

Special  
EDITION

CROSSOVER  GLOBAL  
**COMMUNIQUÉ**

ISSUE N°04 2021



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**COMMUNIQUÉ**

ISSUE N°04 2021 | SPECIAL EDITION

The Communiqué is Crossover Global's quarterly publication sharing life-transforming stories among unreached people groups.



**Our Affiliations**



Enhancing Trust



Crossover Global passionately seeks to glorify God by providing gospel access through the planting of multiplying churches among the unreached peoples of the world.

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## *Greetings.*

On August 15, 2021, the Taliban took over control of Afghanistan. This event sent the Afghan people into a state of crisis, and the team of Crossover Global working in a neighboring country into action. Seeing a great need, teammates went to a city that borders Afghanistan to help Afghans fleeing for their lives.

Since August 19, we have sent a series of emails regarding Crossover Global's efforts to help during this humanitarian crisis with the ultimate goal of seeing the gospel advanced and churches planted among the unreached Afghan people. To see these emails visit: [www.crossover.global/refugeesos](http://www.crossover.global/refugeesos).

In addition to these emails, we wanted to dedicate this Special Edition of *Communiqué* to Afghanistan and the work being done there by the Crossover Global team. We also wanted to share a little about the people from Afghanistan and how Crossover Global seeks not only to be the hands and feet of Jesus but also to help build God's Kingdom on earth.

Together for the Kingdom,  
The Crossover Global Team



# Opportunities for *God's Glory*

In 2009, our team in Moldova was invited to help three national leaders from a country in Central Asia to start new churches among their own Muslim majority people.

Back in 2009, this country was the 6th most oppressive dictatorship in the world, the 11th most persecuted nation, and ranked number 4 in total martyrs throughout history. It is not a surprise that in 2009 with a population of 28 million people, there were only 1,000 born-again believers. There were only 65 known churches at that time, which averaged just 15 believers per church.

Many of you reading this magazine have been a long-term financial and prayer partner who directly help our church planting efforts in this country. Well, since 2009, our church planting efforts directly started 173 house churches in this country. Several of these new house churches, due to the high level of persecution, especially in the earlier years, have

closed their doors. Still, after 12 years, we have a total of 137 house churches established who have mobilized the 1,800 members to serve their neighboring persecuted church — our brothers and sisters from Afghanistan.

## **LOCAL HOUSE CHURCHES UNITED**

Below, you find the letter I received from the Crossover Global Executive Director of the Central Asian Base, working directly with our current efforts to help refugees fleeing for their lives.

*I urged all churches and believers who live near the border to take Afghan refugees home and serve them without fear. Historically our countrymen have been very afraid and have no contact with Afghans, but now the local believers are opening their hearts and praying for them, no longer afraid of them but wanting to start loving them.*

*Our two house churches at the border between our country and Afghanistan are preparing to find refugees, accept them, and help them. The churches there say the refugees will need a lot of help in the coming days, and the two churches are getting ready to help. The believers are united as the Church - the Body of Christ.*

*We are preparing our churches to be ready to serve refugees from Afghanistan. We believe that even if our churches are small, even if they are persecuted, God will use us these days for His glory and because He loves the nations.*

## **UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITIES**

At Crossover Global, we are seeking strategic ways to serve the Afghan people while remaining focused on the calling that God has given us to provide Gospel access to the unreached. What an unprecedented opportunity we have to partner with the very house churches we have

helped to establish over the last decade in order for them to be the hands and feet of Jesus for the Afghan people.

According to the 2021 World Watch List published by Open Doors, Afghanistan is ranked as the #2 country where it is most difficult to be a Christian. As the Taliban takes over the whole country, sadly, there is a high likelihood that more persecution will come to our Afghan brothers and sisters.

There are 67 different unreached people groups living in Afghanistan. As of now, we are helping seven Afghan Christian families — 37 individuals total counting husbands, wives, and children by assisting them with housing, food, medicine, and education for their kids for the next four weeks.

On September 7th, 2021, Crossover Global Executive Director of the Central Asian Base visited the border with Afghanistan. While there, he confirmed that 70 Afghan believers are ready to cross the border from Afghanistan to their country. He has asked for our church members to meet and get ready to host them. They already have prepared two houses for them and are ready to accept them. For security purposes, there are many unknowns. They do not know their names, how long they will stay in their country, or even the location where they will be crossing the border.

