

## Day 13, March 22: **Afghan Refugees in Tajikistan**

Afghans have been fleeing their homeland for years, but particularly since Taliban began persecuting and killing people they do not approve of. Last year the Afghan refugee population in Tajikistan numbered about 5,000. Many of these have been in Tajikistan for 5 or 10 years or longer. These Afghans are from all the major ethnic groups in their home country (Pashtu, Hazara, Tajiks, Uzbeks, etc.) and are practising Muslims. Around 80% are unemployed. Afghan education is not acknowledged in Tajikistan, there is very little material support from their host country and there are no prospects of gaining citizenship. The refugees suffer from the trauma of persecution and flight, depression, hopelessness, poverty and the ever present fear of deportation back to their home country. For the few followers of Jesus amongst them (estimated at about 300 to 400), added to this is exclusion and rejection – particularly from their own families.

***Pray that God will provide the refugees with hope for the future.***

***Pray that those suffering from trauma will receive professional help and healing.***

***Pray for steadfastness and comfort for the followers of Jesus who experience rejection.***

## Day 14, March 23: **The Munji People of Afghanistan**

The Munji people are Ismaili Muslims who live in the mountains of Afghanistan. For centuries they have lived in the same valley with their own language and identity. They make their living by farming and raising animals. Decades of warfare have affected them greatly. Poverty and lack of roads make access to medicine, education and nutrition difficult. There is a lack of hope about the future and fear for the present.

There are no fellowships of Munji believers. Most people do not have access to Scripture in their own language.

***Pray for the daily needs of the Munji people in the midst of poverty and lack of access to quality health care and education. Pray for deliverance from addictions and for a true hope for their future.***

***Pray for the Word of God to be read and revered in every home and the good news of the Lord Jesus to give them life and a new day.***

## **30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World**

Join us in this second week as Christians all over the world continue to pray for Muslims during the 30 days of Ramadan. This weekly guide focuses on blessing specific Muslim people groups and helping us as Christians have greater understanding and love for our Muslim brothers and sisters around the world.

## Day 8, March 17: **Konkani Muslims**

The Konkani Muslim community is a minority religious group in India, predominantly located in the coastal regions of Goa and Karnataka. The community is believed to have descended from Arab and Persian traders who settled in the region over a thousand years ago. Konkani's are known for their generous hospitality and love of good food.

***Pray for Konkani Muslims to have their hearts open to the moving of the Holy Spirit and to be curious about the Christian faith. Pray for Konkani Muslim families to come to faith in Christ together.***

***Pray for Indian Muslims who are studying and working abroad to make friends with Christians who can share their faith with them.***

## Day 9, March 18: **Bihari Muslims**

Bihar is a state in Eastern India with a significant Muslim population. Muslims in Bihar are primarily descendants of migrants from Central Asia, Persia, and Afghanistan who arrived in the region during the 12th century. They are a significant minority community in the state, making up about 16% of the state's population. Almost all the rest are Hindus. Bihari culture is a mix of Islamic religious traditions and Hindu cultural traditions. But despite their shared history and traditions, Bihari Muslims face a great deal of discrimination. Hindu nationalism has been on the rise in India, and the Muslim minority has been targeted by extremists, sometimes with violent attacks. This leads to tension in villages and towns where Muslims and Hindus have lived side-by-side for generations.

***There are very few Christians in Bihar. Pray that they can be a bridge for Hindu-Muslim reconciliation.***

***Pray for Muslims and Hindus in Bihar to choose to live together in peace.***

***Pray for many Muslims – and Hindus – in Bihar to come to faith in Jesus and work together for the benefit of their community.***

## Day 11, March 20: **The Tigray in Ethiopia**

The province of Tigray in the north of Ethiopia was cut off from all connections to the outside world due to the war between the provincial government and the Ethiopian army. This war cost the lives of well over half a million people and hit the Tigray region hard.

