



"Helping ignite culturally relevant heart worship, especially in places where Christ-followers are restricted, persecuted or unknown."

HeartBeats

January 2010

www.heart-sounds.org
office@heart-sounds.org

Undercover Project Deep in the Arabian Peninsula



In the heart of the rugged Arabian Peninsula, surrounded by forces extremely hostile to Christians are small pockets of believers, a few scattered families who worship the Savior. Under threat of persecution, they meet in secret and sing softly when they worship.

Recently, a few of them have begun to write original Arab Christian worship songs. A team from Heart Sounds International responded to a request to get these songs recorded--the first fruits of indigenous Christian worship in this part of the Arabian peninsula.

Along with the HSI coordinator the recording team included a couple residing in the Middle East knowledgeable of Arab culture. The husband, highly educated in Arabic dialects, helped the believers tweak these first efforts at writing Christian lyrics to make them more understandable and biblical. His wife, a skilled musician knowledgeable in Arab music directed the rehearsals and recording sessions. She patiently worked with untrained people, most of whom had never stood before a microphone.



A father-son team covered the bulk of the recording, supplemented by some children's voices and other adults who also provided scriptural readings for the recording. The father played quite acceptable *ud* (a fretless lute) and his son sang and played a hand held drum. The recording required many hours of re-takes followed by many more hours of editing by HSI's trained recording engineer from Holland who used state-of-the-art software and laptop to do the field recording.



The believers took a bold step in recording women's voices, as females are rarely heard in recordings in this part of the world. To protect the women, their voices were blended with the sounds of children's and male voices. In the end, this landmark recording came together and will help to shape the ongoing sung theology of Arab Christians.

Excerpts will be shared in Atlanta at the tenth year anniversary celebration of Heart Sounds International during January. HSI leaders will assemble from across the nation and abroad for the happy occasion.

HSI continues its mandate to ignite movements of biblically appropriate and culturally relevant heart music through releasing indigenous worship recordings in the nations. Solo Deo Gloria.

Warmly in Christ,

Frank Fortunato

Coordinator, Heart Sounds International

CONNECTING WITH HSI

Pray - Prayer is the fuel that powers this ministry.

Go - There are always opportunities to serve. [Contact us](#) for available options!

Give - If you would like to financially support HSI, [Click here to support a staff member](#). (Please specify whom.) [Click here to support an HSI Project](#).

Resources - [Click here](#) to find global worship resources at our online store.

You received this message because you are subscribed to Google Groups "HSI-HeartBeats" group.

To **unsubscribe** from this group, email us at HSI-HeartBeats-unsubscribe@googlegroups.com

To **subscribe** or to change your delivery options, visit this group at <http://groups.google.com/group/HSI-HeartBeats?hl=en>

HSI is an international ministry of [Operation Mobilisation](#),
based at [Operation Mobilization USA](#)

