

# Oman National day

## November 18<sup>th</sup>

### Sultanate of Oman



In 1970, Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said ousted his father and ruled as sultan until his death in January of 2020. His extensive modernization program has opened the country to the outside world. Oman's moderate, independent foreign policy has sought to maintain good relations with all Middle Eastern countries. Sultan Qaboos was succeeded by his cousin Haitham bin Tariq Al Said who has continued the moderate policies of Qaboos.



Capital City:	Muscat
Government:	Monarchy
Major People Groups:	67% Arab, 21% South Asian, 12% other
Population:	5.1 million+ ( <a href="http://www.worldometers.info">www.worldometers.info</a> )
Religion:	92% Muslim, 3% Hindu, 2% Christian, 3% other

**Though religious tolerance is promoted, religious freedom is restricted. Christians & other religions are only allowed to worship in government approved locations. They may not meet in private homes for corporate worship or prayer.**



Oman is the oldest independent state in the Arab world. Most Omanis follow the more tolerant Ibadi sect of Islam. The people are very proud of their culture. Despite modernization redefining their lives, they hold tightly to their traditions, customs and conservative values. Increasing affluence and material comforts along with deep cultural and religious pride make Omanis resistant to the Gospel.

Their diversified economy includes oil production, agriculture and fishing, with considerable investment in health and education, especially for women. The number of college educated Omanis is growing rapidly and youth unemployment is a significant societal problem in Oman.

Almost all of the Christian population is made up of foreigners. But the Lord is building his church and in recent years a small number Omanis have become of Jesus followers.

#### Prayer resources

- <https://prayercast.com/oman.html>
- <https://www.pray-ap.info/oman.html>
- <http://www.apinfo.eu>

- Pray for the Gospel to infiltrate Omani culture, reaching the many who are still unreached.
- Hundreds of Omanis study abroad or go overseas for medical care. Pray that Christians in these countries will reach out to them with hospitality, care and love in Jesus' Name.
- The fear of evil spirits is a reality to many Omanis. They often carry out practices to appease the spirits. Pray that God would release them from fear and reveal Himself to them in dreams or visions.
- Pray that the Sultan of Oman would continue to rule the country with justice and wisdom.
- Pray for courage for Omanis to become disciples of Jesus Christ, and that whole families will be saved.
- Pray that God's church will be firmly established in Oman and that nothing will prevail against it.



**I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them;  
I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.**

Ezekiel 11:19