

East to West Africa: How will they know unless someone tells them?

The first thing that comes to anyone's mind on a mention of 'Muslim world' is Middle East and Arabic countries. Do you realise that there are as many Muslim people in Africa as there are in Middle East? This group of African Muslim is so often being forgotten by the Christian world. If it is forgotten by us, how would they find the truth, Christ?

Whenever people come to me showing interest to work with Muslim groups, I always encourage them to consider working amongst the African Muslims. Sadly, not many Christians see the need of African Muslim. Why is it that the focus of Muslim work has always been in the Middle East and Arabic countries? Who will share the Good News to the 1 million Muslim souls in Africa?

I served in East Africa with SIM from 2002 to 2011, ministering to orphans who were affected by HIV Aids. 90% of the populations in Somalia and Southern Sudan are Muslims. Many of them flee to Kenya to find refuge, away from the civil wars. The descendants of Arabic Indian have now populated the whole South Coast of Africa. The Muslim harvest is plentiful in Africa but how would they know if no one shows them that their true Refuge comes from Christ?

While I was at East Africa, God brought many Muslim orphans to my care. Many of them have HIV Aids since birth. They were brought up by Muslim villagers before they came to my home orphanage. I remember in particular this one child who was gravely ill in hospital. For this writing purpose, I will call her Sue. In Sue's 5 years of life, she lived in tremendous pain every day. Like many other HIV Aids patients, Sue had constant diarrhoea, severe tuberculosis and Kaposi Sarcoma (a skin disease). During my companionship with her in hospital, I shared with her that Christ gave himself up for her so she would have eternal Life. Even though she was deteriorating physically, she was renewed internally day after day, just as promised in 2 Corinthians 4:16.

Sue was certain of her salvation. Christ has defeated death. But how many African Muslims passed away without having the certainty of salvation? Sue's funeral ceremony was conducted by us Christians in her Muslim village. Her death opened up many opportunities for us to share God's Love with her Muslims Communities.

Imagine the sheer size of Africa, from its East to West. The African Muslims need to hear Christ too. The next time you think of the Muslim of Middle East and Arabic world, would you please also pray for the Muslims in Africa?

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