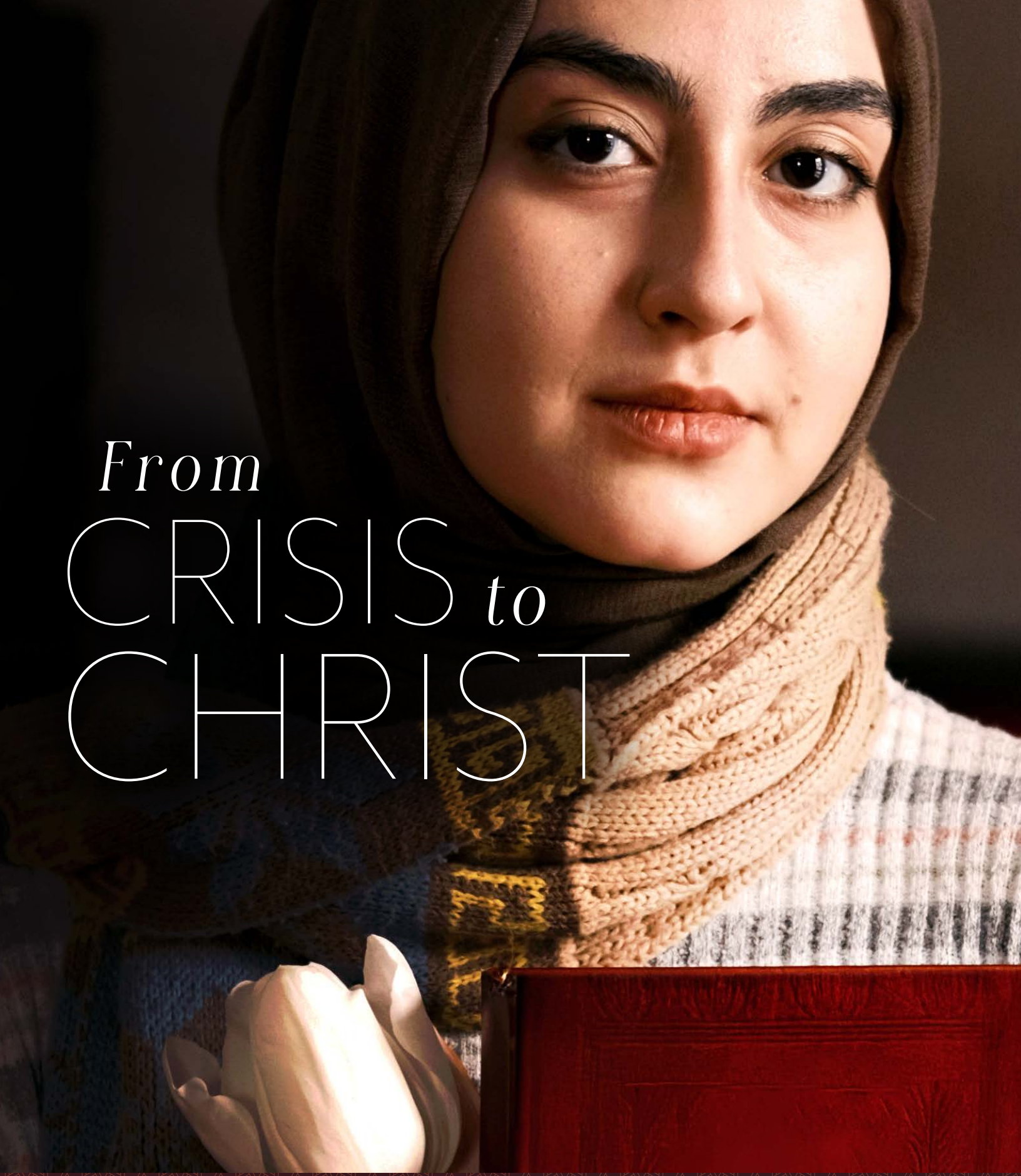


From CRISIS *to* CHRIST

PRAYER GUIDE

IRAN ALIVE MINISTRIES

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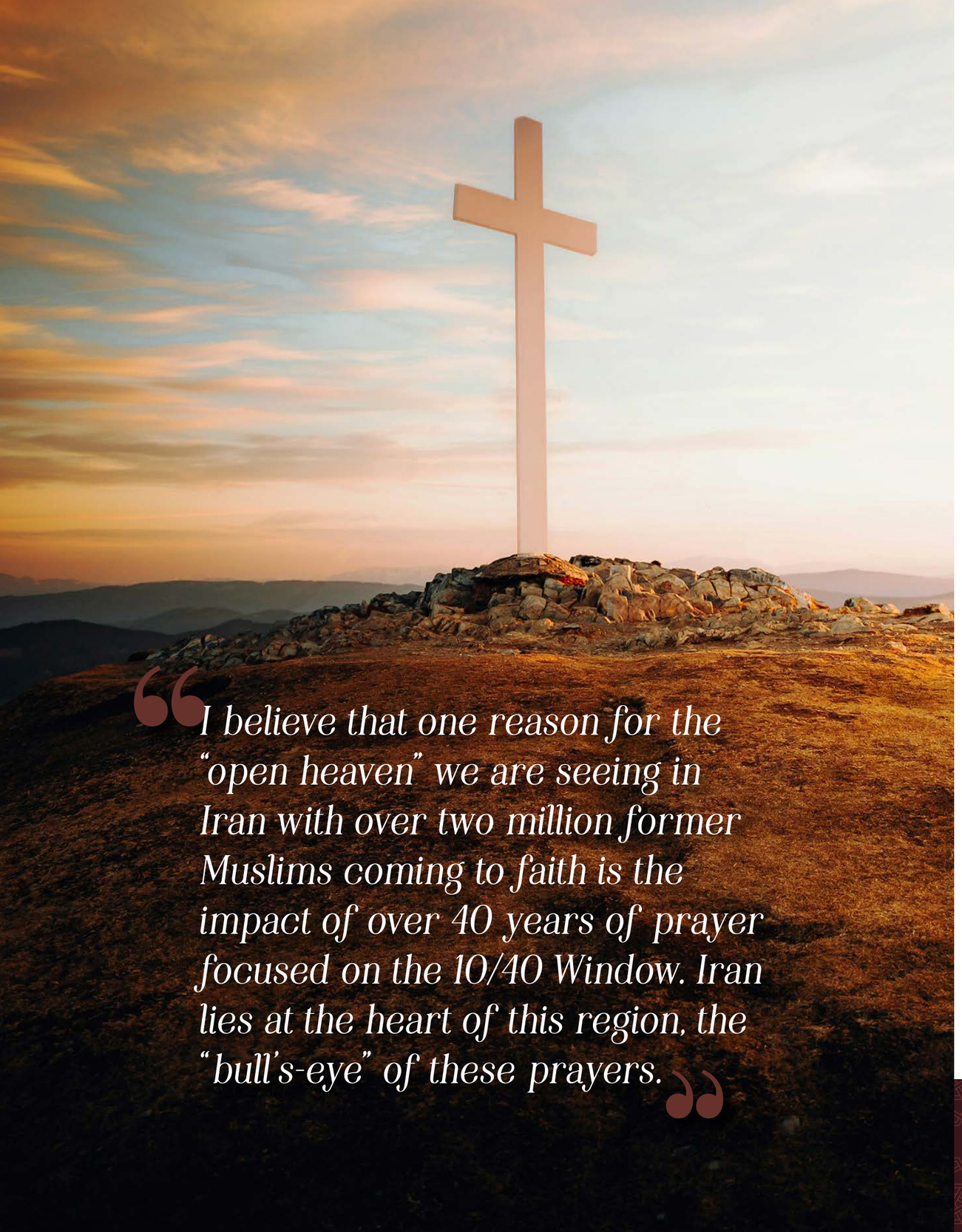
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MY DEAR FRIENDS,

At Iran Alive, we are engaged in a spiritual battle against the dark spirit of Islam over Iran, which the book of Daniel [10:13] calls, "The Prince of Persia." This demonic spirit is so strong that it delayed the answer to Daniel's prayers for 21 days until the warrior Archangel Michael intervened to bring victory.

As a prayer warrior, you are a vital part of the Iran Alive ministry team, playing a key role in the revival happening now in Iran. Just as an air force is sent first in modern warfare to weaken the enemy's defenses before ground forces are sent to occupy the land, your prayers serve as God's "air force" in support of the groundwork we are doing in Iran.

For those of you who have been faithfully praying for Iran Alive and asking for a prayer guide, this booklet will give you specific prayer targets. As you go through it, I encourage you to:

- **Pray over each specific issue.**
- **Pray for Iran Alive's leaders, staff, and finances.**
- **Pray for guidance on what God wants you to do and how He wants you to contribute to advancing His Kingdom in Iran.**

Today, I am officially enlisting you in God's Air Force. Together, we can transform Iran into a Christian nation. When our prayers and actions align with God's purpose, together we will see the fulfillment of His promise in Jeremiah 49:38: He will set His throne in Iran.



YOURS FOR THE SALVATION OF IRAN,

Dr. Hormoz Shariat

President, *Iran Alive Ministries*

IRAN AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

Iran is a country located in Southwest Asia, in the Middle East, bordered by the Caspian Sea to the north and the Persian Gulf to the south. With a population of approximately 85 million (according to the latest statistics), Iran is one of the most significant countries in the region in terms of size, cultural diversity, and geographical variety. While Iran faces significant challenges such as high rates of suicide, addiction, divorce, child labor, and capital punishment for apostasy, it also exerts considerable influence over its neighbors. This makes the spread of the Gospel in Iran crucial for reaching the Middle East for Christ.



Iran is a multi-ethnic and diverse country, home to various ethnic groups with distinct cultures, languages, and traditions. The main ethnic groups in Iran include Persians, Turks, Kurds, Arabs, Baluchis, Turkmen, and others such as Lurs, Bakhtiari, Gilaks, and Mazandaranis.

