## Bedouin of the Sinai Peninsula

## Who are the Bedouin of the Sinai Peninsula?

The Bedouin of the Sinai have descended from Bedouin of the Arabian Peninsula who migrated to the Sinai between the 14th and 18th C. Bedouin are traditionally pastoral nomadic peoples., meaning that they move from one location to another in order to provide their flocks of sheep, goats, and/or camels with new grazing areas. They traditionally live in tents made of weaved goat hair and travel with their family groups. Though some have settled into villages they continue to maintain many of the nomadic ideals.

The Bedouin greatly value their tribal identity and are devoted and honoring to their family groups. The sheiks, or leaders of the tribe, help to govern and solve any conflicts that arise from within.

For Bedouin, hospitality is the highest cultural value and the deepest way to show honor. One Bedouin woman related, "To have a guest is our greatest honor. When people come to visit us, it is important to receive them and respect them. Arab traditions of honor are everything, we must understand how they are tired, or if they have come from far away. We must be ready to serve them." Another said, "If you do not like to have guests you are close fisted. We love to have guests. It is our custom, tradition, our duty and religion." One can expect a cup of sweet tea, and a visit by the fire any time they stop by a Bedouin tent, whether they know the inhabitants or not. Most have very little but give of all they have.

Primarily an oral culture, the Bedouin love to sit around the fire and share stories. There is a openness during these storytelling times and amazing opportunities to share the truth.



1.2 million yet to be reached



## **Quick Facts**

Population- 2,106,745
Progress- Unreached
Language- East Egyptian
Bedawi Arabic
Bible Translation, Gospel
Recordings - Available
Jesus Film and Radio Broadcast
- Not Available

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

— Isaiah 43:19 —

A voice cries out in the wilderness,

"Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness;

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God...

And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed.

— Isaiah 40:3.5—

## Pray

- Pray that the Lord will bring the Living Water to these people who live in a dry and scorched desert.
- Pray for a movement of the Holy Spirit and that many would come to follow Issa Al MassiaH.
- Pray the Lord would use the mobility of these nomads to spread the gospel to the far corners of the Middle East even back to the lands of their origins.
- Pray for the economic difficulties that have increased due to bad farming seasons and lack of tourism.
- Pray the Lord would bring dreams and visions and storytellers from afar to reveal the good news of the Kingdom of God.
- Pray to the Lord of the Harvest to raise up laborers for the Harvest.





**Engage** 

The Bedouin of the Sinai are very open to foreigners because of the economic impact of tourism in their villages, especially Dahab, Nuweiba and St. Catherine. Taba and Al-tur.

Tourist visas are available for up to six months and though work visas are challenging to obtain, there are many viable job opportunities for laborers to become a part of the community such as private tutoring or homeschool co-ops for foreigners and Egyptians. Many types of private lessons such as sports clubs, dance, gymnastics, art, music lessons, and fitness instructors are welcome. There are also opportunities in in the hospitality industry, including hotel/ Airbnb's, co-working spaces, restaurants, cafes, and juice bars.

There are many ways to access the Bedouin communities such as eco-tourism opportunities including but not limited to rock climbing, hiking, scuba diving, and water sports. Additionally, there are opportunities in permaculture including consultation, design, gardens and organic farming in partnership with Bedouin landowners. There is also a great need for a Christian bookstore near St. Catherine's monastery for all the Christian pilgrims visiting Mt. Sinai.

There are many opportunities and access points and we are praying for the Lord to bring laborers for this harvest field.

Is God calling you to live among the Muslim peoples of the Middle East? Contact us.

We would love to help you get there!