

WORLD CHRISTIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA

A comparative survey of churches and
religions in the modern world

SECOND EDITION

David B. Barrett
George T. Kurian
Todd M. Johnson

Volume 1:
The world by countries:
religionists, churches, ministries

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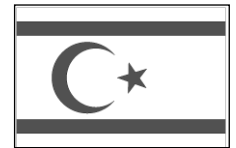
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NORTHERN CYPRUS



SECULAR DATA, AD 2000

STATE

Official name: Kuzey Kıbrıs Türk Cumhuriyeti (The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus).

Short name: Northern Cyprus. **Adjective of nationality:** Northern Cypriot.

Flag: White with a red crescent and star in the center, lined by two red horizontal stripes, on top and at the bottom.

Area: 3,335 sq. km. (1,288 sq. mi.).

Government: Republic, since 1974 (1925 British crown colony, 1960 Independence).

Legislature: Legislative Assembly, 50 members.

Official language: Turkish.

Monetary unit: 1 Cyprus pound = 100 cents. **US\$1=** *1.20.

Chief cities: LEFKOŞE (Levkosia-2, Nicosia-2) 42,085.

Political divisions: 1 province.

Armed forces: 500.

DEMOGRAPHY

Population: 185,000.

Population density: 55.4/sq. km. (143.6/sq. mi.).

Under 15 years: 43,000.

Growth rate p.a.: 0.79% (births 13.64, deaths 7.58).

Mortality: infant, per 1,000: 8.1; **Maternal per 100,000:** 40.0.

Life expectancy: 78 (male 76, female 81).

Household size: 3.0. **Floor area per person, sq.m:** 18.0.

Major languages: Turkish, Greek.

Urban dwellers: 56.77%. **Urban growth rate p.a.:** 1.00%.

Labor force: 40%.

ETHNOLINGUISTIC PEOPLES

89.5% Turkish Cypriot; 8.0% Greek Cypriot; 0.5% Yörük.

ECONOMY

National income p.a. per person: US\$12,402; **per family:** US\$37,207.

EDUCATION

Adult literacy: 85% (male 87%, female 83%). **Schools:** 80.

Universities: 2. **School enrolment:** female/male: 90%/90%.

HEALTH

Access to health services: 70%. **Access to safe water:** 100%.

Hospitals: 25 (15 beds per 10,000). **Doctors:** 250.

Blind: 150. **Deaf:** 11,100. **Murder rate:** 20. **Lepers:** 500.

LITERATURE

New book titles p.a.: 19 (100 p.a. per million). **Periodicals:** 0.

Newspapers: 0 dailies.

COMMUNICATION (per 1,000 people)

Phones: 350 (25% mobile). **Radios:** 220. **TV sets:** 100.

Daily newspaper circulation: 90. **Computers:** 50.

HUMAN LIFE AND LIBERTY (optimum condition=100.0%)

HDI: 88.2. **HSI:** 45.0. **HFI:** 25.0. **EFL:** 15.0.

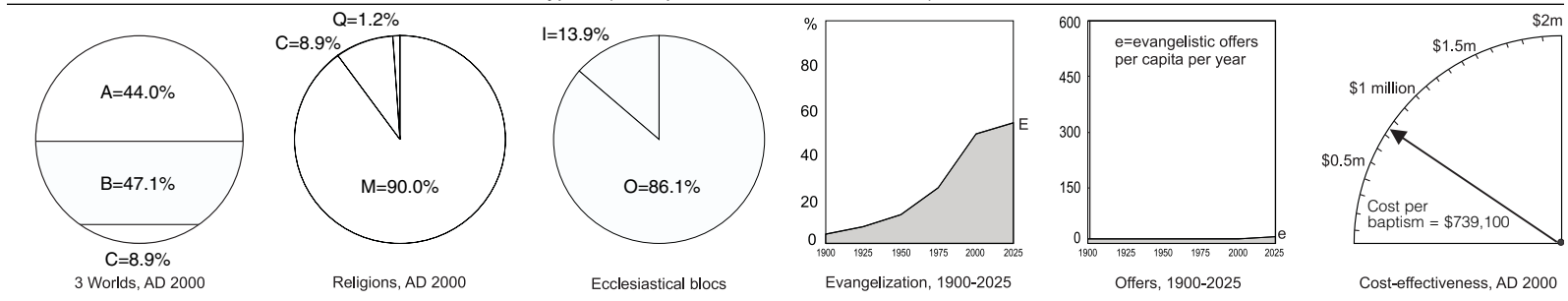
Country Table 1. Religious adherents in Northern Cyprus, AD 1900-2025.

