

WHAT IS FAITH
REALLY WORTH?

The Cost

THE YOUTH MAG FROM
OPEN DOORS SOUTHERN AFRICA

Open Doors
YOUTH

SHOCK WAVE



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SHOCK WAVE

1-3 March 2019

In this special SHOCKWAVE edition of *The Cost* we are focussing on India. Why India? Christians in India face growing violence due to the rise in radical Hinduism. Those who follow Jesus in India face constant pressure to turn to traditional Hindu beliefs. They're often physically assaulted and sometimes killed. So this SHOCKWAVE weekend we want to cover India and Christians in India in prayer.

When praying for people or places in other parts of the world like India, it's often challenging to truly feel "connected." After all, most of us have never walked through villages in India or had the chance to get to know the people who call these places home. But the great thing about prayer is that it goes beyond physical boundaries...

Open Doors founder, Brother Andrew, once said, *"Our prayers can go where we cannot... There are no borders, no prison walls, no doors that are closed when we pray."*

Your prayers mean so much to them as Kusum, a persecuted sister from India, shares, *"When they persecute, I pray. And when I pray, I know others are praying with me."*

So join us this SHOCKWAVE weekend and host a "curry and movie night" (see page 7) to get your friends and family to join you in praying for our family in India.

Thank you for praying with us for India during SHOCKWAVE!

Until next time,

Natasja B

Open Doors Youth Coordinator



Frequently Asked Questions:

WHAT IS IT?

SHOCKWAVE is an international prayer event for persecuted Christians. It also raises awareness and financial support for neglected believers.

WHY SHOULD I DO IT?

In more than 60 countries, millions of Christians suffer massacre, rape, torture, beatings, imprisonment, pressure, harassment, family division and crippling discrimination – simply because they believe in Jesus. These are not just stats, they are our brothers and sisters... and they need us!

WHEN IS IT?

The date for SHOCKWAVE is 1-3 March 2019.

HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO PRAY?

You can pray for 24 seconds, 24 minutes or 24 hours... it's entirely up to you!

WHO CAN GET INVOLVED IN SHOCKWAVE?

The unique thing about SHOCKWAVE is that it doesn't matter if you pray alone or with a group of people – we will help you out with some resources and ideas to plan your event.

WHAT IS THE THEME FOR SHOCKWAVE?

INDIA. We want to use this weekend to cover our family in India in prayer.

WHERE DO I PRAY?

Youth groups usually use this resource and Open Doors' website as part of their Friday night youth programme. Others hold combined youth events in their local area or they pray at home or alone. We will give you some ideas to help you organise your own special prayer event!

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP?

Write a letter or make a card:

Let persecuted Christians in India know they're not forgotten by sending them a letter, picture or video. Visit our website at www.opendoors.org.za/ write to read more.

Give:

Organise a fundraiser to raise funds to support the Church in India through local church partners! You could take part in a sporting event, put on a party or even do a parachute jump and get others to sponsor you... yes really!

Speak out:

Invite us to come and tell you more about the persecuted Church. Our representatives can't wait to visit you. So, invite us, you will not be disappointed! Visit www.opendoors.org.za/contact





COUNTRY AND PERSECUTION STATS



Region: South Asia

Leader: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Population: 1 354 052 000

Christian: 4.8%

Main Religion: Hinduism

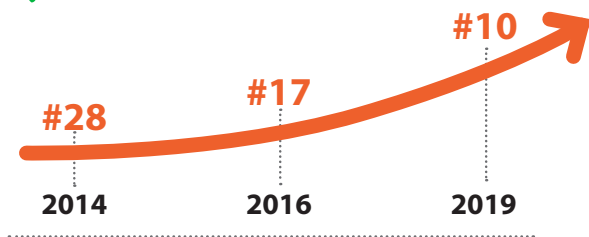
Government: Federal Parliamentary Republic



Most persecution comes from a variety of radical Hindu groups wanting to 'cleanse' India by making Hinduism the state religion. Christians are seen as outsiders and suffer more than ever from daily attacks. While the government continues to look away when religious minorities are attacked, indicating violence may only increase. So, Open Doors, through church partners, provides Christians with discipleship, education and vital relief aid, as well as training, Bible study tools and seminars to help them stand strong during persecution.



Here are some stats on Christian persecution in India



Open Doors World Watch List Position

India's position on the World Watch List has soared from #28 to #10 in just five years. Yet the government denies the very real persecution being spurred on by radical Hindu nationalism.

It's alarming how the number of violent incidents in India keeps growing and has reached new heights. And these reported incidents for the 2018 World Watch List* are considered to be just the tip of the iceberg.

*Reporting period: 1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017



23 793

Christians physically and/or mentally abused



336

Christians forced to leave their homes



635

Christians unjustly detained



MEET THEM...

