

# 18 Uzbekistan



**“Each time persecution strikes, I ask: ‘Why am I still here?’... But then my wife and I remind ourselves of why we are here: to serve Jesus.”**

– Pastor Adel\* from Uzbekistan

**Region** Central Asia

**Christian population** 1%

**Main religion** Islam

**Sources of persecution** Islamic oppression  
Dictatorial paranoia

**Violence**  **18%**

**Pressure**  **84%**

**Score**  **73%**

## About Uzbekistan

No religious activities beyond state-run and state-controlled institutions are allowed. Christians are viewed as a threat to the government and face persecution from the state. While the Islamic culture means that Believers from Muslim backgrounds bear the brunt of the persecution; they experience pressure and occasionally physical violence from their families and communities to force them to return to Islam.



Pray that God will make the authorities blind to the activities of the Church and for protection for Christian converts in the hostile Muslim society.

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## Our Work

Open Doors strengthens the persecuted Church in Central Asia through literature distribution, various trainings, women's ministry, advocacy, socio-economic development projects and prayer support.

[www.opendoors.org.za/wwl](http://www.opendoors.org.za/wwl)



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