Year	1900		1970		mid-1990		Annual change, 1990-2000			mid-1995		mid-2000		mid-2025			
	Name	Adherents	%	Adherents	%	Adherents	%	Natural	Conversion	Total	Rate	Adherents	%	Adherents	%	Adherents	%
Muslims	51,050	99.8	132,790	92.5	155,270	90.3	1,179	-56	1,123	0.70	162,190	90.1	166,496	90.0	188,900	89.1	
Christians	150	0.3	10,210	7.1	15,000	8.7	113	27	140	0.90	15,860	8.8	16,402	8.9	19,500	9.2	
<i>PROFESSION</i>																	
crypto-Christians	0	0.0	0	0.0	2,360	1.4	18	36	54	2.08	2,600	1.4	2,900	1.6	5,000	2.4	
professing Christians	150	0.3	10,210	7.1	12,640	7.4	96	-10	86	0.66	13,260	7.4	13,502	7.3	14,500	6.8	
<i>AFFILIATION</i>																	
unaffiliated Christians	0	0.0	0	0.0	300	0.2	2	-2	0	-0.13	300	0.2	296	0.2	500	0.2	
affiliated Christians	150	0.3	10,210	7.1	14,700	8.6	111	30	141	0.92	15,560	8.6	16,106	8.7	19,000	9.0	
Orthodox	150	0.3	10,000	7.0	12,850	7.5	97	5	102	0.77	13,500	7.5	13,870	7.5	15,000	7.1	
Independents	0	0.0	210	0.2	1,850	1.1	14	25	39	1.91	2,060	1.1	2,236	1.2	4,000	1.9	
<i>Trans-megabloc groupings</i>																	
Evangelicals	0	0.0	20	0.0	180	0.1	1	3	4	2.03	200	0.1	220	0.1	350	0.2	
Pentecostals/Charismatics	0	0.0	210	0.2	1,720	1.0	13	33	46	2.40	2,060	1.1	2,180	1.2	2,700	1.3	
Great Commission Christians	150	0.3	2,750	1.9	3,970	2.3	30	21	51	1.21	4,200	2.3	4,479	2.4	5,600	2.6	
Nonreligious	0	0.0	1,000	0.7	1,730	1.0	13	29	42	2.18	1,950	1.1	2,147	1.2	3,600	1.7	
World A (unevangelized persons)	48,950	95.7	114,727	79.9	84,968	49.4	647	-1,010	-363	-0.44	84,060	46.7	81,400	44.0	76,532	36.1	
World B (evangelized non-Christians)	2,049	4.0	18,651	13.0	72,032	41.9	545	983	1,528	1.93	80,080	44.5	87,198	47.1	115,968	54.7	
World C (Christians)	150	0.3	10,210	7.1	15,000	8.7	113	27	140	0.90	15,860	8.8	16,402	8.9	19,500	9.2	
Country's population	51,150	100.0	143,589	100.0	172,000	100.0	1,305	0	1,305	0.73	180,000	100.0	185,000	100.0	212,000	100.0	

COLUMNS, ROWS. For meanings and definitions, see Codebook (Part 3). Note that, by definition, total 'Christians' = professing + crypto-Christians, which also = affiliated + unaffiliated Christians, and also = Great Commission Christians + latent Christians. Percentages may not always total exactly, due to rounding.

NOTES ON RELIGION
MUSLIMS. Almost all Hanafi Sunnis, with a very few Shias.
ORTHODOX. Mainly Greek merchants and their families.

Great Commission Instrument Panel: status of Northern Cyprus (for explanation see start of Part 4)



Country status. Northern Cyprus is the northern 37% of the island of Cyprus in the Mediterranean Sea south of Turkey. Its principal exports are fruits and clothing.

