

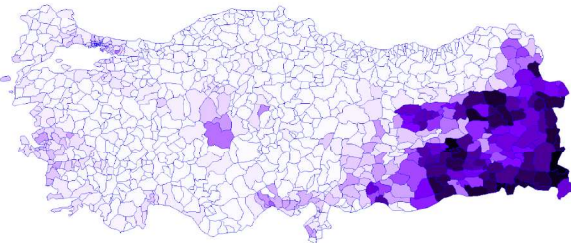
You have the opportunity to impact the Turkey/Balkans. Are you up for the challenge?

# Kurmanji Kurds of Turkey



*"It is **too small a thing** for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the **nations**, that my salvation may **reach to the ends of the earth.**"*  
— Isaiah 49:6—

## Map of Kurdish population in Turkey



Numbering 13,610,000, Kurmanji Kurds are primarily Sunni Muslims. Though concentrated in the southeast and east, they are in every major city. They typically speak Kurmanji Kurdish and Turkish as well as other dialects.

The Kurdish people make up 18% of Turkey's population. And out of the 81 provinces in Turkey about half of them have little to no church presence in them, and the vast majority are in the Kurdish majority areas of the country.

## Quick Facts

**Population:** 11,000,000

**Global Population:** 13,610,000

**Progress:** Unengaged

**Language:** Kurmanji, Turkish



## Opportunities to Engage

From time to time, we have had teams working with the Kurds. At this writing, we have no team focusing specifically on the Kurdish people but have connections to some God's teams in the east that someone could partner with. The opportunity to pioneer a work in the East and South East is very difficult, but not impossible.

Another option is to move into one of the larger cities in the West and plant yourself in an area we have identified as primarily Kurdish and reach this group there. We have seen some individuals build relationships in these cities and be invited by a friend to visit their family in the east. This is an optimal situation that could lead to long term residency in the east.

*"To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia (all are in modern Turkey), who are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure."*

— 1 Peter 1:1-2 —

## Prayer Points

- Access to the Eastern part of Turkey where the majority of Kurds are located is constant struggle or obstacle. Pray that we would get invited to these areas and allowed to stay by the government.
- The Kurds have followed Islam for many years. Although the New Testament is now available in their language, there are few known Northern Kurd believers...pray that changes.
- Ask the Lord to raise up a strong local church among the Kurds of Turkey.
- Physically, the Kurds live in very poor conditions. Good water supplies are scarce, and they are exposed to diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis. Politically, they are oppressed by the government. They need the liberty to educate their children in their own language.



**Is God calling you to live among the Muslim peoples of the Turkey/Balkans?**