CORNERSTONE

Cornerstone - Global Ministries

One Nation at a Time – HAITI

Grace and peace to you in our Lord! In order to facilitate a global perspective amongst the staff and communities, we have put together a template to encourage the body to pray for a specific country and partnership each week.

Pray for All People:

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, **2** for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. **3** This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

--1 Timothy.2:1-4

"...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."
--James.5:16b

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at 805.581.9532 or e-mail:
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The Country

The native Taino Amerindians - who inhabited the island of Hispaniola when it was discovered by COLUMBUS in 1492 - were virtually annihilated by Spanish settlers within 25 years. In the early 17th century, the French established a presence on Hispaniola. In 1697, Spain ceded to the French the western third of the island, which later became Haiti. The French colony, based on forestry and sugar-related industries, became one of the wealthiest in the Caribbean but only through the heavy importation of African slaves and considerable environmental degradation. In the late 18th century, Haiti's nearly half million slaves revolted under Toussaint L'OUVERTURE. After a prolonged struggle, Haiti became the first black republic to declare independence in 1804. The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti has been plagued by political violence for most of its history. After an armed rebellion led to the forced resignation and exile of President Jean-Bertrand ARISTIDE in February 2004, an interim government took office to organize new elections under the auspices of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). Continued violence and technical delays prompted repeated postponements, but Haiti finally did inaugurate a democratically elected president and parliament in May of 2006.*

Facts and Figures

Capitol City: Port-Au-Prince

Population: 9,035,536
note: estimates for this country explicitly take into account the effects of excess mortality due to AIDS; this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality, higher death rates, lower population growth rates, and changes in the distribution of population by age and sex than would otherwise be expected (July 2009 est.)

Religion: Roman Catholic 80%, Protestant 16% (Baptist 10%, Pentecostal 4%, Adventist 1%, other 1%), none 1%, other 3% ***note:*** roughly half of the population practices voodoo

Language: French (official), Creole (official)

The Church

Praise God that there has been an increasing Evangelical stand against Voodooism in Haiti. Although an estimated 75% of Catholics are also actively involved in Voodoo, there has been a turning point in the ending of this curse, stimulated by a widely supported prayer and fasting movement to bind the powerful spirits of Voodoo in Jesus' name.

Our Prayer

- Pray that Haiti would be blessed with godly leaders who will address the nation's massive problems. As the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti's population growth, crime, poverty, and chaos have gone unchecked. Pray that these tragic trends would be reversed and that there might be change through the power of the Gospel.
- Give thanks that there has been growth in the Evangelical church despite difficult economic and spiritual conditions. However, many leaders have had little training, being barely literate themselves. Pray for Bible schools and seminaries and educational programs be put in place to meet the need.
- In light of the recent earthquakes, please be praying for the men, women, and children who have been affected by this tragedy. Pray for the church's response—that the body of Christ around the world would come alongside our brothers and sisters in Haiti, providing support, resources, and relief

Our Partnerships

- Please pray for one of Cornerstone's ministry partners, **Children's Hunger Fund**, which is already providing aid to the affected region. By God's grace, CHF just finished training the pastors and ministry volunteers who will make up their brand new Mercy Network in Haiti and the Dominican Republic (DR). These churches are well established in the impacted areas and are ready to mobilize in an effort to respond to the devastation.

*Some statistics and information were gathered from the Operation World Prayer Calendar and CIA World Factbook.