

Uplink

Quarterly News from SAT-7

MARCH 2008

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SAT-7
ARABIC



SAT-7
PARS



SAT-7
KIDS

“We All Work to Shine the Light of Jesus in the World”

The Lord’s Prayer Unites Christians in SAT-7 Music Video

“We all call Him Abana, Our Father in Heaven, and we walk in the light of the same Holy Book” says a young woman who participated in the making of the music video Abana, or “The Lord’s Prayer” in Arabic. The prayer was sung by a large number of Egyptian Christians from different denominations and walks of life, and recorded especially for SAT-7 ARABIC. The video is a beautiful witness to how Christians from different denominations can work together. **“I am so happy to be a member of the team producing this song!”** she exclaims.

Although *Abana* is only three minutes long, it was a complex project that took months to organize. Over 100 people

“There were long discussions between the priests and pastors about the unity among Christian churches.”

ANDRIA, SAT-7 PRODUCER



participated in the preparation, rehearsal and recording of the song. The project helped Christians from different churches to learn and appreciate new things about each other. **“Behind the cameras there was an atmosphere of love expressed in practical ways. A group of young people from different churches came immediately after their exams, from distant places, to take part in the video,”** says producer and director Andria Zakria.

Andria was personally very encouraged by the project. He says the discussions on the bus between production locations were lively:

“There were long discussions between

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how to watch and support SAT-7



SAT-7 ARABIC broadcasts from Eutelsat Hot Bird 8 at 13° East, (Frequency 12.379 GHz, Vertical Polarity, 27.5 MSym/sec, FEC ¾) Arabic broadcasts run 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



SAT-7 KIDS broadcasts from Eutelsat Hot Bird 6 at 13° East, (Transponder 157, 11.642 GHz, Horizontal Polarity, 27.5 MSym/sec, FEC ¾) Children’s Arabic broadcasts run 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



SAT-7 PARS Farsi language broadcasts can be watched 20 hours a day on Eutelsat Hot Bird 6 13° East (frequency 11,642 GHz, Horizontal Polarity, 27,5 MSym/sec, FEC¾).



TURK-7 broadcasts can be viewed on the same frequency as SAT-7 PARS each day at 9:30-11:30 and 21:30-23:30 CET



To check program schedule, learn more about partnering with SAT-7, or to make a donation, go to:
www.sat7.org (English),
www.sat7.com (Arabic) or
www.sat7PARS.com (Farsi)

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the priests and pastors about the unity among Christian churches," Zakria says. "They were talking about how greater unity could be achieved in the face of current obstacles."

"Lord, bless all the dominations. Give us the grace to all be as one in You".

BROTHER ADEL, A WORKER AT THE MOKATTAM CAVE CHURCH

The director was also touched by how committed people were to this project. One part of the video shows a group of disabled adults in church, some of them singing the song in sign language. "The disabled people worked hard for hours, with love and joy, to shoot their part," he says. During another recording, a young man entered the church out of curiosity and immediately wanted to participate. "He stayed for four hours before he said he really had to leave. When we asked him why, he explained that this was his engagement night! But he felt it so important to participate in such a production that he did."

Part of the video was recorded at the beautiful Mokattam Cave Church. Workers from the church were very cooperative, especially Brother Adel. At the end of the last recording session, he spontaneously prayed over a loudspeaker, "Lord, bless all the dominations. Give us the grace to all be as one in You." His prayer for unity is one all Christians can take to heart.



An Orthodox choir participating in the recording.



ARABICnews: IMPRESSIVE SMS RESPONSE

Middle Easterners and North Africans love to send text messages to each other from their mobile phones. In mid-November 2007, SAT-7 ARABIC began to post texts daily onto its screen and SAT-7 ARABIC is now receiving over 3000 texts a month! Viewers often write to say how thankful they are for the broadcasts or to ask for prayer. A text from Algeria said: "I feel SAT-7 is like a friend in lonely times. May God bless all that you do."



ARABIConscreen: "ASPECTS OF EMOTIONS"



Arabic is an extremely rich and emotive language and poets who can use the language well are revered throughout the Middle East. SAT-7 recently began broadcasting a new program featuring the poetry of "Uncle" Naim Atef, a well-respected Christian thinker, poet, lyricist, editor, seminary professor and

author of many well-known Christian hymns in Egypt.

The program *Aspects of Emotions* begins with a poem set to music. The singer pours out his heart, declaring that only God can understand his true feelings. Then Uncle Naim delivers one of his poems, focusing in this episode on people's words which, "like a knife in the hands of a surgeon can bring life, or in the hands of a criminal can bring death." The poem touches on Job's friends whose words increased his suffering. In part of the poem, Uncle Naim says, "Oh, God, help me know the impact of my words."

Each beautifully shot 15-minute episode is delivered in an Arabic style that speaks right to the viewers' hearts.

The topics are designed to show that God understands and wants to help viewers with their emotional struggles.



ARABICplans: A NEW PROGRAM DEFENDS THE CLAIMS OF CHRIST

"Who Do You Say That I Am?" is a program designed to answer false claims about the life and teachings of Christ. This program will help Arab Christians respond to many false teachings in a scholarly and well-reasoned manner. Topics will include: "How was the Bible written?" "Why Christians Believe Jesus is the Son of God," and "The Truth about the Crucifixion."



