

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

**TAIWAN**

General Information

- Population: 23 million
- Taiwan, officially the Republic of China, is a state in East Asia. Originally based in mainland China, the Republic of China now governs the island of Taiwan, which makes up over 99% of its territory.
- The arrival of the Dutch East India Company in south of Taiwan in 1624 and the arrival of the Spanish forces in the north two years afterwards that first introduced the idea of Christianity to the island.
- By 1662, the Dutch missionaries were driven out of Taiwan by a Ming Dynasty general during the resistance against the Manchus. With the return of the Dominicans' to the south of Taiwan in the 1800s, Taiwan saw the re-emergence of the Christian religion. And this time, Christianity started to take root in Taiwan, and gradually spread to the north of Taiwan.

Challenges

- Most families accept the beliefs of Buddhism, Daoism, and folk religions instead of Christianity.
- Fortune-telling—including astrology, I Ching, and other forms of divination—has long been considered a traditional Taoist pursuit. Mediumship is also widely encountered in some sects. There is an academic and social distinction between martial forms of mediumship (such as *tongji*) and the spirit-writing that is typically practiced through planchette writing.
- Folk religions are currently experiencing a resurgence in both Mainland China and Taiwan. People practice these beliefs by bowing down to idols or praying to their dead ancestor.

Pray For

- The recent election in Taiwan (2012), has opened up a great opportunity to share the faith of Christianity in the mainland China.
- 1 Kings 8:41-43, 59-60 (also in 2 Chronicles 6:32-33) — "so that all peoples of the earth may know your name" (Solomon's prayer at dedication of Temple).

Reference

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity\\_in\\_Taiwan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity_in_Taiwan)
- <http://eastasianpeoples.imb.org/tag/taiwan/>