

DAY 30: MAY 04

Middle Eastern Turkmen

The Middle Eastern Turkmen are **Turkic-speaking communities living mainly in Iraq and Syria**, with smaller groups in Jordan and Lebanon—about 4.9 million people in total. Their origins lie in Central Asia: they belong to the Oghuz Turkic peoples, from whom today’s Turkmen of Turkmenistan also descend.

Major migration waves into the Middle East began in the Middle Ages under the Seljuk Empire, with further settlement during the Ottoman Empire, especially in Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq), where they form **a significant minority**, particularly in cities like Kirkuk and Mosul.

Historically, there have been recurring tensions between different Turkmen groups and clans have been **in violent conflict with one another**. At the same time, many are well integrated into their countries. Their identity is shaped by a Turkic language, predominantly Sunni Islam (with some Shia minorities), and strong family ties. There are almost no known followers of Jesus among them.



Scripture

“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”

2 Corinthians 3:18

Prayer Points

- ✓ Pray for **spiritual breakthroughs and peace** among the Middle Eastern Turkmen.
- ✓ Pray that God would send **Christ-centered spirit-filled laborers** to work among them.
- ✓ Pray for the younger generation to start **a disciple-making movement that lasts**.
- ✓ Pray that Jesus, the **King of kings, would be unveiled** to the Middle Eastern Turkmen.