

PRAY FOR PRISONERS

Saturday 24th September

In November 2021 **Pastor Keshav Raj Acharya** was convicted of proselytising in Nepal. He was imprisoned, but granted bail just before Christmas 2021. In June 2022 all the charges against Pastor Keshav were dropped, but a month later he was sentenced to one year in prison. We pray that the Lord would support and console Keshav at this difficult time.

Sunday 25th September

Asif Pervaiz (pictured) is a Christian father of four from Pakistan, who was imprisoned for blasphemy in 2013 and has been on death row since 2020. We pray for hope, future and a miracle for the whole Pervaiz family.



Monday 26th September

Zafar Bhatti has been in prison in Pakistan since 2012 under blasphemy law charges. We pray for good physical, mental and spiritual health for Zafar and his wife Nawab and for the appointment of a good lawyer who can progress his appeal against the death sentence.

Tuesday 27th September

Jang Moon Seok is serving a 15-year sentence in North Korea since 2014. The Lord knows what Jang needs today, so we pray that He would fulfil his needs. We also pray that his sentence would be shortened.

Wednesday 28th September

Pastor Kim Kuk-gi is serving a life sentence in labour camp in North Korea since 2014. We pray that the Lord will encourage and strengthen him.

Thursday 29th September

Pastor Kidane Weldou disappeared from the streets of Asmara in 2005 and has been behind bars in Eritrea since then. He is now in his late 60s and he and his wife **Tirhas** have four daughters. We pray for strength and comfort for the whole Weldou family.

Friday 30th September

Rev Haile Naizghe has been in prison in Eritrea since May 2004. We pray for courage and perseverance for Haile and blessing for his wife and four children. We also ask the Lord that He would make Haile's release possible.



Church in Chains Prayer Diary

September 2022

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. John 16:33

PRAY FOR NEWS AND EVENTS

Thursday 1st September

We pray for protection over the Presbyterian church in Karim Nagar, Lahore (Pakistan). It is the only church in the area and on 7 August, police averted an attack on the church and community by a Muslim mob.

Friday 2nd September

We pray for comfort and healing for the congregation of the Greek Orthodox Hagia Sophia Church in Syria. It experienced a drone attack in July, in which two people were killed and twelve were injured.

Saturday 3rd September

Today we pray for protection for **Bader el Dean Haroon Abdel Jabaar**, his brother **Mohammad Haroon Abdel Jabaar**, **Tariq Adam Abdalla** and **Morthada Ismail** who are four young Christian converts who went into hiding in Sudan in June after they were detained and mistreated because of their new faith.

Sunday 4th September

We thank God that we are making good progress with the research and writing of the 4th edition of the Global Guide. Please pray that it will be widely read when published later in the Autumn.

Monday 5th September

We pray for comfort and healing for the families of evangelist **Sozi Odongo** and Christian convert **Simolya Latifu**, who were killed in separate attacks in July in Uganda. They are survived by their wives and their four and five children respectively.

Tuesday 6th September

We pray for Christians in Afghanistan after one year of Taliban rule. As well as suffering poverty and food shortages, Taliban checkpoints are a constant threat. Pray that the Lord will supply all their needs and protect them.

Wednesday 7th September

We pray for Chinese house church pastor **Geng Zejun** who's been sentenced to one year and three months in prison for "organising illegal gatherings". His wife Hao Ying requests: "ask the Lord to strengthen Brother Geng, make him strong and courageous, and filled with the glory of God."

Thank you for praying with us!



CHURCH IN CHAINS

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PRAY FOR IRAN

Thursday 8th September

Iran has been an Islamic theocracy since 1979. Despite intense persecution ever since, the church in Iran has continued to grow. We thank God for the church in Iran and pray for its protection.

Friday 9th September

House churches are constantly raided and their leaders and members are arrested and given long prison sentences. We pray that Iranian Christians would withstand these pressures and for an end to these arrests.

Saturday 10th September

We pray for a good attendance at our annual conference (focusing on Iran) being held at St Mark's Church, Dublin today and also being livestreamed. We pray for good health and safe journeys for our speaker **Mansour Borji** and everyone else who is involved.

Sunday 11th September

Since 2021 former hardline Chief Justice **Ebrahim Raisi** has been the president of Iran and he has also been tipped to succeed **Ayatollah Ali Khamenei** as Supreme Leader. We pray for God to soften his heart and turn him into a compassionate and fair man.

Monday 12th September

Homayoun Zhavah and **Sara Ahmadi** answered a summons to an administrative office of Evin Prison in August 2022, expecting to receive back confiscated property. However, they were instead detained and remain in custody. Please pray that the couple would know God's peace and be freed soon.

Tuesday 13th September

We thank God for our partners **Elam Ministries** and **Middle East Concern**. We pray for protection and provision for their staff as they support, train and equip the church in Iran as well as helping Christian prisoners and their families.

Wednesday 14th September

When Christian converts are detained, they often have to pay large amounts to get bail after which they may be effectively forced to leave the country by threats of a long prison sentence. Today we pray for all those who are affected in this way.

Thursday 15th September

We continue to pray for **Sam**, **Maryam** and adopted daughter **Lydia**. We pray for hope, security, a future and good health for this Iranian family.



PRAY FOR BURKINA FASO

Friday 16th September

Muslims, Christians and animists have traditionally lived in peace in Burkina Faso in West Africa. Since 2015, however, Islamic extremist groups from the north and east have been carrying out attacks that have become so frequent that the situation is being compared to that of Nigeria's Middle Belt region.

We pray for an end to the violence and for peace to be restored in Burkina Faso.

Saturday 17th September

Many churches, health centres and schools in the north have closed. We pray for alternatives and a way forward for all the congregations, patients and pupils affected by these closures.

Sunday 18th September

Due to the attacks many thousands of Christians are living in camps for internally displaced persons or have sought refuge with family and friends. We pray for provision and safe new homes for all these displaced Christians.

Monday 19th September

Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba is the interim president since the previous president was overthrown in a coup in January 2022. We pray for wisdom and integrity for and that he would be able to protect Burkinabés from Islamist attacks.

Tuesday 20th September

Church leaders in Burkina Faso are being particularly targeted by the militants. We pray for faith, courage and safety for them.

Wednesday 21st September

Today we remember the family and church of **Pastor Tindano Omar** in Sebba. The pastor, his son and two nephews were abducted and killed in February 2020 and the gunmen also burned down the church building. We pray for comfort, hope and healing for this hurting community of people.

Thursday 22nd September

We lift up all the organisations that support Christians in Burkina Faso by providing survival training, relief aid, and spiritual and trauma care. Lord, please keep them safe and provide for their work.

Friday 23rd September

We pray for protection for Christian women and girls in Burkina Faso who often face sexual violence by Islamic militants. Lord, please keep our sisters safe.