PERSIANS
The largest ethnic group in Iran, mainly speaking Farsi and residing in various parts of the country, especially in central regions.

TURKS
Predominantly living in the northwest of Iran (East and West Azerbaijan, Ardabil, and Zanjan provinces) and speaking Azerbaijani Turkish.

KURDS
Residing in western regions (Kurdistan, Kermanshah, Ilam, and parts of West Azerbaijan provinces) and speaking Kurdish.

ARABS
Mostly in the southwest of Iran (Khuzestan and southern regions), speaking Arabic.

BALUCHIS
Living in the southeast (Sistan and Baluchestan province) and speaking Baluchi.

TURKMEN
Located in the northeast (Golestan and parts of North Khorasan provinces) speaking Turkmen.

LURS AND BAKHTIARI
Found in western and southwestern regions, especially in Lorestan, Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari, Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad, Ilam, and Khuzestan provinces, speaking Luri and Bakhtiari.

GILAKS AND MAZANDARANIS
Residing in the northern regions, particularly in Gilan and Mazandaran provinces, and speaking Gilaki and Mazandarani.

This ethnic diversity is one of Iran's cultural strengths, creating a vibrant society enriched by local traditions, unique customs of each group, and a variety of languages.




TURKS


KURDS


LURS & BAKHTIARI


GILAKS


TURKMEN


ARABS


BALUCHIS



PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR THE CURRENT CHALLENGES IN IRAN

Iran has one of the highest execution rates in the world, with hundreds of executions annually, often for drug-related offenses and violent crimes, according to international human rights organizations. Despite recent legal reforms to reduce executions, the statistics remain high, sparking controversy domestically and internationally. While precise statistics on apostasy cases are lacking, such cases are prosecuted under Islamic jurisprudence. Human rights organizations have scrutinized these prosecutions, emphasizing their implications for broader human rights issues.

Addiction to drugs is one of the most pressing social challenges facing Iran today. Reports from the Welfare Organization and the Drug Control Headquarters estimate that around 12 million people in the country are addicted to various substances. Both traditional and synthetic drugs are prevalent, and the issue has been rising across diverse age groups, including women. This addiction crisis affects not only social dynamics but also has significant repercussions for the economy and public health.

Statistics on suicide in Iran are collected by the Legal Medicine Organization and the Ministry of Health. Recent reports indicate a concerning rise in the suicide rate, with over **5,000 attempts resulting in death**. The primary factors contributing to this trend include economic hardship, unemployment, depression, and social pressures.









There is no exact figure on the number of child laborers in Iran, but it is estimated that at least **500,000 child laborers** exist in the country. These children mostly work in low-wage and harsh conditions. The primary factors contributing to the rise in child labor in Iran include economic poverty, family migration to urban areas, and limited access to proper education.

Iran, despite its rich cultural heritage and abundant natural resources, faces complex social and economic challenges.



The **divorce rate** in Iran has been on the rise over recent decades and has become a significant social concern. According to the latest reports from the Iranian Statistics Center, approximately one in every three to four marriages ends in divorce. New statistics indicate that the divorce rate in some major cities, like Tehran, is higher than the national average. The main causes of divorce include economic issues, marital conflicts, and cultural changes.



THE PAST 46 YEARS

The people of Iran have suffered under an oppressive Islamic dictatorship that imposes extreme societal control, resulting in widespread psychological issues, particularly among the youth.The regime severely restricts freedom of speech, religious expression, and personal autonomy through **mandatory hijab laws**. Consequently, the current generation, raised in an environment of intense pressure and limitations, faces significant mental, psychological, and economic challenges exacerbated by government policies.







In this oppressive environment, access to free information has been drastically curtailed, with the regime maintaining tight control over media and public spaces. Radio and television content is strictly monitored by the Intelligence Department, allowing only approved programming to reach the public.

Despite these restrictions, Iran's **Generation Z** is eager to connect with the outside world and express their views, especially through **social media**. Research indicates that over **80% of Iranians** use social media platforms to voice dissent against the regime, with Instagram being the most popular medium.



Over the past 46 years since the Islamic revolution, many courageous Christians were brutally killed in Iran for their unwavering faith in Christ.