JYOTI

Jyoti was born into a Christian family. When she was just six years old, her family faced intense persecution from the villagers who pressured them to leave their faith. When she turned 19, Jyoti realised that the Lord was calling her into ministry and she decided to enrol in Bible college. Today, Jyoti is studying theology and returns to her village to do ministry during her college breaks.

A PRAYER FROM JYOTI

"Lord, I pray for my state – that the staunch Hindus and tribes come to know about Your love and believe in You. I pray for the youth team in my church. It's my heart's desire, Lord, that every person in our village comes to know You. I also pray for the safety of girls in our village as they're often abused. I finally pray that I remain strengthened in my faith and always walk in Your ways."

KARAN

Karan is the only Christian in his family. The rest of his family members are devout Hindus—and his father is the village chief. In Karan's village, it's a disgrace that the chief's son isn't a Hindu, but a Christian.

A PRAYER FROM KARAN

"Dear Lord, I pray for my studies. Please help me concentrate and give my best. I pray for my family – please bless them and help them to know You. Lord, I pray for a suitable job for me so that I can help my family. I also want to learn more about the Bible. Please provide an opportunity for me to get more Bible training."

YENU

Yenu lives with her two younger sisters. Due to an illness, her mother recently died – and Yenu lost her father years ago. When her mother died, no one from the village came to help or even attend the funeral – even though they knew the family was very poor. Since her mother's passing, it's been very difficult for the family to survive. Yenu is currently looking for a job to help support her sisters.



A PRAYER FROM YENU


“Lord, I come to You. I pray for my family. Please provide for our needs, Lord. I pray that You would provide a suitable job for me so that I might be able to provide for my family. I pray for the perishing souls in my village. Please reveal Yourself to them that they might know Your truth and find salvation in You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”



PRAY WITH THEM...

- **THE DETERIORATING SITUATION IN INDIA.** In recent years, Hindu organisations have become more aggressive, claiming India belongs to Hinduism. Pray for Christian converts from Hinduism who are heavily pressured to return to their Hindu faith.
- **CHRISTIANS AS THEY EVANGELISE AMID ANTI-CONVERSION LAWS.** Pray for God’s provision for and protection over believers in India as they boldly evangelise in states with anti-conversion laws. Pray that they’ll be wise and protected in their evangelism efforts.
- **YOUNG BELIEVERS FACING HOMECOMING CEREMONIES.** Ask God to provide discipleship opportunities for young believers, so that they will be rooted in their faith and resist the temptation to return to Hinduism as Hindu radicals increase their homecoming campaign efforts to force Christians to return to their former Hindu religion.
- **WOMEN AND YOUNG GIRLS.** Pray for Christian women who are vulnerable to rape. Pray also for Christian girls in India who are placed under house arrest by their families because of their faith. Ask God to protect them and pray that their families would come to know the Lord.
- **THE PROTECTION OF CHRISTIANS.** As violence against Christians has increased, ask God to protect them as they daily serve Him in this volatile nation.





CURRY AND MOVIE NIGHT

Have a night in for persecuted Christians in India and enjoy your favourite curry. Then sit back and watch *Slumdog Millionaire* (PG-13) on DVD and see India come alive.

Use the evening to pray and raise awareness for persecuted Christians in India. Ask people to donate a minimum of R30 to strengthen persecuted Christians in India. Then before the night is over you can pray as a group or individuals for the Christians in India.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Invitations (download printable invitations on www.opendoors.org.za/shockwave)
- *Slumdog Millionaire* movie
- Curry
- Popcorn and sweet toppings
- Blankets and pillows

BEFORE THE EVENT

- Send out invites to your guests
- Print out the India country and persecution stats as well as prayers (see pages 3-6)

ON THE NIGHT

- Make or order curry
- Share printed info on India with your friends
- Watch *Slumdog Millionaire*.
- Pray for India
- Collect donations for persecuted Christians in India

SOME IDEAS

- **Ask guests to wear colourful clothes.** India is known for its bright colours. Have your guests dress up in beautiful, bright scarves, clothes or even traditional Indian clothing.
- **Have an outdoor movie night.** Who says you need to watch a movie indoors? Setup a projector and screen/white sheet outside to watch the movie. Provide lots of blankets and pillows so your guests can be comfortable.
- **Popcorn bar.** Watching a movie is not complete without popcorn. Pop bowls of popcorn and set aside various tubs of tasty topping options or pre-mix popcorn with various toppings to speed things along before the movie.
- **Make a sweet Indian treat.** Kulfi is a popular frozen dessert in India. Visit our website at www.opendoors.org.za/shockwave to try one of many delicious recipes for Kulfi ice pops.

DONATIONS

You can deposit collected donations into our bank accounts (details below).

Please use as your reference CURRY. Please e-mail proof of payment to youthsa@od.org

Bank Accounts:

Open Doors, ABSA, Northcliff (632005),
Account number: 160340568

or

Open Doors, Nedbank Business Account
(198765), Account number: 113 750 4552



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Serving persecuted Christians worldwide