

PRESS KIT



IRAN ALIVE
MINISTRIES

TRANSFORMING IRAN INTO A CHRISTIAN NATION — ONE SOUL AT A TIME

WWW.IRANALIVE.ORG

Dr. Hormoz Shariat
Founder and President of Iran Alive

Dr. Hormoz Shariat has been called "the Billy Graham of Iran" and "the most influential Iranian American" by the best-selling author, Joel Rosenberg. Dr. Shariat has been doing ministry among Muslim-born Iranians as a Muslim background believer for the last 40 years.

Dr. Shariat grew up in Iran in a Muslim home and became a follower of Jesus in 1980 after a comparative study of the Bible and Quran. He has a Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence from the University of Southern California (USC) and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Bible and Theology from Jessup University. In 1987, he planted a church in San Jose, CA. With hundreds of Muslim converts, it remains one of the largest churches of its kind in the US.



In 2000, Dr. Shariat followed the Lord's lead and founded Iran Alive Ministries, which utilizes Satellite TV to reach the millions of lost and broken people in Iran and the rest of the Middle East. Today, they broadcast the Gospel 24/7 from their studio in Dallas to Iran and the Middle East, trusting the Lord to use them to transform an Islamic nation, which is responding to the Gospel unlike any other time in history.

His passion for Muslims stems in part because of the murder of his brother, Hamraz, who was arrested in Iran at the young age of 16 on a minor political charge. After two years in jail, he was executed by firing squad. God showed him the best way to respond to this tragedy was to dedicate his life to loving Muslims and sharing the Gospel with as many of them as possible.

Dr. Shariat is also passionate about serving Americans by providing inside information about Iran and how it impacts the US. He strives to help us make sense of current events in the Middle East from both a Christian and a former Muslim perspective. He helps us understand Islam and the reasons behind the actions of Muslims in Iran. By pairing his own experience with stories and testimonies from Persians who are currently living in Iran, Dr. Shariat encourages, inspires and surprises listeners with information about the Iran they may not know existed.

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Dr. Shariat firmly believes that Iran will be the first Islamic nation that turns to Christ. It is ready for a major transformation—spiritually, socially, financially and politically, and it will be a Christian nation soon as prophesied in Jeremiah 49:38.

He is the author of the book, “Iran’s Great Awakening,” which is the number one source of information about what is happening in Iran today, Dr. Shariat shares his spiritual journey out of Islam to Christianity, Biblical prophesies about Iran and the strategies to transform a nation like Iran.

Through satellite, Dr. Shariat has been broadcasting the Gospel into Iran and the Middle East since 2001 and has seen tens of thousands of Iranian Muslims come to Christ. His channel, Shabakeh7, is the most watched Christian channel in Iran with over 6 million daily viewers (7.7% of the population) and over 20 million who watch it weekly. Using media, he has developed a large underground church network in Iran as well.

Hormoz's ministry has been featured in Christianity Today, Charisma, World Magazine and other publications. He has been a guest on various radio and TV stations such as CBN’s 700 Club, Daystar and TBN. Hormoz is a frequent speaker at the Voice of the Martyrs conferences.

Lily Meschi
Director of Partner Relations for Iran Alive

With a passion “to live life on purpose,” Lily Meschi serves in ministry for Iran Alive as the Director of Partners Relations. Through her own experiences as an Iranian Woman, Lily offers profound insight into the current protests in Iran for women’s rights.

Lily was born and raised in a Muslim family in Tehran, Iran. At the age of 18, her family moved to the U.S. Through a chain of painful hardships relating to her rights as an Iranian woman, Lily came to discover Christianity. In her freedom found in her own testimony, she has developed a heart for Iranian women who, like herself, have undergone similar oppression and loneliness.

Lily often speaks on the corrupt practices of arranged marriages of young women to older men in the Middle East, amongst other norms in their societies. She takes pride in working at Iran Alive Ministries, where she is able to speak about cultural dispositions such as arranged marriages and the strong grip of abusive male domination in the culture.

Lily first heard about Iran Alive Ministries from a satellite television program. Encouraged in hearing the Gospel from an Iranian woman in a way she could understand, her passion for Christianity grew—so much so that she went on to pursue education in Bible college, learning more about the faith and history of Christianity.

