer them and their communities.—JS

DAASANACH PEOPLE

God is doing mighty work among the peoples of Ethiopia! An enormous national church movement called the Kale Hiwot Church (KHC) trains believers from several different people groups to plant churches. SIM International's focus in southern Ethiopia is supporting these KHC efforts.



Donna, an SIM worker, reports that nationals “learn and get to practice how to share the gospel through story-telling, drama, and testimony.” The results are significant: “For those from our area, it has empowered them in a huge way, and they are now effectively leading the church here and reaching out to nearby villages.”

Donna and husband Dick have served the past 20 years among the Daasanach, one of the unreached peoples targeted in the KHC/SIM outreach. The Daasanach number about 90,000 in southern Ethiopia, northern Kenya, and South Sudan. Semi-nomadic people, herding animals and growing crops, they practice ethnic religions. Along with The JESUS Film and gospel recordings the Daasanach have the New Testament in their language. In northern Kenya, there are four reproducing Daasanach churches.

Praise God for what he is doing in Ethiopia and Kenya! Ask also for believers to be trained to help lead northern Kenya's reproducing Daasanach congregations. Lift up Muga, who leads church planting activities, as well as SIM workers. Pray for the Lord's protection from false sects and teachers.—CR

ACTS 2:40-41, NLT

Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation!” Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

Pray for a response like this to happen when there is outreach by the KHC and SIM teams.

COASTAL KENYAN ARABS

PS 106:2, NET

Who can adequately recount the Lord's mighty acts, or relate all his praiseworthy deeds?

Pray that the Arabs of Kenya will know that the Lord is mighty, and his ways are praiseworthy.



Sounds of the sea, and fishing boats sailing in with the day's catch wafted on the soft breeze, blowing the curtains of the Arab home on the Kenyan coast as Ali Victor whispered, "Allah," into his newborn son's ear soon after his birth. It is the first sound the child hears.

Kenyan Arabs are approximately 47,000 in number. They live along the coast, inland, and major urban centers throughout Kenya's Lamu Islands. They speak Swahili, and a coastal Arabic dialect, Arabiya. Their farmers grow cereal grains, vegetables, cotton, and raise livestock. Urbanites are skilled as carpenters, barbers, or as religious leaders. Some are teachers or doctors; others are nomads, traveling with their herds.

Arab Kenyans are an unreached people, and some believe in spirits, and practice magic during times of crisis, despite their Islamic ways. Written, audio, and visual resources are available to Kenyan Arabs in Swahili and Arabic. However, prayer is the first step toward seeing them reached with the gospel.

Pray that faithful servants will take the gospel to their unreached neighbors. Ask the Lord to create a hunger within the hearts of the Coastal Arabs to know and receive the one who died in their place, paying their sin penalty. Ask the Lord to raise up strong local churches among the Coastal Arabs that are defined by discipleship, love, and obedience to Christ.—KH

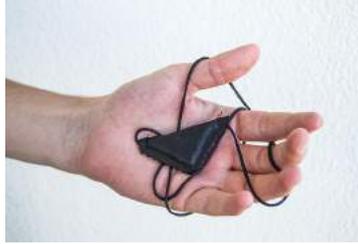
SWAHILI PEOPLE

DAY

28

(This story illustrates attitudes of this group.)

Badru quietly entered the mosque, nervously fingering his secret amulet containing carefully chosen verses from the Qur'an for healing. His father was very ill and no efforts of the teachers of Islam had worked. Perhaps the Swahili medicine man who practiced divination would be successful with the verses soaked in water, since it literally contained the words of Allah. His father would hopefully be strong enough to drink that water and be restored.



Swahili coastal Kenyans number 47,000. Ninety-four percent practice Islam, and some of them mix old ethnic religious customs. They have formed their own dialects and cultural variations.

Swahili people manage small businesses, do clerical work, and teach school. Those living in cities sometimes own plantations that provide both their income and their food supply. Others are farmers who grow rice, sorghum, millet, and maize. Modern medical clinics have been built in some areas.

Pray for God to move among the Swahili people. Over 100 of them attended Christmas parties given by a couple and a single missionary on the Kenya coast in a very Islamic area. Pray for many opportunities to begin new Bible studies in homes as a result of those parties. Pray for a team from "Farming God's Way" to reach out to the Swahili people (see day 23).—KH

2 CHR 14:11B, NET

Help us, O Lord our God, for we rely on you and have marched on your behalf against this huge army. O Lord our God, don't let men prevail against you!

