**19 NEPAL** Preeti\* and her children were physically and mentally tortured by her husband for attending church. He left to live with another woman while Preeti struggles to take care of their children. Pray for God's provision for Preeti and her children in all their needs.

**20** A few months ago, political leaders started protests to remove secularism and declare Nepal a Hindu state. This provoked non-Christians who started making life difficult for Christians. Pray for wisdom and guidance for Nepali Christians amid this situation.

**21 THE GAMBIA** A few months ago, Saidou\* left Islam to follow Christ. Since then he has faced many threats, forcing him to flee his guardian's home and seek refuge with Christians. Pray for the Lord's protection over Saidou.

**22 VIETNAM** Vinh\* (57) and his mother (90) were kicked out of their house by Vinh's wife and children who oppose their Christian faith but not before they beat them up. Pray that the Lord will change the hearts of Vinh's family towards their Christian faith.

**23** MALAYSIA Last year, a pledge against racial discrimination was reversed by the government due to backlash from Malay rights groups, who fear this pledge would affect their special privileges. Pray that the government will still uphold fairness for minorities, especially in their religious rights as guaranteed by their Constitution.

**24 INDONESIA** Many believers in Indonesia are from a Muslim background and came to Christ after hearing the Gospel from other Christians. Praise the Lord for these Christians' boldness. Pray that many more lives will be touched and changed by the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**25 ARABIAN PENINSULA** Earlier this year, an Open Doors worker reported that many of our partners in the Arabian Peninsula seem tired and burdened. Pray that these builders of God's Kingdom will be reinvigorated with new hope, joy, and persevering faith so they can continue their ministry work in the region.

**26 ISRAEL AND PALESTINE** Pray for the unity of churches and church leaders from different denominations and ethnic backgrounds. Pray also that Christians, especially

## **ISRAEL AND PALESTINE continues**

those in leadership, will find rest so that they can serve their communities to the best of their abilities.

**27 LEBANON** While the people of Lebanon coexist with those who've fled other parts of the region, a Lebanese believer asked for us to pray that they'll petition, pray, intercede and give thanksgiving for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that they may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness with those living in their country (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

**28** SYRIA Praise the Lord for the ongoing women's ministry programmes in Syria. Through these programmes for women, Open Doors aims to strengthen the Syrian Church so that it will radiate God's love in this war-torn country and in so doing point others to Christ.

**29 IRAQ** Many people who've returned to Iraq, lost their businesses and jobs during the Islamic State invasion. Now, they need to revive the economy, restore life, and provide a decent living for their families. Pray for job opportunities for them.

**30 CENTRAL ASIA** There is a growing number of Uyghur house churches as Uyghur people open up their homes and hearts to the Gospel. Thank God for these growing house churches in Central Asia. Pray for continued safety for these churches as they secretly come together for worship.

**31 WORLDWIDE BODY OF CHRIST** As the enemy schemes evil against us and our persecuted brothers and sisters worldwide, pray for God's protection over us all. Pray that the plans of the evil one will be thwarted and that those who persecute us for our faith will see the error of their ways.

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



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## PRAYER FORCE

PRAYER CALENDAR FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS WORLDWIDE



You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal. – Isaiah 26:3-4 (NIV)

August 2019



**1 PERSECUTED WOMEN WORLDWIDE** Christian women are doubly vulnerable to persecution due to their gender and faith. This Women's Month let's remember such women and ask God that He will sustain and strengthen them to be bold witnesses for Him despite what they may face.

**2 MOZAMBIQUE** We continue to pray for our Mozambican neighbours who were hit by two cyclones earlier this year. We thank the Lord for the presence of the Church in the aftermath in places like Cabo Delgado, where it has offered displaced people of all faiths a shelter. Pray that the Lord will use this tragedy to bring many people to faith in Him.

**3 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC** Leoni has been left to fend for her family on her own after she refused to follow her community and in-laws' traditional mourning rites when her husband passed away. Pray for provision and protection for Leoni and her family as they live in a dangerous area.

**4 BURKINA FASO** Pastor Pierre Ouédraogo along with his son, brother-in-law and four of his congregants were killed during a Sunday Easter attack on their church. Pray for continued comfort and strength for their families.

**5 LIBYA** Praise the Lord for His guidance and protection over the Church in Libya as over time believers have made their faith known to others. Some of our brothers and sisters must still be very secretive about their faith. Pray for them to find ways to grow in their walk with Christ.

**6 ALGERIA** Since the beginning of the year, Christians in Algeria have been praying for the political situation in the country. Pray with them that there will be political stability in the country and that the new government will make decisions that benefit people of all faiths.

**7 NIGERIA** In April, over 40 Christians were killed in attacks in northern Nigeria. Continue to pray for the situation in northern Nigeria as well as for the Lord's comfort for all those who've lost loved ones.

8 In one community in April, Boko Haram attacked and killed 25 Christians. The day after the attack, while they were preparing to bury their dead, Boko Haram returned to attack them again, forcing them to flee. Pray for strength for these believers, who continue to be attacked because of their Christian faith.

**9 TUNISIA** Pray for the protection of a young woman who is being beaten by her husband because of her Christian faith. May the Holy Spirit give other Christians around her wisdom in helping her.

**10 MOROCCO** Believers from a Muslim Background have difficulty teaching their children Christian values as what they're taught at school contradicts their teachings at home. Pray for wisdom for these parents and that the Holy Spirit will grant their children discernment to sense the truth.

Amina's\* husband divorced her because of her faith in Jesus, leaving her to provide for their children on her own. Pray that God will open a door for her to gain employment, so she can take care of her children.

**12 IVORY COAST** Bamba\* is a young man who converted to Christianity from animism. His father's family has been threatening him to get him to return to his old beliefs. Pray for God's grace and protection upon him and for the salvation of his family.

**13 CHINA** Bible translation is often a thankless task requiring perseverance and painstaking attention to detail. Thank God for our partners who have faithfully undertaken the work of translating the Bible into minority languages. Pray for team unity amongst the translators, for their families and for protection and uncompromised security so the work can continue unhindered.

**14 BANGLADESH** In May, Shantiranjon's house was set on fire, while he and his family slept inside. Thankfully, they managed to escape with only minor burns. Pray that Shantiranjon and his family will stand firm in their faith despite this incident.

**15 SRI LANKA** In Sri Lanka, the Church is still reeling from the deadly attacks on Easter Sunday. Pray that as Sri Lankan Christians try to piece their lives back together after losing loved ones, God will be their sustaining grace and source of strength.

**16** Pray for Open Doors co-workers and partners in Sri Lanka – that the Lord will continue to give them wisdom about how best to support the victims of the Easter bombings. May they bring much comfort and hope to those who are hurting.



**17 MALDIVES** Maldivian Christians keep their faith a strict secret due to the dangers involved for them. Pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen them in their faith as they're not able to fellowship with other believers.

**18 INDIA** Open Doors, through local partners, provides women in India with training to help them deal with trauma experienced from persecution. Pray that God will use these trainings to bring healing to our sisters who've experienced terrible trauma.