

ASKING POINT NETWORK



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ASKing Point

is a bi-monthly communication on behalf of ASK Network International. It is an invitation to join the network of prayer throughout the nations, ASKing and agreeing regarding key issues on God's heart. It is a tool for prayer, a place for testimony to God's faithfulness in answering, and a gift of worship to the Living God.

www.ASKnetwork.net

ASKing for Our Leaders

ASK is amazingly blessed with leaders who have zealous hearts to pray for their nations and continents. These faithful workers have been given wonderful callings and giftings to accomplish the Lord's work. However, due to the great opposition from the enemy that labor at times has been contested. We all need to pray about the challenges they face and thereby support their work. God leads us to ASK with earth-shaking prayers that affect not only them personally, but also establish deeper and wider works by His grace. Although the Lord never promises an easy path, He guarantees blessings and fruitfulness. As we pray, fastening our eyes on Jesus' power and the finish line, we will collectively be able to hear Him say well done and to see that it was worth all the trials and suffering.

Our passion is to see God's ASK leaders called, kept, perfected, and walking in the promised victory. Joining our prayers with theirs encourages and enables the work to continually expand. They are on the front lines and need to stand strong in their nations. God has called us to be like Aaron and Hur, holding up their hands as they fight the good fight of faith (Exodus 17:9-13). The "Amalekites" are busy building Satan's kingdom and fighting the work of God. Will we be faithful to stand firm and oppose the avowed enemies of God with our prayers and finances, so that God's Kingdom may come and the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ as He reigns forever and ever? (Revelations 11:15)

Yes, the resistance of the enemy is determined and persistent, but we serve the Living God who has promised that if we call He will answer! (Jeremiah 33:3) **Our ASKing always results in His answering!**

"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them" (Hebrews 6:10 NIV)

Please pray for our leaders concerning each of the following:

- 1) **Developing a greater heart for God that will overcome distractions.** "Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You.

My flesh and my heart fail but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever ... it is good for me to draw near to God. I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all Your works” (Psalm 73:25-28 NKJV).

- 2) **Discouragement and disappointments in ministry.** “For a righteous man falls seven times, and rises again, but the wicked stumble in time of disaster and collapse” (Proverbs 24:16 AMP). “When we run into problems and trials ... they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love” (Romans 5:3-5 NLT).
- 3) **Need for increasing vision accompanied by God’s revelation and wisdom.** Joshua Chapters 3-4.
- 4) **God to open doors for ASK in their nations.** “Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you ... No man shall be able to stand before you ... I will not leave you nor forsake you ... Be strong and of good courage” (Joshua 1:3,5,6 NKJV).
- 5) **Provision for their families, churches and national work of ASK.** “God is the one who gives seed to those who plant, and He gives bread for food. And God will give you spiritual seed and make that seed grow. He will produce a great harvest from your goodness” (2 Corinthians 9:10 ERV).
- 6) **Health issues.** “Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers” (3 John 2 NKJV; Matthew 4:23-24).
- 7) **Protection from the plans of enemies.** “Let’s praise the Lord! He protected us from enemies who were like wild animals ... The Lord made heaven and earth, and He is the one who sends us help” (Psalm 124:6-8 CEV).

“He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love” (Colossians 1:13 NKJV).
- 8) **Continually walk in humility.** “... you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble” (1 Peter 5:5 NIV; Matthew 18:1-5 NKJV).
- 9) **Fearing God and not man or circumstances.** “The Lord of hosts—regard Him as holy and honor His holy name [by regarding Him as your only hope of safety], and let Him be your fear and let Him be your dread [lest you offend Him by your fear of man and distrust of Him]” (Isaiah 8:13 AMPC).
- 10) **Dealing with betrayal and rejection.** “My enemies speak evil of me, saying, “When will he die and his name perish? Even my own close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me [betraying me]” (Psalm 41:5,9 AMP). “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9-10 NKJV).

“Our passion is to see God’s ASK leaders called, kept, perfected, and walking in the promised victory.”

*By Martie Hunter
Outreach Director,
ASK in the Nations*



Please pray with us for these upcoming events:

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands! Psalm 90:17

GATHERING TOGETHER

ASK USA National Gathering / Sept 12–14, 2019

Pre-Conference Sept 11–12

His delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers. Psalm 1:2-3

Plans are unfolding for the ASK USA National Gathering in September. We look forward to our gathering together as the ASK Family. We are ASKing the Lord to renew, refresh, and restore us individually ... and recommission us to build afresh on the foundation of fasting, worship, Biblical meditation and prayer.

Visit dekovencenter.org to see our gathering place.

Registration begins May 1st. Visit:

www.asknetworkusa.net/events for more information



Launching of ASK Tanzania Dar es Salaam, September 26-29

Pastor Israel & Nabwike Popapo have been used by the Lord to gather faithful intercessors all across Tanzania. After several years of establishing the work of ASK Network in the nation Bishop Charles and Miriam Kaloki are joining in the official launch acknowledging the great work God has already done in Tanzania.



DONATE!

Please be aware that you may donate to the growing work of ASK in the nations on the international website www.asknetwork.net by clicking the "Donate" button. The site is secure for giving by credit card.