If confirmed, we have a second unprecedented opportunity to serve and care for an entire house church network out of Afghanistan and empower them to continue serving our God amidst such horrible crisis.

## **NEVER WASTE A CRISES**

I heard a wise man say once that, "great organizations never waste a crisis." There is no question that what the Afghan people are going through is a huge crisis. Please, don't get me wrong, this whole situation is sad!

Sadly, in the last two decades, our world has experienced the movement of many peoples due to changes in regimes. First, we saw thousands of Iraqis displaced, and more recently, Syrians have been forced to flee their homes. It appears that we are here once again.

Situations like these remind me of the Apostle Paul's words when he addressed the Greeks in Athens. In making his apologetic argument to the Council, Paul declared:

*"And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him." Acts 17:26-27 ESV*

It is difficult to imagine what the Afghan people are going through right now. In light of the current circumstances, Scripture confirms that God remains sovereign over this nation and every nation on earth.

At Crossover Global, we believe God sovereignly orchestrates the time and space in which people dwell, and we would like to position men and women of the Kingdom to guide the Afghan People as they "find their way towards God." Our goal is that not only their physical and emotional needs will be met, but ultimately, our church planters on the ground will lead them to Jesus and start new communities of believers among them.

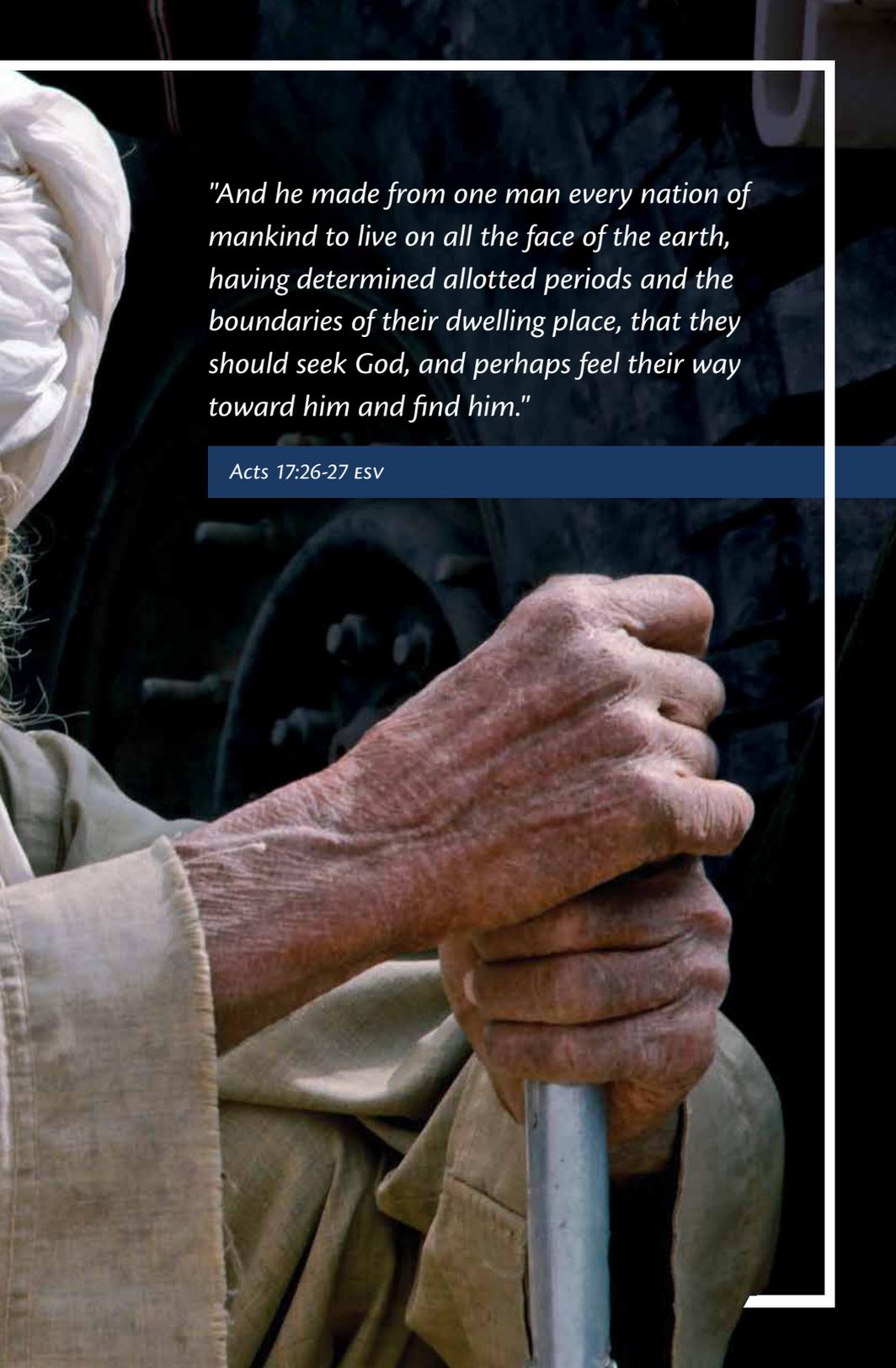
Thank you for journeying with Crossover Global over the years! We believe that with your faithful support and by God's grace, we will make an eternal impact in this dark situation.

