

Karachai in Turkey



Familiar with persecution from invaders, the Karachai remember being forcibly converted to Islam by Turko-Mongol invaders in the 14th century. Conquered again in the 19th Century by Russian czarist imperialism, the Karachai saw German invaders swallow them up during World War II, and then Stalin re-conquered them shortly thereafter. Due to their “acceptance” of German rule, Stalin then deported the Karachai from their Caucasus homeland to remote parts of Central Asia. Despite 35 percent of their population’s dying during the forced relocation, many Karachai have returned to their homeland and have begun repopulating their south-western Russian home area. Some live in Turkey.

Ministry Obstacles

Fiercely loyal to their Islamic cultural identity and clan-organized community, the Karachai will likely face ostracization if they embrace Jesus.

Outreach Ideas

Karachai New Testaments and Psalms are excellent resources to open the hearts of future believers.

Prayer Focus

A small number of Karachai Christ



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POPULATION: 21,000

LANGUAGE: Karachay-Balkar

RELIGION: Islam

BIBLE: New Testament

STATUS: Unreached

followers exist with at least one church. Pray that Jesus followers will multiply as they model joyful lives. Pray that numerous churches will be firmly established as the body of Christ grows amongst the Karachai in both Russia and Turkey. Pray that the Karachai will turn to the Lord Jesus, not for political power, but for spiritual deliverance.

SCRIPTURE Hear, O my people, while I admonish you! O Israel, if you would but listen to me! Psalm 81:8

PRAY for this people group to heed God’s warning and listen to him!