

Socotran in the UAE



The inhabitants of Socotra Island off the coast of Yemen differ from mainland Arabs and are believed to be a mixture of Greek, Portuguese, African and Arab. Their language is a version of the ancient Himyarite language, which was spoken in pre-Islamic Arabia for many centuries. Most live on this island but a small number work in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Ministry Obstacles

Though their beliefs are based mainly in Islam, until recent years they have been very low key about that. Influences from the mainland, which is more fundamental, have changed the way people practice their beliefs. Women wear the lithma or the black burka which they did not do some years ago. However, the women in isolated mountain villages are more relaxed and wear the typical bright colors.

Outreach Ideas

These gospel starved people are much more likely to be reached in the UAE than in their island home.



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POPULATION: 16,000

LANGUAGE: Soqotri

RELIGION: Islam

BIBLE: Portions

STATUS: Unreached

Prayer Focus

Pray for workers to reach the Socotran people in the UAE this decade. Pray for a movement to Christ that will bless their community. Pray for their elders to become open to the claims of Christ and allow their people to listen with open ears.

SCRIPTURE ... asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope He has given to those he called—His holy people who are His rich and glorious inheritance. Eph 1:17-19

PRAY for spiritual wisdom and light for the leaders of today's people group.

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