Professionally, she’s operated in several Fortune 500 companies, boutique retail banking institutions and in wholesale investing in the financial industry. Today, she works full-time alongside Dr. Shariat for Iran Alive Ministries. She has recently been featured in the following media: Life Today, Charisma Magazine, The Stream, iHOPE Ministries podcast, Mission News Network, In Awe by Bruce, and Faith Radio.

In ministering to the very culture from which she came, her prayer for each of the women in Iran is that they will come to know Jesus as she has and that they might experience true freedom, joy, and life in abundance. She longs to share the hope she has found with others; likewise, these women have the potential to lead multitudes of freed women following in their wake, finding Jesus through their own testimonies.



As the news outlets have reported, the Islamic government of Iran is at the verge of collapse. Iran Alive believes we need to be awake and alert to work where God is working.

Iran Alive Ministries, which began 24 years ago, is using modern technology to share the Gospel, train and equip believers and fuel a discipleship-making movement in Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. Through the use of satellite and virtual platforms, the ministry can reach an estimated 130 million viewers. The vision of Iran Alive is to transform Iran into a Christian Nation, in THIS Generation, believing what scripture says about Elam (modern day Iran) in Jeremiah 49:38 – “I will set my throne in Elam, declares the LORD.”

Iran Alive broadcasts a 24/7 Satellite channel into the Middle East and Central Asia and received the 2024 International Impact Media Award from National Religious Broadcasters. An independent survey has shown that it is the most watched Christian channel in Iran with 7.7% of the population (6 million) saying that “this is our favorite channel and we watch it daily.” Thousands of Iranians are coming to Christ each year through this ministry.

In addition to broadcasting, Iran Alive has planted one of the largest underground church networks inside Iran. It has a three-year online training, discipleship and leadership development school with over 3,000 students being equipped and mobilized to serve the Lord wherever they are.

According to the latest release of the Operation World Manual, Iran has the fastest growing evangelical population in the entire world. This is not because it has grown from 10 people to hundreds of people but because it has exploded from hundreds of Persians to hundreds of thousands of Persians and continues to grow exponentially. At a 19.6% growth rate, the Evangelical population is doubling every four years.

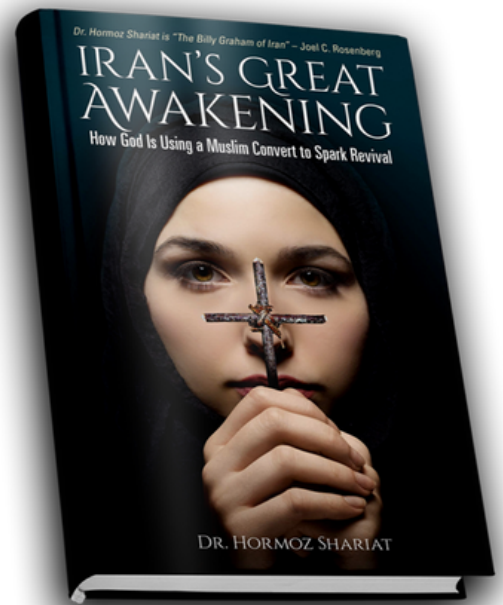
Afghanistan is number two on the list, while Tajikistan ranks 10th, making three of the top ten fastest growing Evangelical populations on the planet Farsi-speaking countries reached by the Iran Alive satellite broadcasts.

More Persians have come to Christ in the years since the Islamic revolution in 1979 than in the 1,400 years prior – combined.

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About the book - Iran's Great Awakening

In the mid 1980's, Dr. Shariat together with his wife, prayed, "Lord, use us to save Iran!" His passion for Muslims stems, in part, because of the murder of his brother, Hamraz, who was arrested in Iran at the age of 16 on a minor political charge. After two years in jail, he was executed by firing squad. God showed Dr. Shariat the best way to respond to this tragedy was to dedicate his life to bring one million Muslims to salvation in Christ. Join Dr. Shariat on a journey out of bondage to Islam to freedom in Christ. Learn what the Bible says about Iran and why Iran is just the beginning of something big, eternal, and of historical proportion that is already happening! God said, "I am going to do a great work in Iran and change that nation forever, and I am giving you the honor to be a part of it." Iran's Great Awakening (<https://iranalive.org/irans-great-awakening>) is divided into three parts:



- Dr. Shariat's personal journey from growing up in Iran and being vocal about his hatred of the West, to living in the U.S. and reaching over 20 million Iranians and Farsi-Speaking people each week with the gospel of Christ. Part one also shares the vision he received after his brother was murdered by the Islamic Government of Iran - to bring 1 million Iranians to Christ.
- A deep study of the prophecies about Iran in the Bible, and what the future holds for the country.
- A strategic plan on how we can inspire change in Iran and help these prophecies come to life.

