## Ukraine

Only about 1% of the population of Ukraine are Muslims - it is an Orthodox Christian nation. But Muslims in Ukraine began assisting Ukrainians when Russian invaded in February 2022.

Most of the Muslims in Ukraine are Turkic people. Some, like the Crimean Tatars are no strangers to conflict over their homeland. Chechen Muslims also have a history of conflict with Russia which brought them to Ukraine - some of them see the recent Russian invasion as a continuation of a historic conflict.

Muslims who remained in Ukraine did what they could to celebrate Ramadan last year amidst the sounds of war and a shortage of food. There are stories of those who remained in Ukraine, helping others to escape and caring for those left behind.

The impact of the war in Russia and Ukraine, where much of the world's wheat supply is grown, has caused a rise in the price of the essential grain. This has had an impact in many Muslim nations, such as Tunisia, Lebanon, Pakistan, and Egypt, who is the biggest importer of Ukrainian wheat.

With Ramadan occurring last year during the beginning of the conflict, some Muslims were moved to direct their Zakat to help Ukrainian refugees. Zakat is a payment, like a tithe, that Muslims are expected to give as an annual charity, usually 2.5% of their income. This year, giving may continue to go to needs generated by the war in Ukraine.

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

**JOHN 16:33** 

## How can we pray?

Pray for Muslim refugees from Ukraine, to find safety in new places and have help to rebuild their lives.

Pray for Muslims in Ukraine and in Russia, that they would find salvation from the Prince of Peace.

Pray for Christians helping Ukrainian Muslims to provide refuge, help, hope and the Good News of the gospel.