

# INGUSH

## Quick Facts

- Population: 444,800
- Progress: Only 5+ Believers
- Language: Ingush
- Scripture: NT & 6 OT books completed
- Location: North Ossetia-Alania, Ingushetia, Moscow



Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is , there is freedom.

2 Cor 3:17

Life for the peoples of the Caucasus Region is difficult, but for the Ingush people, it is like a Shakespearean tragedy! During World War II, they were accused of supporting the Nazis, and deported en masse to Kazakhstan and Siberia, losing an estimated two-thirds of their population along the way. After years in exile, they were allowed to return home in 1958, only to find their land had been settled by others, and part of their region had been transferred to North Ossetia. After returning home, they faced considerable opposition and animosity from the Ossetians, which came to a head in late October 1992, when a violent conflict forced tens of thousands of Ingush people from their homes yet again. As a result of the hostility, many now live in various towns and villages, including the war-torn city of Grozny.

In spite of a life of continual hardship, the Ingush people still possess a rich history of art, music, dancing, wood carving, and storytelling. Another storyteller of proverbs who lived close to 3000 years ago said, "Hope deferred makes the heart grow sick, but when the desire comes, it is a tree of life" (Prov. 13:12).





Imran stood over the fresh grave, enduring the cold winds of the mountain valley that leads to Magas, the capital of the province of Ingushetia in southern Russia. Imran's Ingush grandfather had been seven years old when his family and whole nation were gathered into rail cars by Stalin's KGB on February 23rd, 1944. His grandpa survived the three-week rail journey to the Central Asian steppe of Kazakhstan with no heat, no food, and only melted snow for water. Finally, in 1957, his grandfather was allowed to return to his home region of Ingushetia. Sadly, Ossetian families had resettled his village home, where Stalin had put them to take over Ingush lands. Imran, whose own father died in the 1992 war between the Ingush and Ossetians, now couldn't bury his grandfather in the centuries old family cemetery. Mercifully, Imran's new boss in a Russian construction firm happened to be a Protestant Christian. His new boss was very helpful to Imran in his search to find a location to bury his grandfather. His boss even helped pay for the burial plot! Imran was left with a lot of questions, the foremost being, 'where does such love and compassion come from?'

**Who will tell this predominantly Islamic people of the great hope they have in Christ Jesus?**

Most Muslim peoples, like the Ingush, have very little opportunity to see and experience the self-sacrificing love that Jesus calls for. The world is watching! Pray that entire Ingush communities will experience the self-sacrificing love of Christ's followers.

(Profile Information from Joshua Project & North Caucasus Regional Partnership)



## Engagement Opportunities

- Get informed - [IngushLink](#)
- Explore access strategies to serve long term in Russia
- The University language study program (Russian) remains the most effective way for foreigners to get visas and become immersed in the culture.
- Very closed to Westerners, but more open to workers from Ibero-America and Asia.

## Pray

- that God will prepare the hearts of the Ingush to receive the gospel of Jesus.
- for the effective use of the Jesus Film and other evangelistic tools in the Ingush language.
- that God will give Ingush believers boldness and power to share Christ with their own people.
- for completion of a Bible translation in this people group's primary language.

**Is God calling you to serve in the Caucasus?  
Let us help you respond. Contact us.**

