

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FROM THE 2021 WORLD WATCH LIST



Nigeria
Pakistan
Congo DR.
Mozambique
Cameroon

NEW DEVELOPMENTS & SHOCKING REALITIES

Mozambique

Since 2017, the province of Cabo Delgado has suffered more than 1 150 deaths in 600 attacks by a branch of Al-Shabaab, who wants to impose Sharia law in the province. More than 300 000 people have been displaced by these attacks.

Democratic Republic of Congo

A 2020 UN report estimates that an Islamic State-linked group, the Allied Democratic Forces (which has killed more than 1 000 civilians since the start of 2019), might have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity.

China

In an official ethics textbook, the "Sinicization" ("China-fication") of religion has resulted in a twisted retelling of the New Testament story in John 8 of the adulterous woman. The text says that Jesus stones the woman himself saying: "I too am a sinner. But if the law could only be executed by men without blemish, the law would be dead."

India and Turkey

Amid increasing Hindu nationalism in India and Islamic nationalism in Turkey, those in power have taken religious buildings or museums from other religions to erect Hindu and Islamic religious buildings respectively.

Latin America

In Mexico, the fight to contain the coronavirus made it hard to deal with organised crime with narco-trafficking groups imposing their own Covid-19 curfews in four regions. While in Colombia, organised crime groups grew their control by using government curfews and restrictions for their own ends.

FAST FACTS ON AFRICA



- Nineteen countries from Africa are now on the 2021 World Watch List.
- Four African nations are in the top 10.
- In Africa, 1 in 6 Christians live in situations of at least 'high' levels of persecution or discrimination for their faith.
- The Democratic Republic of Congo enters the top 50 at #40 for the first time ever due to violence by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF).
- Due to an increase in attacks by Islamic extremists in the last year, Mozambique enters the top 50 at #45 for the second time since 1993.
- Across sub-Saharan Africa, the Church faced up to 30% higher levels of violence than in the last two years.
- Nigeria has once again topped the list for the most violent country for Christians.

THE GOOD NEWS

Sudan

The death penalty for apostasy was abolished. The new constitution guarantees freedom of religion and omits Sharia law as its primary source of law and no longer specifies Islam as its state religion.

Iraq

Since 2017, young Muslim volunteers have been consistently cleaning up destroyed churches and homes, saying they want to encourage displaced Christians to return and stay because their history is rooted in that part of the Middle East too.



THANK YOU!

Your prayers and support are needed more than ever to provide persecuted Christians with the care they need through Bibles, trauma counselling, shelter and more as persecution continues to increase.

Thank you for being God's hands and feet to our brothers and sisters and giving them hope amid the darkness!