

## SAT-7'S LEBANON TEAM OFFER SOLIDARITY IN HEALTHCARE CRISIS

Six months on from the Beirut blast, the pandemic is pushing Lebanon's healthcare system, and its economy, to breaking point. SAT-7's Beirut team have one message for their fellow Lebanese dealing with multiple overlapping crises: no matter their suffering, they are not alone, and God has not forgotten them.

"It is the hardest thing to turn away a patient because there is no room in your hospital," says Professor Pierre Yared, General Director at Lebanese University Hospital Geitawi. Speaking on SAT-7 ARABIC, Professor Yared gives an inside view on a crisis hitting headlines across the world: hospitals full; difficulties to find oxygen; people dying at home or in their cars, without access to care.

Professor Yared spoke on *You are Not Alone*, a program produced in Beirut that has been supporting Arabic-speakers through the pandemic. In a special episode in early February, the team raised awareness and reached out to affected viewers in a special program focused on the healthcare situation in Lebanon. Speaking directly to viewers, Professor Yared tried to allay their concerns with practical healthcare advice and encouragement.

With Lebanon currently locked down due to rising cases, the studio recently closed for one week. SAT-7 Lebanon Executive Director Maroun Bou Rached shares, "We needed to stop our production because we were at risk of losing our own people to COVID-19. Thankfully, the studios have been able to reopen and continue broadcasting programs including *You Are Not Alone*, which helps people to feel a sense of solidarity and hope."

"Through our programs, we raised awareness of the struggles of families in Beirut following the blast, and we have connected viewers with the appropriate help," says Juliana Sfeir, SAT-7 ACADEMY's Brand Manager. "The currency has been devalued by 80 percent. This means we cannot import medical supplies to help with the pandemic. Hospitals were also destroyed in the blast," she added.

"SAT-7 continues to reach as many people as possible with the message that God has not forgotten us. We are in His hands. And He will bring renewal and a new dawn to our country."

- **May God answer Juliana's prayer for renewal and a new dawn in Lebanon.**



# Prayer + News

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## #PRAY FOR LEBANON

[Video:](#)

**"God has not forgotten us. We are in His hands. And He will bring renewal and a new dawn to our country." - Juliana Sfeir**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_TNfUjdLTYI&feature=emb\\_logo&ab\\_channel=SAT-7International](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_TNfUjdLTYI&feature=emb_logo&ab_channel=SAT-7International)

## MAKING HOPE VISIBLE

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## SAT-7 LAUNCHED FIRST PROGRAMS MADE BY TUNISIAN CHRISTIANS

SAT-7 provides a new platform for Christians in Tunisia who are "passionate and eager" to share their faith with their society. As the country prepared to mark the tenth anniversary of the start of its "Jasmine Revolution" that sparked the "Arab Spring", SAT-7 announced its first new programs produced by Christians in Tunisia.

*Christmas in Tunisia* and a discussion show entitled *Standard Talk* are the first productions made by Perpetua, a new Christian production team in Tunis that is equipped and supported by SAT-7.

George Makeen, SAT-7 Arabic Channels International Director, says the Tunisian team is significant in several ways. "It is exciting to see a small, but active Tunisian Church of believers from non-Christian backgrounds, eager to go on screen and communicate with their society," he says. "They come with the passion to produce programs in different genres and to build capacity for the future. They are ambitious and optimistic.

"Tunisia is seen as a model by many in the Arab World. Christians coming from this culture, which is more tolerant of freedom of expression than elsewhere, can inspire the rest of the Arab world through their messages and faith."

The Tunisian team takes its company name, Perpetua, from one of the first North African Christian martyrs, who died in Carthage in the third century. Working with freelance media professionals, they shot *Christmas in Tunisia* on location. The program examined the Christian meaning behind the cultural expressions of Christmas in the country.

*Standard Talk* addresses Christian understandings of topics ranging from knowing God to family life. Both programs will go out on SAT-7 ARABIC alongside its extensive range of programs from Egypt and Lebanon, a growing number of broadcasts from Algeria, and other shows commissioned from Christian partners around the Arab World.

