



A Spiritual Awakening in Iran: From Darkness to Light

The journey to freedom from Islam begins with the courageous act of questioning its teachings. However, in a society where such questioning is forbidden, turmoil has been brewing for the past 10 years, laying the foundation for a profound spiritual movement towards change. Iran, often associated with deep Islamic roots, has emerged as the fastest-growing evangelical country on earth. This movement is not sanctioned by the government, but by the people themselves, as they seek to break free from the chains of control and embrace a spiritual awakening that transcends boundaries.

A QUEST FOR TRUTH AMIDST ADVERSITY:

In the heart of Iran, an extraordinary narrative is unfolding—a spiritual awakening mirroring the very essence of the Gospel. Souls weary of the constraints imposed by Islam are embarking on a journey fueled by the desire for truth, hope, and a profound connection with the divine. This awakening serves as a testament to the transformative power of the Gospel, guiding seekers to Jesus Christ, the embodiment of light and love.

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“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

JOHN 1.5

A JOURNEY BEYOND TRADITION:

For generations, Iran's cultural identity has been intertwined with Islamic beliefs, its roots deeply entrenched in faith. However, beneath the surface of tradition, a remarkable spiritual movement is taking shape. Driven by curiosity and an innate yearning for divine connection, Iranians are discovering solace in the universal truths that transcend conventional boundaries.

CHALLENGES AND RESILIENCE:

In a land where faith and tradition have merged for centuries, Iranians seeking the truth of Christ are met with monumental challenges. As they take tentative steps towards Jesus, they often face hostility, persecution, and the venomous spread of false accusations—trials echoing the very sentiments of Matthew 5:10-12: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."



Iran is the only country in the world led by Islamic clerics for over 40 years. The Islamic Government of Iran implemented the Islamic law. The people of Iran have firsthand experience of what it means to be ruled by Islam. They have suffered oppression, violence, grief, injustice, and human rights violations for 40 years. They are disillusioned and even disgusted with Islam. They are done with Islam and are looking for God elsewhere. That is the reason that Iran has the fastest evangelical population in the world.

STRENGTH FROM THE JOURNEY:

Despite adversities, these believers stand firm, holding on to the promise of heavenly reward for their unwavering faithfulness. Their courage draws inspiration from the legacy of prophets who have faced similar trials, finding strength as they transition from darkness to a radiant light.

THE TALE OF MEHDI: A BEACON OF TRANSFORMATION:

Within this challenging landscape emerges the poignant story of Mehdi—a symbolic embodiment of the broader Iranian movement towards Christ. Born into a devout family in Tehran, Mehdi's spiritual journey initially led him to embrace the Darvish religion, seeking fulfillment through devotion and ritual. Yet, an unexpected encounter with Homa, a woman from a different background, would forever alter the course of his life.

FROM DARKNESS TO RADIANCE:

Homa introduced Mehdi to Jesus Christ, sparking a profound transformation within him. His first experience at a church gathering resonated deeply, filling his heart with a peace hitherto unknown. Tears streamed down his face as he declared, "You are the true God I was seeking!" This marked the initiation of his extraordinary journey with Jesus.

NAVIGATING UNCHARTED WATERS:

Mehdi's path was not devoid of challenges. Balancing



fear and faith, he navigated the uncharted waters of Christianity under Homa's guidance. Fueled by his newfound passion for the Bible, he surrendered to Jesus in 2008, sealing his commitment in a Christian wedding ceremony.

UNYIELDING FAITH IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY:

Empowered by his newfound faith, Mehdi undertook a mission to share it with others. He distributed Bibles, hosted house churches, and offered sanctuary to fellow believers. Despite threats and even arrest, his unwavering faith remained unshaken.

A JOURNEY TO HOPE:

As threats intensified, Mehdi's family sought refuge in Europe, driven by hope and faith. His journey epitomizes the resilience, courage, and unwavering hope that define this movement. His story serves as an inspiration to all who embark on transformative paths.

ANSWERING THE CALL:

As we bear witness to these compelling narratives, we must remember our responsibility to spread the Word of God. We are called to equip Iranians to stand strong in the face of adversity. Through training pastors, guiding students, and leveraging the media's power, we can make a lasting impact. Picture the potential of captivating short films, sharing stories of transformation and resilience, echoing in the hearts and minds of millions, a testament to God's extraordinary works.

