

## Christ Changes a Muslim Medical Doctor

“My grandfather was an imam. I saw inconsistencies in Islam that bothered me. People prayed, fasted... on the outside, but on the inside there was lying, stealing, cheating, and immorality. Once as an innocent child I asked the *mue'zzin* why he was not giving the call to prayer louder. His voice was so soft. He said: ‘I raise my voice according to the pay they give me!’ I had a Christian friend in school who told me about Jesus... but I didn't pay much attention... I thought that Jesus was only a prophet like other prophets... I did not allow myself to think much about it....

“After I became a doctor, I had a chance to study other ideas and cultures besides my own. I found that many of my questions about the problems of everyday life, woman's role, marriage, polygamy, disparity between rich and poor... had no answers in the Qur'an. In the past, I posed these questions to the imams, but they had no answers either. Rather, they ridiculed me and threatened me, saying that I was going over the limits even by merely asking.

“More importantly, there were deeper questions not answered by the Qur'an: Who is God? Where is He? How did He create everything? What is the meaning of life? At this point, I started to study the Christian gospel. I also became acquainted with a Christian nurse at the hospital where I worked. She kept saying that Jesus Christ was the answer in different ways—through His miracles, knowledge, and teaching. But still her answers did not make an impression on me. I still thought that Jesus was only a prophet and didn't know much about His teachings.

“One time a pregnant woman needed a Caesarean section to save her and the baby... The closest hospital to us was forty kilometers away. All I had was my hands and the stethoscope. She was in danger. I found myself unintentionally saying, ‘Lord, help me.’ Then I felt the baby's position changing... both mother and baby were now safe. But I did not change my ideas. I continued to believe in Marxism. I asked my colleagues if any of them had a Bible. I couldn't find even one.

“Later, a young lady gave me a copy of the Bible. It said that Jesus is the only way to God. I put my faith in Him. I became a new creation! The Bible said that I should be baptized. I asked several pastors to baptize me. They all turned me down. They did not want to endanger themselves. As a Muslim convert in a Muslim country, baptism could mean imprisonment and death for me and the baptizer. Finally, I found someone who baptized me in his own home.

“I was frank with my family. I told them about my experience in Christ. Some members accepted what I did, others ridiculed me. My friends abandoned me. I was fired from my job because of that. I felt totally rejected. But I am reminded of the words of Jesus about those who confess Him or deny Him before men, and about those who put their hand to the plow who must not look back (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 9:62). Later, I married a Christian woman. After my marriage, I had a vision which greatly deepened my faith... I saw someone with white clothes come to me. This person told me that He was Jesus

Christ. He said, 'Follow Me.' He took my hand and started to lead me. He washed my hands in pure water and we sat down at one table and ate together. The food was delicious! Then I opened my eyes to find my wife right beside me. I told her the vision. We were both touched by it, and we knelt down together and prayed and worshiped God... Now I live away from my own country and cannot go back because I accepted Jesus... I have faith that Jesus will provide something good for me."