

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

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



**Comoros
September 25, 2011**

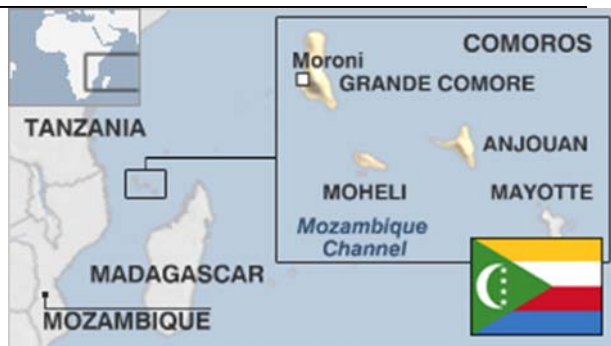
Comoros

Full Name

Union of the Comoros

Capital

Moroni



Location

Southern Africa, group of islands at the northern mouth of the Mozambique Channel, about two-thirds of the way between northern Madagascar and northern Mozambique

Leadership

Republic. President Ikililou DHOININE (since 26 May 2011). The presidency rotates every four years among the elected presidents from the three main islands in the Union.

Overview

Potentially a holiday paradise with picture-postcard beaches, the Comoros islands are trying to consolidate political stability amid tensions between semi-autonomous islands and the central government. A history of political violence has left the Comoros desperately poor. At times, the country has teetered on the brink of disintegration as it has experienced more than 20 coups or attempted coups since declaring independence from France in 1975. Comoros gained some stability under a 2001 constitution granting its largest islands of Grande Comore, Anjouan, Moheli greater autonomy within a federation. The archipelago is notable for its diverse culture and history, as a nation formed at the crossroads of many civilizations. The descendants of Arab traders, Malay immigrants and African peoples contribute to the islands' complex ethnic mix. With fewer than a million people, the Comoros is one of the least populous countries in the world, but is also one of the most densely populated,

Population

794,683

Religion

Sunni Muslim 98%, Roman Catholic 2%



Economy

Agriculture, including fishing, hunting, and forestry, contributes 40% to GDP, employs 80% of the labor force, and provides most of the exports. Natural resources are in short supply and the islands' chief exports - vanilla, cloves and perfume essence - are prone to price fluctuations. Comoros is the world's largest producer of ylang-ylang, and a large producer of vanilla. Money sent home by Comorans living abroad is an important source of income.

Prayer Concerns

One of the world's poorest countries, Comoros has inadequate transportation links, a young and rapidly increasing population, and few natural resources. The people of Comoros are among the poorest in Africa and have few educational and employment opportunities. The low educational level of the labor force contributes to a subsistence level of economic activity, high unemployment, and a heavy dependence on foreign grants and technical assistance. The country is not self-sufficient in food production and has to import even staples like rice. The government - which is hampered by internal political disputes - lacks a comprehensive strategy to attract foreign investment and is struggling to upgrade education and technical training, privatize commercial and industrial enterprises, improve health services, diversify exports, promote tourism, and reduce the high population growth rate.