Pray that the Swahili speakers will understand that they need to cling to the Lord, and no other "god" can do what he does.

AWEER PEOPLE OF KENYA

1 KINGS 18:39, ESV

And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord, he is God; the Lord he is God."

Pray that the Aweer people would have such awe of the Lord that they will acknowledge him as their God.



Can you imagine planting a field of corn and having a herd of cattle or a troop of baboons destroy your crop? That is something that can and has happened

to the Aweer people of southeastern Kenya. The Kenyan government has made killing game illegal so the Aweer, also known as Boni, cannot kill the animals that come to eat their grain, vegetables, and fruit. Traditionally Aweer men shot game for food and trade. Now they try to make a living carving wooden items and serving as guides for safaris.

The Aweers live under extremely difficult conditions. They have no running water, plumbing, natural gas or electricity. Rainfall is unpredictable. Their wells are dug near the Indian Ocean, so their drinking water is sometimes brackish. As a result, Aweer women frequently must walk long distances to obtain fresh water. Only five per cent of Aweer children have access to any education. According to recent sources, very few Aweer are literate. The Aweer have no opportunity to receive modern medical treatments, and their life expectancy is only 45 years. They practice a combination of Islam and folk religion.

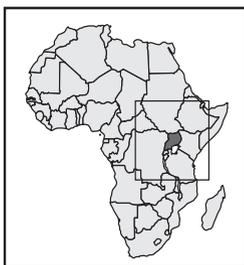
Pray that the Lord sends his ambassadors to befriend the Aweer people and help them with their educational and medical needs. Pray that the project to translate the Bible into the Aweer language would include helping them learn to read and write. Pray that the few baptized Aweer believers would grow strong in faith and share the gospel with their people.—DK

MISSION MOBILIZATION IN RWANDA AND UGANDA

DAY

30

From dry bones to beautiful flowers; that describes the church in Rwanda. In 1994, fighting between two tribes in this Christian nation turned believers against believers. However, the churches have recovered, healed, and now they are on track to obey what God has for their inheritance!



Gaining strength, the Rwandan church is ready to share their experience and God's love with others. Now, the primary need is for mobilization and leadership development in the church.



Partnering ministries have been involved in training up young men to take the truth to other communities. One of these young men was recently sent out by a group of peers to join a ministry team in South Sudan, which is itself a Christian nation at war with itself right now. Rwandans are uniquely qualified to show them the way back to Jesus.

In Uganda there is also a well-established church needing mobilization to unreached people groups (UPGs). As a national policy, Uganda has open arms to receiving refugees from all over Africa, many of whom are fleeing South Sudan.

Pray for the mobilization of the Ugandan church to reach out to UPGs and see the biblical basis for mission. Pray for an increase in biblically-based, Christ-centered churches in Rwanda. Pray that the church in Rwanda will send out more people to the unreached.—LR

EZ 37:4-5, NIV

Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life.'"

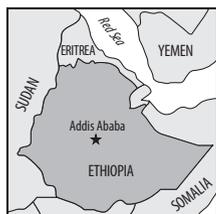
Pray for the new life that the Holy Spirit has blown into the churches in Rwanda and Uganda will remain with them for years to come.

MUSLIMS IN ETHIOPIA

IS 41:1, NET

Listen to me in silence, you coastlands! Let the nations find renewed strength! Let them approach and then speak; let us come together for debate!

As we move on to February and pray for the Fulbe peoples who live in West Africa, pray that the peoples of East Africa's coastlands will continue to hear the Lord's voice.



Four years ago, missionary friends of *GPD* met 10 men from a 100 percent Muslim community in Ethiopia who were just beginning to follow Isa A1-Masih, Jesus the Messiah. “They’ve been harassed and jailed from time to time, but their changed lives have stirred up a lot of curiosity,” the missionary friends reported recently. “Last summer they brought to us four community leaders who wanted to know more about Isa. They also decided to follow him.”

The women in the community were taught about faith and sanitation, and are drastically improving the hygiene, nutrition, and well-being of their families. “We learned last week that all of this has brought their community to a tipping point: there is now no resistance at all to the good news!” the missionaries reported with delight. Men, women, and children are talking on the streets about Isa A1-Masih. People are coming to faith in Isa almost daily! Christians, who would have been afraid to be seen in this village six months ago, are now being publicly welcomed. Who would have thought this could happen?

Praise God that his name is being praised where in the past it could only have been whispered. Pray for the Ethiopian church to be disciples of unreached people groups throughout their country.—LR