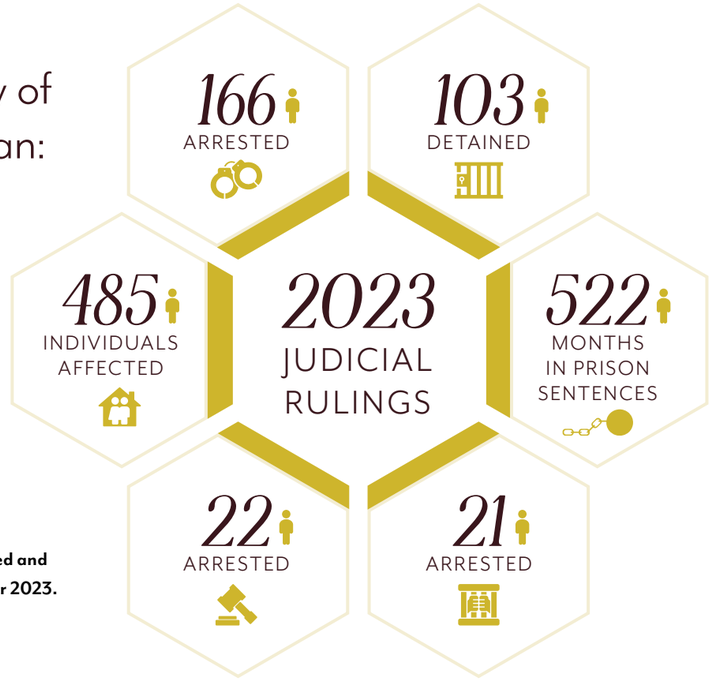
Among those we honor is Anglican pastor Arastoo Sayyah, who was tragically murdered just eight days after the revolution began, a haunting reminder of the peril faced by those who dare to believe. This year also marks the somber 30th anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Haik Hovsepian-Mehr, Rev. Tateos Michaelian, and Rev. Mehdi Dibaj each a beacon of hope extinguished far too soon.

We also remember Rev. Hossein Soodmand, whose execution by hanging for "apostasy" remains the only case officially acknowledged by the Iranian regime, a chilling testament to the brutality inflicted upon those who seek to practice their faith. Additionally, we honor the memories of Bahram Dehqani-Tafti, along with pastors Mohammad-Bagher Yusefi and Ghorban Tourani, whose sacrifices resonate deeply within our hearts.

JUDICIAL RULINGS AGAINST IRANIAN CHRISTIANS

In a troubling illustration of religious intolerance, recent judicial rulings in Iran have further marginalized the Christian community, particularly those who have converted from Islam. These verdicts not only impose severe penalties on individuals for practicing their faith but also reflect a broader pattern of systemic discrimination. The courts, often influenced by the state's rigid Islamic laws, have deemed the peaceful expression of Christian beliefs as a threat to national security, leading to the arrest, imprisonment, and harassment of believers. This oppressive environment not only stifles religious freedom but also undermines the fundamental human rights of Iranian Christians, leaving them vulnerable to persecution and denying them the basic dignity of worship. As the international community watches, the plight of these individuals serves as a stark reminder of the ongoing struggle for religious freedom in Iran.

Shocking Reality of Persecution in Iran: A Call to Prayer



This data was documented and published by Article 18 for 2023.

BROADCASTING HOPE TO CHRISTIANS IN IRAN

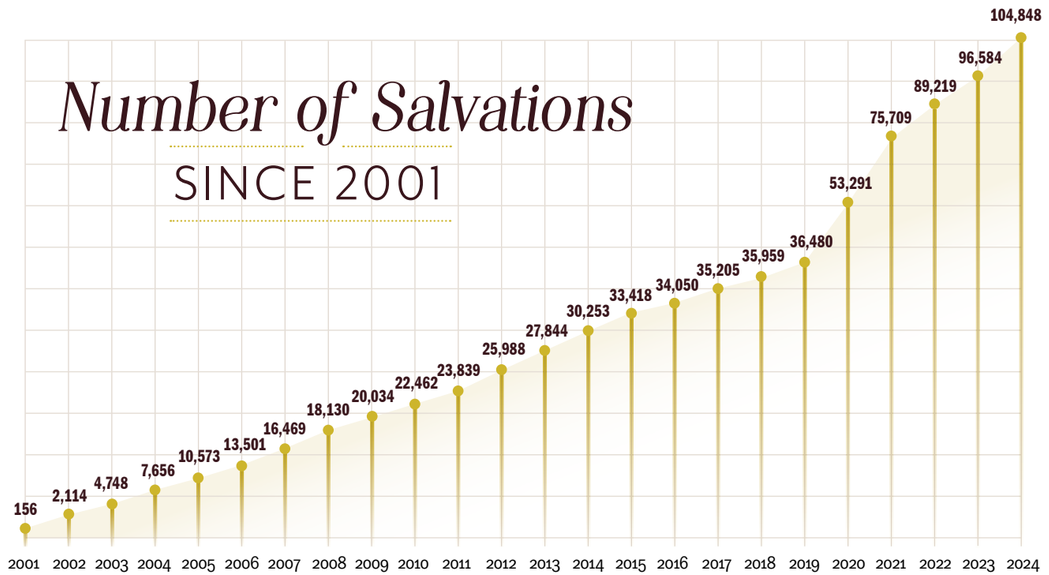
In Iran, where practicing Christianity openly can lead to persecution, **satellite broadcasts** have become a **vital source** of support for believers. These programs, often aired in secret, provide spiritual guidance, opportunities for worship, and a sense of community for Christians facing isolation and danger. Through these broadcasts, many discover faith, learn about the Bible, and find hope in difficult circumstances.

Iran Alive Ministries reaches over 7 million daily viewers through its round-the-clock Christian programming. From 2001 to 2024, over 104,000 salvations have been documented, along with countless others whose lives have been impacted by Iran Alive Ministries—individuals we look forward to seeing on the other side of eternity.



