

Call to Prayer in Algiers



See more photos of Algiers on the web page:
www.dziria.com/photos.htm

Rachid loved to look out across the white buildings of Central Algiers. They reflected the dazzling sunlight back toward him on his fourth floor balcony. He strained to see a ship arriving from the Mediterranean Sea just beyond the harbor. Traffic was jammed near the Post Office. Car horns got no rest as impatient drivers sought to escape the blocked street. Just before 1pm the muezzin (prayer crier) began his call to prayer over the local mosque's loud speakers. Soon dozens of mosques were echoing the same

refrain in Arabic throughout the city:

"Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar (Allah is the greatest)*

I bear witness that there is no god except Allah (x2)

I bear witness that Mohammed is the Messenger of God (x2)

Come to prayer (x2)

Come to prosperity (x2)

Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar

There is no god except Allah"

Several men in the street below started toward the local mosque. Rachid was not in the habit of participating in the prayers, even on Fridays. However, the recent death of his uncle had made him start reflecting about his religious duties. His late evening party activities with his friends would probably have to end.

All over the world Muslims are called to prayer five times per day. In the early morning the phrase "Prayer is better than sleep" is added to the call.

Islam explained

Listen to the call to prayer in Arabic on one of our web sites (www.30daysfire.net)

**Although the word "Allah" is used by Muslims and Arab Christians alike when referring to the God of Abraham, Moses and Jesus, there are profound differences between Muslim and Christian ideas concerning the nature and character of God.*

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶ *Over two million people live in greater Algiers. A 2006 national law essentially forbids any Christian evangelism efforts. Believers need wisdom and courage to deal with this new situation (Acts 5:27-29).*
- ▶ *Many of Algiers' young people are torn between western youth culture and their traditional roots. Pray that they will find the Father. (Luke 15:11-32).*
- ▶ *Pray that house groups will flourish in the city and suburbs of Algiers (Acts 20:20, 21:8, 28:30, Romans 16:5).*