Please continue praying,



Ken Katayama  
*President*





*"And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him."*

Acts 17:26-27 ESV

## The World Watch List<sup>1</sup>

1. North Korea

2. Afghanistan

2<sup>nd</sup> most difficult place to follow Jesus

3. Somalia

4. Libya

# Reaching *Afghanistan*



TOTAL  
POPULATION<sup>2</sup>

**39.6M**

of that population

**99.9%**

are *unreached*

## Converts to *Christianity*

Christians from a Muslim background try their utmost not to be discovered by family, friends, neighbors or the wider community. Depending on the family, they may even have to fear for their lives. For them, living openly as a Christian is simply not possible - even the suspicion of being a Christian can bring severe persecution.<sup>1</sup>

THE LARGEST RELIGIOUS GROUP IS ISLAM AT

**99.8%**<sup>2</sup>

There are **69** different people groups in Afghanistan. Of those people groups, **67 are unreached.**<sup>2</sup>

## THE UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS<sup>2</sup>

|    |                     |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|----|---------------------|
| 01 | TAJIK               | 35 | ROMANI, DOMARI      |
| 02 | PASHTUN, SOUTHERN   | 36 | KALASH (CHITRALI)   |
| 03 | UZBECK              | 37 | NURISTANI, PRASUNI  |
| 04 | HAZARA              | 38 | WARDUJI             |
| 05 | PASHTUN, NORTHERN   | 39 | PARACHI             |
| 06 | TURKMEN             | 40 | MUNJI               |
| 07 | AIMAQ               | 41 | BANIA               |
| 08 | PERSIAN             | 42 | PUNJABI             |
| 09 | PASHAYI, SOUTHEAST  | 43 | TIRAHI              |
| 10 | BALACH, WESTERN     | 44 | SAU                 |
| 11 | DEAF                | 45 | NURISTANI TREGAMI   |
| 12 | BRAHUI              | 46 | KURD, CENTRA        |
| 13 | QASILBASH           | 47 | PAHLAVANI           |
| 14 | NURISTANI NARISATI  | 48 | BRAHMIN             |
| 15 | PASHAYI, SOUTHWEST  | 49 | WOTAPURI-KATARQALAI |
| 16 | PASHAYI, NORTHWEST  | 50 | UYGHUR              |
| 17 | PASHAYI, NORTHEAST  | 51 | ORMURI              |
| 18 | NURISTANI, ASHKUNI  | 52 | NURISTANI, MALAKHEL |
| 19 | PASHAYI             | 53 | MUSSALI             |
| 20 | SHUGHNI             | 54 | KAZAKH              |
| 21 | NARISATI, ARANDUI   | 55 | KARAKALPAK          |
| 22 | PUNJABI, WESTERN    | 56 | ISHKASHIMI          |
| 23 | NURISTANI, WAIGELI  | 57 | CHANGGAR            |
| 24 | SINDHI              | 58 | SANGLECHI           |
| 25 | NURISTANI, KAMVIRI  | 59 | KHATRI              |
| 26 | KHIK (WAKHI)        | 60 | ANSARI              |
| 27 | GAJAR               | 61 | PARSEE              |
| 28 | ARAB, TAJIKI        | 62 | MOGHAL              |
| 29 | ROMANI, BALKAN      | 63 | GARWI, KOHISTANI    |
| 30 | TANGSHURI           | 64 | SHUMASHTI           |
| 31 | DARWAZI, BADAQSHANI | 65 | ARORA               |
| 32 | AFSHARI             | 66 | KYRGYZ              |
| 33 | NURISTANI, GRANGALI | 67 | PARYA               |
| 34 | TURK                |    |                     |