HUMAN LIFE AND LIBERTY

Human rights and freedoms. The Republic of Northern Cyprus is a puppet state created by Turkey after the Turkish invasion of the island in 1974. The illegal state has not been recognized by any government other than Turkey. The republic has the distinction of being one of the most heinous violators of human rights in the world, committing all kinds of atrocities against the Greek Cypriots, including confiscation of property, rape, murder, pillage and plunder of artistic treasures, destruction of churches, arrest and detention without cause and torture. The republic is run arbitrarily by Turks who also have looted the public treasury. Because no other nation in the world trades with this state, its economy is in ruins. The UN has been present since 1964 as a peace keeping presence. Christian presence has nearly disappeared.

Human environment. The Mesaoria is a broad plain that runs east to west on the island and opens to the sea at either end. This was once rich with forests whose timber was the prize of ancient conquerors for sailing vessels. Centuries-long deforestation has damaged the islands drainage system and its year round water supply access. In the summer all of the island's rivers are dry. Dams and waterways are being constructed to bring water to farming areas.

NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS

Islam is dominant. Virtually the entire Turkish population is Islamic, consisting of nearly 90% of the

population of TRNC. Most of its adherents are Sunnis of the Hanafi sect. The few Shias belong for the most part to dervish orders, mainly the Ticani, Mevlevi, and Bektasi. The office of the Evkaf serves the religious needs of the Muslims of the republic. Muslim influence was birthed from the Ottoman Empire reign of the island from 1571-1878.

CHRISTIANITY

ORTHODOX CHURCH. The apostles Paul and Barnabas visited Salamis, Barnabas' birthplace, in AD 46, and Barnabas later became the first bishop of Cyprus. In 441 the third ecumenical council of Ephesus discussed the separation of the Church of Cyprus from the Church of Antioch, and during the reign of the eastern emperor Zeno (474-491) the Cypriot church received autocephalous status along with the patriarchates of Antioch, Jerusalem, Alexandria, and Constantinople. From the 8th to the 10th centuries, Cyprus was subjected to a series of Arab raids, after which a considerable number of monasteries were built. In 1054, the schism between the Eastern and Western churches became a reality. At the invitation of the Latin king Gui de Lusignan, the initial immigration of Maronites from Lebanon to Cyprus occurred during the Crusades at the end of the 12th century. Their number ultimately reached 80,000 divided into 60 villages. The Maronite archdiocese of Cyprus was founded in 1352. From the 12th to the 15th centuries Cyprus was ruled by followers of the Latin rite, the Franks and then the Genoese, who placed a Latin hierarchy over both the Latin and Orthodox churches. When Venice gained control of Cyprus in 1489, it relaxed many of the former restrictions on the Eastern church, but antagonism between the 2 churches continued. Many Gothic churches and cathedrals were built during this period of domination by the Latin church. When the Turks invaded the island in 1572, they restored the Orthodox church to its former position in recognition of its help in the war against Venice. The Latin church was banished. The Maronites were also persecuted because of their alliances with the Lusignan dynasty and later the Venetians. Some returned to Lebanon, including the Maronite bishop, while other converted to the Orthodox church or Islam. Only a small minority of Maronites remained in Cyprus. Franciscans, who had first come to Cyprus in 1226 during the lifetime of Francis of Assisi, were later given permis-

sion to re-establish the Latin rite at Nicosia and Larnaca. Through the Muslim policy of using the religious leader of a conquered people as their political leader, the archbishop (ethnarch) of the Orthodox church increased in power, being given responsibility for collecting taxes and maintaining law and order. By the beginning of the 19th century both Greeks and Turks were restive under this growing domination, and in 1821 following the Greek war of independence the ethnarch and several of his closest collaborators were executed. In 1878 Cyprus came under British influence, formal annexation following in 1914. Agitation for union with Greece (enosis) gradually increased among the Greeks under British rule, with church leaders playing an active part; and in 1956 the ethnarch, archbishop Makarios, was banished from the island. He was later allowed to return and was elected president in 1959. Formal independence was declared in August 1960.