PARSnews:

NEW OFFICE

"We were so crowded before, with nine people working in just three small rooms," says Sara, SAT-7 PARS Executive Director. *"We are so thankful to the Lord for providing spacious new offices. This move has been a big morale booster to the team."* Early in 2008 the entire SAT-7 staff in Cyprus gathered in the new PARS office to pray over it and dedicate each room to the work of the Lord.



Shahryar. The verse in one episode is from John 1:12, about the simultaneous human and divine nature of Christ. The hosts discuss the theme, stressing that it was the true Jesus who died on the cross. *"Many of our viewers believe that it was not truly Jesus, but somebody else who took his place"* Shahryar says. He continues:

"But the way Jesus forgives his enemies on the cross, proves that it really was Jesus - no one else would have acted the way he did in such a difficult situation."



The program also includes a regular testimony segment. In this episode a young woman testifies how she found Jesus. The viewers are encouraged to meditate over the questions that have been raised during the program, like: "Do you find

PARsonscreen:

"IN STEP WITH JESUS"

This new program on SAT-7 PARS takes the viewers through the popular book "10 Essential Steps towards Christian Growth." The friendship between the two presenters, Reza Torkamand and Shahryar Navvab Safavy, makes the whole program warm and welcoming.

Each episode starts with the key verse of the day. *"It is very good to read and memorize this verse"* says



Jesus so trustworthy that you could give him your whole life?" Finally the main presenter closes with a short prayer.



KIDSnews:

NEW KIDS' CHANNEL OFFERS "HAPPY REUNION" TO TEENS

The launch of SAT-7 KIDS created an unexpected reaction from some of SAT-7's teenage viewers. "I have received responses from teens who are so happy to see their favorite characters from the *As Sanabel* (Ears of Wheat) program on the air again," says Programming Director Rita El Mounayer.

Rita was the original host of *As Sanabel*, a role she held for over a decade. In 2007 *As Sanabel* went through a complete make-over, and new hosts and crew were brought in to re-launch the program. But with the launch of the new SAT-7 KIDS channel, some older episodes are being re-broadcast, and viewers are happy to see their favorite "retired" characters again.

The spontaneous reaction from those who remembered these programs affirms how good programs can have a long-lasting impact on the lives of young viewers.



KIDSONscreen:

THE NAJI SHOW

This show uses scientific experiments to illustrate Biblical principles. The recent extension from five to fifteen minutes *"gives us time to add greater detail,"* says Naji, the producer and host; *"I love science and discoveries and this is a wonderful way to bring Biblical messages across to children."* The added minutes also allow time for short dramatic skits about famous scientists. A recent episode focused on Sir Isaac



Newton, the great astronomer and mathematician, who was the first to describe gravity. He was also a very active Christian who believed God's handiwork was visible through nature.



prayer diary:

SUNDAY

Pray that the spirit of unity among churches in the Middle East and North Africa will continue to grow.

MONDAY

Thank God for the successful launch of the new SAT-7 KIDS channel. Pray that an entire generation of Arab children will be impacted by its broadcasts.

TUESDAY

Pray that viewers looking for answers to their spiritual questions will find them through SAT-7 ARABIC, SAT-7 PARS and SAT-7 KIDS.

WEDNESDAY

Thank God for the new opportunities brought by text messaging for both the ARABIC and PARS channels. Pray that God will give counselors wisdom as they respond to the text messages they receive.

THURSDAY

Pray for new programs being developed for SAT-7 ARABIC, SAT-7 PARS and SAT-7 KIDS. Pray that producers will have wisdom from the Holy Spirit to create programs that will change lives.

FRIDAY

Thank God for those who are giving financially to keep SAT-7's three channels on the air. Pray that SAT-7's supporters will be blessed, and that more people will catch a vision to become part of this ministry.

SATURDAY

Pray that more Christians around the world would pray regularly for their brothers and sisters living in the region and that many will participate in SAT-7's 2nd Annual Day of Prayer on June 1, 2008.



Remember to pray for SAT-7 KIDS and programs like "KIDS Café"



LIVES CHANGED THROUGH SAT-7'S CHANNELS

SAT-7 ARABIC viewer:

Dear SAT-7 family, I pray that the Lord will pour his grace upon you, and I thank you for the beneficial programs. After watching your programs regularly for several months, I have a deeper relationship with Jesus. I regret all the times that I missed watching your wonderful programs in the past. With all my love and prayers, Yours, A WOMAN IN SYRIA



SAT-7 KIDS viewer:

To the "As-Sanabel" family, special greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, My name is Y. S. I am from Jordan. I recently heard about the new channel, SAT-7 KIDS. My sister and I are very happy because its programs are interesting. I learn many things about Jesus. Please accept me as your friend. With all my love, Yours, A GIRL IN JORDAN

SAT-7 PARS viewer:

Greetings to you! In the past, I came to the conclusion through my studies that Christianity was a heresy. However, when I started watching your programs on SAT-7 PARS, I realised that it is the most complete of all religions. It is a religion that shows happiness in this world and the world to come. Jesus raised people from the dead and gave them life. Blessed are the followers of this religion. Thank you for your programs. AN SMS RECEIVED FROM IRAN



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