



MALDIVES

OPERATION
WORLD

the definitive prayer guide to every nation



WATCH & PRAY

GIVE THANKS

The desire to honour human rights and increase freedoms has been expressed by the current government

1200 coral islands off the shores of Sri Lanka and India form the breathtaking Republic of Maldives, which has enjoyed independence for most of its history. A multi-party democracy was established in 2008, bringing limited freedoms

Vibrant shades of ocean blue, pure white beaches, and glorious sunsets draw many to this tropical wonderland. But this apparent paradise is reserved only for tourists; beneath an idyllic surface, the realities are dire. Maldives suffers from one of the highest divorce rates in the world, in addition to rising crime rates, increasing gang activity, widespread child abuse, and pervasive drug use among teens. The islands themselves stand in a vulnerable state, as the coral that supports them is being destroyed by coral mining and increasing ocean temperatures. The potential for rising sea levels also threatens to wipe these islands off the map.

While some freedoms have expanded through democracy, there remains no freedom of religion. Islam is the official and only religion; all others are illegal. Only the Gospel of Luke and Acts are currently available in Dhivehi, but even those are not permitted to enter the nation. No mission work or Christian literature has ever been legally allowed within the islands. Widespread traditional beliefs in spirits combined with Islam leave many Maldivians trapped in fear. With little to no access to the Gospel within these isolated islands, a true miracle is needed to bring hope and salvation to the people.

PRAY FOR

- The fragile ecosystem of the Maldives is threatened by rising sea levels that could flood and destroy. The 2004 tsunami and the 2008/2009 economic downturn demonstrated how fleeting life on these islands could be; pray that this would cause many to seek eternal assurance obtainable only through Christ.
- The Maldivians are still among the least evangelized on earth. Neither mission work nor Christian literature has ever been allowed. Paradoxically, the government denies the existence of Christianity among Maldivians while arresting those who do believe. The perception of Christianity is so bad (largely due to Western media and tourist immorality) that political opponents use the term "Christian" to slander one another. Pray for the true name and nature of Jesus to be made known in this nation. Pray that the state's contradictions and heavy-handedness toward Christianity would generate great curiosity.





JOSHUA PROJECT

THE UNREACHED

Although there may be a few believers or even a few churches, they are a people group among which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize their own people group.

A total of 4 People Groups are Unreached – 371,000 (100% of population) people who have limited or NO access to the Gospel.



THE 10/40 WINDOW

DAY 29 of PRAYING THROUGH THE WINDOW

There are many people praying and preparing to go and share the Gospel to Maldivians but they are being held back by finances. Pray that God would provide all the financial support needed to see people be released to serve Him in the Maldives. Pray that churches will get involved in praying for this nation. The nation remains one hundred percent Muslims with any Christian converts remaining secret. Now is the time to pray that this statistic will begin to change (The Bible, Colossians 1:13).



OPEN DOORS

#13

on the Open Doors WWL of countries who face the worst Christian persecution.

- Pray that God would lead secret believers to find fellowship. Pray they might have access to the Bible which is considered contraband under Maldivian law.
- To be Maldivian is to be Muslim. Pray for every Maldivian to have a dream or see a vision of Jesus, that they will be led to believers who will be bold enough to share the Gospel with them.
- Many Maldivians want to leave the country because of restrictions on freedom. They often seek solace in smoking or drugs. Local media reports that drug abuse has become the biggest societal issue in the country. Pray that Maldivians will turn to Jesus to experience true freedom.
- Pray for the discipleship of secret believers in the country. It continues to be very challenging because of security and unity issues. Pray for God to provide the answers and solutions on how to overcome these hindrances so that the secret believers can be spiritually nourished and daily grow into Christlikeness.



PRAY FOR THE MUSLIM WORLD

The Maldives is still a country living in two worlds. Internationally they have the image of being a holiday destination of paradisiac dimensions; on the other hand, the country follows a strict form of Islam and is struggling with unrest and many political challenges. Due to the high level of social control, Christian converts from Islam face extreme pressure from their family, friends and neighbours, once they are discovered. In several cases, the pressure is so unbearable that Christians choose to live abroad. Expatriate and migrant worker Christians are able to meet, if these meetings are strictly limited to their community. They are closely monitored.

REDEMPTIVE GIFTS OF THE NATION

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