

Guinea

The Republic of Guinea on the west coast of Africa is 85% Muslim. Before they claimed independence in 1958 the nation was known as French Guinea, although the French who colonised the nation had little influence on the spread of Islam here. The capital, Conakry, boasts the largest mosque in West Africa, the Grand Mosque, which can hold 10 000 worshippers!

In February 2021, southeastern Guinea had an outbreak of Ebola virus. Ebola is a virus that spreads from wild animals to humans and then spreads among humans, causing severe illness and death. Ebola has a very high fatality rate - up to 90% in some outbreaks. In 2013, an outbreak that began in the same area of Guinea

lasted for three years and spread around West Africa, killing over 11 000 people. So when the 2021 outbreak began in Guinea, health authorities responded very quickly, using what they had learned from the previous outbreak in this region. As a result of swift action and cooperation among healthcare workers they were able to contain the outbreak, with 16 cases resulting in only 12 deaths over a period of four months.

About 8% of the population of Guinea are Christian and the nation does have freedom of religion. Both Muslims and Christians will also incorporate traditional, indigenous rituals into their religious practices.

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*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from
the pit, who crowns you with
steadfast love and mercy,*

PSALM 103:2-4

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How can we pray?

Ebola is not the only health concern in Guinea. Pray for development in health care in this nation and for the ongoing work into disease prevention and treatment.

Pray for Christians in Guinea to be well disciplined, mature and effective in sharing the love of Christ.

Pray for Muslims in Guinea to encounter Jesus and follow Him.