Orthodox Christians make up most of the population in Tigray. However, in the east of the province, there are many Muslims (about 5-10 % of the whole population of Tigray). Historically the area has been Islam's doorway to the region and to Africa at large. Evangelical Christians and churches are a tiny minority.

***Pray peace will come and a workable solution to the conflict in Ethiopia will be found.***

***Pray the church in the Tigray will be allowed to grow and believers will boldly share their faith in Jesus.***

***Pray that the courageous followers of Jesus in the region will be role models to other believers.***

## Day 10, March 19: **Saharawis in Algeria**

Spain abandoned its colonial occupation of Western Sahara in 1975, and Morocco and Mauritania annexed the territory. This led to a long-lasting war that forced thousands and thousands of Saharawis to flee their homeland to Algeria. Around 180,000 Saharawis have been stranded there since 1991 in what has become one of the oldest refugee camps in the world. There is little food, medical care or education. Every day is a struggle for survival. Living for so long without a home and without basic needs has led to much despair. The Saharawi's spiritual situation is also tragic. They have very little opportunity to hear of the God who wants to give them living water. There are hardly any followers of Jesus among the Saharawi and very few workers among this unreached Muslim people group of about 1 million.

***Pray God will call workers who are willing to work among the Saharawis and together with Him, carry the Living Water to the desert.***

***Pray God will send dreams and visions among the Saharawis, showing Himself as the giver of living water and awakening their thirst for spiritual refreshment.***

***Pray that the few local followers will grow in their faith and witness courageously despite pressure and persecution.***

## Day 12, March 21: **Tajik Migrant Workers**

Tajikistan is one of the poorest countries in Central Asia. Many Tajiks are unemployed and so they seek work abroad in Russia or in parts of western Europe. They are recruited to work in industries such as construction, agriculture and service. This can provide them with opportunities to earn money for their families, but they are often unable to work in occupations that use their skills or education. There are also many ways that migrant workers can fall prey to unscrupulous recruitment agents and employers who take advantage of their situation. Some may end up working long hours for little pay, but they are reluctant to speak out about their exploitation for fear of being sent home. Tajikistan is 99% Muslim. There are a minority of Russian Orthodox Christians and other religious groups, but the Tajik government is secular and maintains tight control of religious activity in the nation.

***Pray for Tajik Muslims who are looking for work abroad to find safe, legal work so they can support their families - and for the economic situation in Tajikistan to improve so Tajiks don't have to leave their families for work.***

***Pray for Muslims in Tajikistan to come to faith in Christ.***

***Pray for Tajik Muslims who are abroad to meet Christian friends and hear the gospel through them.***

## At A Glance

### **Sunday, March 17**

9:00 am BBC Sunday Service  
10:15 am Sunday Prayer Gathering 🙏  
11:00 am BBC Sunday Service

### **Wednesday, March 20**

7:00 pm Zoom Prayer Gathering 🙏

### **Sunday, March 24**

9:00 am BBC Sunday Service (Family)  
10:15 am Sunday Prayer Gathering 🙏  
11:00 am BBC Sunday Service (Family)  
4:00 pm Hymn Sing 🎵

### **Tuesday, March 26**

9:30 am & 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

### **Wednesday, March 27**

7:00 pm Zoom Prayer Gathering 🙏

### **Thursday, March 28**

11:00 am Seniors Gathering & Lunch

## BAPTISM CLASS

This class is intended for anyone who wishes to be baptized at BBC. We will meet in-person for 7 Sunday mornings at 9 am.

**Starts April 7th**

*bramalea.org/events*

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

Longing for time to slow down and be with friends in the presence of God? Join us at Guelph Bible Conference Centre for our beach-themed retreat. The cost is \$100 (includes materials, meals, overnight stay.)

**May 4th & 5th**

*bramalea.org/events*

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# Wait On The Lord

## Genesis 8

**Pastor David Carter Jr**

**March 17, 2024**



**BRAMALEA**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**

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