



## History

Libya's history is one of foreign occupation and exploitation by various empires. It has been a territory of the Roman, Arab and Ottoman Empires, as well as an Italian colony during the 20th century. Libya was under British administration following the Second World War until the country gained independence in 1951, becoming the Kingdom of Libya, under King Idris. Libya remained a kingdom until a military coup in 1969, led by Muammar Gaddafi, displaced the King and forced him into exile.

## Government

Mustafa Abdul Jalil presides over the National Transitional Council, which took control following the popular uprising that ended Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's 42-year-long rule in 2011. Announcing the "liberation" of Libya the day after Col Gaddafi was captured and killed on 22 October, he called for reconciliation and said that Islamic law would be the foundation of legislation.

## Social Issues

In the light of recent turmoil, Libya has been under much foreign investigation for alleged human rights abuses concerning people trafficking to replace labour lost in the armed conflict. Libya has an 81.6% average literacy rate, owing to compulsory free education for both genders.<sup>1</sup>

## THE WAY TV Viewership

WE received some calls from the Egyptians lives there .

## Religion

Of a population of six million, only 5% is Christian, with 90% practising Islam. Freedom of religion exists in Libya, aside from the right to proselytize. Freedom of assembly, unless in direct

support of the government, is also forbidden, so numerous churches are “underground”. The majority of Libya’s Christian population are foreigners.

### **Prayer Points**

Praise God for Libyan believers and pray they may be able to continue to meet together.

Pray for increased tolerance for local believers by the community at large.

Pray for peace and stability to come to Libya.

“My friend has a satellite dish and has been corresponding with you. I’ve noticed a big change in his personality—great happiness and peace in his soul. He tried to explain what happened but I understood nothing other than that he now believes in Jesus. That is why I am writing to you—I am eager to know more about the Christian faith and about Jesus.” A male viewer in Libya