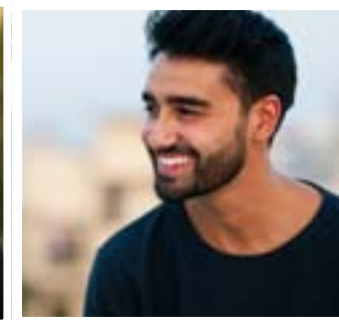




A Campaign to **Equip** Christian Leaders in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)



A Voice of Influence in His Kingdom



*To preserve covenant and sanctuary, the names and photos of some participants in this document have been replaced.

Abraham
Najar, PhD.
Regional Director for
Middle East
and North Africa

Dr. Abraham Najar was born in Egypt in a Christian family. After earning his Bachelor's degree, he spent seven years as a supervisor for a Christian center in his hometown.

Abraham earned a Master of Divinity degree, a Master of Theology degree and a PhD in Old Testament.

In 2007, Abraham became the Academic Dean and Professor of Old Testament at a Cairo seminary. The following year, he became Vice President in addition to Academic Dean. He joined Overseas Council in 2013 as Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa. Abraham and his wife have two sons.



REFUGEES
Instability
Violence
human trafficking

To be a Christian living in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is both a blessing and a challenge. We live, work, and pray in the land of the Holy Bible and yet there are few who have come to realize the truth of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can be overwhelming to live in the midst of so many people who are not Christians, and even more challenging to live out the Great Commission.

With a multitude of obstacles including terrorism, unpredictable behavior of leaders within communities, political instability, or even threats to one's life, it can make it tempting to think about moving to where it is simply easier to live out your faith. But that would be counter to my calling. In the midst of violence and an unpredictable future, Christian leaders are able to experience God's peace. It is a peace that we seek to share with each person in MENA.

In this part of the world it is unlawful for Muslims to convert to Christianity, which creates an obstruction for those who are beginning to respond to the message of Jesus Christ. For those that do respond to His Word, they are often forced to stay underground or migrate to the West in order to stay safe. This is merely one of the hindrances they must face. Christians living in MENA also face losing their jobs, family, properties and even prosecution by government.

Experiencing so much war and violence in their homelands has forced refugees to flee to unknown lands in search of hope. They have been able to experience love, peace and mercy from Christians in MENA, and many have chosen to follow the Lord! With the rise of ISIS and its brutality, Muslims have begun to question their traditions and beliefs. Carrying such doubts opens the doors for conversations about the promise of Jesus. As Christians we use those opportunities to witness to our brothers and sisters while showing them love through Jesus.

I am so grateful that Overseas Council equips Christian leaders in MENA by partnering with vital seminaries to advance God's kingdom. The empowerment of these indigenous Christian leaders continues to impact our communities by raising a voice that will reawaken this Holy Land to its roots in Christianity.

Overseas Council is writing a new history by helping our brothers and sisters create a new seminary in North Africa. This is the first seminary in Algeria since the time of St. Augustine, in the fourth century.

To quote Elie Haddad, president of Arab Baptist Theological Seminary, "We wouldn't be the same without our partnership with Overseas Council". This ministry is having impact in a land that needs it most!

