



FIFTH COURSE - CENTRAL ASIA

Know Your Place (Mat) Quiz

1. What is 'kumis'?
2. Historically, what is meant by 'The Silk Road'?
3. How many Central Asian 'stans' are on the World Watch List?

The Open Doors World Watch List will help you answer questions about the persecuted church. (Hint: the answers are on a plate!)

Persecuted pastors in Central Asia

Central Asia is often a 'forgotten' region. But Christians in Central Asia have not forgotten Jesus. Pastor Alim's church meets around a meal. Pastor Vasily distributes Christian books. Brother Viktor gossips the gospel – and Pastor Dimitry simultaneously runs a church, a tile-making business and a hostel for homeless and addicts. All these things are risky in Central Asian countries where believers face discrimination, arrest, imprisonment and even violence for their faith.

Pastor Alim says, "Open Doors helps us – not to avoid persecution – but to endure it, and to keep our hearts in peace and continue our ministry in spite of persecution. And this is important: not to keep someone from persecution, but to help them live through it."

Food for thought: When have you prayed because you've been fearful?

I SOUGHT THE LORD, AND HE ANSWERED ME;
HE DELIVERED ME FROM ALL MY FEARS.

PSALM 34: 4



OpenDoors

60 years of serving persecuted Christians

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Brother Viktor* in Central Asia

Choosing to be a Christian in Central Asia makes you very much the odd one out. More than that, it can be dangerous – as Brother Viktor discovered.

Brother Viktor was a taxi driver who loved listening to Christian CDs in his car and talking to his customers about Jesus. Sometimes it led to some interesting chats, but it also got him into trouble. One day, he got beaten up. He was badly hurt and couldn't go back to his job. He had to find a new way of earning money to feed his family – but it wasn't easy. So he prayed.

After talking to his church leader and getting some help from Open Doors, he's now doing something completely different: raising quails and selling their eggs!

Question: Have you ever called on God? Did you get an answer?

Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for hearing our prayers. Please look after Christians in Central Asia who are in danger because they tell others about your love.



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Bible: Psalm 34:4-5

I went to the Lord for help, and he listened. He saved me from all that I fear. If you look to him for help, he will put a smile on your face. You will have no need to be ashamed.

*Name changed for security reasons

