



100783 – Arab Israeli
Project Fact Sheet 2022

Arab Israeli Bible Society: Capacity Building

Overview

This project is ensuring an ongoing presence and viable operation for the Arab Israeli Bible Society (AIBS). Located in Galilee, the project is needed to serve the Arab Israeli community with Scripture resources and interactive community events focused primarily on women and families. This will serve both the local church and broader community.

The Need

The Arab Israeli Bible society exists in a war zone, and their country is tense. The 1.7 million Arab citizens of Israel live as second-class citizens and are considered as a demographic threat by many. Arab Israelis are often ignored in political decisions, and many live below the poverty line, suffering economically in comparison to the standards of the state.

The Arab Israeli people (Arabs who became citizens of the State of Israel after its establishment in 1948) are a group lost between Jewish Israelis and Arab Palestinians.

Arab Israeli Christians are a minority twice over: only 20% of Israelis are Arabs (1.2 million), and only 2% of Israelis are Christian.

With such a small population of Arab-Israeli Christians, the AIBS struggles to maintain a core presence or operations from domestic Bible sales and fundraising income.





Project Goals

This project enables the AIBS to provide Arabic Bibles and other tools to help Arab Israeli's understand and engage with the biblical worldview.

There are 163,000 Christians in Israel of which 130,000 (80%) are Arabs. Each year, the AIBS aims to serve the local church and become an instrument of peace, security and hope for a region plagued by war and division.

Each year, AIBS focuses on women and families, hosting events (online when necessary) and producing resources centred on God's word.

AIBS maintains a physical presence in Galilee, with a centre open to the public for the community to visit, ask questions, engage with biblical resources and attend events.

Impact

AIBS is growing, despite challenges from the pandemic, war and unemployment rates.

Their workshops, conferences, and events have doubled in attendance. These include workshops and conferences for families, as well as supporting churches and schools, impacting thousands of people per year.

They have also grown their partnerships with the various local church denominations. The impact of these relationships will be seen in increased participation by local Christians at events as well as their take-up of AIBS developed resources, and the quantity of Bibles and materials distributed.

Testimonies

A participant of an AIBS event specifically for young women was impacted by the topic of self-esteem and the resources produced for her demographic. Naziha converted to Christianity from a Muslim background, and shared; "I was so encouraged from this meeting to see myself through the eyes of God, I did not imagine that someone could care about us and do a special magazine to address us. Thank you so much!"

Prayer Needs

- Pray that God will continue to lead AIBS and fulfil his will through them.
- Pray that God will provide leadership for AIBS and empower them with his presence.
- Pray that God will meet all AIBS' needs.