- **Please join SAT-7 in giving thanks for the Perpetua team. Ask that God will give them the skills, creativity, and understanding to produce output that will attract and speak to a wide and growing audience.**
- **Pray also for the development of SAT-7's wider programming for North Africa. Most believers there are only first- or second-generation Christians and most cannot meet openly.**



# MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers  
while reading their messages:

## FROM A VIEWER IN TURKEY

“There are no Christian youth nearby to be friends with my son. He is lonely. I worry about the influence of drug-using friends. Pray for his protection.

## FROM A VIEWER IN IRAN

“High rent, inflation, coronavirus, low employment, and heavy pressure from society are taking a toll. Pray I can find reasons for hope through Jesus.

## FROM A VIEWER IN AFGHANISTAN

“I gave my life to God, and my husband wanted to have me arrested. I treated him with love. Now he accepts my being a Christian and has stopped threatening me. Give thanks for this change. Pray that even more change will come.

## FROM A VIEWER IN IRAQ

“A figure in glowing white appeared in my dream and covered me with love like I had never felt before. Help me understand this figure and this love.

## FROM A VIEWER IN ALGERIA

“My brothers threatened to kill me if I go back to church, but I can watch church in my room on SAT-7. Pray for me and my family.



## TESTIMONIES INSPIRE ISOLATED NORTH AFRICAN CHRISTIANS

**A new program with inspiring testimonies from Algeria is airing in the North Africa program block on SAT-7 ARABIC. It is Written (Yura Di Tira in Tamazight) shares the stories of Amazigh (Berber) new Christians in short, 3-5-minute episodes.**

As a shepherd in a rural area in Algeria, Youssef had few opportunities to meet Christians. But, he shares on the program, a longing to know about Jesus burned inside him.

“I heard about Jesus Christ as some said He is God and the Son of God. Something inside me stirred, pushing me to find out more about Him. I bought the Bible in the Tamazight language, because I can’t read Arabic or French, and I began to learn more about Him.

“When I read the Bible, I learned that Jesus Christ is God. He’s the one Isaiah prophesied about, Emmanuel... God is with us. I then gave my life to Christ completely and accepted Him as my personal Saviour,” Youssef says.

Trusting in God’s power and sovereignty over his life, Youssef made the decision to pray, in the name of Jesus, for healing from an illness that had affected his life for four years. “I said, ‘Even if I die, my soul is going to heaven and I shall conquer this illness.’ Shortly after, I felt in my body that I was healed.”

## “Jesus came to me”

In a country where it is difficult to meet a believer who can share the Gospel, many new Christians describe how Jesus reached out to them through dreams. In another encouraging episode, a man named Hussein shares how he encountered Jesus.

“I heard that Jesus was a prophet who came to the Jews and to Westerners. It was difficult for me to accept Him at first. Jesus came to me in a dream. After that I was convinced that Jesus really exists, and I accepted Him into my life,” Hussein says.

## The Lord is close to the broken-hearted

Maria in Algeria shares her story of a broken heart: “I was born in a religiously conservative family. Being a girl, my parents pulled me out of school and told me that my place is at home. I got married at seventeen. In ten years I became a mother of seven children.

“My husband passed away, leaving me a young widow. It was a big challenge for me to raise my children alone, but some Christians in our village shared the Good News with us. First, my two boys accepted the Lord as their saviour. A few months later I decided to follow Jesus. He has wiped away my tears and healed my broken heart!”

## Pray for Samy in Algeria

“I grew up in a small village in Algeria and life has never been easy. My family is conservative and my father is a non-Christian religious leader. I never dared ask questions about God – until the day I watched the SAT-7 programme *My Church in Algeria*. I contacted a Christian leader who welcomed me to the church, and there I gave my life to Jesus. My family heard that I became a follower of Christ and my father kicked me out of his house for over a year. I’m thankful that God used my mother to convince him that everyone is free to choose his religion.”

- Please pray that these testimonies will help many others in Algeria and across the region to experience the light and hope of Jesus Christ, and that SAT-7 will be able to produce more programs in North Africa to connect isolated Christians to the larger family of Christ.