

*For God so loved  
the world...  
shouldn't we?*

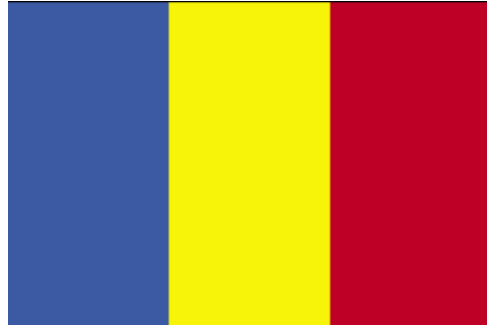
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***Praying for the World  
One Country at Time***



**Chad  
August 21, 2011**

# Cape Verde



## Full Name

Republic of Chad

## Capital

N'Djamena

## Location

Central Africa, south of Libya

## Leadership

Republic. President Lt. Gen. Idriss DEBY Itno (since 4 December 1990)

## Overview

A largely semi-desert country, Chad is rich in gold and uranium and stands to benefit from its recently-acquired status as an oil-exporting state. However, Africa's fifth-largest nation suffers from inadequate infrastructure and internal conflict. Poverty is rife, and health and social conditions compare unfavorably with many other countries in the region. In 1960, Chad obtained independence from France, but its post-independence history has been marked by instability and violence stemming mostly from tension between the mainly Arab-Muslim north and the predominantly Christian and animist south. In 1969 Muslim dissatisfaction with the first president - a Christian southerner - developed into a guerrilla war. Relative stability has been finally achieved in 1990s, although the insurgency remains active in the north and continues to make attempts to topple the government. Recently, the Darfur crisis in Sudan has spilled over the border and destabilized the nation, with hundreds of thousands of Sudanese refugees living in and around camps in eastern Chad. Chad has more than 200 distinct ethnic groups, which create diverse social structures. Because of its great variety of peoples and languages, Chad possesses a rich cultural heritage.

## Population

11 million

## Religion

Muslim 53.1%, Catholic 20.1%, Protestant 14.2%, animist 7.3%, other 0.5%, unknown 1.7%, atheist 3.1%



## Economy

Chad's primarily agricultural economy will continue to be boosted by major foreign direct investment projects in the oil sector that began in 2000. At least 80% of Chad's population relies on subsistence farming and livestock-raising for its livelihood. Chad's economy has long been handicapped by its land-locked position, high energy costs, and a history of instability. Chad became an oil-producing nation in 2003 with the completion of a \$4bn pipeline linking its oilfields to terminals on the Atlantic coast. The government has moved to relax a law controlling the use of oil money, which the World Bank had made a condition of its \$39m loan. Chad relies on foreign assistance and foreign capital for most public and private sector investment projects.

## Prayer Concerns

Chad is one of the poorest and most corrupt countries in the world; most inhabitants live in poverty as subsistence herders and farmers. Polygamy is common in Chad, with 39% of women living in such unions. Female circumcision is against the law, but the practice is so widespread and deeply rooted in tradition that 45% of Chadian women still undergo the procedure. Chad is a major source, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for the purposes of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Large percentage of Chadians is infected with HIV. Chad has been greatly affected by violence in neighboring Sudan's Darfur region, which brought hundreds of thousands of Sudanese refugees. They have been joined by thousands of Chadians who are fleeing rebel fighting as well as violence between ethnic Arab and ethnic African Chadians.