

## Kunzakh Avar - Russia

dah-gah-STAH-nee AH-var

The Avar are one of the largest native people groups living in Dagestan. Residing mostly within the Caucasus Mountain region, they are very devoted to traditional family values. The basic unit of Avar society is the village community. A village assembly and a council of elders govern each community. Sunni Islam has been the prevailing religion of the Avar since the 13th century. Between the 5th and 12th centuries, Georgian Orthodox Christianity was introduced to the Avar. However, the influence of Islam was more lasting. Today the Avar are almost completely Muslim. They hold fast to their religion. Tradition seems to keep them from being receptive to the gospel. The New Testament is available in the Avar language, as well as other communication tools, such as the JESUS Film and gospel recordings.

## **Ministry Obstacles**

The Caucasus region is difficult to enter for geographical reasons, and the people of the region are very insular. The Russian government also prevents outsiders from getting in.

## **Scripture Focus**

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Psalm 8:1

## **Prayer Focus**

Help this people group to know from the heart and the head that the Lord is great!

Pray for a just peace in the Caucasus region. Pray that Christianity would be seen as a relationship with Christ rather than as a political or cultural identity. There may be a few Christian believers among the Avar. Pray they would be accurately taught the ways of Christ, resting fully in his finished work on the cross, and trusting his Spirit for an abundant life.



Photo Source: Frontier Ventures.

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| People Name:                             | Avar, Kunzakh     |
| Pronunciation:                           | AH-var            |
| Country:                                 | Russia            |
| 10/40 Window:                            | No                |
| Population:                              | 1,009,000         |
| World Popl:                              | 1,015,900         |
| Main Language:                           | Avar              |
| Main Religion:                           | Islam             |
| Scripture:                               | New Testament     |
| Online NT:                               | Yes               |
| Jesus Film:                              | Yes               |
| Audio Recordings:                        | Yes               |
| Christ Followers:                        | Few, less than 2% |
| Status:                                  | Unreached         |
| Progress Level:                          |                   |

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