

NEWS/EVENTS

Thursday 22nd April

Pastor Bulus Yikura, who was abducted in an attack on his Nigerian village at Christmas, was released from captivity in March. Pray for blessing for his family.

Friday 23rd April

Iranian Christian **Ebrahim Firouzi** spent 19 days in detention in February, after he published a series of videos outlining his harassment by intelligence agents and is now back in internal exile. Pray that the charges against him will be dropped.

Saturday 24th April

We pray that husband and wife **Homayoun Zhaveh** (who has Parkinson's disease) and **Sara Ahmadi** won't be summoned to prison in Iran for belonging to a house church, but that the court decision would be reversed.

Sunday 25th April

Praise God that 20-year-old **Nabeel Masih** was released on bail in March after serving four years in prison in Pakistan on a blasphemy charge. Please pray that Nabeel would soon be acquitted and able to leave Pakistan safely.

Monday 26th April

Please pray for **Tabeeta Nazir Gill** – a Christian nurse in Pakistan who had to go into hiding in February. She was beaten up and falsely accused of blasphemy.

Tuesday 27th April

13-year-old **Shakaina Masih** was kidnapped in February in Pakistan and has been forcefully converted to Islam and married to a Muslim man. We pray that this young girl would be freed and reunited with her family soon.

Wednesday 28th April

Haroon Ayub Masih and **Salamat Mansha Masih** were charged with blasphemy after a Muslim objected to them studying the Bible in a park in Pakistan. Please pray that they would both be freed and pray for their protection.

Thursday 29th April

Thank God that 21 Christian women were recently released from prison in Eritrea. Please pray for provision for these women as they adjust to life outside.

Friday 30th April

We pray also for **Aklilu Desbele**, **Mussie Eyob** and **Twen Theodros** who were all released from Eritrean prisons in recent months after so many years in prison.

—————Thank you for partnering with us in prayer!—————



Church in Chains Prayer Diary

April 2021

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. Isaiah 12:2

LENT PRAYER PROJECT WEEK 6

Sunday 28th March

Pastor John Cao (60) is serving a seven-year prison sentence in China for “organising illegal border crossings” between China and Myanmar. A resident of North Carolina, he made many trips to his native China to establish schools and work among the poor before expanding his humanitarian work into Myanmar. Ask God to bless Pastor John and keep his faith strong.



Monday 29th March

Pastor John has lost a lot of weight in prison and has experienced digestion problems, back pain and toothache. Pray for healing for his body.

Tuesday 30th March

In July 2019 **Pastor John** appealed his sentence, but it was upheld. Pray that despite that he would still be released early.

Wednesday 31st March

Pastor John has been married to **Jamie Powell**, who is a US citizen, since 1988 and they have two sons, **Ben** and **Amos**. Today we pray for comfort and hope for Jamie, Ben and Amos.

Thursday 1st April

Pastor John's 84-year-old mother **Sun Jinhuai**, lives in China and was permitted to visit him for the first time in July 2019. Ask God to bless and strengthen Sun Jinhuai.

Friday 2nd April

Pastor John does not have access to a Bible in prison. His lawyer read verses to him from the book of James during a visit in February and his mother writes several Bible verses in each letter she sends him. Pray for Pastor John's encouragement and his continued witness to prisoners and guards.

Saturday 3rd April

Pray that others would continue Pastor John's ministry to the poor.



CHURCH IN CHAINS

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PRAY FOR INDONESIA

Easter Sunday 4th April

Indonesia was founded on a tradition of pluralism, but recent years have seen increasing violence and discrimination against religious minorities. We pray for an outpouring of peace and justice over this nation.

Monday 5th April

In certain hot spots, like West Java and Aceh, extremist Islamic groups are strong and heavily influence society and politics. We pray for protection over all Indonesian Christians, especially those living in West Java and Aceh.



Tuesday 6th April

Pray that churches who are trying to obtain locations for worship would find favour with the government and be granted freedom to gather and worship in peace.

Wednesday 7th April

We pray that **President Joko Widodo** would be able and willing to do more to counter extremism and intolerance, and defend religious pluralism.

Thursday 8th April

Pray for strength and courage for Christians converts who are often heavily pressurised by family and community to renounce their new faith in Jesus.

Friday 9th April

Pray for Christian children and teens, who often face discrimination and isolation for their faith. Ask God to give them hope, to strengthen their faith and that they would know they are not alone in Christ.

Saturday 10th April

Last November four Salvation Army members were murdered by Islamist terrorists in a remote village. We ask for God's comfort, peace and protection for all Salvationists in Indonesia and blessing of their work.

Sunday 11th April

In 2019 proposals were made to expand Indonesia's blasphemy laws, which already cause much injustice. These proposals are currently on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray that legislators would recognise that the blasphemy laws must be amended or repealed, not expanded.

Monday 12th April

Once again we lift up all 250 million Indonesians before the Lord. We know that each and every one of them is loved by Him and we pray that they would have a personal encounter with their Creator.

PRAY FOR VIETNAM

Tuesday 13th April

Violence against Christians is increasing in Communist Vietnam, but still the church is growing among ethnic minorities. We thank God for these new believers and pray for protection over all Christians.

Wednesday 14th April

We pray that national and local authorities' suspicion of Christians will ease, and be replaced with an appreciation of their value to society.

Thursday 15th April

Today we pray for freedom from government repression of unregistered house churches.



Friday 16th April

President Nguyễn Phú Trọng will turn 77 this month and is not in good health. We pray that he can retire soon, as is his wish, and that the next president of Vietnam would bring more freedom.

Saturday 17th April

Christians from a Buddhist or animist background experience the strongest pressure, both from their communities and the authorities. We pray that they would have the strength to cling to Jesus and that this stance would powerfully speak to their neighbours and communities.

Sunday 18th April

We pray for protection for Christians in rural areas from harassment, discrimination, social exclusion and attack due to their faith.

Monday 19th April

Thank God that **Pastor A Dao** was released last September after serving four years in prison on a trumped-up charge for "helping individuals to escape abroad illegally". His wife and children left him while he was in prison, so we pray that the Lord would help him rebuild his life and heal from all the losses.

Tuesday 20th April

We pray for blessing for the organisations that support Vietnamese Christians by providing them with Christian literature, leadership and discipleship training, socio-economic development projects, advocacy and relief aid.

Wednesday 21st April

Ask God to break down any barriers that are keeping the Vietnamese from coming to Him. Ask Him to create a hunger in their hearts to know the Most High God and pray for continued growth of the Vietnamese church.