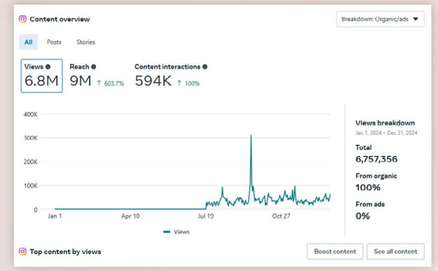


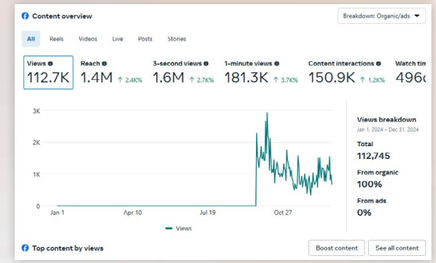
This chart illustrates the growing number of lives transformed through Iran Alive Ministries.

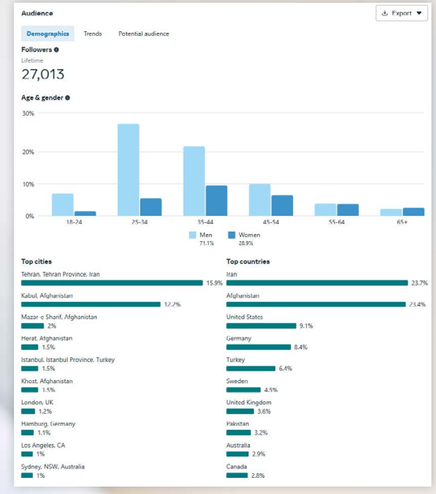


THE POWER OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Recognizing that social media and digital platforms are the primary means of communication with the Iranian populace, Iran Alive has effectively harnessed these tools to spread the Gospel and nurture believers in Iran and Afghanistan. For over two decades, we have engaged in satellite ministry, reaching an audience of **7 million daily viewers** and making a significant impact on their lives.



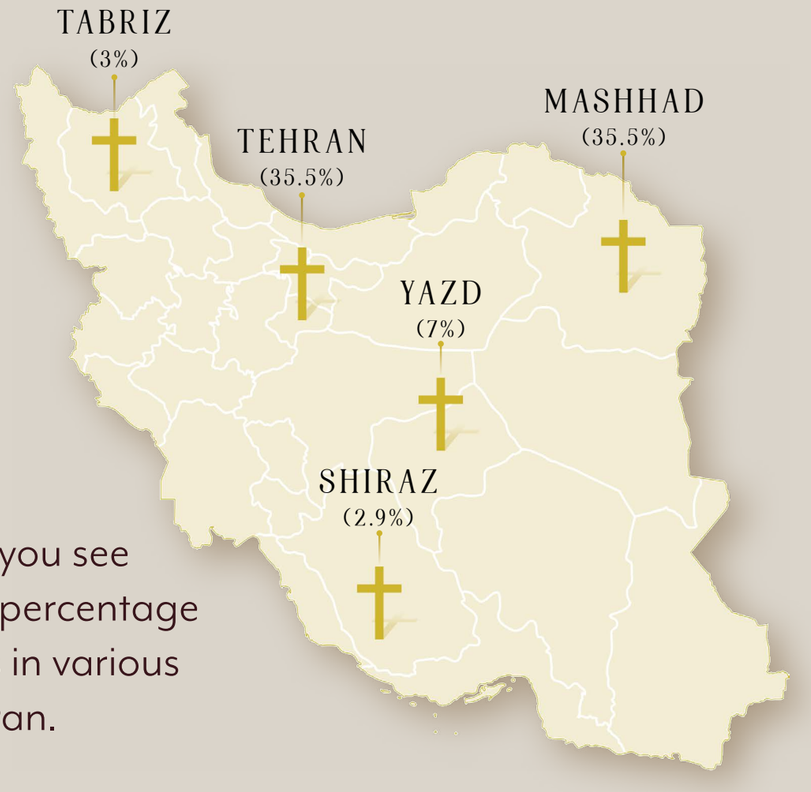




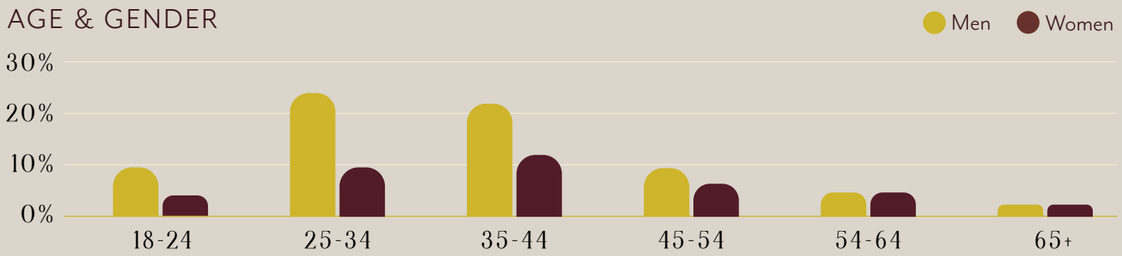


In recent years, our reach has expanded to **over 8 million accounts** across various social media platforms. We remain committed to producing relevant content that resonates with this generation and enhances our impact in the years to come.

