## ALL NIGHT PRAYER POINTS – AUGUST 2023

"Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night prayer to God. (Luke 6:12)

## PERSECUTED NATIONS:

#### 1. Eritrea

Leader: President Isaias Afwerki

Government: Presidential Republic

Main religion: Islam

**Population**: 3, 662, 000

Christians: 1,709,000 (47.0%)

Persecution Type: Dictatorial paranoia/ Islamic Oppression

Persecution Level: Extreme

What does persecution look like in Eritrea?

- Eritrea's re-integration into the international community after the lifting of the UN sanctions did not do any good for Christians or even the general public in terms of freedom.
- For 20 years, Eritrea has only recognized three official Christian denominations Orthodox, Catholic and Lutheran and these are closely monitored.
- Leaving these denominations to become Protestants or evangelical Christians comes with great persecution.
- Over the years, government security forces have raided hundreds of house churches to catch non-sanctioned Christians. The authorities perpetuate a stigma against believers and encourage neighbors to spy on each other.
- There are estimated to be at least a thousand Christians indefinitely detained in Eritrean prisons, not officially charged with anything.

#### Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

- Those who have become Christians from Muslim backgrounds, or who
  leave the Eritrean Orthodox Church for a non-traditional church, face
  extreme pressure and persecution from their own families and
  communities.
- Christian men, women and children as young as 14 are being conscripted into the armed forces to fight in the conflict in Tigray.
- There's no time limit on military service and Eritrea does not allow conscientious objection. In fact, Christian prisoners are often 'released' into military service instead of being allowed home.
- Some leaders of 'unofficial' churches have been imprisoned in terrible conditions for more than a decade.
- The very high level of state-sanctioned persecution and violence against Christians forces some to flee the country.

#### Prayer points for Eritrea:

Pray that God would change the atmosphere for openness and religious freedom in Eritrea. Pray for President Isaias Afwerki and for his salvation. Pray for the eyes of his heart to be enlightened to see the beauty of Christ and to know His saving grace.

Since Isaias rules without reference to a constitution or parliament, and without an independent judiciary, one can only conclude that all abuses are instituted at his insistence. Pray for the small coterie of military and party officials who do his bidding, to govern with wisdom, justice, and compassion.

There are a lot of Eritrean dissidents or people who have fled Eritrea, not because of any internal conflict but because they are trying to escape the authoritarianism and autocracy of Isaias Afwerki. Pray the Spirit of God would move over the darkness covering the nation in the same way He hovered over the waters to speak life. *(Genesis 1:2).* Pray that stories of redemption and hope would multiply exponentially.

Pray for strength and faithfulness for the many believers living in fear of arrest and torture. Pray for endurance for those facing torture for their faith. Pray that the Eritrean government will reverse its decision to outlaw most religious groups.

Ask the Lord to provide for displaced Eritrean believers a means of escape and a place of safe refuge. Pray for Him to also work deeply in the hearts of the country's governing officials, so they will grant the people the freedom to worship Him and glorify His matchless name.

Those who have become Christians from Muslim or Orthodox backgrounds are facing extreme pressure and persecution from their own families and communities. Despite this extreme persecution, the church in Eritrea is seeing remarkable growth, particularly among young people. Pray God to strengthen the youth and continue to do amazing things in and through them.

Pray the Protestants or evangelical Christians would grow in their love for Jesus and for one another. Pray they will continue to learn how to share the gospel—and pray for protection. Pray for the unity and perseverance of believers as they navigate the challenges of practicing their faith in a restricted environment. (Acts 5:14)

There are estimated to be at least 1000 Christians, indefinitely detained in Eritrean prisons, not officially charged with anything. Pray that prisoners feel God's presence and for His peace that transcends all human understanding *(Philippians 4:7)*. Pray for supernatural strength to withstand this violence and deplorable conditions.

Eritrea has also been affected by the conflict in Ethiopia's Tigray region, committing several human rights violations against the Tigrayan people. Because of forced military service and religious persecution, many Eritreans try to flee the country into Ethiopia, but they are caught up in the conflict between Ethiopia, Eritrea, and the Tigrayan people group and experience more violence.

