

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

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



**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
December 25, 2011**

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Full Name

Dominican Republic

Capital

Santo Domingo



Location

On the island of Hispaniola which also contains Haiti in the Caribbean

Leadership

Democratic Republic ; president is Leonel Fernandez who was elected in 2004; previously the typical leaders were dictators but international pressure resulted in competitive elections in 1996

Population

10 million

Economy:

Mainly known for exports of sugar, tobacco and coffee, in recent years its service sector has grown; its very dependent on the US to sell its products. A huge disparity between the richest 10% and the rest of the people exists.

Overview

Columbus was the first European to explore and claim the island on his first voyage in 1492. The indigenous population is the Taino people and the country maintained ties with Spain whose colony it was off and on during the 1800's although early in its history it was also ruled by its neighbor Haiti, a French colony; it became independent initially in 1822 although the war continued until 1844.



Religion

Christian majority

Prayer Concerns

In recent years, the sex trade and drug traffickers have infiltrated and it is known as a major destination for both. The US has it on a watch list as there are problems with the minimum standards being met for compliance to diminish trafficking. There has been some progress. Another concern is the border violence as Haitians come across in search of jobs while citizens of DR also attempt illegally to enter Puerto Rico which has a higher standard of living.