Scan Here



The statistics you see represent the percentage of our viewers in various cities across Iran.



TOP CITIES

Tehran, Tehran Province, Iran — 35.5%

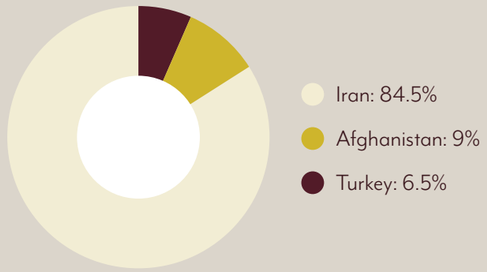
Mashhad, Razavi Khorasan Province, Iran — 7.1%

Yazd, Yazd Province, Iran — 7.1%

Tabriz, East Azerbaijan Province, Iran — 3%

Shiraz, Fars Province, Iran — 2.9%

TOP COUNTRIES



Please join us in prayer for Parsa, who is currently facing challenges with his immigration status after fleeing persecution in Iran. He is now in Turkey, awaiting assistance from the United Nations to relocate to a safe country.

Parsa's Testimony:

FROM DARKNESS TO REDEMPTION

My name is Parsa. From a young age, I was drawn to music, and my father supported me, which led me into the wrong places. As a teenager, I found myself at celebrations and parties, surrounded by the wrong crowd. I became addicted to cigarettes and alcohol, and began engaging in illicit relationships.

By the age of 18, I was living a life of fame and financial success. I was earning more in a month than many people earned in several months and my pride grew as I thought I had everything. But my success quickly became a trap. I got involved in gambling, and in one fell swoop, I lost everything: my money, my land, and my home. I turned to opium to numb the pain of my losses, but it only spiraled deeper into addiction.

Soon, I found myself living under a bridge, sleeping in the cold. My body was broken from the drugs, and I had no hope. My addiction was so strong that even when I got married, I dragged my wife into my darkness. She stood by me, despite everything, out of love, but addiction only worsened. Eventually, I fell into heroin and crack, and the anger and disillusion that came with these drugs tore my life apart.



For a short while, I tried to stay clean, but the temptations of old friends and the grip of addiction pulled me back. I felt helpless. I was sinking deeper into a black, cold swamp, and the more I fought, the deeper I went. Then, God intervened.

A friend shared the frequency of a Christian channel with me, and I began watching the programs of Pastor Hormoz. For the first time, I heard about Jesus Christ and the hope He offers. I called into the program and spoke with Pastor Hormoz during a live broadcast. That moment changed everything for me. He prayed for me, and I felt something I had never felt before.

I began to read the Bible, and in the book of Romans 6:6, I found truth:"For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin. It was like the chains of addiction broke off me. Jesus, the Healer, had come into my life, and He was stronger than the addiction that had held me captive for so long.

Slowly, my life began to change. I found the strength to rebuild my relationship with my wife and daughter. The darkness was lifting, and for the first time in years, I felt truly alive. Though I still face challenges, I know I am no longer a slave to my past. God has made me new.

Thank you for your prayers and support. Through the grace of God, I am free from addiction and walking in the light of Jesus Christ.



Fatemeh's Testimony:

A JOURNEY FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

I was just one year old when I was adopted. My new family, who couldn't have children of their own, gave me the name "Narges" and raised me in the Muslim faith. As I grew, I became curious about God and began searching for answers. At eight years old, I had a dream where I heard a voice call me "Fatemeh," and from that moment, my family called me by that name, thinking it was a blessing from the prophets.

As I entered adulthood, I began questioning everything I had been taught. I read the Quran and other religious texts, but I struggled to find peace. I even explored atheism and Darwin's theory, yet nothing satisfied my soul. I longed for love and meaning, but after a five-year relationship that ended in heartbreak, I spiraled into depression. Feeling lost, I moved away to the north of Iran, where I turned to drugs for comfort.

Soon, I became addicted, unable to hide it from my family. My life was consumed by the need for drugs, and I felt like I was drowning in despair. Then, there was Mona, a dear friend who opened her home to me. One day, I saw her watching a TV program, and a pastor named Hormoz was speaking about Jesus and the Holy Spirit. His words were unlike anything I had ever heard. I was skeptical, mocking the idea of a "Healer" who could save us from sin. But deep down, something stirred within me. I heard a voice, almost as if God Himself was speaking: "Do you think you can know God through science alone? It's not possible."

Mona gently explained to me that I needed to open my heart to Jesus. Together, we prayed the prayer of salvation, and I left her house feeling different. I went home, walked alone, and cried out to God, asking for forgiveness and salvation. That night, something shifted. The craving for drugs no longer brought me joy. Instead, a warmth filled my heart, and a sense of peace began to replace the chaos within me.

