

Monday 26th April

DAY 14 GAZIANTEP, the good spring in Turkey

Pop: Approx. 2 million



Photo by Mehmet Turgut Kirkgoz on Unsplash Gaziantep, Türkiye

Located in south-central Turkey, Gaziantep is the centre of the country's pistachio cultivation. Extensive orchards, vineyards, and olive groves surround the city, which boasts more than 160 bakeries producing Gaziantep's famous syrup-soaked baklava.

Gaziantep is strategically located along ancient trade routes. It lies just north of the Syrian border, about 60 miles from Aleppo, a Syrian city devastated by war. Since 2011, hundreds of thousands of refugees have been welcomed into the city, swelling the population by about 30%.

Hope from God's Word:

“And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.” Isaiah 58:11

- Praise God for the welcome that more than 400,000 Syrian refugees have found in Gaziantep. Ask the Lord to provide for their needs and to enrich the city with generosity and hospitality.
- Pray that Muslims in Gaziantep will thirst after Jesus Christ and discover the Living Water that never fails.
- Pray for God to raise up Muslim-background believers who will go from Gaziantep and be His witnesses in dry and weary places.

Learn More

Sabiha's story is heart-breaking. All war stories are. But now she's singing a song of hope as Frontiers workers show her Christ's love: <https://frontiersusa.org/blog/hope-through-literacy/>

Tuesday 27th April

DAY 15 AURANGABAD, The city of gates in India

Pop: Approx. 1.5 million

Aurangabad is a city steeped in history and filled with legendary monuments. It's also the gateway to ancient Buddhist caves listed as World Heritage Sites. The cave complexes were carved out of hillsides and cliffs and used as monasteries, temples and sanctuaries between the second and tenth centuries.

Once a fortified, walled city, Aurangabad had 52 gates. Many of the gates have crumbled, and only 13 of them remain.

About a third of the population is Muslim. Hindus make up more than half the population and Buddhists about 15%.

Hope from God's Word:

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”
Matthew 7:13–14

- Pray that the people of Aurangabad will find the way to the narrow gate that leads to eternal life.
- Pray for peace between Hindus and Muslims. Ask for healing of the wounds that linger from past incidents of religiously incited mob violence.
- Pray that the Good News of Jesus Christ will take root in the hearts of Aurangabad's citizens and spread across the country.

Learn More

Three Frontiers field workers share what it's like to be the first messengers of the gospel in cities that had no witness for Christ: <https://frontiersusa.org/blog/cracks-in-strategic-cities/>

Wednesday 28th April

DAY 16 BEIRUT, The Paris of the Middle East in Lebanon Pop: Approx. 2.4 million



A vibrant, modern city, Beirut stretches across hillsides and spills down to the Mediterranean coastline. The city is one of the most religiously diverse in the Middle East and is about 50% Muslim and 40% Christian.

The 15-year Lebanese Civil War, which began in 1975, severely damaged the city and led to increased religious division. Today Christians and Muslims generally live in segregated neighbourhoods.

Beirut has experienced ongoing violence—the 2006 Lebanon War, clashes with Hezbollah in 2008, and bombings in 2015. On August 4, 2020, unsafely stored chemicals caused a massive explosion at the city's port, killing 200 people and leaving 300,000 homeless.

Hope from God's Word:

May there be no cry of distress in our streets! Blessed are the people to whom such blessings fall! Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord! Psalm 144:14–15

- Pray for God's blessing to fill the streets of Beirut and to heal families as they try to recover from the violence and destruction that has troubled the city.
- Ask God to raise up bold evangelists within the Lebanese church to cross religious divides and bring the gospel of peace to Muslims.
- Pray for Lebanese Muslims disillusioned by religion to be drawn to the Lord and put their faith in Jesus Christ.

Learn More

From the cedars of Lebanon to the deserts of Arabia, the Middle East is a land of genuine hospitality with unparalleled opportunities to make an impact that could influence the rest of the Muslim world.

Discover more about this region: <https://frontiersusa.org/regions/middle-east>

Thursday 29th April

DAY 17 LAAYOUNE 'the springs' in North Africa Pop: Approx. 232,000

On the edge of the Sahara Desert near the Atlantic coast lies Laayoune. It's the largest city in Western Sahara, a sparsely populated but disputed territory. The region is administered by Morocco despite conflicting claims to the land by the self-proclaimed Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic and the Polisario Front. The Moroccan government maintains a strong military presence in the city.

The city's name means 'the springs' in Arabic, a reference to the intermittent river which divides the city.

