

Tuerke in Kyrgyzstan



The Tuerke or Ili Turk people live in Kyrgyzstan and China. Their primary language is of Ili Turki is disappearing as only about 300 adults speak it. The traditional occupations of the Tuerke are animal husbandry and agriculture. The Tuerke people are slowly being absorbed into the larger people groups of Kyrgyz, Uzbeks and Kazakhs. Education in Kyrgyzstan is in the Kyrgyz language. Most male adult Tuerke also speak Kyrgyz or Russian though Ili Turkish is their heart language. Many young people among the Tuerke are leaving their villages and moving to cities in search of a better life. Kyrgyzstan gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. Kyrgyzstan is the second poorest of the former Soviet Republics.

Ministry Obstacles

Becoming a believer would bring persecution from one's family and the government. There are no known believers among the Tuerke. No resources are available in Ili Turki.

Outreach Ideas

Believers can show the JESUS Film in Kyrgyz or Russian. Linguists can translate the Bible and other resources into their Ili Turki language.



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POPULATION: 300

LANGUAGE: Ili Turki

RELIGION: Islam

BIBLE: Unspecified

STATUS: Unreached

Prayer Focus

Ask the Lord to send workers to the Tuerke in Kyrgyzstan and China. Pray that the Bible and other resources become available in Ili Turkish. Pray that the Lord creates a hunger for spiritual truth among the Tuerke.

SCRIPTURE And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here I am! Send me. Isa 6:8

PRAY that God will send his messengers to this people group soon!