

## PRAY FOR PRISONERS

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August

We pray for **Aklilu Desbele** who has been in prison in Eritrea since 2008. We pray that the Lord would help him to stay strong, firm and steadfast and we pray for his release from prison.

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August

**Yasser Mossayebzadeh** (pictured) is serving a 10-year prison sentence in Iran since 2018. We pray that he would be able to appeal his sentence and be released earlier than 2028.



Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August

Pakistani Christian **Imran Ghafur Masih** has been in prison on blasphemy charges since 2009. We pray that the Lord would give him comfort and patience as his appeal hearings are postponed time and again.

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August

South Korean missionary **Kim Jong Uk** has been serving a life sentence in a labour camp in North Korea since 2013. We pray that God would keep him safe and give him strength and health.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August

Nigerian school girl **Leah Sharibu** has been held captive by terrorists since 2018. We pray for hope, comfort and protection for her and that that she would be freed and reunited with her family soon.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August

Eritrean pastor and anaesthetist **Meron Gebreselasie** was arrested in 2004 and has remained in prison since. We pray for peace and perseverance for Meron.

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August

**Shaguffa Kausar** and **Shafqat Emmanuel**, a married couple, have been in prison in Pakistan since 2013. We pray that their appeal would be heard soon. We also pray for good health for them both and hope for their four children.

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August

Chinese pastor **John Cao** is serving a 7-year sentence since 2017. We pray that he would be allowed visitors and that he would be treated well in prison.

—Thank you for praying with us!—



# Church in Chains Prayer Diary

## August 2020

**Set me free from my prison, that I may praise your name. Then the righteous will gather about me because of your goodness to me.** Isaiah 142: 7

### PRAY FOR NEWS AND EVENTS

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August

Pastor **Munsi Deo Tando** was shot dead in Maharashtra state in India on 10 July. It is believed that villagers upset with the growth of the church that he led incited Maoist revolutionaries to kill the pastor. Please pray for God's comfort and provision for his wife Jaini and their four young children aged 6, 5, 4 and 1.

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

Five South Sudanese Christians were attacked by a Muslim mob in Sudan in June. We pray for healing and recovery for the four Christians who were injured in the attack and for comfort and provision for the wife and four children of **Marriel Bang** who was killed.

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Praise God that Church in Chains was finally able to present the petition signed by TDs and Senators about persecution of Christians to the Indian Ambassador last month. We pray that the Indian government will respond and take action to curb the violent attacks of Hindu militants.

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August

Please pray for hope and a future for the over 1,300 members of **Tianmen Church** in Henan Province left without a building since Chinese authorities demolished their church on 31 May.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August

Pray for the impact of the hundreds of postcards that have been sent to the Nigerian Embassy in Dublin calling on the Nigerian government to take effective action to stop the ongoing slaughter of Christians in the Middle Belt region.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August

Today we pray for **Nadeem Joseph's** family in Pakistan, attacked in June by Muslim neighbours because they bought a home in what the neighbours defined as a "Muslim neighbourhood". Nadeem died from gunshot wounds.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August

Please pray for all the planning and preparation that is going on as we prepare to hold our Annual Conference online on Saturday 12 September. Pray especially for our speaker **Imtiaz Ashraf** from Pakistan.



**CHURCH IN CHAINS**

PO Box 10447, Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland; Charity No: CHY 15443  
T 01-282 5393 E info@churchinchains.ie W www.churchinchains.ie

## PRAY FOR IRAQ

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August

Many Iraqis bear the scars of decades of conflict involving violent dictators, international invasions, and attacks from various groups. We pray for an end to divisions between religious and ethnic factions and for healing for this nation.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August

There are only around 200,000 Christians left in Iraq, just under 0.5% of the population. Many of them are still recovering from the brutal reign of Islamic State, and its threat has not fully diminished. We pray for hope, courage and protection for all Christians in the region.



Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August

We pray wisdom for **President Barham Salih** and **Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi** to govern the country well and come up with fair and sustainable solutions to the many challenges in Iraq.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August

We pray that Christian political leaders would listen to God's voice and ask for wisdom for their daily decisions. Pray that they would serve their people well.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August

Our partner **Steadfast Global** supports a number of projects, including micro-loans for Christians and ongoing humanitarian relief for displaced Christians living in Iraqi Kurdistan. Please remember these initiatives in your prayers today.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August

Thank God for Steadfast Global's **projectRECYCLE** initiative to renovate and repurpose abandoned houses for purchase by Christians forced to flee their homes in the Nineveh Plains region. Please pray for a safe and peaceful future for the first two families who have moved into new homes on a rent-to-own basis.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August

Pray for youth training and discipleship programmes in Iraqi Kurdistan. Pray for the future of these young people, especially those from other faith backgrounds, and ask God to give them courage and strength to stand up to trials.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August

Our hearts are broken for this war-torn country. We pray for evil and terror to be overcome by the power and love of Christ and His people in Iraq.

## PRAY FOR MEXICO

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August

Although Mexico is a secular and predominantly Christian state with religious freedom, minority faith communities continue to be targeted. In the southern states where Catholicism is often intertwined with native Mayan religious practices, evangelical Christians continue to be persecuted. We pray for perseverance for our persecuted Mexican brothers and sisters.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August

Christians of all denominations face persecution from powerful mafia-style drug cartels which often threaten church leaders, targeting churches for extortion and to use as fronts for money laundering. We pray that the Lord would command His angels concerning them to guard them in all their ways. (Psalm 91)



Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August

We pray for courage, determination and wisdom for **President Andrés Manuel López Obrador** to tackle organised crime and corruption throughout the country and keep Mexicans safe.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August

Christians in Chiapas are sometimes denied access to basic social services and resources such as water. We pray for their safety and for protection for families who have become even more vulnerable with the outbreak of Covid-19.

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August

Religious leaders are vulnerable to attacks, kidnap, enforced disappearance and murder. Pray for the safety of these leaders and for a thorough investigation into all attacks against them.

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August

Christian Solidarity Worldwide reported that in 2019 at least 38 children were excluded from school because of their beliefs. We pray that these children will be able return to school and continue their education.

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

**Rosita** is a widow since her husband **Pastor Alfrery Lícior Cruz Canseco** was shot dead in Oaxaca state in August 2019 shortly after leading a worship service. We pray that the Lord would comfort Rosita daily and heal and guard her heart.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Lord, we pray that the light of Christ would shine the dark corners of Mexico and that those who are involved in crime and corruption would be convicted.