Pray the governing political leaders of countries around the world take a stand against the terrible human rights abuses, petitioning Eritrean governmental officials to allow freedom of conscience and religion, as well as the safe release of all who are presently being arbitrarily detained.

# 2. Niger

**Leader**: Gen. Abdourahmane Tchianithe (Head of the presidential guard's unit)

Government: Under a military coup

Main religion: Islam

**Population**: 26,084,000

Christians: 65,300 (0.3%)

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression

Persecution Level: Very high

What does persecution look like in Niger?

- Niger is a Muslim-majority nation and Islam is regarded as being part of Nigerien ethnicity.
- Conversion from Islam is considered a betrayal, and converts to Christianity face hostility from their family and community.
- In the past five years, the Sahel region has seen a huge increase in violent Islamist attacks and the government of Niger has lost a lot of territory to the jihadists.
- The presence of militant groups such as Boko Haram, Islamic State's West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), remains a constant threat both to the state authorities and to Christians in the country.
- In border areas under Islamist control, militant groups are known to use violence against Christians meeting publicly, so Christian meetings are conducted covertly to avoid detection.

# Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

- Ongoing violence by extremist Islamic militants in the Sahel region has increased the pressure on Christians. Jihadist groups have expanded their areas of influence in the country.
- Converts to Christianity face the most severe persecution, as conversion from Islam to any other religion is considered a betrayal of family and society.

- Christians living in the areas outside the main cities, especially outside the capital city, experience the most persecution.
- Pressure has also increased in all spheres of life, as Christians face increasing difficulties to live according to their faith while living in Islamic communities. Church activities in the country are further restricted, due to the presence of Islamic militants.

### Prayer points for Niger:

On Wednesday, 26 July 2023, soldiers appeared on national television announcing that Niger's President, Mohamed Bazoum, has been removed from power after being detained in the presidential palace. This military coup marks the ninth takeover in the West and Central Africa region in the last decade.

Pray for President Mohamed Bazoum (democratically elected president) his wife and son, have been kept under house arrest in the capital, Niamey. Ask God to remove this "unconstitutional change of government" and peace to be restored and the President to be reinstated.

Local Christians have asked for the following prayers from their worldwide church family: Pray for protection as protests or general unrest can create opportunities for attacks on the church and Christian converts as the situation remains tense.

Pray for more opportunities to engage the CNSP (National Council for the Safeguarding of the Fatherland - the name for the ruling military junta) in positive dialogue and that Christian and other religious leaders will use their influence wisely and advocate for peace and democracy.

The Sahel region is gaining the reputation as the "coup belt". Any political instability can only benefit the Islamist groups. Boko Haram, Islamic State's West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), will all try to benefit from the political instability. Pray for stability in the country as turmoil grows and rumors spiral on social media.

Pray for Godly leadership within the Christian community. Pray that God would provide indigenous missionaries in this poverty-stricken country with wisdom and resourcefulness to effectively do the work of pioneer evangelism.

Pray that the message of the gospel would move swiftly throughout the country, and that the Lord would remove the blinders from Nigeriens' eyes so they might see the fallacy of Islam and embrace the truth of Christ.

New Christian believers feel isolated, often illiterate and rarely have systematic Bible teachings available. Pressure to stay in Islam, or return to it, prevents many from following Christ. Pray for fellowship groups to form, even if small, for those who need support and growth with other believers.

Pray particularly for the believers who have converted from Islam and have been ostracized from their families and communities — that they would receive the words to confidently give an account for the hope that they have. (Romans 5:5)

The 2022 Global Terrorism Index attributed 588 deaths in Niger to terrorists, the highest in a decade. Tillaberi province, where most churches are situated, suffered the majority of the killings. Pray for an end to the violence inflicted by militant groups across the Sahel region.

Nigerien children are trafficked for labor in gold mines, sexual exploitation, and begging. Women are abducted and sold into domestic servitude or prostitution, and young boys are kidnapped for work in stone quarries. Pray for restoration and recovery for all those who suffer. Pray that ministries by Christians in Niger would demonstrate the love of God and make an eternal difference in the lives of those impacted.

