

## PRAY FOR PRISONERS

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May

**Alimujiang Yimiti** is a Uighur Christian who has been in prison in China since 2008, serving a 15-year sentence. We pray that the Lord would be his strength and his shield and that Alimujiang would be helped by Him. (*Psalms 28:7*)

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May

Husband and wife **Bao Guohua** and **Xing Wenxiang** (pictured) have been in prison in China since 2015, serving fourteen and twelve-year sentences respectively. We pray for hope and strength for them and that they would be released early.



Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Chinese **Pastor Zhang Shaojie** has been in prison since 2013. We pray that the Lord would sustain and comfort him as he serves his 12-year sentence.

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May

**Ashfaq Masih** has been in prison in Pakistan since 2017 accused of blasphemy. He is still awaiting trial; several court hearings have been cancelled. We pray for courage and hope for him and that he would be found innocent.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May

**Asif Pervaiz** has been in prison in Pakistan since 2013 and on death row since 2020. We pray for a successful appeal hearing and for his freedom. We also pray for blessing for his wife Marilyn and their four children.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May

**Mussie Ezaz** is an Eritrean evangelist and youth leader who has been in prison since 2008. We pray for perseverance for him and also his family and that they would be strengthened in their faith.

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May

**Pastor Kidane Weldou** has been behind bars in Eritrea since 2005. We pray that he would be released soon and reunited with his wife and daughters.

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May

**Rev Dr Tekleab Menghisteab** is an Eritrean Orthodox priest and physician who has been in prison since 2004. We pray that the Lord would strengthen Tekleab with power in his inner being every day he remains in prison.



# Church in Chains Prayer Diary

## May 2021

*"He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners." Isaiah 61:1b*

### PRAY FOR NEWS AND EVENTS

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Praise God that last month fourteen Christian men were released after four years in Nakura island prison (Eritrea). We pray for provision, hope and healing for them as they start over their lives in freedom.

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Since **Nabeel Masih** was released from prison on bail in Pakistan in March he has received constant death threats. Please pray for safety for him and his family, particularly when his appeal is brought before the local court.

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Algerian Christian **Slimane Bouhafs** was released from prison in 2018 after serving nearly two years for blasphemy. He experienced such persecution that he fled to Tunisia, where threats to his life continue. Please continue praying for this brother.

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May

We continue to pray for a way forward for Iranian Christians **Sam Khosravi** and **Maryam Falahi** and their two-year-old adopted daughter **Lydia**, that they can stay together as a family and be safe from harassment.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May

On Palm Sunday, a Catholic cathedral in Makassar, Indonesia, was attacked by two Islamist suicide bombers. We pray for healing for the members of the congregation and security guards who were injured in the attack.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May

In late March **Shibu Thomas**, of our Indian partner organisation Persecution Relief, had surgery for renal cell carcinoma. Please pray for his complete recovery and also for protection from Covid.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May

The Dublin/South Dublin prayer group meets online tonight. We pray for the leaders of this and all the other prayer groups around the country as they keep their groups going despite the current restrictions.

Thank you for praying with us!



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## PRAY FOR NORTH KOREA

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May

Being discovered as a Christian is practically a death sentence in North Korea. If not killed instantly, Christians are imprisoned in labour camp with such horrific conditions that few inmates make it out alive. We pray for an end to death, suffering and cruelty in the "Hermit Kingdom".

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May

Most Christians have to keep their faith entirely hidden, even from their spouses and their children. We pray for trust and comfort in Christian families and against loneliness and isolation.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Today we lift up the underground church in North Korea. We pray that God will continue to strengthen its members, provide for their needs and keep them safe.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May

We pray for **Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un**, who has been the head of state since 2011. We pray that Jesus would reveal Himself to him in a supernatural way and change his heart completely.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May

There are tens of thousands of Christians in labour camps and prisons in North Korea whose names we don't know. The Lord knows each one and we pray that they would have a real sense of that. We pray for protection from ill treatment and strength to face each day.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Despite the risks, there are stories of Christians sharing the Gospel with others, even in North Korean prison camps. Pray that North Korean believers will shine as bright lights in these darkest places on earth.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May

We pray for wisdom and strength for **Eric Foley** and **Hyun Sook Foley** in their work with Voice of the Martyrs Korea. We pray for various aspects of their ministry including launches of balloons printed with Bible passages into North Korea, Gospel radio broadcasts and training for underground North Korean Christians.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May

Orphans regularly cross the border to China in search of food and many women are sex-trafficked to Chinese men. We pray for Christian ministries that help and support these vulnerable people and that they will find new life through Christ.



## PRAY FOR SOMALIA

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May

A diplomat said: "I think the biggest challenge for Somalia has been the sense that it is a hopeless case of incomprehensible internal conflicts and there is nothing we can do." We know there are no hopeless cases with God, so we lift up this broken and corrupted country before the Lord today.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Any Somali suspected of having converted to Christianity is in great danger. Members of their family, clan or community will harass, intimidate or even kill them. Women may be raped and forcibly married. We pray for strength and safety for the few hundred Christians in Somali.

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Pray for the families of those who have been murdered for their faith, that they would receive comfort from Father God and be healed from bitterness.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May

In April, President **Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed** extended his own term in office by two years, drawing widespread international condemnation as it was viewed as a power grab. We pray for God's guidance and wisdom for Somali leaders.

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May

Pray for protection and healing for a 7-year-old boy who was hospitalised last October after an attack by older Muslim boys in Dhobley. We also pray for hope and comfort for his parents who have experienced persecution for many years and his younger siblings.

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May

In a country where it's illegal to possess a Bible, pray that Christians may have access to Scripture.

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

We pray for Christian converts in Somaliland (northwest Somalia) who were charged with apostasy in January. We pray for a fair trial to be held, that ongoing advocacy efforts will bear fruit and that they will be released soon.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

We pray against the pervasive hatred and violence sown by the militant Islamist group Al-Shabaab, which aims to establish an Islamic state in Somalia.

