

day 29

TURKEY



FAQS

SIZE

Larger than Texas

POPULATION

71,158,647

CAPITAL

Ankara

LANGUAGE

Turkish

RELIGION

Islam

UPG'S

37

POP. IN CHICAGO

5,000

LOCATION

Albany Park, Edgewater, Rogers Park, Uptown

VISIT

Arkadash Cafe
5721 N Clark St
Chicago, IL
773.506.2233

The Republic of Turkey came into existence in 1923 after the collapse of the 600 year-old Ottoman Empire and a three-year war of independence. Turkey has control of the straits leading from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean and shares borders with Syria, Iraq, and Iran. Because of its location, Turkey is considered to be a “link” between the Orient (Chinese and Mongols) and the Occidental (Anglo-Saxons, Slavs, Goths, and Latins). The Turk, therefore, have a knowledge and mixture of both Eastern and Western cultures.

Turkey is the only secular republic with a majority of the population Muslim. Turkish law is not based on Islamic law, but is rather a republic modeled after the Swiss and French legal systems. Turkey has the fastest growing young population in the world. Only six percent of the population in Turkey are over the age of 65.

The first Turkish speakers, mostly young men, arrived in Chicago around the turn of the century seeking employment in heavy industry. Shortly after the founding of the Turkish Republic in 1923, Turkish immigration was severely curtailed with an official quota of 100 Turks allowed into the United States per year. Beginning in the 1950's, a number of highly educated Turks enrolled in universities, such as the University of Chicago and Northwestern University. They studied medicine and engineering. **Pray for a positive Christian witness and relationships with Christians to be developed in these areas.** Some of the minority people groups within Turkey, such as Kurds, have come to Chicago as refugees. Many of them are nominal Muslim. **Pray that they will meet and build relationships with Christians that will establish trust and provide an open door for the Gospel.** **Pray that Turks who have become Christian will make their faith public and evangelize other Turks.**

ISAIAH 60:1

“Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.”