Today, I am free from addiction. By God's grace, I have been drug-free for three years, and I have found new life in Christ. I am now a student at "Alive Ministry College" and share the love of Jesus with others. I have experienced firsthand the power of God's love and healing. As it says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" Jesus has truly made me new, and I want others to experience His love and transformation as I have.

Thank you for your prayers and support, which have made it possible for me to walk in this new life. May God bless you abundantly, as He has blessed me.

Prayer Requests for Fatemeh

~ Continued Freedom from Addiction
~ Spiritual Growth and Wisdom
~ Boldness in Sharing Her Testimony

Ariel's Testimony:

FROM PAIN TO RESTORATION IN CHRIST

I grew up hearing about Jesus, but it wasn't until 1995 that I began to feel His pull. I remember reading the Gospel of John and weeping over the suffering of Jesus. Yet, despite the deep pain I felt for Him, I couldn't bring myself to fully surrender.

In 1998, after a painful breakup, I was emotionally shattered. For days, I cried and felt utterly lost. My mother encouraged me to turn to God, so I knelt down, held the Bible, and finally gave my heart to Jesus. A few days later, I joined Iran Alive's family church and connected with Pastor Hormoz.

Growing up without a father, I always felt the emptiness of his absence. I longed for a father's love, but it was never there. In Pastor Hormoz, I saw the fatherly love I had been searching for all my life. He showed me what true care and authority looked like.

I came back to Iran alive family as God's lost daughter.

The church became my refuge, my family, and a place where my artistic gifts began to flourish. God restored my soul in ways that the world and my past relationships never could.

Iran alive is now my home, and I am no longer lost. I am embraced by the love of my heavenly Father.



Prayer Requests for Ariel

Healing for Iranian Marriages
Pray for the restoration and healing of marriages in Iran, that God's love would transform relationships.

Emotional Healing
Pray for Ariel's continued healing from past pain and brokenness. May God's peace continue to restore her heart.

Blessings for Artistic Talents
Pray that Ariel's artistic talents continue to thrive and bring glory to God, touching others through her creativity.

"I Was Ready to End It All Then Jesus Found Me."

Hannah's Testimony:

My name is Hannah. I was born into a devout Muslim family. We prayed, fasted, and sought God through religious rituals, but our home was filled with unrest and conflict. I longed for freedom through education or marriage anything to escape.

At university, I met a man. Our relationship was strictly limited by my father's rules, and after four years, we married. What should have been a new beginning turned into a nightmare. His family practiced magic to destroy our marriage, leading to constant conflicts. My husband attacked me with a knife more than once. Despite my efforts to save our relationship, he betrayed me, leaving me with unbearable shame and rejection.

The divorce dragged on for five painful years. I sank into deep despair and considered suicide multiple times. I turned to prayer and the Quran for comfort, but the emptiness persisted.

Seven years ago, a friend introduced me to Shabakeh 7. I resisted its message, but something about their joy and peace drew me in. One day, in my brokenness, I knelt and cried out, "God, if you're real, save me! Jesus, if you are who they say you are, come into my heart!"

That was the moment everything changed. I prayed the prayer of salvation, and for the first time in my life, I felt peace. Depression gave way to joy. I pursued dreams I had long abandoned. I delved into swimming, learning new languages, and completing my Master's degree after a decade-long gap. I even immigrated to Germany, a step that once seemed impossible.

The greatest miracle of all? My parents saw the transformation in me and gave their hearts to Jesus too.

Prayer Requests for Hannah

- Pray for those like **Hannah** who feel trapped in despair to find the courage to cry out to Jesus.
- Pray for **families** torn by conflict to experience the healing peace of Christ.
- Pray for **new believers** to grow in their faith and boldly share Jesus with others.



"Thrown from the Second Floor for Christ."

Afshin's Testimony:

I was thrown down from the second floor of a building for following Jesus. It left me severely injured, unable to walk, and cost my job, my son's education, and my daughter's schooling. But I will never deny Christ.

My journey to faith began unexpectedly. While working as a satellite installer, I noticed many families, though Muslim, requesting access to Christian Channel 7. One day, I met Leila, a woman whose life had been transformed by channel's teachings. Later, as an oil company employee, I met a Christian colleague who answered my questions and encouraged me to watch Iran Alive Channel.

In 2018, I gave my heart to Christ after praying with Pastor Hormoz. My wife soon followed, and together we began our journey of faith. But our decision came with a heavy price. When authorities discovered my conversion, I was fired from my job due to apostasy. They even offered us a way out: publicly renounce Christ — and return to Islam. But my family and I decided to trust Jesus instead.

In the darkest moments of my suffering, my mother once a non-believer, brought me a cross and revealed that, as a child, I had been prayed over by a woman who declared I was a child of God. Through tears, I cried out, "Jesus, You anointed me at six, but I found You 40 years later. I believe!"

Despite the persecution, I carry my cross with joy, trusting in God's promises.

Prayer Requests for Afshin

- Pray for **healing** and full recovery from my injuries.
- Pray for **God's protection** over my family during this persecution.
- Pray for **courage** and unwavering faith for all who face similar trials.