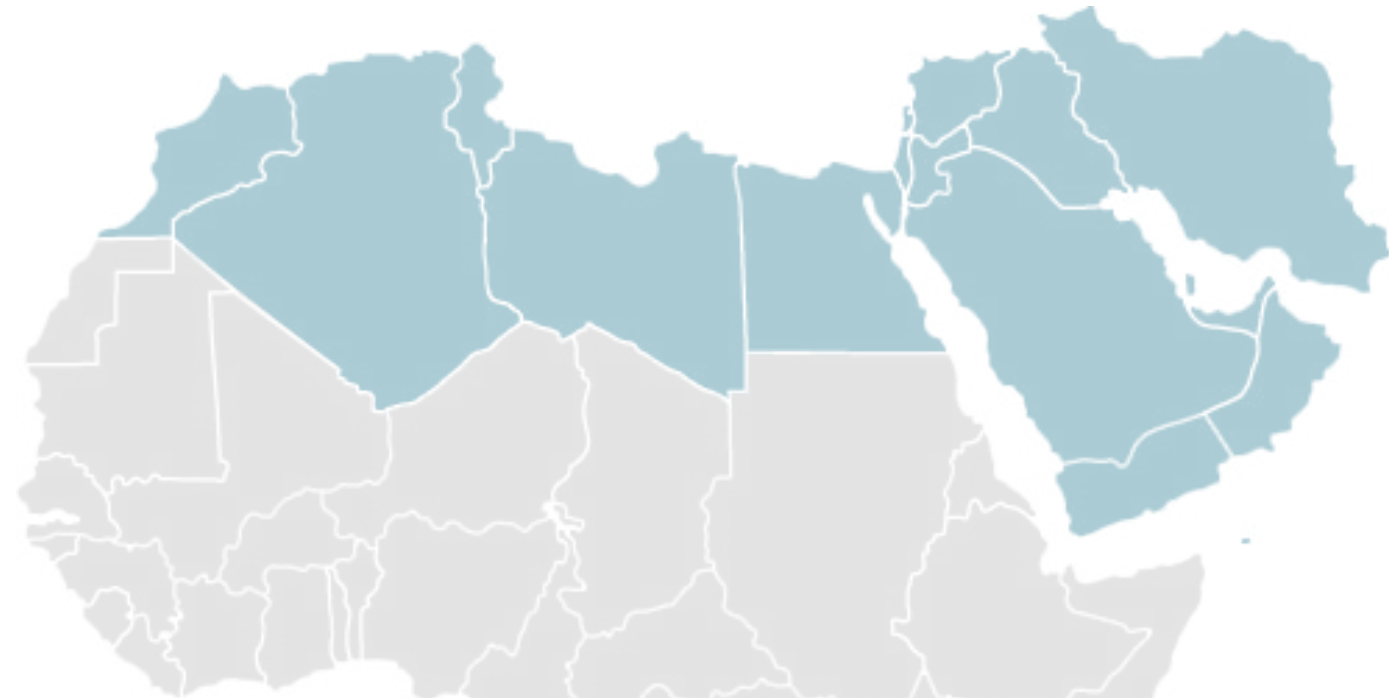
Dr. Abraham A Najar
Abraham Al Najar
Regional Director for
Middle East and North Africa

Our Mission

Overseas
Council
equips
Christian
leaders by
partnering
with vital
seminaries
worldwide
to advance
God's
kingdom.

Our Ministry

in the Middle East and North Africa



Algeria

- Christian Institute of Algeria

Pakistan

- Zaraphath Bible Seminary

Lebanon

- Arab Baptist Theological Seminary

United Kingdom

- Elam College
 - Pars Theological Centre
- *Both schools are training Iranian leaders.*

France

- Preparing Arab-World Leaders for Ministry

Tunisia

- Carthage College

West Bank

- Bethlehem Bible College

Egypt

- Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo
- Veritas College International

Sudan

- Nile Theological College-North (Khartoum)

Turkey

- Hasat Church Ministries Association

Jordan

- Program for Theological Education by Extention





13 Schools



88
Scholarship Recipients

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Overseas Council student scholarships continue to be one of the most effective ways to impact future leaders of the Church. Investing in one leader can have an enormous impact upon the Church in his or her country. Just as Jesus called twelve disciples to be His witnesses, so too will these men and women be witnesses in their communities.

After I graduate, I plan to return to my home country and to continue serving in children's ministries. I also hope to start a support group for divorced and separated women. There is a tremendous need in my country to support and encourage women in these situations.

-Eman
of Arab Baptist Theological Seminary

INSTITUTES FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Theological seminaries in the Majority World are positioned to shape the next generation of leaders and the church for the next generation. This has gigantic implications for the worldwide advance of the Gospel, because these locally trained leaders can be more effective in developing ministries that can bring the power of the Gospel into their communities around the world. But, do the leaders of these theological seminaries know whether they are accomplishing this task, through their graduates' ministries? How will they know the answer to this important question?



