

from the
REGIONS BEYOND®

Bruce & Becky McDonald

July 2007

Sahara Desert: Trade routes through the Sahara linked ancient empires with outside cultures. Islam had a significant impact upon the people and culture of Mali and by the end of the 13th century, the kingdom of Mali had been converted to Islam. From the Islamic kingdom, Djenne' and Timbuktu rose as the commercial and religious centers of North and West Africa.

Today Mali is over 98% Islamic and traditional religions. Islam is the fastest growing religion in Mali with increasing influence from fundamental Islamists.

The Sahara desert is a vast region that includes the world's most impoverished countries. Ancient trading routes now include drugs, arms and humans in the lawless frontiers.



Djenne' Mosque

Becky and I are currently in Mali holding a series of teaching seminars and big meetings. Due to the intense Sahara heat, most of the meetings take place in the morning and night. We will also minister to the young leaders of the groups that have been established over the past three years. We should also be able to broadcast over the radio to large areas and reach into remote areas that have little opportunity to attend meetings or otherwise hear the good news.

An extremely busy schedule is combined with the challenges of the desert. Although we complete the Sahara trip about the time you receive this newsletter, we would appreciate your prayers for rest and recovery as, during August, I travel to remote areas near the border of Ethiopia and Sudan where we have established eleven new groups with others under development.

Two additional big meetings are scheduled in Islamic areas across the green belt in the map at the top of this newsletter. Becky and I appreciate your prayers and financial support that makes it possible to reach the regions beyond.

Bruce McDonald



Bruce McDonald in Timbuktu

"Our desire is to preach the gospel in the regions beyond" 2 Corinthians 10:16

Regions Beyond International • PO Box 12549 • Tallahassee, FL 32317 • USA
e-mail: missionary@RegionsBeyond.org • Phone: (850) 308-5640 • Fax: (888) 258-4306
www.RegionsBeyond.org