

day 25

# SOMALIA



## FAQS

### SIZE

Smaller than Texas

### POPULATION

9,118,773

### CAPITAL

Mogadishu

### LANGUAGE

Somali

### RELIGION

Islam

### UPG'S

68

### POP. IN CHICAGO

300

### LOCATION

Albany Park,  
Edgewater

### VISIT

Banadir Restaurant  
6221 N Clark St  
Chicago, IL

Italy's former Trust Territory of Somalia in the South and the former British Protectorate of Somaliland in the North make up the country of Somalia today. In 1960, Italy and Britain relinquished rights to Somalia, and they received their independence. They formed a socialist government that was heavily dependent on the Soviet Union. In 1980 a civil war broke out between the North and South. This put the socialist regime against the ethnic groups in the North. With the collapse of the socialist government in 1991, various groups of Somali factions sought control of the country and fought small wars with each other. The United States was part of two operations that sought to end civil strife and bring stability to the country. Ethiopia was given the mandate to pursue Somali reconciliation. In 2000, they created a Transitional National Government that was to be in place for three years. The mandate has expired, and the country still lacks a central government.

In 1992, the United States sponsored "Operation Restore Hope," which resulted in a wave of refugees to Chicago. Most of these were ethnic rebels seeking asylum from political persecution while those connected with Somalia's governing regime went to Washington D.C. Most Somalis came to Chicago as refugees with a history of loss due to civil war, clan rivalries, and famine. They are predominately Muslim. **Pray for relationships to be built with Christians and healing to take place through the love of Christ. Pray that examples of healing and emotional restoration through the Gospel among Somalian believers will affect those who are becoming disillusioned with Islam.** Many gather culturally around Somali restaurants where Christians could have positive contact with them. **Pray for divine appointments with Christians.**



### REVELATION 5:9

"And they sang a new song, saying. . . 'For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation.'"