



**'Searching for Truth Together'**

**"How can I understand unless someone helps me?"**

(Acts 8:31 CEV)

**Thank you for your prayers and support for the work of Daniel Shayesteh and 'Exodus From Darkness'**

## **A Passion for the Truth**



There are many challenging situations in our world that are extremely serious. Each one requires determined thought, reflection and action.

COVID-19 is clearly one of those challenging situations facing the world right now\*.

'Exodus From Darkness' exists to address another of those challenging situations, one that can be framed with a question: **What is truth? Or what is the truth about reality?**

Jesus' interaction with Pilate close to the time of his crucifixion paints large this 'challenging question'.

*"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.*

*Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."*

**"What is truth?"** retorted Pilate. (John 18:37,38 NIV)

Answering Pilate's question requires us to think, reflect and act. And there is our first challenge!

The great industrialist Henry Ford once said:

*"Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason so few engage in it."*

Daniel Shayesteh and Exodus From Darkness have been on a quest to persuade people to think about truth - so they can know the Truth that sets people free!

Daniel shares that he was someone who came out of 'thick darkness'. When he was a young man in an Iranian prison, awaiting execution, he started reading the Qur'an for the first time in his own language. As he read, he saw a mismatch between his deep desire to know and love God, and what he was reading in the Qur'an.

He despondently thought to himself "I have given my life for this book and this religion". But Islam couldn't provide the truth he wanted so desperately. From this point in time a deep passion and drive to know the truth began to grow within Daniel. The ultimate destination of all Daniel's searching was Jesus!

\* COVID-19 is a ['wicked problem'](#) for the world and its leaders to tackle. There is evidence that human beings in many places have been complicit in allowing this virus to spread across the world. Daniel Shayesteh ponders whether this is a wakeup call to people who think everything they do is 'good' and that there are no consequences for any of their actions. Father Zacharia Boutros, a pioneer media apologist to the Muslim world, has recently shared his belief that God wants us to use the COVID-19 lockdown as an opportunity for all of humanity to stop, to think, to pray and to repent (see [Luke 13:2-5](#)).



## What is Exodus From Darkness currently doing to bring the Truth about Jesus to the Muslim world?

The foundation for our Mission is [Daniel's testimony](#) and his video series '[Understanding and Freedom](#)'. Increasingly, that Mission is expressed via social media – voice-over video, audio book, interview and other presentations.

Each week we are building on this foundation through the creation of new content to engage the Muslim world in thinking about truth.

### Two of our current projects

In this Newsletter we want to introduce you to two of the new projects we are undertaking in 2020.

1. **Turkish** - We have already produced a Turkish translation of 'Understanding and Freedom'. Daniel is now preparing to produce a Turkish voiceover of the book so that Turkish speakers can listen to it on YouTube and other Social Media video platforms. Over 80 million people speak Turkish, both in Turkey and across the world. The great majority of these are Muslim. If you would specifically like to support a project to speakers of Turkish, please ask to direct your donations to this project. The cost of this project, including the cost of marketing to the target audiences, is estimated to be US\$20,000.
2. **Hindi and Bangla** - We are also preparing to translate 'Understanding and Freedom' into Hindi (one of the official languages of India) and Bangla (the official language of Bangladesh). Both of these languages have links

to Urdu which we completed translating in 2019. There are estimated to be 600 million speakers of Hindi and 270 million speakers of Bangla around the world. If you would specifically like to support a project to speakers of Hindi and/or Bangla, please ask to direct your donations to this project. The cost of each project, including retaining a translator, two reviewers and a producer overseeing the translation project, is estimated to be US\$20,000

Please keep praying that the Lord will provide all the resources required to distribute and promote the recordings and translations we have completed in English, Farsi, Turkish, Swahili, Arabic, Urdu, Indonesian and Chinese Mandarin.

To effectively complete these projects, we need to raise funds to employ writers and video editors as well as to fund advertising on YouTube to make our target audiences aware of Daniel's materials.

We're delighted to report that 'Understanding & Freedom' is now being produced as a book in Arabic and should be available later this year. The printed word still has an important place in our world! Please pray for us as we make these books available online for those who learn best from the written word.