# Being the *Church* to Refugees

**W**e, from the Crossover Global Central Asian base, sent teammates to the Border City\* to see how we could help Afghan refugees the first day of the crisis in Afghanistan. The only thing that separates the Border City from Afghanistan is a river, in fact from the banks of the river you can see the homes of the Afghans.

Once we arrived at the Border City, we could sense that our country, the Blue Country\*, was ready to help the Afghan refugees.

A local brother from the Border City, named K, helped us to understand the situation better and find refugees who were in need of help. K explained to us how he believed God prepared him to work with Afghan people. After he became a believer, God put a love for the Afghans in his heart and he was already serving them prior to the crisis. K has been able to give us a lot of information about how to help. The way things fell into place has helped us to see how God prepared His people to help during this difficult situation.

While at the Border City, we discovered that there are two refugee camps there. One is for military personnel and the other is for families, children, and the elderly.

Some of the refugees are flocking to our country across the river in small boats. Usually if this happens, the border guards would open fire on them, however because of the situation, the guards decided not to shoot them. Instead, these refugees are greeted and brought to the camps. We have been told by locals that while many refugees are coming across the river, some are not able to enter our country this way. The refugees who could not cross the river, began to hide anywhere they could, in the fields, mountains, and some hid in houses. So many people were hiding, serious investigations have started along the region of the Border City to try and locate the Afghan refugees.

We have two house churches near the Afghan border. Two of our teammates went to serve with them. These teammates are calling all the surrounding churches in the region of the Border City to unite and serve the Afghan people together.

The first thing our churches are preparing to do is find refugees, accept them, and help them. The churches believe the refugees will need a lot of help in the coming days and we are doing what we can to be ready to give that help. The believers at the border region are united as the Church, the Body of Christ, and have already been serving as the hands and feet of Christ. We believe as the local church we must always be ready to serve! Even though we are small and persecuted in our country, we know God will use us for His glory and because He loves all nations.

There is also a university and high school that is being used for Afghan refugees at the Border City. This university and school have been a great blessing in helping us serve the Afghan people. We have connected with several underground student believers at the University that are from Afghanistan. We are forming a relationship with them and connecting them to our underground house churches. In our underground house churches, we even have some believers who want to devote their time to working with these Afghans.

In the high school, there are Afghan teachers that were working in the Blue Country before the crisis broke out. Fortunately, they did not have to go Afghanistan over summer break but now their visas for the Blue Country will run out and they cannot extend them. These teachers are afraid that our country will force them to return to Afghanistan. They are in a difficult position. On one hand, their relatives are in Afghanistan and they wish to be with them, but on the other hand, if our government sends them back they will be in danger. Our team is working with the families of these teachers. We have brought them to the capital city of the Blue Country for temporary residence.

Every day there are new things our team is trying to do to help the Afghan people. For example:

- We are trying to invite Afghan believers to our country by using travel agencies.
- We were informed that 70 Afghan believers are ready to come to our country. They asked the believers in our churches to meet them and help them. We will help these believers by opening up our homes and have them stay with us. So far, we have two houses ready and we plan to have more available..
- Our team has been to the Border City twice and we are preparing for a third trip, specifically to find and help those who have come across the river.

The situation is changing every day and the work is difficult. In our country, churches have to be hidden, so we have to be cautious as we help Afghan refugees. But we also believe that we have the Hope that can truly help them. It is our prayer that out of the crisis the Lord will expand His Church and we will see churches planted among the Afghan people.

*This article was written by the Executive Director of the Central Asian Base*

*\*For the security of our team, we are referring to the city where they are working along the border as the "Border City" and their country as the "Blue Country."*





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the Great Commission and see unreached  
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