

**Open Doors**

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

PRAYER *force* ALERT

PRAYER CALENDAR FOR
PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS WORLDWIDE

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe... for our "God is a consuming fire."
Hebrews 12:28-29 (NIV)

MOROCCO

21 According to a former Salafist (Islamic fundamentalist), who miraculously became a follower of Jesus, radical Muslims believe they are serving God and they seek Him more than most people do. Pray that through their seeking, they will meet the true and living God and will come to know Him.

TUNISIA

22 Pray for Fethi* who together with four of his friends desires to start a house church in their city. Pray for wisdom and inspiration through the Holy Spirit regarding how to go about starting the house church.

MAURITANIA

23 Current trends in Mauritania show that the consequences for changing ones beliefs has become harsher, with apostasy continuing to be a punishable crime. Pray that God will work in the hearts of the Mauritanian government to allow religious freedom.

AZERBAIJAN

24 Pastors Mehman Agamedov and Gamid Shabanov were accused of illegal religious activity and were each fined 1 500 manat (approximately R10 326). Pray for provision to pay the fines and for strength as they recover from this ordeal.



Pray that the Holy Spirit will equip Fethi* from Tunisia and his four friends with all that they need to start a house church in their city.

CHINA

25 Ruby, whose husband, Timothy, passed away in 2015, was forced to leave her hometown after persecution flooded their local church. Pray for an opportunity for her to return to her village as she desires to continue her husband's ministry in the church.

INDIA

26 Pray for the successful implementation of the new house construction project for persecuted families in the states of Odisha and Bihar. May it be a blessing to those who benefit from this project.

LIBYA

27 Pray for a man who has been a believer for 10 years. A couple of months ago he started searching for other believers with whom he can fellowship. Pray that God will lead him to the right people and that together they will grow in the faith.

NORTH KOREA

28 Although North Korea's Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, Christianity is completely forbidden in the country. North Korean believers desire to be able to worship freely in a church building. Pray that God will allow this to happen soon.

29 In North Korea, when getting married, believers organise a secret church service as only government controlled weddings are allowed in the country. Pray that God will bless these secret ceremonies and these marriages.

MALAYSIA

30 Continue to pray that despite laws prohibiting Christians from ministering to other ethnic groups in Malaysia, God will give them wisdom and boldness to reach out to the majority Malay people group – who make up 60% of the country's population.

*Names changed and representative images used for security purposes.

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TAJIKISTAN

1 Praise the Lord for the healing of Sitora*, a young girl who was brutally beaten by her elder Muslim brother for becoming a Christian. Pray that despite still not being able to attend church, she will grow in the faith.

2 Sitora* along with her grandmother, Samia*, who is also a Believer from a Muslim Background, is under the strict control of her brother. Pray for their safety as they secretly read the Bible at night. Pray too for the salvation of Sitora's brother.

PAKISTAN

3 A committee of the Pakistani Senate face opposition from religious extremists as they look for ways to investigate whether an act of blasphemy is valid or not. Pray for God to direct the process and for a favourable outcome for Christians.

NIGERIA

4 The drawn-out Boko Haram insurgency in northern Nigeria has created a humanitarian disaster. Pray for provision for the needs of our brothers and sisters across the northeast of Nigeria who are suffering much under the humanitarian emergency.

MYANMAR

5 Two pastors have been missing since December. They were helping journalists report on the fighting that had

MYANMAR continues

broken out in Mong Ko and were confirmed to have been arrested by the Burmese Army. Please pray for the safe return of these pastors.

6 Pray for the participants in Open Doors' training for lay leaders in Myanmar. May God give them wisdom to implement what they have learnt in their local churches in order to be more effective leaders.

SRI LANKA

7 Twelve Buddhists destroyed a church in western Sri Lanka. The believers then started gathering under a tree to pray and worship together. Pray that they will continue to remain strong in the faith and that they'll be able to rebuild their church.



SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

8 Praise God for the lives that have been touched through Open Doors literacy classes in the Southern Philippines. Pray that through their new skills the students will get to know God more, help others and cherish God's Word.

9 There are 13 Muslim tribes in the Philippines. Pray for the expansion of our work among these tribes and for favour for our people who seek out tribespeople to build sound relationships.

KENYA

10 Pray for protection for the Church in Kenya against attacks from Al-Shabaab. May the Church stay strong and keep the fire of the Gospel burning in the country.

SAUDI ARABIA

11 In Saudi Arabia the religious police, the Muttawa, help guide people in the ways of Islam and report any Christian activities to the civil police. Pray that the love of Christ, as displayed by believers, will open up the Muttawa's eyes to Christ.

IRAN

12 Praise the Lord for the growing Church in Iran. Pray that as persecution against believers increases, God would protect them. Pray also for peace and comfort for those believers who have been imprisoned for the faith.

BHUTAN

13 Many believers from a Buddhist background have testified that God revealed Himself to them through healing, visions, and dreams. Pray that God would open the hearts and minds of more Bhutanese locals so they would come to know Jesus.

14 Khassar*, a believer from a Buddhist background, faces opposition from his mother for practising his faith. He secretly gathers with other students to study God's Word. Pray that through his witness, his family will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

MALDIVES

15 Maldivians are prohibited by law from leaving Islam. If they do they face harsh punishment. Pray that secret believers will continue to find hope and strength in God, and grow in the faith despite living in such a hostile environment.

SYRIA

16 Very few people return to their cities and towns, which have been liberated during the Syrian civil war, due to the lack of homes to live in, and the lack of public services and security. Pray that community groups will be set up to take care of neighbourhoods.

Pray that the Indonesian Church and Christian families will rise up to nurture and safeguard Indonesian young people who struggle with drug addiction, pornography, and crime.



ARABIAN PENINSULA

17 Mary* faces pressure from her family to abandon Jesus. Her family attempted to marry her off to a strict Muslim man so he could force her to return to Islam. Pray for protection for Mary, and for Jesus to reveal Himself to her family.

UZBEKISTAN

18 Ten Uzbek brothers and sisters were arrested during a secret prayer meeting. They've been accused of holding illegal meetings and rallies, and might have to pay a fine. Pray for their future court hearing, that they may be found not guilty.

INDONESIA

19 Indonesian youth struggle with drug addiction, pornography, and crime. Pray that the Indonesian Church and Christian families will rise up in nurturing and safeguarding these young people, both spiritually and emotionally.

CAMEROON

20 Hajara (50) cares for prisoners and HIV sufferers as well as shares the Gospel with the Mbororo, a subgroup of the notoriously violent Fulani people. Pray for her and her family's protection as they face hostility in their community because of her work.