



Open Doors

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

# PRAYER

## force

# ALERT

PRAYER CALENDAR FOR  
PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS WORLDWIDE



Pray that during the ongoing war in Yemen God will provide food for the many starving people.

### YEMEN

**21** Starvation is a reality for many people in Yemen, with many not knowing where their next meal will come from. Pray that as the war continues, embargoes will be lifted so that those who need food will be able to receive food. Pray for God's mercy in Yemen.

### TUNISIA

**22** Nadia\* and Yasmine\* are two young believers who are not connected to a fellowship. They have now started to meet with each other and are growing together in the Christian faith. Pray that they will be able to add more people to their fellowship.

### TURKMENISTAN

**23** Aisha\* (60) suffers from diabetes and her blood sugar has increased due to stress because the police are closely watching her Christian

### TURKMENISTAN continues

activities. Please pray for her health, that God will strengthen her to continue her ministry work.

### INDIA

**24** The number of persecution incidents against Christians keeps increasing each month in India. Since the beginning of this year to April, 316 persecution incidents were reported. Pray for Christians in India, especially those who suffer persecution on a daily basis.

### ETHIOPIA

**25** Believer from a Muslim Background, Shemsu, lived on the streets after his brother assaulted and kicked him out of the house. Thankfully, Christians provided him with temporary shelter. Pray for provision for him and that he will grow in the faith.

### BRUNEI

**26** Pray that Christians, especially church leaders, will be more bold and passionate about the Great Commission. Pray that they will actively live it out especially in reaching the young people in Brunei.

### INDONESIA

**27** Please pray for Jakarta's former governor, Ahok, who was imprisoned for two years on charges of blasphemy against Allah. Pray that God will work in the hearts of the government to overturn his sentence and vindicate him from any wrongdoing.

### LEBANON

**28** Thank the Lord for the Church in Lebanon that has welcomed refugees with open arms. Pray that the Church will continue to be a witness to refugees and that, through their testimony, lives will be changed by the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

### ALGERIA

**29** Hannah\*, a Believer from a Muslim Background, struggles to live as a Christian in Algeria due to the pressure Christians face in the country. Pray that God will connect her with other Christians in the country to help build her in the faith.

### MUSLIM WORLD

**30** Today, millions of Muslims, from around the world, will begin the five-day Hajj (Islamic pilgrimage) in Mecca where they seek to deepen their faith. Pray that during this time God will open their eyes to the true gift of salvation through Jesus Christ.

### EAST AFRICAN ISLANDS

**31** Discipling of new believers is a challenge amid persecution, and there is risk of exposure to false teaching. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to be at work in the lives of new Christians and that leaders will teach the truth in humility and with courage.

\*Names changed and representative images used for security purposes.



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"You must be on your guard. You will be handed over to the local councils and flogged in the synagogues. On account of me you will stand before governors and kings as witnesses to them." – Mark 13:9 (NIV)



Susan Ithungu

## CENTRAL ASIA

**4** Nadina, a Christian woman miscarried her baby due to the stress of experiencing persecution against her church where her husband, Tammar, is the pastor. Pray for comfort for this couple and strength for their church.

**5** When Sheeba's parents, who are deaf, came to know Christ they were completely transformed and became role models in their community. Since then Satan has started to attack this family to destroy their witness. Pray for endurance for the family during this time of trial.

## MALDIVES

**6** Many local Maldivians do not trust their own people but trust expatriate Christians due to their honesty and faithfulness in their work and service. Pray that through these Christians' testimonies local Muslims will come to know Christ.

## NIGERIA

**7** In Damasak, northern Nigeria, 500 children have been missing since 2015 after Boko Haram kidnapped them. Please pray for comfort for those whose children are missing and that the Nigerian government will make headway in finding these missing children.

**8** Praise the Lord for the 82 Chibok girls that were

## NIGERIA continues

released by Boko Haram on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2017. Pray that as the Nigerian government continues talks to release the rest of the Chibok girls, God will give them wisdom in their negotiations.

## SOMALIA

**9** Somalia is facing a severe drought and people are dying of hunger. This country needs not only rain but the living water given only by Jesus. Pray that God will open the eyes of the Somalian people to the truth of the Good News.

## ERITREA

**10** Islam is on the rise in Eritrea as Muslims promote Islam by assisting the poor with jobs, sponsoring education and providing support to professionals. Pray for grace, wisdom and courage for the

## ERITREA continues

Church to continue sharing the Gospel.

## SYRIA

**11** The war in Syria has exceeded World War Two in duration. Pray for all those who are caught in the conflict and have been traumatised, maimed or have become sick because of the war. Pray that the Church will be a peacemaker in the conflict.

## SRI LANKA

**12** Praise the Lord for vindicating Pastor Dayaratne and his wife from false charges of child abuse and cruelty, made against them by Buddhist monks. Pray for them as they look to reopen Agape Children's Home. May the home continue to be a blessing.



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## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**13** In May, during the fighting in the town of Alindao, ex-Seleka forces killed a 36-year-old pastor, and father of eight because of the church he had built. Please pray for comfort for his wife, children and church members.

## SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

**14** In May, in Marawi, Islamic extremist from the Maute Group entered the city, firing gunshots and putting up Islamic State flags. Pray for wisdom for the government in addressing the crisis. Pray for protection for the residents of Marawi.

**15** Pray for comfort and strength for the families in Marawi who lost loved ones during the invasion by the Maute Group in May. It is reported that some of the victims were unidentifiable due to the severity of their gunshot wounds.

## VIETNAM

**16** In April, a village leader, in northern Vietnam, led a mob to destroy the homes of five Hmong families. These Christian families were forced to leave the village. Please pray for protection and provision for them as they endure persecution for the faith.

## MALAYSIA

**17** Praise the Lord that the government has decided not to approve the bill to empower sharia courts (courts that use Islamic law to give their verdicts). Pray that the Malaysian government will continue to listen to and uphold the rights of Christians and other minorities in Malaysia.

## KAZAKHSTAN

**18** Pastor Yklas Kabduaksov (54) from Kazakhstan was imprisoned on charges of religious extremism and illegal distribution of religious material. His wife and eight children are without a breadwinner. Please pray for provision for his family and that his sentence will be overturned.

## SUDAN

**19** Please continue to pray for the Church in Sudan as the government pushes forward with demolishing church buildings. Two of 27 buildings have already been demolished. Pray that the government's efforts to demolish or confiscate church properties will cease.

**20** Praise the Lord for releasing Hassan and Abdulmonem from prison. Pray for the Lord's complete healing from the trauma they experienced and for emotional recovery for all family members affected by the men's imprisonment.

## UGANDA

**1** Praise the Lord for Susan Ithungu's successful hip surgery in May. A few years ago, she sustained serious injuries after her father locked her up for becoming a Christian. Please pray for her as she is scheduled to undergo another hip operation this month to help her walk better. Pray that God will guide the hands of the surgeons.

## CHINA

**2** Abliz who started a theology training centre for new Believers from a Muslim Background had to change the way he does ministry after the police warned him about his Christian activities. Pray for protection for Abliz and his family as they face added pressure.

## BANGLADESH

**3** In Bangladesh it seems that the government has started promoting Islamic extremism. Many changes have already been made to school textbooks and many cultural activities were cancelled. Pray for the government to see the danger of heading in this direction.