

## PRAY FOR PRISONERS

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August

**Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani** is serving a six-year sentence in Iran since 2018. We pray that the Lord would refresh his spirit so he can be a source of support to his fellow Christians and Muslim prisoners.

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August

**Saheb Fadaie** (pictured) was a deacon in the Church of Iran house church network before he was imprisoned in 2018. We pray for hope for him and also his wife **Marjan** and their daughter **Martha**, aged 15.



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August

**Naser Navard Gol-Tapeh** was arrested in 2016 and in 2018 began serving a ten-year sentence in Evin Prison (Iran). Lord, please give him courage and faith.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August

In July **Ashfaq Masih** was sentenced to death for blasphemy in Pakistan. He has been in prison since 2017 when he was accused of blasphemy for saying that Jesus Christ is the only true prophet. Please pray for strength for Ashfaq and a successful appeal.

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August

**Asif Pervaiz** is also on death row in Pakistan. We pray for endurance for Asif and also for his wife **Marilyn** and their four children.

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August

**Rev Dr Tekleab Menghisteab** is an Eritrean Orthodox priest and physician who has been in prison since 2004. Ask God to fill him with hope and bless his wife **Wubie Kahsay** and their daughters **Hana, Sesayit, and Rediet**.

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August

Evangelist and youth leader **Mussie Ezaz** has been in prison in Eritrea since 2008. We pray that he would be released and reunited with his family.

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August

Eritrean pastor and anaesthetist **Meron Gebreselasie** was arrested in 2004 and has remained in prison ever since. Lord, please provide for all his needs!

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



### CHURCH IN CHAINS

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## Church in Chains Prayer Diary

### August 2022

*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. Isaiah 43:2*

### PRAY FOR NEWS/EVENTS

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August

Thank God that after two years in prison and twenty-one months in internal exile over 1,000 km from home, Iranian Christian **Mohammadreza Omidi** was set free in July. Pray for him as he returns to his wife and two daughters.

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

Please pray for Christian converts **Ahmad Sarparast, Morteza Mashoodkari** and **Ayoob Poor-Rezazadeh** who were informed that their appeals against their five-year prison sentences in Iran have been rejected.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Pray for **Pastor Daniel Umaru** who is recovering in hospital after being seriously wounded in an attack on his home in north-east Nigeria in early July during which his two adult sons were killed.

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August

Pray for the family of youth pastor **Emmanuel Mugabi** who died on 26 May from an axe blow to the head sustained during an Islamic extremist attack on a church in Uganda six days previously.

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August

Tonight we will be meeting for our monthly online prayer meeting. We thank God that we can meet freely and for everyone who has been joining us.

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September our annual conference will be held in person at St Mark's Church in Dublin (and also live-streamed). Please pray for our speaker **Mansour Borji** (Iran) and for all the preparations for the hybrid event.

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August

In April **Pastor Pravesh Kumar** was arrested and beaten by Indian police when he was leading family devotions at his grandmother's home. We pray for healing and protection for the pastor, who continues to face threats.

## PRAY FOR CHINA

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August

In March, China introduced new regulations which prohibit the sharing of religious content online without a permit, including through text messages, images, audio and video. We praise God that the church in China keeps growing despite these added restrictions and pray that this would continue.

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August

Ask the Lord to give Chinese church leaders wisdom, discernment and guidance as they lead congregations in light of ever increasing restrictions and surveillance. We also pray for perseverance, hope and courage for all Christians across China.



Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August

Jesus tells us to pray for those who persecute us, so on behalf of our Chinese church family we pray for **President Xi Jinping**. We pray that he would change his policies and grant religious freedom.

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August

Over one million of the predominantly-Muslim Uighurs, as well as members of other ethnic groups, have been detained without charge in "re-education camps" since 2017. We pray for their freedom.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August

**Elder Li Yingqiang** of Early Rain Covenant Church and his family have been relentlessly harassed by police, including being forced to move house twice. We pray for peace of mind and protection for this family.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August

Today we intercede for **Geng Zejun**, a house church pastor from Ningxia Autonomous Region, who has been detained since January. His wife asked Christians worldwide to "Please pray for God to calm his heart and keep him strong so that he can glorify God."

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August

Preacher and evangelist of Golden Lampstand Church **Yang Rongli** is being denied treatment for diabetes in jail and is in a serious health condition. We pray that she would be given the medication she needs and for better health.

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August

We thank God for our partner **Bob Fu** from ChinaAid, who with his organisation continues to expose the systematic persecution of Christians. We pray for blessing and provision for him and his important work.

## PRAY FOR TIGRAY (ETHIOPIA)

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August

Since November 2020 a civil war has been raging in the Tigray region of northern Ethiopia with Tigray Defence Forces led by the Tigray Peoples Liberation Front (TPLF) fighting the Ethiopian National Defence Force which is being supported by the Eritrean Army. All sides have committed war crimes during the conflict. We pray for an end to the terrible suffering on both sides.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August

It is estimated that about 14 million people (including 5½ million children) are suffering hunger and facing starvation in the Horn of Africa. The region is highly reliant on grain imports, which have been disrupted due to the war in Ukraine. We pray for provision and urgent help for this region.



Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August

The Ethiopian government has been blocking humanitarian aid to Tigray. We pray for wisdom, grace and compassion for Prime Minister **Abiy Ahmed**, who is an evangelical Christian and initially brought freedom and hope to his country.

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August

We pray for courage and strength for the patriarch of Ethiopia **Abune Mathias** who has spoken about what he called the continuing genocide in the Tigray region and was put under house arrest for his statements.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August

Mass rape of women and girls has been used as a weapon of war. We pray that all victims of sexual violence will be able to access treatment and support, and for their physical, mental and emotional healing.

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August

The war is dividing evangelicals: they generally support the government, but evangelicals in Tigray largely support the TPLF. We pray for unity among evangelicals and all tribes, religious groups and churches.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

Christians in Tigray have died in their hundreds in attacks on churches and monasteries. Over 300 priests are thought to have been killed so far. We pray for comfort and healing for all the congregations that have been attacked.

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Lord, have mercy on Ethiopia! We pray for protection over the church in one of the oldest Christian nations in the world.