## **Social Media Update**

**We encourage all supporters to visit Daniel's YouTube Channel and to [subscribe now](#). This can really help us to raise the profile of Daniel's Channel around the world.**

**Please also share the videos you watch with your friends and families via Facebook, Messenger, Email, Viber, Whatsapp etc by clicking on the share button so that the videos will reach more people. We pray that people will come to know the truth about Christ through you sharing a video you've found helpful.**

The [Daniel Shayesteh YouTube Channel](#) has achieved the subscribers target for funding. Thank you for your past support. It is now in our interests to maintain the total number of 'watch hours' and subscriptions.

## We are continuing to focus on:

- Leveraging our new Daniel Shayesteh Telegram Channel to update our supporters throughout the world about our EFD Reachout Media. Telegram is a messaging app with a focus on speed and security.
- Uploading the final episodes of the [‘Arabic voiceover’ version of ‘Understanding and Freedom’](#) via YouTube and Facebook.
- Uploading the book ‘The House I Left Behind’, section by section, to Daniel’s YouTube Channel as a [talking book](#).

Please look out for our totally new EFD Website and Newsletter format in the near future. We will also have a new e-commerce capability that promises to be user friendly. To purchase any of Daniel's resources in the meantime please [contact](#) one of our offices.

## Prayer Points

- We invite you to download our [‘7 Days Prayer Guide’](#) for the ministry of Exodus From Darkness.
- Pray for the Muslim World. Remember I.S.L.A.M - I sincerely love all Muslims. We have good news to share with all people.
- Praise God for many people working with EFD to get the world thinking about Jesus.
- Please pray that our growing partnerships with other Christian Missions Organisations will bear fruit for the kingdom of God.
- Please pray for Daniel and Mary as they look to the Lord for his guidance and provision for the years ahead.
- Please pray that God will open the door for Daniel to speak through media to people who want to ask him questions as a result of watching the Understanding and Freedom Series.
- Pray for our EFD Social Media Manager as she works to raise awareness of the ‘Understanding and Freedom’ Series around the Muslim world.
- Pray for the effectiveness of our new Daniel Shayesteh Telegram Channel (Telegram is a messaging app with a focus on speed and security). Pray for Daniel as he prepares new short talks for not only this Channel, but also for YouTube and Facebook.
- Please pray for the appointment of an EFD researcher/writer/editor to work closely with Daniel and our Executive Officer.
- Please pray that we will find suitable translators and narrators for the Bangla and Hindi versions, which are the projects that we hope to work on next. Suitable translators need to be proficient in both English and their own language. They will have a faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour and a good theological understanding of key gospel and biblical themes and concepts.
- Please pray for God’s power and blessing to be upon the Arabic version of ‘Understanding and Freedom’ as we upload the final episodes to Daniel's YouTube Channel.
- Pray for God’s guidance in identifying the best technical teams for recording the voice-overs for Turkish, Urdu and Indonesian.

Please share the Headlines from this Newsletter on your Church Noticeboard. [Click on this link](#) to get a 'Headlines only' version of this Newsletter.

**We close with the words of Jesus.  
*"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."* Matthew 9:37,38**

Please visit our [EFD Facebook](#) page, our NEW ['Understanding & Freedom' Facebook page](#) and our NEW [Daniel Shayesteh Youtube Channel](#).

## **Donations**

[Click here to start your donation](#)

or

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You are welcome to contact us using the above email addresses if you wish to direct your donation to:

- the General EFD Fund
- Understanding and Freedom translations and voice-over production costs

- The Satellite TV ministry
- etc

For automatic/direct debit from your account write to:

[office@exodusfromdarkness.org](mailto:office@exodusfromdarkness.org)

Past Newsletter Topics

You can catch up with past topics of discussion at [Daniel's Blogspot](#)

## Invite Daniel

"If you keep quiet at a time like this, ... you and your relatives will die. What's more, who can say but that you have been elevated to the palace for just such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14; read Isa.62 :1; Am.5:13)

Daniel and Mary are from Iran. Daniel was a teacher of Islamic philosophy, a member of the Iranian Revolutionary Army and a leading Muslim fundamentalist political leader during the Iranian Islamic Fundamentalist Revolution that began in 1979. He is now an evangelist for J... [Read more here . . .](#)

