

# JUNE

## 1 Secret Believers in Central Asia

Pray for leaders of the underground, unregistered homesteads like Azamat\* who was threatened and psychologically abused after a police raid on his church meeting a few years ago. Praise the Lord that he is finally doing better and can function normally again.

## 2 Kazakhstan

Earlier this year, suddenly Kazakhstan was all over the worldwide news after the government resigned. Pray that in this new season, the Church will be stronger and that it will be able to show God's love to those who need it.

## 3 Bangladesh

Pray for the protection of believers, especially Believers from a Muslim Background who live alone or are secret believers. Pray also that they'll be assured of their salvation and grow spiritually in Christ Jesus.

## 4 Maldives

This year, Human Rights Watch advised the Maldivian government to prioritise efforts to reform the judiciary and curb endemic corruption. Pray that the government will heed the advice from Human Rights Watch for a more peaceful life for all within the Maldives.



Azamat\* (in his 40s) is an underground church leader in Central Asia, who we met four years ago. One day the police raided his church's service while he was away. Shortly after the raid, Azamat was summoned to the police station daily where he was interrogated and psychologically abused. It was a long process, but Azamat has slowly returned to "normal life" after his ordeal. He started to recover with the support and prayers from many people, including his ministry, family, and church.

*"Please, tell people who pray that we can feel their prayer. Sometimes, when I'm in difficulty, I think: 'This is the end.' But suddenly, I feel someone taking care of me. And I know that someone is praying for me," says Azamat.*

## 5 Sri Lanka

An elderly couple that converted to Christianity were stripped of all social welfare services and other subsidies that are provided to the elderly in their village. Pray for God to provide and raise people to take care of them.

## 6 Indonesia

In Indonesia, more and more young people aged 17-18 have converted to Christianity in the past year. Pray for God's wisdom, courage and grace over these young Believers from a Muslim Background as they follow Jesus.

## 7 Vietnam

Praise the Lord for the Cow Bank Project. Ultimately, it helps Christian families build their own houses, invest in a farm, send their children to school, put food on their tables, and give tithes. Pray that our partners will be able to expand this project.

## 8 Laos

Many believers face expulsion from their homes by those who despise Christians. Pray that the Lord will continue to strengthen the faith of these believers and believers who were kicked out because they believe in Jesus.

## 9 China

The Chinese government continues to limit the scope of public sharing of faith and force all religions to fall in line with Chinese socialism. Pray that the Church can find alternative ways to grow its relationship with the Lord despite the hardship.

## 10 Sri Lanka

Sharifa (21) has been attending church secretly. Her family constantly pressures her to return to Islam. Pray for an unwavering

faith for Sharifa and many other young converts who are persecuted by their families because of their faith.

## 11 Algeria

Pray for strength and wisdom for church leaders as they lead churches under pressure. It can be hard to make the right choices. Pray also for believers as the pressure in daily life from authorities or individual persecutors is taking a toll on them.

## 12 Persecution Sunday

As we remember the start of persecution in the early Church, pray for Open Doors Southern Africa as we host an online event and speak in churches about this day and the plight of our persecuted family around the world. May it be a blessed day as the Word of God goes out.

## 13 Iraq

The crimes of Islamic State are still echoing in the country seven years later. Pray that as many deal with the trauma of what they endured at the hands of IS that they will cling to the hope they have in Christ and will be able to testify of His goodness.

## 14 Syria

Many believers across the world have been praying for 11 years now that the war and the effects of the war will come to an end. Please continue to stand in prayer with our family in Syria and us for the war to end.

## 15 Lebanon

The people in Lebanon are in a dire situation. Economically it has been extremely hard. The wars in the region (Iraq and Syria mainly) have resulted in massive numbers of refugees in the country. Pray for good and trustworthy governance amid these struggles.



Pray that the Holy Spirit will work in the lives of youth around the world.

## **16 Youth worldwide**

Today, our country commemorates the Soweto youth uprising of 1976. Pray with us for our youth in South Africa and across the world, who face many challenges in a changing society. Pray that the Holy Spirit will work in their lives and help them navigate these challenges.

## **17 Nigeria**

Thank the Lord for Pastor Andrew's love for his flock and his faithful ministry to them. Praise the Lord for the fact that He is sustaining His Church in Nigeria despite the brutal persecution they face. Pray that He will equip the Church with many more "Andrews".

## **18 Tunisia**

Pray for the Lord to uplift Belhsen\*, who at

some point moved to another part of the country to share the Gospel. He was heavily persecuted in the new area and had to return to his old city. He is very discouraged by the whole ordeal.

## **19 Libya**

There aren't many believers in Libya, and those who have come to faith often run into serious problems like Maha\*, who is struggling in her marriage because of her faith. Pray for a solution for her.

## **20 Palestinian Territories**

Pray for priests and pastors who need wisdom and strength in serving their people, especially now where the burden on leaders is heavy as many struggle with the loss of work and income. Pray that they'll experience Jesus's offer to carry their burdens.

## 21 Myanmar

Pray for spiritual restoration and healing of emotional scars of believers who experienced the loss of their family members, homes, livelihoods and churches when they were displaced by the civil war.

## 22 Southern Philippines

"I couldn't thank you enough for the assistance you provided in our tribe," said Ameer\*, who attended a Natural Farming Seminar led by Open Doors Partners. Pray that these seminars will help families meet their daily needs as they gain knowledge from them.

## 23 North Korea

Underground Christians are more than happy with the supplies they receive. Pray that the support and prayer from brothers and sisters worldwide will be guided by God's hands to be of great help to secret Christians in North Korea.

## 24 Malaysia

Audio Bibles have made a significant impact on those who are illiterate or don't have a Bible in their language. "It really helps because I can't read," said Sawai\*. Praise the Lord for this. Pray that many believers will grow in their faith by listening to these Bibles.

## 25 India

Pray for the Covid situation in the country; many are still suffering from the virus, and many have been affected economically. Pray especially for those who were already struggling economically before Covid that God will provide for all their needs.

## 26 Laos

In May 2021, Bongyang\* and Faxai\* were falsely accused of not adhering to Covid protocols during a church service. At the time of writing, Bongyang is still in prison for this, and no one seems to know where Faxai is. Pray for this couple to be reunited with one another and their 7-year-old son.

## 27 Pakistan

Earlier this year, two priests were killed in a targeted attack. They were leaving their church after praying and were shot dead. Pray for safety for all believers, especially those who are on the hit list of those who targeted the priests.

## 28 Burkina Faso

Thank the Lord for the opportunity for our team to meet with teenager Salamata, whose church was attacked by jihadists and that she has continued to see the Lord's care. Pray that she will continue to see the Lord's hand in her life amid many challenges.

## 29 Nigeria

Thank the Lord for sustaining Charity's faith through the trauma of Boko Haram attacking her village. Thank Him for His provision in her and her family's lives and pray that they'll continue to see His care daily in their physical needs.

## 30 Colombia

Having our national head office close to the Children's Centre is helping us integrate the two teams in the development of our work. Pray for wisdom and good strategy. May God continue to help us develop the centre to train believers in the persecuted Church.

\*Names changed for security purposes.