OTHER CHURCHES. Four Christian groups are present in the TRNC serving the community. They are the Anglican church of St Andrew in Kyrenia, the Roman Catholic church also in Kyrenia, the Maronite Church of Ayios Georgios in Korucam, and the Greek Orthodox Church at Dipkarpaz

The Holy See has no diplomatic relations with Northern Cyprus in AD 2000.

Indigenous missions. Though today predominately Muslim, Northern Cyprus has a long and significant history of missionary sending. Missionaries were sent out from Northern Cyprus for many centuries, interrupted by the Turkish invasion in 1572. Though the Orthodox church sent some missionaries after this time, relatively few have been sent out in the 20th century, virtually stopping completely with declared independence in 1974.

CHURCH AND STATE

Article 23 of the Constitution of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus states in section one that all have the freedom of conscience, religious faith, and opinion. This guarantees everyone in TRNC the right of religious freedom without interference from the State. Section 4 states that religious education and teaching is to be carried out by the supervision and control of the State. Islam is the recognized religion of the TRNC and Turkish Cypriots have joined the Islamic Conference Organization. While freedom of religion is stated, no open Christian activity is permitted.



Oratory in Buyuk Han, Nicosia.

Country summary. Worlds A, B, C by ethnolinguistic peoples, cities, and major civil divisions in Northern Cyprus.

World	PEOPLES							CITIES							CIVIL DIVISIONS						
	Num	Pop 2000	C%	Christians	E%	U%	Unevangelized	Num	Pop 2000	C%	Christians	E%	U%	Unevangelized	Num	Pop 2000	C%	Christians	E%	U%	Unevangelized
A	1	925	0.00	0	45	55	509	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0
B	2	169,316	1.82	3,079	52	48	80,848	1	42,085	11.00	4,629	58	42	17,541	1	185,045	8.70	16,106	56	44	81,374
C	1	14,804	88.00	13,028	100	0	18	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0
Total	4	185,045	8.70	16,107	56	44	81,375	1	42,085	11.00	4,629	58	42	17,541	1	185,045	8.70	16,106	56	44	81,374

BROADCASTING AND MEDIA

Turkish Cypriot media is free and the publishing and airing of any views and ideas is permitted without restriction. Christian radio is broadcast over Greek Cyprus radio and TV station BRT has daily broadcast in Greek, English, and Turkish. News, music, current affairs, movies, and docu-dramas make up the program content.

FUTURE TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

Christianity is expected to grow slowly but remain be-

low 10% of the population through AD 2025. Christianity is not expected to grow beyond 15% of the population in the foreseeable future. Islam will likely dominate throughout the 21st century.

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Country Table 2. Organized churches and denominations in Northern Cyprus.

Official name (bold type = church with over 10% of all affiliated)	Begun	Type	Counc	Congs	Adults	Affiliated 1970	Affiliated 1995	G%	Names, notes, and other statistics (see Codebook, Part 3)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Greek Orthodox Church	46	O-Gre	C.....	6	9,000	10,000	13,500	0.05	2 Dioceses: Kyrenia, Morphou. Residual Greeks, especially merchants, subject to Turkish law. Turkish Cypriot converts, some expatriates.
Independent home meetings	c1965	I-3hZ	2	40	10	60	7.43	
Isolated radio churches	c1960	I-3rW	100	1,300	200	2,000	9.65	
Totals				108	10,340	10,210	15,560		
<i>Churches, members, growth, 1900-2025</i>				<i>Congs</i>	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Affiliated</i>	<i>G%</i>	<i>Total denominations</i>	<i>6 Megablocs:</i>
Total churches, members, and denominations (mid-1900)				2	90	150	6.21	1	O R A P I m
Total churches, members, and denominations (mid-1970)				16	6,106	10,210	6.21	3	1 0 0 0 0 0
Total churches, members, and denominations (mid-1990)				100	9,800	14,700	1.84	3	1 0 0 0 2 0
Total churches, members, and denominations (mid-1995)				108	10,340	15,560	1.14	3	1 0 0 0 2 0
Total churches, members, and denominations (mid-2000)				120	10,700	16,106	0.69	3	1 0 0 0 2 0
Total churches, members, and denominations (mid-2025)				140	12,600	19,000	0.66	11	1 0 0 0 10 0