

The H people of Central Asia

The People Group

The H people are relational and hospitable, often centering important moments around food. They are known to be astute business people who love music and good conversation. The H people are a minority people group in a country where the government is continually tightening its regulations on minority groups. Their history of religious discrimination has led the H people to be an insular community who hold tightly to their belief system. The vast majority of H people are Muslim and there are very few known followers of Jesus.

The Global Interaction team among the H People

Our intercultural team in Central Asia is in transition. Pete and Nomes (currently in Australia due to the Covid pandemic) are in the early days of their culture and language learning which is equipping them for effective ministry among the H people. God is opening doors for them to be involved in the community in formal and informal ways. We trust that as their language skills and cultural understanding develops, so too will their relationships with H people.

Former intercultural workers R and B are preparing to return to serve among the H people. They return with years of ministry experience among this people group and a heart to build relationships and share Jesus. They will return to teach at the same university they previously taught and will seek to build relationships with H students.

Prayer Needs

- Pray that God will be raising up more workers to join the team in sharing the Good News
- For God's Spirit to be opening opportunities for relationship building and faith sharing conversations as the team connects with their H friends
- That the team will be growing their culture and language learning every day so they can build relationships and share the Good News in culturally understandable ways
- For God to be placing seekers in the path of believers who will journey with them towards Jesus
- That the team will be wise and bold as they seek opportunities to share faith within a challenging environment

Pray for the Team Members (secure names used)

Pete and Nomes

R and B

Stories of Hope from Central Asia

Strong Foundation

Pete and Nomes have been intercultural workers among the H people for two years. Pete spends 20 hours a week with his nurturer Mike and they have become close friends. They share openly about culture and faith. Mike has welcomed the whole family into his community, inviting them for meals, celebrating birthdays and even inviting Pete to important cultural festivals.

Pete shares, “Mike and I have had numerous opportunities to chat about culture and faith, mutually sharing the meaning behind religious festivals, stories from our Holy books and worship practices. Throughout these conversations, one thing has become very clear, while Mike’s faith is central to his identity, it can also be a heavy burden. Mike does what he can but is fully aware that he often falls short and at times he even seems resigned to the fact that he may never be able to do enough to win favour with the Creator.

I want nothing more than to see Mike and many other H people come to discover the joy and freedom of the one whose yolk is easy, and burden is light. Having laid a strong foundation over the first two years our hope and prayer is that there will be increasing opportunities for us to share the Good News with Mike and many others.”

Pete and Nomes are currently in Australia due to the pandemic. Pray with us that as they connect with Mike through video calls, their relationship will continue to grow. Pray that God will be preparing Mike’s heart to hear and respond to the Good News.

Together Apart

Pete reflects on God’s faithfulness amidst the challenges of travel restrictions, “Despite the frustration of being unable to return to Central Asia, we are grateful that over the past few months we have still been able to maintain contact with our H friends via messages and video calls. Through this period, we’ve had regular language lessons with our two closest H friends, Mike and Andrew.

This has not only allowed us to keep growing in our understanding of H language and culture, but more importantly, it has meant that we are able to continue investing in our friend’s lives. As a reflection of our Father’s love for us, we want to show our friends that despite our present physical separation, we continue to value and love them and long to return.”

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