Overseas Council's most recent Institutes for Excellence in MENA trained 38 seminary leaders from 13 partner seminaries to more effectively assess the impact of their graduates in ministry. As a follow-up to this training, Regional Director Dr. Abraham Najjar is working alongside the leadership teams of six schools, so they can complete this assessment and improvement process.

In our next Institute for Excellence we will assist our partner schools in equipping future leaders to serve in the context of suffering. Using the lessons learned from this 4 day workshop these institutions will modify their curriculum and programs to more effectively address ministry in the Middle East and North African context.

**OC partners with 13 seminaries
throughout Middle East and North Africa**



Strategic Initiatives

EXPANDING HIS REACH IN ALGERIA

 **Population of Algeria**
39.21 Million

 **Algerians Who Practice Islam**
99.7%



Overseas Council's answer to address the deficiency of church leaders is The Algeria Project—a project that aims to provide training and support to Algerian pastors through the launch of the Christian Institute of Algeria (Institut Chrétien d'Algérie, or ICA).

Algerian pastors who have been thrust into church leadership without training will receive Biblical, theological and practical resources for themselves and their congregations. As they receive empowerment, encouragement, and wisdom, they can also be a strong witness in their context in a way that no western missionary ever could – a critical piece in the growth of the Church. New and existing Christians will be disciplined and fed the way that is needed and new churches will be planted.



SCHOOL CAPACITY BUILDING

Our MENA Regional Director is in a unique position to know where OC's ministry can make a difference. Dr. Abraham Najar helps school partners grow their capacity. OC's focus is on higher levels of education, where leaders are multiplied by the training of trainers and the discipling of discipplers. Each RD brings expertise and experience in theological education which allows them to contribute to greater effectiveness of our partners.

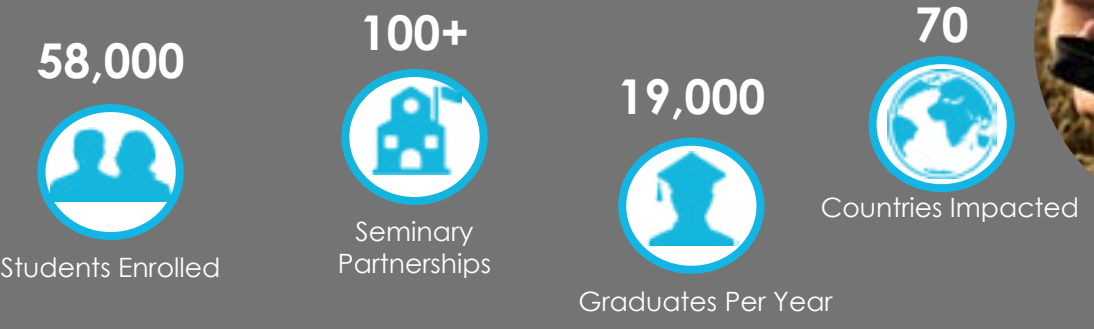


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Overseas Council is seeing the fruit of its ministry in the Middle East and North Africa Region—in countries like Algeria, Lebanon, Egypt, Pakistan and Sudan. Your support is making a difference for Christian leaders—young, old, women and men—who are pursuing God's calling for the Church. Now, more than ever before, church leadership from within MENA countries are growing their capacity to spread the Gospel and disciple new and growing Christians.

The Scope of Our Ministry



"Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

~Matthew 28:16-20 NIV



How can I help?

1. Pray
2. Give
3. Share



Thank you for your prayerful consideration of partnership. Your gift will help equip new generations of Christian leaders for ministry!

Gifts can be made via:

Mail -
PO Box 602002, Charlotte, NC 28260-2002

Online - Give at www.overseas.org/donate.

Phone - 800-825-5896



www.overseas.org