Hope from God's Word:

"Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4:14

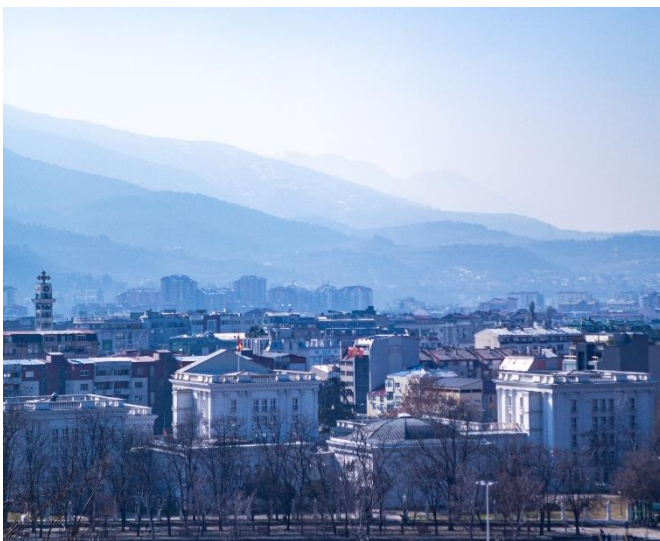
- Ask the Lord to inundate Laayoune with Living Water that leads people to eternal life and satisfies their spiritual thirst.
- Pray for the Saharawis, a marginalised people of mixed Berber-Arab heritage. Ask God to catalyse a movement of faith in Christ that reaches Saharawi communities across the region and in Algeria and Mauritania too.
- Pray for peace, compassion, and reconciliation between Saharawis and the Arab Moroccans who have been incentivised by the Moroccan government to settle in Laayoune to strengthen the Arab presence in the city.

Learn More

A team leader in North Africa shares how her church's partnership with Frontiers is helping transform an entire people group. Click on the link to read her story: <https://frontiersusa.org/blog/until-the-rain-comes/>

Friday 30th April

DAY 18 SKOPJE, the watcher from a high place in Macedonia Pop: Approx. 595,000



Conquered and ruled by various empires for millennia, Skopje is a diverse city of Macedonians, ethnic Albanians, and Roma. While most Skopje's people are Orthodox Christians, Muslims make up almost 30% of the population.

At the highest point of the city stands the Skopje Fortress. Its ancient walls and towers have stood guard over the city since the sixth century.

Dominating the city's skyline is Mount Vodno. At its top stands a 200-foot tall cross memorialising Macedonia's Christian heritage and the apostle Paul's missionary work in the region.

Hope from God's Word:

"We have a strong city; he sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks. Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in." Isaiah 26:1–2

- Pray for a revival that turns Skopje into a strong city of righteous men and women who rejoice in the salvation of the Lord.
- Ask the Lord to capture the hearts of Skopje's Christians and to use them to reach the rest of their city for Christ.
- Pray for unity in a city where different ethnic groups often avoid each other and live separate lives.
- Ask God to raise up creative, innovative workers who will bring the gospel to the city's Roma people, a neglected minority who live in deprived neighbourhoods.

Learn More

Watch our short video to discover God's heart for the Muslim peoples of the Balkans:

<https://frontiersusa.org/blog/balkans-poised-for-harvest/>

Saturday 1st May

DAY 19 HERAT, The Pearl of Khorasan in Afghanistan Pop: Approx. 574,000

Located in western Afghanistan near the border with Iran, Herat is surrounded by fertile land and served as a major trade centre and oasis on the ancient Silk Road.

Herat still lies along major trade routes and functions as a regional centre of commerce. It's a fairly prosperous city with modern buildings and paved streets.

The city once belonged to a historical region called Khorasan and was a major centre of learning, science, and the arts. Herat boasts a long tradition of music, calligraphy, astronomy and philosophy. The city's people are hospitable and proud of their rich heritage and culture.

Hope from God's Word:

"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!""

Romans 10:14–15

- Ask God to send His Spirit to this ancient oasis town and bring a revival that turns hearts to Christ.
- Pray for new workers to bring the Good News to the people of Herat and ask God to raise up believers in neighbouring Iran who will hear His call to reach Herati Muslims.
- Ask the Lord to give workers creative strategies to share Jesus with the Kuchi nomads who winter in Herat.

Learn More

A land dominated by complex socio-political dynamics, Southwest Asia is home to ancient civilisations, stunning landscapes, and endlessly hospitable people. Discover more about the region:

<https://frontiersusa.org/regions/southwest-asia>