

## PRAY FOR PRISONERS

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June

**Asif Pervaiz** has been in prison on a blasphemy charge in Pakistan since 2013 and on death row since 2020. We pray that Asif would be moved back to a prison nearer his family and we also pray that his appeal would be heard soon.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June

We pray for protection over **Ashfaq Mash** (pictured) who has been in prison in Pakistan since 2017 when he also was accused of blasphemy. We pray that his case would be heard soon and he would be acquitted.



Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June

South Korean pastor **Kim Kuk-gi** has been serving a life sentence in labour camp in North Korea since 2014. We pray for hope, comfort and strength for him while he remains in the camp.

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June

South Korean missionary **Kim Jong Uk** has been serving a life sentence in a North Korean labour camp since 2013. We pray for a daily portion of courage for Pastor Kim and that he would be released soon.

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June

**Pastor Hao Zhiwei** is serving an eight-year prison sentence in China since 2019. We pray for blessing for Pastor Hao and for good mental health for her two teenage sons, **Paul** and **Moses**, who are currently left without parents.

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June

**Pastor Kidane Weldou** has been in prison in Eritrea since 2005. We pray for courage and hope for him. He was seen at an eye clinic last year, so we also pray for healing for his eyes, which might have been damaged over the years by poor prison conditions.

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June

**Dr Kiflu Gebremeskel** has been in prison in Eritrea since 2004. Dr Kiflu has recently been seen visiting hospital frequently under tight security, and it was suspected that he has developed stress-related hypertension and diabetes. Please pray for peace of mind and better health for Kiflu.

**Thank you for praying with us this month!**



## Church in Chains Prayer Diary

### June 2022

*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10*

## PRAY FOR NEWS AND EVENTS

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June

Today we pray for Indian Christians in Karnataka state following the introduction of a new anti-conversion law. We pray for protection, wisdom and guidance for them as they live out their faith.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

In May 60-year-old Iranian-Armenian Christian **Anooshavan Avedian** was sentenced to ten years in prison for teaching other Christians in his home. We pray for peace and strength for Anooshavan and his wife at this difficult time.

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

In April **Fariba Dalir** began serving the two-year prison sentence she was handed in Iran for leading a house church. We pray that the Lord would sustain Fariba, who only got married in November 2021, in every way.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June

We pray for our ongoing contact with the Department of Foreign Affairs and that it will be useful in raising the issue of persecuted Christians at international level.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Today is the court hearing of married couple **Hamouda** and **Nada** in Sudan, who have been charged with adultery following their conversion to Christianity. We pray for God's peace and strength for the couple as they go to court and that they will be able to live together in safety with their two young children.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June

In April Sudanese **Pastor Stefanous Adil Kajo** was attacked by Islamic extremists and subsequently jailed for a month for "disturbing the peace". We pray for grace and peace of mind for Stefanous following this shock and injustice.

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

In May **Deborah Yakubu** was stoned to death and set ablaze by her fellow students in northern Nigeria for allegedly making a blasphemous statement in a WhatsApp group. Her shocking murder has led to heightened religious tensions in the country and fear among Christians – we pray for peace in Nigeria.



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## PRAY FOR MYANMAR

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June

In February 2021, the Commander-in-Chief of Myanmar's military, **General Min Aung Hlain**, launched a brutal coup d'etat. His power grab has reversed ten years of fragile democratisation and plunged the country into an appalling political, economic, humanitarian and human rights crisis. We pray for peace and security instead of violence and suffering.

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June

Everyone is suffering as a consequence of the coup, but Christians seem to have been targeted in particular. Churches have been shelled and destroyed while some pastors have been jailed and others murdered. We pray for protection for the church in Myanmar.



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Pray today that the international community would listen to the UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar and apply immediate pressure on the military regime through a global arms embargo.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June

On 8 April the Catholic Archbishop of Mandalay, his staff, and approximately 20 diocesan priests were placed under incommunicado house arrest after an estimated 40 soldiers forcibly occupied the Sacred Heart Cathedral where they were holding a Lenten prayer service. Please pray for their safety and freedom.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June

Last September **Pastor Cung Biak Hum** was shot dead by the military, as he tried to help extinguish a blaze caused by artillery fire which destroyed 19 homes in Chin state. We pray for comfort and peace for Pastor Cung's family and church community.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June

More than 100,000 Christians in Myanmar live in IDP camps, deprived of access to food and health care. We ask God to guard and strengthen them, and provide a way for them to move into safe and permanent homes.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June

Christian converts are persecuted by their Buddhist, Muslim or tribal families and communities – leaving the faith of one's tribe can lead to social isolation and house arrest. We pray for courage and perseverance for converts.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June

Lord, please fill the hearts of the members of the Myanmar military (Tatmadaw) and Buddhist extremists with love and compassion towards Christians.

## PRAY FOR NIGERIA

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June

Between January and March 2022, 896 Nigerian civilians were killed in attacks by extremist Islamic militants. Many were killed for their Christian faith. We continue to pray again for this bloodshed to end!

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

Pray for hope, courage and healing for Christians in the Middle Belt: thousands are displaced, have lost loved ones and their homes, and have experienced trauma. We ask the Lord to be near those who have been kidnapped and pray that they will be rescued.



Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June

Christian student **Deborah Yakubu** (7<sup>th</sup> June) was killed in May after a Muslim student, whose advances Deborah had reportedly rejected, whipped up Islamic rage against her by accusing her of blasphemy. We pray for comfort and healing for Deborah's family and that all those responsible would be brought to justice.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June

**President Muhammadu Buhari** and his government have not taken any decisive actions to protect Christians in North and Central Nigeria. We pray for a change of heart for the president and the heads of state in the Middle Belt.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June

Presidential and General elections will be taking place in February 2023. We pray that the elections will bring about much-needed change and peace to Nigeria.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June

We lift up the **Stefanos Foundation**, our partner in Nigeria, before the Lord. We are thankful for its work in rehabilitation and reconstruction and also in supporting widows and providing trauma counselling and legal aid. We pray for protection over **Mark Lipdo** and all the staff and for provision for this vital work.

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

19-year-old **Leah Sharibu** in Nigeria has been held captive by Boko Haram since 2018. We pray for strength and endurance for this young woman and for a miracle that Leah and her two babies (born in captivity, fathered by a terrorist commander) would be freed soon.

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Today we pray for the persecutors in Nigeria: members of Boko Haram and ISWAP and Fulani herdsmen. We pray that many would come to faith in Jesus and they would "*beat their swords into ploughshares*". (Isaiah 2:4)