



ALBANIA

day 02

The Ottoman Empire ruled Albania from 1385 to 1912, and much of the population converted to Islam. After World War II, the communists took control of the country until 1985. During this time, there was no religious, civil, or political freedom. After the fall of Communism in 1991, democratic elections were held.

Albania remains one of the poorest countries in Europe. The capital of Tirana usually has electricity most of the day, but there are constant power outages in all other major cities, small towns, and rural villages. Despite these difficulties, Albania has been one of the major players in helping to resolve inter-ethnic conflict in the region. The country has opened up its borders to thousands of Kosovo refugees and has contributed peace-keeping troops in Bosnia.

The first wave of Albanian immigration to the United States occurred between 1892-1914. Most of the 20,000-30,000 Albanian migrants were young, male, Orthodox Christians or Muslims from Southern Albania who left their homes to improve their economic prospects or avoid service in the Turkish army. Many Albanian's have enjoyed success as owners of restaurants and small businesses or as construction and factory workers.

Although Albania prides itself as an atheistic country, many Albanians are returning to their Islamic roots. **Pray that Albanians will not cling to Islam for national identity. Pray that the youth and young adults who are becoming more agnostic and nominal in their Muslim faith will meet Christians who have a vibrant relationship with the Lord. Pray against the growing immorality in the Albanian community as they become more accustomed to Western culture.**



FAQS

SIZE

Larger than Maryland

POPULATION

3,600,523

CAPITAL

Tirana

LANGUAGE

Albanian

RELIGION

Islam, Orthodox

UPG'S

3

POP. IN CHICAGO

12,000-15,000

LOCATION

Edgewater,
Rogers Park

VISIT

Noli's Pizza
4839 N Kedzie Ave
Chicago, IL
773.588.0400

PSALM 67:1-2

"God be merciful to us and bless us. . . that Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations."