Azerbaijan



Unreached People Group:

TALYSH OF AZERBAIJAN

Population: **73,000**
 Primary Religion: **Islam**
 Language: **Talysh**

Background

The Talysh have lived in the region southwest of the Caspian Sea for thousand of years (modern day Azerbaijan and Iran). Most are skilled craftspeople and farmers who grow tea, rice, wheat, barley and citrus. Talysh identify themselves as Shi'ite Muslims. They believe Jesus was a great teacher and prophet, and though he is named Isa al Masih (Jesus the Messiah) in the Quran, they don't recognize him as God's Son and humanity's Savior. Since Azerbaijan's secession from the Soviet Union in 1991, Talysh have been torn between maintaining strict adherence to the Islamic traditions of their past or embracing Western cultural practices of the present. There are no known followers of Jesus among the Talysh.

ASK ... that God would make Himself known to the Talysh.

Ask that they would receive dreams, visions and revelation of

Jesus as Messiah, and that they would know the unconditional love of God. (John 3:1-21)

The **Republic of Azerbaijan** is a country of 9.8 million in the Southern Caucasus Region, where Eastern Europe meets Western Asia. The vast majority of the population is Shia Muslim, but there is no official religion in the country and the major political forces are secularist. Since Azerbaijan declared independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, the Aliyev family (first Heydar, then his son Ilham) have ruled the nation with an iron fist. Despite holding elections, people feel powerless to remove the Aliyevs from power.

The nation seeks to Westernize hosting major international competitions like the Eurovision Song Contest and Formula 1 Grand Prix motor race. Historically, Azerbaijan has been a major source of oil wealth in the region, and yet the nation continues to struggle under oppression and poverty.

Azerbaijan still lives under the shadow of the unresolved conflict with Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh region, which has been occupied by Armenia since 1994, splitting Azerbaijan into two pieces. They desire justice for the loss of their land, and yet clear injustice exists within their borders. Religious leaders and other activists are imprisoned, relying on their families to bring food to them in prison. Then the family must pay the guards to give that food to the prisoner. Believers face social pressures and exiled from their families and communities when they come to faith. Even so, the church is growing. Believers in Baku travel to the smaller towns and into the north of Iran, reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Let's ASK:

- That believers would be strengthened in their faith no matter what persecution they face, and for God's supply of resources—spiritual and physical—to keep reaching out to others. *And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19*
- That corruption will be rooted out, beginning at the highest levels of authority. *This is what the LORD Almighty said, 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other.'* Zechariah 7:9-10
- For a deep and lasting healing of both the people and land after a tumultuous history. *If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.* 1 Chronicles 7:14



ITALY



Italy is situated on a mountainous, boot-shaped peninsula that dominates the central Mediterranean Sea. It includes the two large islands of Sardinia and Sicily and has a population of 60 million. The Roman Republic was established around 510 B.C. It conquered the Italian peninsula, then employed barbaric oppression to rule over most of the known world, spreading political influence, pagan culture, and technological innovation (Daniel 2, 7, 9).

This domination ended in the late 5th century. Jesus, Peter, and Paul all died at the hands of the Roman government. Thousands of early Christians suffered death before cheering spectators in the Roman Colosseum. The persecution of Christians and the blood of the martyrs fed the fervor of the early Church. The Romans, however, were also master engineers and builders whose roads greatly enabled the spread of the gospel. In the 1300s a humanistic revival of classical arts and learning—the Renaissance—originated in Italy and spread throughout Europe greatly affecting civilization (Romans 1:18-25, Luke 4:4, 4:8, 4:12).

Tourists still flock to see the stunning beauty of Renaissance architecture, painting and sculpture (Romans 14:17, 1 John 2:16). Today the political and economic shortcomings of the state have resulted in widespread disillusionment with government, but there is much to be said about the energy, flair, and basic humanity of the Italian people.

Let's ASK:

- For Italy to fulfill its spiritual destiny. Christianity became the state religion of the empire in 316 AD and the dominance of the Western Roman Catholic Church grew. This dominance — at times corrupted — has never abated as a cultural and spiritual power. The Roman empire may have brought curses to the nations around it. ... *the Lord will establish you as a people holy to Himself. Deuteronomy 28:9; Deuteronomy 28:49-57*
- For Italian Believers and Congregations. Catholicism is central to the Italian social structure. About 40% of Italians are practicing Catholics. Pray for existing evangelical congregations to mature and evangelize native Italian and immigrant communities. ... *filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord ...* Isaiah 11:2; Habakkuk 2:14
- For a hunger for God's Word and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Ask for orthodox Christian materials to be published and disseminated. ... *that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.* John 17:3; Isaiah 40:8; John 10:10
- For the immigrant population in Italy. ASK that the five million people (7.5% of the population) be protected from organized crime and human traffickers. The largest number of immigrants comes from North Africa. ... *judgment ... against those who thrust aside the sojourner. Malachi 3:5; Matthew 25:35-36; Deuteronomy 24:14-15, 17-18; Exodus 23:9*

Unreached People Group:

SINHALESE OF ITALY

Population: **59,000**
 Primary Religion: **Buddhism**
 Language: **Sinhala**

Background

The Sinhalese are one of the majority people groups of Sri Lanka, an island off the southern coast of India. They began migrating to Italy fifty years ago, seeking employment opportunities as domestic workers. Most expected to work in Italy for only a couple of years, then return home more financially equipped to care for their families. A 1996 law, however, made it easier for Sinhalese workers to bring their families to Italy, so many have chosen to stay long-term. The majority of Sinhalese in Italy are Theravada Buddhists. Most Sinhalese focus their worship on home-based Buddhist rituals. A small minority of Sinhalese are Christians.

ASK ... that Jesus would be made known to Sinhalese Buddhists as the Light of the World. As they seek liberation through nirvana, ask that God would reveal Jesus as the path to true life. (John 14:5-14, Ephesians 1:15-23)

