## Shawiya Berbers in France



In Paris, about one out of three cafes are owned by Berbers from northern Algeria. In addition, the majority of Paris taxi drivers and many small grocery stores are owned by Berbers. Most of France's Berbers, including the Shawiya subgroup, live in Paris, the majority of whom migrated from Algeria. Berbers prefer to be known as "Imazighen," translated as "free people." When the Arabs invaded their territories in the 7th century, they were forced to give up their religion based on the worshiping of multiple gods and convert to Islam. Shawiya Berbers have a secularized adherence to Islam and often clash with Islamic fundamentalists.

## **Ministry Obstacles**

Most Berbers in France are friendly; however, the majority do not accept any pressure to change their views when it comes to religion.

## **Outreach Ideas**

Believers need to take every opportunity to buy at Berber grocery stores and eat at Berber owned cafes to earn the right to engage Berbers with the knowledge of the only Savior. People need to bring them Christ, not Christianity.



shah-WEE-uh
POPULATION: 195,000
LANGUAGE: Tachawit
RELIGION: Islam
BIBLE: Portions
STATUS: Unreached

## **Prayer Focus**

Pray that believers will have the love and perseverance to reach out to Shawiya Berbers as Christ's ambassadors. Pray that Berbers will understand and embrace the abundant life offered by the loving Lord.

**SCRIPTURE** Many nations will join themselves to the Lord on that day, and they, too, will be my people. I will live among you, and you will know that the Lord of Heaven's Armies sent me to you. Zech 2:11

**PRAY** that this people group would be among the many nations that soon join themselves to the Lord.