

continued

months in prison for participating in a house church. Pray for protection, discernment and boldness.

December 21 | MALI

An attack by Fulani Muslim militants killed an estimated 95 Christians, including men, women and children—a third of the village. Please ask God to intervene in this ongoing violence.

Churches



*And He is the head of the body, the Church ...
— Colossians 1:18a*

December 22 | NEPAL

A 16-year-old Christian prayer center in the city of Gandaki Pradesh was demolished. With no prior notice, authorities suddenly destroyed the buildings. Pray that believers here stay strong.

December 23 | KAZAKHSTAN

Please pray for Revival Church in Karaganda. Several members were fined after police raided a birthday party. Pray for protection against further targeting.

December 24 | VIETNAM

Pastor Thanh* is Open Doors' local coordinator for a Bible school that equips believers in remote areas. He asks, "Please pray the government will continue to grant us the opportunity to admit students every two years."

December 25 | WORLDWIDE

As you celebrate Christmas today, please pray for all of the house churches that will meet in secret. *Father, we pray that you would fill our persecuted family with peace and joy as they risk their lives to worship.*

December 26 | NORTH KOREA

Please pray for North Korean refugee women who have been trafficked and sold to Chinese men, who now come together for secret Bible trainings. Pray for healing and deepened faith.

December 27 | NIGERIA

Pastor Marcos' church was destroyed by Boko Haram. He reminds us: "Boko Haram cannot destroy the life that has been given through Jesus Christ." He asks us to pray that God gives his village strength to endure.

Hope4ME



Join our multi-year Hope for the Middle East Prayer Campaign. Visit ODUSA.org/Pray4ME to learn more.

December 28 | SYRIA

Pray for Syrian women who have no voice in a patriarchal society. Ask God to reassure them of their worth and pray that they will one day be seen as equals.

December 29 | IRAQ

Pray for hope for displaced Christian families from Mosul. Although the threat of ISIS has decreased, very few believers have returned due to an unstable security situation.

December 30 | SYRIA

Thank God for prayer groups in churches and pray that more groups will be established. It is a neglected but much-needed ministry.

December 31 | IRAQ

Iraqi law states that if one of the partners in a marriage becomes Muslim, the other must follow and change their religion. Pray for Christians facing this persecution. Ask God to open hearts and change this law.



Get up-to-date requests from persecuted Christians around the world through our free Prayer App. Visit OpenDoorsUSA.org/PrayerApp to download the app now!

**Representative name or photo used to protect identity.*



Open Doors USA
P.O. Box 27001
Santa Ana, CA 92799 USA
OpenDoorsUSA.org

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OpenDoors®

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

PRAYER FORCE ALERT

Prayer request bulletin for persecuted Christians worldwide



YES, AND ALL THAT WILL LIVE GODLY IN CHRIST JESUS SHALL SUFFER PERSECUTION.

(2 TIMOTHY 3:12)

Monthly Focus | CHILDREN OF THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

This month, please pray with us for the littlest victims of persecution: the children of our brothers and sisters. Their stories show us persecution's far-reaching impact—and remind us of Jesus' words: "...for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matt. 19:14). One Church. One Family.

December 1 | NEPAL

Anti-Christians saw a videotape of a young girl inside a church praying for a sick woman. The girl has now been arrested for proselytization. Pray with this sister in Christ, that her faith and heart for prayer would remain strong.

December 2 | EGYPT

Christian children are often denied the same education non-Christian children receive. Through Open Doors partner churches' extra educational courses, students receive supplementary teaching. Pray with these young believers—the next generation in Egypt's church.

December 3 | WORLDWIDE

Please pray for all the children who will be celebrating Christmas without one or both of their parents, in prison for their faith. Pray for comfort for these separated families.

December 4 | VIETNAM

John* was one of the first in Vietnam to receive a Children's Bible, printed with support from Open Doors. The Bible, he says, is his "greatest present": "I'm so thankful my dad brought it to our home." Praise God for these Bibles.

December 5 | IRAN

Here, families of Muslim converts can't openly celebrate Christmas. Ask God to fill the hearts of Christian children with awe and wonder as they celebrate Jesus' birth in secret.

December 6 | INDIA

Pray for a group of believers who were violently attacked—including women and children. They were forced to flee their homes. Ask God to help them return and live safely in their village.

December 7 | SYRIA/IRAQ

Many children of displaced families will not be celebrating Christmas in their homes. Pray they find comfort and community with other Christian families.

Pastors



And I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.
— Jeremiah 3:15

December 8 | INDIA

After leading a church service, Hiralal* was killed and his wife and child were critically injured when their vehicle was struck by another vehicle. The killers later admitted to police they were bribed by anti-Christians. Please pray with Hiralal's family for healing and strength.

December 9 | CUBA

Pray for pastors who were stopped from traveling to Washington, D.C., to attend a global religious freedom conference. Ask God to encourage these leaders and embolden their faith.

December 10 | UZBEKISTAN

Pastor Oleg* leads a church made up of converts from Islam. He says: "To feel God's peace in our hearts in different circumstances, this is what I consider the most important for Christians. Please pray for this."

December 11 | CUBA

Please continue to pray for Pastor Rigal and his wife, Ayda, who have now been sentenced to prison for homeschooling their children. Pray for justice and comfort for their children, ages 13 and 9.

Believers



We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
— Romans 6:4

December 12 | ERITREA

Please continue to pray for thousands affected by the government's closing of Catholic-run health centers in the country. Ask God to have mercy on those the clinics served who are now being turned away.

December 13 | CONGO

Open Doors' contacts report the murders of an estimated 90 Christians in a five-month period. Pray for provision and comfort for the children and the elderly these deaths leave behind.

December 14 | NORTH KOREA

Thank God for North Korean believers like the one who told an Open Doors team, "We dedicate ourselves again to help the other Christians." Pray with believers as they share the hope they have in Jesus.

December 15 | SOUTH ASIA

An Open Doors partner shares about working with traumatized believers: "... It is a brutal moment when you witness your beloved sister or brother have a flash back to a deep pain. Pray for our team for wisdom, discernment, mercy and humility."

December 16 | INDIA

Tara* is 14. Because she chooses to follow Jesus, she is socially boycotted in her family home. "Nobody even touches or looks at me," she says. Pray this young girl experiences Christ's love in a special way.

December 17 | INDONESIA

Please continue to pray for healing for Trinity, almost 7. Three years ago, she was the victim of 2016's church bombing. Trinity recently made her fourth trip to China for surgeries. Pray for healing and patience for this family, especially her mom, Sarina.

December 18 | BURKINA FASO

When extremists entered Bani village looking for Christians, they singled out four men wearing crosses and executed them. Pray for an end to the onslaught of killings in this country's northern region.

December 19 | EGYPT

Pray with us against a new persecution tactic involving Facebook. Muslim extremists hack Christians' Facebook accounts and post content offensive to Islam, then rally moderate Muslims to attack their neighbors. Pray for justice.

December 20 | IRAN

Fatemeh Mohammadi is a 19-year-old Iranian Christian who speaks up for the rights of Christians. She is also the future of the church in Iran. She has already spent six