Facts and stats about Iran and Iran Alive Ministries

- Iran has the fastest growing evangelical community in the world.
- Only 1/3 of Iranians currently identify as Muslim.
- More Christians have come to Christ since the 1979 Iranian Revolution than in the previous 1,400 years combined!
- Broadcasting into Iran only costs \$25/minute.
- The ministry of Iran Alive reaches an average of 6 million Farsi-speakers each day and over 20 million each week.
- Iran Alive has distributed 200,000+ Bibles in the country since 2001.
- Iran Alive has seen 75,000+ documented decisions for Christ since 2001.
- 2,500+ students are currently enrolled in Iran Alive's online equipping school being trained to serve the Lord.
- Iran Alive received the 2024 International Impact Media Award from National Religious Broadcasters.
- People can text the word, "Iran" to 85789 for more information about Iran Alive Ministries.

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Personal questions about Dr. Hormoz Shariat:

- How did you come to know Jesus?
- How did the murder of your brother impact your life?
- What caused you to switch the direction of your life from a research scientist in the field of AI to the founder of Iran Alive Ministries?
- How did you get interested in Artificial Intelligence? How do you see AI impacting the world? Impacting your ministry?

About the current protests in Iran (as of February, 2023)

- What do you see as the catalysts leading up to the unrest in Iran following the death of Mahsa Amini?
- How is Iran Alive Ministries helping Iranians during the protests and upheaval?
- How has your ministry changed amid the turmoil?
- What stories, miracles, or Biblical prophecy fulfilled are you seeing right now?
- What is the future of Iran, as we're seeing it transform?

About Modern-day Iran as a Christian nation, and in biblical prophecy:

- According to the Operation World Manual, Iran has the fastest growing evangelical population in the world. What causes this fast growth?
- What does the Bible say about the future of Iran?
- What do Iranians think about USA?
- What is the future of Iran and Israel according to the Bible?
- In Jeremiah 49:38 the Lord says, "I will set my throne in Elam." What does that mean?
- Ezekiel 38 says that Iran will attack Israel. How does that compare to Jeremiah 49?
- What does the Bible say about Iran?
- Jesus is appearing to Muslims. Tell us about it.
- Tell us how Jesus is working among Muslims through visions, dreams and miracles. Share some stories.
- How do the "Death to USA" and "Death to Israel" rallies we see in the news play into biblical prophecy?
- What caused Iranians to reject Islam?
- Why do you believe that Iran will be the first Islamic Nation to turn to Christ?
- Does the Bible say that Iran will be a Christian nation?
- How is the underground church in Iran doing?
- Help us understand the current political and religious situation in Iran, from both a Christian and Muslim perspective.
- Why and how the Islamic government of Iran is persecuting Christians.
- Share some stories about the courage of the persecuted Christians in Iran.

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

About Iran Alive:

- How is Iran Alive reaching Iran for the Gospel?
- How can people learn more Iran Alive?
- How can people partner with you?
- How can people obtain your book, "Iran's Great Awakening"?
- How can Iran Alive broadcast into Iran? Doesn't the government try to stop it?
- Share some impactful stories of Muslims coming to faith in Jesus.

About Iran Alive Ministries

Iran Alive broadcasts a 24/7 Satellite channel into the Middle East and Central Asia with 130 potential viewers. An independent survey has shown that it is the most watched Christian channel in Iran with 7.7% of the population (6 million) saying that "this is our favorite channel and we watch it daily." In addition to broadcasting, Iran Alive has planted one of the largest underground church networks inside Iran. It has an online training school with over 2000 students being equipped to serve the Lord wherever they are.

Information and updates on Iran Alive Ministry's work can be accessed through this form. For more information on Iran Alive Ministries, text "Iran" to 85789.