Attack kills mother and child in Bangladesh

In the early hours of the morning, while Shilpi, 30, and Supria, her 5-year-old daughter, were sleeping in their bedroom, someone threw a bomb through an open window. The bomb exploded, and fire quickly engulfed everything in the room. Although Shilpi and Supria managed to escape, their injuries were too great and both died a short time later.

Shilpi’s husband, Ridoy, was at work when the attack occurred. Our field partner, Stephen Liton Halder, visited Ridoy after the attack and asks for prayers: “[Ridoy is] feeling completely hopeless, frustrated, depressed. He is in mourning, refusing to speak to anyone.” Stephen believes this was an act of Christian persecution—the family are the only known Christians in an area filled with religious extremists.

November 21
Pray Ridoy experiences God’s deep comfort.

November 22
Pray for Ridoy’s relatives, his friends and other believers as they stand with him in his pain and grief.

November 23–24
Pray Ridoy will grow stronger in his faith in Christ through this tragedy and that what the enemy meant for harm, God would use for good (Gen. 50:20).

November 25
Ask God to renew Ridoy’s hope in Christ in specific and consistent ways.

November 26
Pray the police will find the perpetrator of this violence and bring them to justice.

Prayer Force Alert

November 2020

Hope for the Middle East

Open Doors has a seven-year plan to pray for the church in the Middle East as Christians heal and rebuild in the years after being decimated by war and ISIS. Join our multi-year Hope for the Middle East Prayer Campaign as we lift up requests from believers in Iraq and Syria. You can also visit ODUSA.org/Pray4ME to learn more.

November 27–28
Since October 2019, Iraqis have demonstrated against widespread government corruption, unemployment, injustice, poverty and repression. More than 700 Iraqi young adults have lost their lives in these protests. Pray the recently elected government listens seriously to demonstrators’ demands and works to achieve security and safety in the country.

November 29–30
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing war, 82.5 percent of Syrians are currently living under the poverty line. In northern Syria, parents can’t afford to feed their children. Pray for this economic situation—that people can afford food again—and an end to military conflict.

Get up-to-date requests from persecuted Christians around the world through our free Prayer App.

Text PRAYER to 32500 to download the app now!
Building a school

In rural Ethiopia, an Open Doors school is helping a small Christian community regain their place in society. For many years, these believers have lived like outsiders in their own village. A local pastor named Sileshi* proposed building a school, believing it would bring in the church and social outsiders and win the trust of their Muslim community.

The school is helping the local church be seen as a valued contributor to the community where children can receive a good education. Believers are treated with greater tolerance, and Christians have the opportunity to live out the gospel in practical ways.

November 1
Pray the Lord will protect the school, its principal and teachers.

November 2
Praise God for the success of this project and especially for the good relationships it has fostered between Christians and Muslims.

November 3
Pray Pastor Sileshi continues to closely follow the Lord’s leading.

November 4
Pray for the Muslim community in this village, that they may come to know Jesus through the work of the school.

November 5
Pray the school’s academic reputation would continue to grow.

November 6
Thank God that Christians feel they can now worship without fear.

November 7
Pray the expansion of the school building would go well.

Christian girl abducted at gunpoint in Asia

Maria*, a young Christian woman in a Muslim-majority country in Asia, was abducted at gunpoint. We cannot reveal Maria’s real name, age and country for the protection of Maria and her family.

Neighbors witnessed the abduction. However, when the teenager was brought to court to testify, she said she voluntarily left with her kidnappers and is now married and Muslim by choice. The judge ruled the abduction never took place, and Maria left court with her abductors.

November 8
Pray for protection for Maria, who’s in a very fragile and vulnerable situation.

November 9
Pray for the countless other young Christian women who are violently kidnapped and forcibly married to Muslims.

November 10
Pray for justice for Maria, her family and the community who saw and reported the events they witnessed.

November 11
Pray for comfort for Maria’s traumatized and grieving family.

November 12
Pray for the success of our partner’s advocacy group working behind the scenes on the case.

November 13
Pray for the Christian community reeling from the shock of the judge’s ruling. They’re grappling with feelings of hopelessness as the situation worsens.

November 14
Pray for Maria’s faith in Jesus, that it would remain strong.

Clinging to hope for Brunei

Elora* is a believer in her twenties from Brunei. She has grown up in this strongly Islamic nation, and in 2019 Brunei adopted Shariah law, making conversion punishable by death. Some of Elora’s Christian friends have converted to Islam to marry Muslims, while others are less bold in sharing their faith since these laws were implemented. Elora is trying to do something about this by serving the young adults in her church and teaching them to listen to the Holy Spirit.

“Believers are not willing to take risks,” Elora says. “Parents choose not to send their children to public church events either. Some of my friends have even said they don’t see a place for themselves in the church anymore.” Despite this, Elora refuses to give up hope.

November 15
Pray for young people like Elora who have a heart for their nation.

November 16
Pray for the Sultan, government and authorities of Brunei to have a revelation of Christ’s love.

November 17
Pray God would instill creativity in church leaders for new initiatives to encourage youth to stay faithful to Him.

November 18
Join Elora in praying for the salvation of the people of Brunei.

November 19
Pray God would bless and use the church in Brunei to advance His Kingdom.

November 20
Pray that Bruneian Christians would be the light of the world (Matt. 5:14).