

Qatar National Day

December 18th

State of Qatar



Qatar was under the rule of the Turkish Ottoman Empire from 1871 until 1918, then under British protection until they declared independence in 1971. Since the mid-1800s, local political power has been in the hands of the Al Thani family. Since the discovery of oil and natural gas in the mid-1900s, it has evolved from a poor pearl fishing state to a modern, wealthy country.



Capital City:	Doha
Government:	Monarchy
Major People Groups:	50% Arab, 23% South Asian, 16% Persian
Population:	2.9 million (www.worldometers.info)
Religion:	79% Muslim, 10% Christian, 7% Hindu, 4% other

Though conversion from Islam is a capital offense, no one has been punished for apostasy. However, Christian converts and Christian migrant workers face constant pressure.



Qatar has rich oil and gas reserves. The country has also diversified their economy and invests in research & development, finance, health, education, and infrastructure. Qatari citizens are among the richest people in the world. Over 85% of the population are migrant workers, many who are paid very little.

Qataris follow the strict Wahhabi sect of Sunni Islam, making it one of the most religiously conservative societies in the region. However, the Qatari people are extremely welcoming and extravagant hosts.

Churches are restricted and may only worship in approved locations, including a church compound provided by the government. However, Christian symbols are not permitted, especially publicly visible ones.

Prayer resources:

- <https://prayercast.com/qatar.html>
- <https://prayforap.com/qatar.html>
- <http://www.apinfo.eu>

- Pray for open doors that Muslims may hear the Gospel.
- Pray for a deep spiritual hunger amid such material wealth.
- Pray for God to grant Christians greater favor with the Qataris.
- Pray for protection for secret Christians in Qatar who have accepted Jesus but cannot be open about their new faith.
- Pray for protection for migrant workers against abuse and discrimination.
- Pray that the Bible and other resources would find its way into the hands of Qataris and that Christian media through the internet and satellite TV would have greater impact.
- Qatar will host 2022 (Nov/Dec) FIFA World Cup. Pray that Christian soccer fans will intercede for the salvation of Qataris whenever they came across news about FIFA 2022.
- Pray for the birth of an indigenous church focused on sharing the Gospel with all Qataris.



Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Matthew 13:45-46