Mehdi's journey reflects a larger narrative—a spiritual restoration in a society defined by its Islamic heritage. His transformation speaks to the power of divine intervention, just as Jeremiah 3:17 prophesies the restoration of hearts.

EZEKIEL 38'S COUNTER-NARRATIVE

Ezekiel 38 foretells geopolitical tensions, yet within this context, Mehdi's story shines as a beacon of transformation. His conversion mirrors a spiritual shift, foreshadowing the possibility of nations embracing Christ despite the prevailing geopolitical landscape. His journey resonates with the broader theme of souls turning to Christ, countering the narrative of division.

IRAN'S ROLE IN PROPHECY: A FUTURE ALLY OF ISRAEL

As the prophecies in Jeremiah 49 and Ezekiel 38 converge with the present reality, a remarkable twist unfolds. The very nation that has historically been depicted as a foe of Israel is in the midst of a spiritual awakening. Iran's shift from animosity to a potential ally underscores the complexity of biblical prophecy and its intricate unfolding.

HOPE AMID GLOBAL TURMOIL

Amid global turmoil and division, the transformation in Iran serves as a beacon of hope. Just as Iran is experiencing a spiritual awakening, nations around the world yearn for similar awakenings. While

the challenges are great, the power of faith and transformation remains steadfast. Iran's journey exemplifies how God's divine plan can shake nations and individuals alike, leading them toward a higher purpose.

JOIN THE TRANSFORMATION: A COMPELLING CALL TO ACTION

As we witness the unfolding of prophecy and the remarkable stories like Mehdi's, we invite you to stand with us. Your contribution fuels a movement that transcends borders and transforms lives. By partnering with us, you become part of an enduring legacy, weaving a story of change, hope, and redemption.

The Islamic Government of Iran is trying to fulfill Ezekiel 38 by uniting with Russia to attack Israel in

order to "wipe it off the map." But the people of Iran are not supportive of their government's plans. They have rejected Islam and are very open to the message of the Gospel. The Lord is using Iran Alive to have a significant part in fulfillment of Jeremiah 49:38 where the Lord promises that He will set His throne in Elam (today's Iran). But we cannot do that without your prayers and financial support. Together, we can make history in Iran and the Middle East. Please pray for and financially support Iran Alive. Indeed, the Lord will use our partnership to fulfill His promise in Jeremiah 49:38 to make Iran a Christian nation.



Hormoz Shariat

Dr. Hormoz Shariat
President/Founder
Iran Alive Ministries

PRAYER POINTS

- **Transformation and Revelation:** Pray for the continued transformation of hearts in Iran. Ask for divine revelation to reach those seeking truth, hope, and a deeper connection with God. May the power of the Gospel shine brightly in the lives of Iranians, leading them to encounter Jesus Christ.
- **Protection and Courage:** Lift up those like Mehdi who have embraced Christianity in Iran. Pray for their protection amidst challenges and threats. Ask for courage and unwavering faith to sustain them in the face of adversity, that they may continue to shine as beacons of hope and inspiration.
- **Unity and Support:** Pray for unity among believers in Iran. Ask for strong bonds to form within house churches and underground networks, enabling them to uplift and support one another. May their unity amplify their impact and strengthen their resolve to follow Christ.
- **Leadership and Equipping:** Intercede for the training of pastors and mentors in Iran. Pray that they will be equipped with the wisdom and guidance needed to effectively disciple new believers. Ask for God's provision in resources and opportunities to nurture a thriving community of faith.
- **Media Outreach and Impact:** Lift up the effort to use media as a powerful tool for sharing testimonies like Mehdi's. Pray for the production of compelling short films that reach the hearts of Iranians. Ask for funding, resources, and creativity to maximize the influence of these stories, touching millions with the message of Christ's love and transformation.



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Use the enclosed gift form to make your contribution to Iran Alive Ministries. Your investment in reaching Iran for Christ will continue to transform the hearts of men, women and children!

Donations may also be made by: Phone **469.982.0000** or securely online at **IranAlive.org**