

LENT PRAYER PROJECT WEEK 1

Sunday 21st February

Chinese Christian **Jang Moon Seok** is an ethnic Korean who ministered to North Koreans in China until November 2014, when he was abducted, brought across the border into North Korea and sentenced to 15 years in prison. He is in his late fifties. Ask God to protect Deacon Jang in prison.



Monday 22nd February

We pray that **Deacon Jang** would be released soon and wouldn't have to serve his whole prison sentence.

Tuesday 23rd February

Today we ask for hope, encouragement and spiritual strength for **Deacon Jang**. We pray that he would experience that *"The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble"* (Psalm 9).

Wednesday 24th February

For security reasons, no information is available about **Deacon Jang's** family. We are thankful that God knows his family and we ask Him to comfort and bless each family member.

Thursday 25th February

Several other prisoners in North Korea have reportedly encountered **Deacon Jang** in prison or heard news of him, but very little information about Christian prisoners in North Korea can be published because of the high risk to family members or contacts. We pray that his witness might bless other prisoners.

Friday 26th February

Pray for hope, courage and protection for all Korean Christians – from China, South Korea and North Korea – who are imprisoned in North Korea for their faith.

Saturday 27th February

We pray that the faithful witness of Christians martyrs in North Korea will continue to bear fruit and the church will continue to grow.

**Week 2 of the Lent Prayer Project will be included in the March Prayer Diary
As always, thank you for praying with us this month!**



Church in Chains Prayer Diary

February 2021

He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. Deuteronomy 10:18

PRAY FOR NEWS AND EVENTS

Monday 1st February

Thank you for praying for **Pastor Jin Tianming** from Shouwang Church, Beijing. We recently learned that he was released from house arrest after nine and a half years. Praise God for his release and pray that he can enjoy his new freedom.

Tuesday 2nd February

Please pray for the grieving families of Christian sisters **Sajida Mushtaq** (28) and **Abida Qaiser** (26) who were killed in Pakistan for refusing to convert to Islam. Remember especially their husbands and Sajida's four children and Abida's daughter.

Wednesday 3rd February

We pray that many people will take part in our upcoming annual Lent Prayer Project despite churches being closed. We would love to see an answer to our prayers again like last year when two of the six featured prisoners were released.

Thursday 4th February

We continue to pray for all who are seeking to find a solution for **Sam, Maryam** and their adopted daughter **Lydia** in Iran. We pray for a way that they can stay together despite a court deeming them unsuitable parents due to their faith.

Friday 5th February

We pray for a good online prayer meeting tonight; that more and more people would join together with us in doing battle for the persecuted church in prayer.

Saturday 6th February

Please pray for Chinese house church pastor **Li Juncai** who was sentenced to five and a half years in prison for objecting to the forcible removal of his church cross and refusing to change church signs proclaiming "Love God and people" to "Love country, love religion".

Sunday 7th February

Pray for provision and guidance for the **Subasigüller** family who recently relocated from Turkey to northern Cyprus. The American mother **Joy Anna** was told last summer that she had to leave Turkey after ten years, a decision thought to be due to her Turkish husband **Lütfü's** work as a Protestant pastor.



CHURCH IN CHAINS

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PRAY FOR INDIA

Monday 8th February

Persecution in India increased significantly over the past five years, and remained at a high level in 2020. During the Covid-19 pandemic Christians have often been deliberately overlooked when official aid is distributed. This has left many desperate for food, particularly since many Christians are from the Dalit caste and very poor. We pray for provision for these brothers and sisters in need!

Tuesday 9th February

We thank God that the church in India is growing, with an estimated 64 million Christians. We pray for unity and for fellowship especially for Christians in remote and rural areas.

Wednesday 10th February

The current Indian government has been promoting Hindu nationalism since 2014 which has increasingly led to sectarian violence against minorities. We pray that Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** would change his current policies that are sowing division and hatred.



Thursday 11th February

We pray for protection for Christians from a Hindu background who are particularly vulnerable. These converts are accused of following a "foreign faith", blamed for bad luck in their communities and often physically attacked and sometimes killed. We pray that they receive strength to withstand the constant pressure to return to Hinduism and that their families and communities accept their new faith.

Friday 12th February

Pray for God's protection over Christians who are sharing the Gospel in the growing number of Indian states with anti-conversion laws. Pray that they would be wise in the way that they share the Good News.

Saturday 13th February

We pray for protection and provision for **Persecution Relief**, one of our partner organisations in India, as it responds quickly to aid Christians in the wake of attacks by Hindu militants and followers of tribal religions.

Sunday 14th February

Pastor Shelton Vishwanathan from Bihar state was attacked several times in the past two years by Hindu extremists. We pray for physical and emotional healing for him and hope and a future for his entire family.

PRAY FOR LIBYA

Monday 15th February

Libya has been in chaos since the fall of the Gaddafi regime in 2011. Years of anarchy, power struggles and civil war have taken thousands of lives and persecution of Christians in all spheres of life worsened. We pray that the fragile ceasefire agreement signed in October 2020 will continue to hold.

Tuesday 16th February

There are around 40,000 Christians in Libya, but only a very small number (approximately 150) are Libyan - the majority are expatriates and migrant workers. We pray for ways that Christians can meet together in safety. We pray also that God would fill them with comfort, courage and hope to continue building His kingdom in Libya.



Wednesday 17th February

Give thanks for the agreement reached in January on interim political structures to govern the country prior to elections scheduled for December 2021. Pray that the appointment of an interim prime minister and three deputies will proceed smoothly and that they will restore the rule of law and begin to rebuild the nation with justice and peace.

Thursday 18th February

Libya is a deeply Islamic nation and leaving Islam is seen as a betrayal. It is illegal to bring Arabic Bibles into the country or to share the gospel with Muslims. Christian converts face pressure and threats from their families and communities to renounce their faith. Lord, pour out Your grace and strength on those who are under pressure to renounce You and help them withstand!

Friday 19th February

Radio, satellite television and the internet offer effective ways to evangelise and disciple Libyan Christians and encourage those who feel isolated. We pray for blessing for these important ministries, in particular our partner **SAT-7** which doesn't just broadcast programmes but also offers viewer support by responding to phone calls, answering emails and contacts through social media, praying with people and counselling them through difficult times.

Saturday 20th February

Lord Jesus, thank You for our brothers and sisters in Libya who serve You faithfully, despite the risks. Help them to stand strong in the midst of hostility and persecution.