

July  
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## Parsee in Iran



Zoroaster was a Parsee, said to be born between 1,200 and 1,500 BC in northeast Iran. He rejected the polytheistic worship of his culture and believed in worshipping only the creator God (Ahura Mazda), and he believed that Angra Mainyu (the devil) caused people to commit evil deeds. He believed that when people died, they would go to heaven or hell. They keep a fire burning in their temples as a symbol of Ahura Mazda's wisdom, brightness and power. Their scriptures are the Avesta, which contains doctrines, hymns and prayers. The Magi and Persian kings like Cyrus and Darius were probably believers in Ahura Mazda. Today Parsees who live in Iran, primarily in Tehran, experience persecution that has forced many to worship in secret.

### Ministry Obstacles

It is hard to reach someone who is hiding. Zoroastrian followers are often isolated and do not identify themselves for fear of persecution from the Shia Muslim majority.

### Outreach Ideas

Strong friendship between Iranian Zoroastrians and followers of Christ can potentially develop trust and



◀ PAR-see

POPULATION: 28,000

LANGUAGE: Parsi-Dari

RELIGION: Other

BIBLE: Translation needed

STATUS: Unreached

allow believers to share what faith in the resurrected Christ can do for all of us.

### Prayer Focus

Pray for a powerful movement to Christ among Iran's Zoroastrians. Pray for Iranian believers to reach out to their Zoroastrian neighbors.

**SCRIPTURE** And if they learn well the ways of my people and swear by my name, saying, 'As surely as the Lord lives'—even as they once taught my people to swear by Baal—then they will be established among my people. Jer 12:16

**PRAY** for today's people to become well established in their devotion to the Lord alone.

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