

**Open Doors**

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

# PRAYER *force* ALERT

PRAYING FOR OUR PERSECUTED BROTHERS  
AND SISTERS DURING RAMADAN 2017

Please pray that converts from Islam in Iran will not grow weary and lose heart in following Jesus Christ as they face pressure because of their faith.

**IRAN**

**21** Converts from Islam face pressure in all spheres of life and are considered unclean. Pray Hebrews 12:3 over these converts so that they may consider Jesus who endured such opposition from sinners, so that they will not grow weary and lose heart.

**MALAYSIA**

**22** On 13 February, Pastor Raymond (62) was taken by masked men. He is still missing! Please pray for his safe return as well as for the safety of his wife and children who are worried about him.

**LIBYA**

**23** At the moment there are three different governments competing for power in Libya, while the self-proclaimed

**LIBYA continues**

Islamic State (IS) tries to start their caliphate inside the country. Pray for a solution to the political situation and that ISIS plans will be thwarted.

**NORTH KOREA**

**24** Pray for the unknown heroes in North Korea, people whose names we don't know but who suffer for their faith, because they made a choice never to deny Christ. Pray that God will continue to give them the strength to endure.

**SYRIA**

**25** Pray for those who have persecuted Christians during these years of war in Syria. Pray that through the testimonies of these Christians, their lives will be radically changed so that they will accept Jesus as their Saviour.

**AFGHANISTAN**

**26** Christians face pressure from their families to recant their faith and some even fear for their lives due to angry family members. Pray Psalm 23 over them – that even though they may walk through the darkest valley, that they will fear no evil, for God is with them.

**RAMADAN BEGINS****WORLDWIDE**

**27** Muslims worldwide will be observing Ramadan from 27 May to 24 June. Pray that as Muslims pray and read the Qur'an more during this time, the Lord will reveal Himself to them as they seek to draw closer to God.

**ARABIAN PENINSULA**

**28** Pray for Christians all over the Arabian Peninsula as they gather together to pray for Muslims during the Ramadan period. Pray also for wisdom and guidance for them as they reach out to their Muslim neighbours.

**MIDDLE EAST**

**29** Pray that God will open the eyes of Muslims during Ramadan to the truth of who Jesus is. May our persecuted brothers and sisters be a shining light for Christ as they interact with those observing Ramadan.

**NORTH AFRICA**

**30** Pray for Believers from a Muslim Background in North Africa who face even more pressure during Ramadan. Pray that God will strengthen them throughout this period to endure any pressure they may face because of their faith.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**31** Pray for Christians who are engaged in the Great Commission during Ramadan. May the Lord be with them as they pray for Muslims around them and may He guide them to opportunities to witness to these Muslims.

\*Representative images used for security purposes.

\*\*Information was correct at time of printing.

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"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory..." – 2 Corinthians 4:6 (NIV)

## CHINA

**1** Pray for Pastor Matthew and two other pastors who are working together to minister to and encourage isolated Believers from a Muslim Background. May the Holy Spirit guide them in ministering to these believers.

## LAOS

**2** Last year, the Lord allowed us to minister to four displaced families and two injured pastors who suffer persecution. Please pray for these individuals that they would continue to trust in the Lord in the midst of harsh circumstances.

## SOMALIA

**3** Pray that as Somali believers face severe persecution, they will be strong and courageous instead of afraid. May they remember that the Lord our God goes with them and that He will never leave them or forsake them.



## VIETNAM

**4** Please pray for vindication for some believers who were arrested by security forces in Hanoi during their Bible class.

## BRUNEI

**5** Please continue to pray for secret believers in Brunei. Many are afraid to reveal their faith to anyone. Pray for discernment so they will be able to find Christians who are trustworthy and mature to properly disciple and encourage them in the faith.

## ALGERIA

**6** Christian persecution in Algeria is shaped by Islamic Oppression blended with Dictatorial Paranoia. Pray that in the midst of the persecution, believers will be comforted by God's promises that preserves their lives.

## EGYPT

**7** Pray for protection for the hundreds of Christians from Al-Arish who've been forced to leave their homes, shops, and belongings to seek protection and safety after witnessing the deaths of seven Christians over a two month period at the hands of an Islamic terrorist group.

## MALDIVES

**8** Pray for unity for mission workers in Maldives who are discipling secret believers in

## MALDIVES continues

the country. Their disunity has inadvertently hindered the growth of secret believers.

## MYANMAR

**9** Praise the Lord for Open Doors livelihood projects in Myanmar that is helping to change the lives of Christian families. Pray that the beneficiaries will be good stewards of the work entrusted to them.

## MALI

**10** Pray for strength and protection for Christians in Mali who have come under increasing pressure due to the threat of Islamic militants in the country. May they be bold witnesses for Jesus in this Muslim dominated country.



Pray that the Lord will strengthen and protect Christians in Mali as they face increasing pressure due to Islamic militants.

## BANGLADESH

**11** About 44.9% of Bangladesh's population consists of young people. Many of them are so engrossed in technology that they don't have time for God. Pray that these young people will come to realise that only God can fill the emptiness in their hearts.

## TAJIKISTAN

**12** The church activities of two churches in Tajikistan have been suspended, amid a criminal investigation, after security service officers took photos and videos of their Sunday service. Pray that these churches will be vindicated and will soon be able to resume their church activities.

## SUDAN

**13** Christians in Sudan face intense oppression and persecution. Pray that they will be strengthened to stay fully committed to the Lord whose eyes range throughout the earth and watches over them.

## SAUDI ARABIA

**14** There is a lot of slavery and oppression in Saudi Arabia. Pray Isaiah 58 over this country, asking God to loosen the chains of injustice and to untie the cords of the yoke in order to set oppressed Christians free.

## PAKISTAN

**15** Please continue to pray for Pakistan. In February, there was a bomb blast in Lahore that killed more than 10 people including a Christian student and injured many others. Pray for the families who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

**16** The city of Lahore is on high alert as sources suggest that a number of terrorists have infiltrated the city. Pray for protection for believers in the city and for wisdom for the government to deal with this possible threat.

## YEMEN

**17** Pray Psalm 19:14 over Believers from a Muslim

## YEMEN continues

Background who cannot openly practise their faith. Pray that the Lord will rescue them and protect them as they acknowledge His Name in the face of persecution.

## SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

**18** Last year, 3 000 Islamic teachers and missionaries (tabligh) attended a seminar on a small Southern Philippines island. Since then, men have started disappearing. It is believed that they are members of the extremist group, Abu Sayyaf. Pray for protection for the people of the island.

## MEXICO

**19** Mexico is one of the most violent countries in the world because of criminal groups. Pray for Christians, who are seen as a threat by these criminals, because they are actively engaged in social transformation.

**20** The state of Chiapas has the highest level of religious intolerance in Mexico. Pray for wisdom and guidance for Open Doors as we look for partners to assist us in strengthening persecuted believers in the state.