

Akhvakh in Russia



The literature calls them Akhvakh, they call themselves Atuyatii/Ashvado, the Russian government classifies them as Avars, but God calls them lost people in need of a savior. The Akhvakh are almost entirely folk Muslims who seek out shamans and use the Koran like a talisman. They are a ranching people who raise livestock and chickens and live in nine villages in central Dagestan and in ethnic neighborhoods in urban areas. Many have assimilated into the Avars, but they still keep cultural distinctives.

Ministry Obstacles

Missionary obstacles include terrain, syncretism, lack of Scripture in their heart language, and Russian law against proselytism.

Outreach ideas

Outreach in urban areas into Akhvakh neighborhoods might be effective. If someone took an interest in their culture and language, they could develop gospel materials to share with them.

Prayer Focus

Pray that the urban Akhvakh will open up to the gospel and begin a Disciple Making Movement with their rural



POPULATION: 6,800

LANGUAGE: Akhvakh

RELIGION: Islam

BIBLE: Unspecified

STATUS: Unreached

kinsfolk. Pray they access Christian literature and Scripture in Avar and Russian. Pray for the two or three believers in one family, for their protection and growth in faith and witness. Pray for Christian linguist-teachers to translate the Bible, collect local lore, and teach literacy to the people in their heart language.

SCRIPTURE Because of me, kings reign, and rulers make just decrees. Rulers lead with my help, and nobles make righteous judgments. Pro 8:15-16

PRAY *that this truth will put the fear of God in the hearts of all who hold power.*