

PRAY FOR: MALDIVES



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MALDIVES

[📅 Monthly Prayer Calendar](#) [📅 August 23](#)

Tourists see the Maldives as an island paradise, but a darker reality hides below the surface. Powerful social and official forces limit freedom of expression and belief. The Maldives has one of the highest divorce rates in the world. Crime rates and gang activity both continue to rise. Child abuse and teenage drug abuse (among up to 70% of teens) indicate deep problems. Islam is the only recognized religion, and the government forbids open practice of all other religions. But beyond Islamic beliefs, many people follow occult practices called *fanditha*. Pray for the light of the gospel to shine among Maldivians. Pray against strongholds of pride, fear, and selfish pursuit of physical pleasures.

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KEY STATS

Continent:	Asia
Capital:	Malé
Population:	517,887
% Urban:	41.1 %
Population Under 15 Yrs:	19.9 %
Official Language:	Dhivehi (dialect of Sinhala, script derived from Arabic)
Languages:	2
Literacy Rate:	98 %
Life Expectancy:	79.9 yrs (46/236)
HDI Ranking:	90 / 189
% Christian:	0.2 %
% Evangelical:	0.1 %
Largest Religion:	Muslim

% Largest Religion:	99 %
People Groups:	7
Least Reached People Groups:	7
% Unevangelized:	76 %
Persecution Ranking:	15 / 50