

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



XI'S CHURCH CRACKDOWN

After China's President Xi Jinping came into power in 2013, the space for religious activities and worship shrunk rapidly for Christians. Thousands of churches, state-approved or not, have seen their crosses demolished since 2014. The "Sinicization" campaign, a plan to make religious groups within China submit to socialism and the Chinese Communist Party's ideology by assimilating them into a unified identity with Chinese characteristics, challenges the fundamental beliefs of Christians. Authorities also closely monitor or jail Christian leaders under trumped-up charges.

Pray for continued growth within China's underground Church. Pray for greater freedom for religious minorities to practice their faith freely in China. Pray for the release of all wrongfully imprisoned church leaders.

CHINA 

UNDER THE GUISE OF SHARIA LAW

A variety of political trends have led to the recent rise in persecution against Iranian Christians. Most importantly, Iran's effort to establish a Shia Islamic state whose legal system strictly adheres to Sharia law poses a major threat not only to the religious freedom of Christians, but to their lives as well. Iran's government has made clear its intentions of limiting Christianity to (at best) a tiny ethnic minority by harshly punishing conversion, closely monitoring church activities, and surveilling Christians online.

Pray for better conditions for Christian prisoners in Iran. Pray for protection for believers in Iran who are forced to practice their faith behind closed doors. Pray for the ability for Iranian citizens to freely convert to Christianity.

IRAN 

TATMADAW TAKEOVER

The Burmese military's (Tatmadaw) campaign of violence against Myanmar's minority population is of the worst sort imaginable. Not content with laws that discriminate against Christians and others, the Tatmadaw also waged a decades-long war that claimed tens of thousands of lives and displaced millions more. Rape, extrajudicial killings, torture, and bombings on civilian areas are all acceptable moves in the Tatmadaw playbook. The Tatmadaw has also arrested many suspected of lacking support for their rule.

Pray for minority communities that are caught in the crossfire of the conflict in Myanmar. Pray for healing for those who have been subjected to unfathomable violence. Pray for peaceful leaders to come to power in Myanmar.

MYANMAR 

HINDU HATRED ESCALATES

Since Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took power in 2014, Christian persecution has skyrocketed. Inspired by notion of establishing India as a Hindu nation, Modi and the BJP have passed laws and enforced policies targeting Christians and limiting their religious freedom. After seven years of BJP rule, the number of documented incidents of Christian persecution has more than doubled. When the police and local authorities take no action against the violence, it emboldens extremists. Year after year, attacks on minorities are reported in greater number and greater severity.

Pray for India's leaders to speak out against attacks led by radical Hindu nationalists. Pray for protection for India's Christian community against these attacks. Pray for India's churches to shine the light of Christ in their communities.

INDIA 

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FOR THE PERSECUTED



OUT OF THE ASHES

Not only does Nigeria suffer from political and ethnic tensions, but it is arguably one of the deadliest places to be a Christian in the world. Boko Haram has displaced millions of people, many of whom are Christians, and killed tens of thousands of others. Fulani militants have killed more Christians in the past several years than Boko Haram and have displaced millions of Christian farmers. Conservative Islamic communities have allowed the forceful conversion and marriage of many young Christian women and have discriminated against Christians seeking employment throughout the 12 Sharia states.

Pray for protection for Nigeria's Christians against terrorist groups. Pray for provision for the millions of people who have been displaced due to the violence. Pray for the safe return of Nigerian women who have been forcefully converted and forcefully married.

NIGERIA ///

SURVIVING BLASPHEMY

The persecution of Christians in Pakistan is severe and complex. Daily, society treats Pakistani Christians as second-class citizens simply due to their religious identity. Christians also face many other forms of abuse, including false blasphemy accusations, physical assaults, attacks on places of worship, abductions, and forced conversions to Islam.

Pray for an end to religiously motivated blasphemy accusations in Pakistan. Pray for Pakistan's leaders to acknowledge and take action against the violence facing religious minorities. Pray for equal opportunities for Pakistan's Christians who are treated like second-class citizens.

PAKISTAN ///

ENEMIES OF THE STATE

The isolated authoritarian nation of North Korea remains one of the worst places for Christians who are targeted and persecuted. Under the reign of the Kim family, North Koreans are taught to revere only their supreme leaders and nothing else. They are deprived of their rights to freely practice faith. Christianity is seen as the state's enemy, and Christians must be secretive about their faith or else they might be arrested or face execution.

Pray for the Gospel to spread among North Korea's unreached. Pray for North Koreans to discover the truth about the Kim regime. Pray for protection for North Korean Christians who practice their faith in secrecy.

NORTH KOREA ///

FORBIDDEN EVANGELISM

Things have gotten worse for Christians in Turkey ever since the election of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in 2014. The Turkish government has fostered a sense of Islamic nationalism within Turkey by equating the Turkish identity as synonymous with Islam through its rhetoric and symbolism, while also engaging in a concerted effort to limit the spread of Christianity. Turkey has also used its foreign policy to expand militarily throughout the region, engaging in conflicts throughout the countries that comprised the former Ottoman Empire.

Pray for encouragement and community for Turkish believers who feel ostracized. Pray for the Gospel to spread throughout Turkey. Pray for the Turkish authorities to respect the rights of religious minorities.

TURKEY ///