BELOVED FRIENDS,

Thank you for standing with Iran Alive Ministries through your unwavering prayers and support. Together, we are witnesses to God's power transforming the darkness in Iran into the light of Christ.

As we launch the vision for 1 million souls coming to Christ, starting in 2025 over the next decade, we declare: The Gospel cannot be stopped. Your prayers are not just powerful they are shaking the gates of hell and paving the way for lives to be eternally changed.

Let us remain bold, faithful, and united, trusting that God will do far beyond what we can imagine. By God's grace, together we shall make history in Iran and the Middle East.

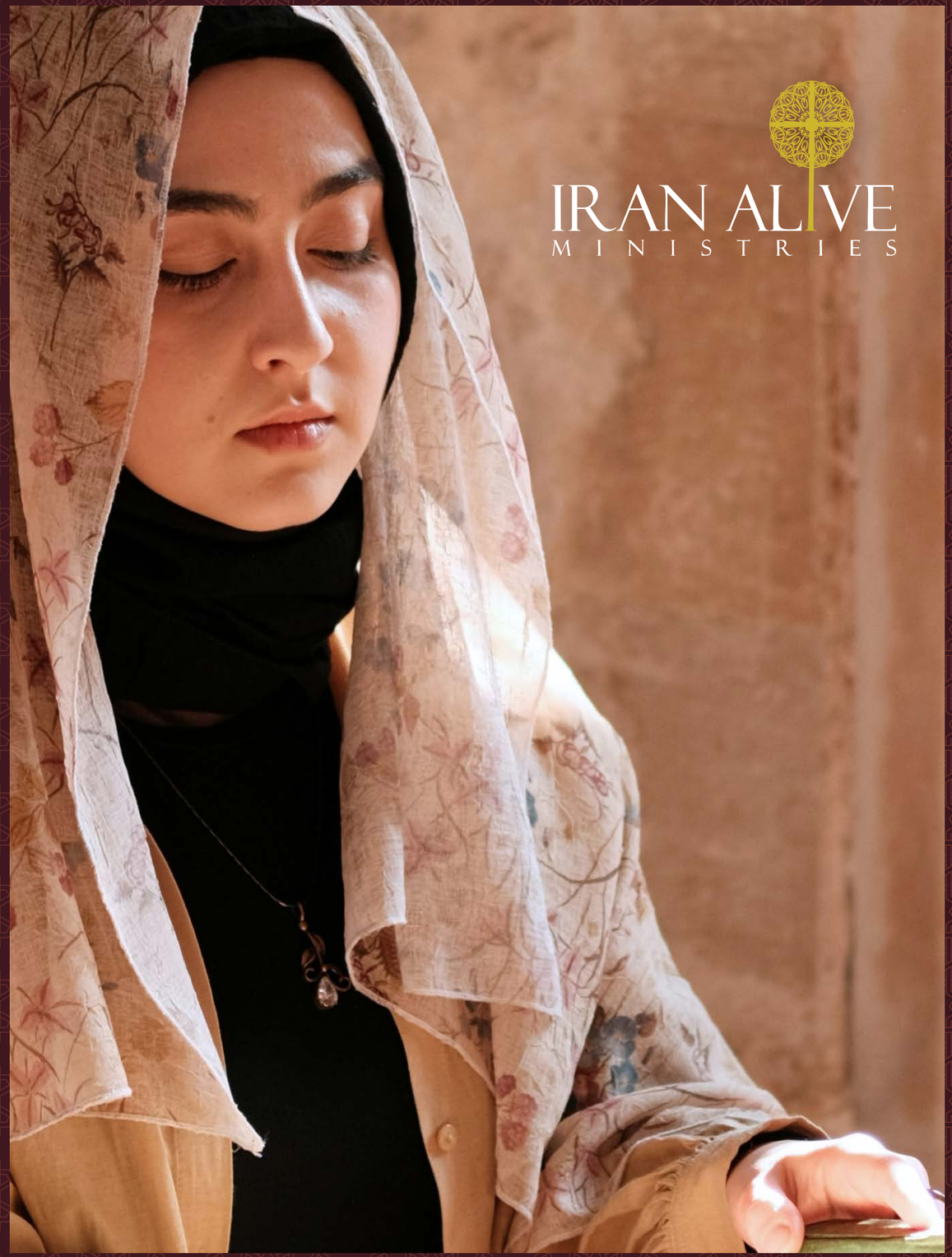


IN HIS NAME,

Dr. Hormoz
& Donnell Shariat

Iran Alive Ministries





“I will set my throne in Elam and destroy her king and officials,” declares the LORD.”

— Jeremiah 49:38

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to donate online

Iran Alive Ministries is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), an American financial standards association representing Evangelical Christian organizations and churches, which qualify for tax-exempt, nonprofit status and receive tax-deductible contributions. Founded in 1979, ECFA accredits over 2,700 member organizations that have demonstrated compliance with its financial standards.



IRAN ALIVE
MINISTRIES