

# Pray for Yemen

## Yemen Unity Day May 22

Yemen is located on the southwest edge of the Arabian Peninsula. It is the second largest country on the Arabian Peninsula. North Yemen became independent of the Ottoman Empire in 1918. The British withdrew from the southern port of Aden in 1967 and the South Yemen government soon adopted a Marxist orientation that resulted in two decades of hostility between North and South Yemen. The two countries were formally unified as the Republic of Yemen on May 22, 1990.



The current eight year-long Yemeni civil war has caused thousands of deaths and created a major humanitarian crisis. A six-month ceasefire between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis began in April 2022, but was not renewed. However, in April 2023 both sides exchanged hundreds of prisoners, renewing hopes for a permanent ceasefire. **Pray that God would ordain an end to the civil war.**



Capital City:	Sanaa, (Capital in exile: Aden)
Government:	Unitary provisional republic. Currently Civil War.
Major People Groups:	78.5% Arab, 13% Afro-Arab, 3.8% Somalis, 3.7% Other
Population:	34,277,612
Religion:	99% Islam, 1% Hindus, Christian and Other

Most Yemeni Christians converts from Islam live out their faith in secret because conversion from Islam to Christianity is forbidden both in Islam and in Yemeni law. Yemeni culture is extremely tribal, and the tribal punishment for denouncing Islam can be severe. Converts who are married to Muslims risk divorce. They might be arrested, and both family and Islamic extremists can threaten apostates with death. **Despite this, by God's power and grace there are more Yemeni believers in Jesus than those from any other country in the Arabian Peninsula.**

- *Pray that the Lord will preserve the faith of our Yemeni brothers and sisters, especially those facing persecution.*
- *Pray for the Yemeni families who are followers of Jesus. Pray for their protection and that they may be the households from where the church will grow and multiply.*
- *Pray for the poor. It is estimated that 85% of the population are living in poverty due to the war.*
- *Pray that many will come to faith through the faithful witness of courageous believers.*



Prayer resources:

<https://www.pray-ap.info/yemen.html> <https://www.prayercast.com/yemen.html>  
<http://www.apinfo.eu/Yemen Unity Day 2023.pdf>

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** (Rom 8:35-37 ESV)*