# 3. Libya

Leader: Interim Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Mohammed Dbeibah

Government: Transitional Government

**Population:** 7 041 000

Christians: 35,400 (0.5%)

Main Religion: Islam

Persecution type: Islamic oppression/ Organized crime and corruption

Persecution Level: Extreme

## What does persecution look like in Libya?

- Libya is effectively a lawless land where both native Christians and those passing through from other countries face extreme violence.
- With no central government to maintain law and order, militant
  Islamic extremist groups and organized crime groups both wield power.
  They target and kidnap Christians, and some believers have been killed.
- Although the country stabilized to a certain extent and saw less direct conflict last year, the overall vulnerability of Christians in the country remains extremely high.
- Recent report says, Libya's stability is at greater risk following recent militia clashes amid turmoil in neighboring Sudan and Niger that could spill over into the oil-rich North African nation.

# Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

- Large numbers of refugees from sub-Saharan Africa pass through Libya to reach Europe. Many of these are Christians, and their time there is highly dangerous.
- They are likely to encounter harassment and threats from Islamic extremist groups, or be abducted and used as slave labor by organized crime groups. Some are put straight into the hands of these gangs by their human traffickers.
- Christians who publicly express their faith and try to share the gospel with others are likely to face arrest or retribution from extremist groups.
- The risks of being openly Christian are so high that it's almost impossible to meet up in groups for fellowship unless the whole family converts at once.

#### Prayer points for Libya:

Pray for Interim Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Mohammed Dbeibah. Pray for his salvation. Pray the Holy Spirit will guide and lead him. Pray that God would establish a good godly leadership for this nation through him. (1Timothy 2:1)

Pray for lasting peace to come over Libya. Ask God to break the "power hungry" leaders and bring back law, order and justice to Libya. Pray for Libyans to experience true freedom in and through Christ Jesus. pray for Your protection over Your children in the midst of political upheaval in Libya.

Pray for grace and protection for the 0.5% Christians in Libya. Ask God to give them strength and hope. Help them find ways to meet secretly together, to share times of prayer, thanksgiving and encouragement. To help them grow in faith, despite the risks.

Pray conditions will come into being allowing Christians, including Muslim converts to openly express their faith. Pray those who target and seek to harm Christians will come to know God's love, and God's peace. Pray people all across Libya will come to know and follow Jesus. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Pray for the small, but growing, number of Muslim Background Believers among the Muslim communities in Libya. May they grow strong and be bold in sharing their faith. Pray for the converts to lead a victorious Christian life in the midst of persecution.

Christians who publicly express their faith and try to share the gospel with others are likely to face arrest or retribution from extremist groups. Pray for Christians to be able to communicate safely with one another and be encouraged.

Islamic militants and organized crime groups both wield power in Libya. They target and kidnap Christians, and some believers have been killed. Pray the Lord will restrain the evil ones and those that threaten the safety of His children. (*Jeremiah 1:19*)

Pray against the evils of human trafficking and the organized crime gangs who profit from human misery. Pray for deliverance for the traumatized children and the refugee families who have witnessed horrors from these evil attackers. (*Psalms 32:7*)

Libya is the main transit point for refugees and migrants trying to reach Europe by sea. Christian migrants in Libya are very vulnerable to mistreatment, abduction and slavery. Pray for the safety of all those who are vulnerable to violence and disaster in Libya.

The Libyan Coast Guard has cracked down on boats smuggling refugees and migrants to Europe. With estimates of 400,000 to almost one million people now bottled-up Libya, detention centers are overrun and there are mounting reports of robbery, rape, and murder among migrants. Conditions in the centers have been described as "horrific," and among other abuses, migrants are vulnerable to being sold off as laborers in slave auctions. Pray for all those involved in the slave trade to recognize its evil and that it would be put to an end.

# 4. Mauritania

Leader: President Mohamed Cheikh El Ghazouani

Government: Presidential Republic

**Population**: 4 902 000

Christians: 11,000 (0.2%)

Main religion: Islam

Persecution Type: Islamic oppression

Persecution Level: Very High

# What does persecution look like in Mauritania?

• Mauritania does not allow freedom of religion; it is illegal to leave Islam and follow another faith. Those who become Christians from a Muslim background face very severe pressure from their communities.

- Violent Islamic extremist groups, including a branch of al-Qaeda, are active in the eastern border regions of the country, posing a danger to any Christians discovered there.
- It is very difficult for Christians to meet or worship together, and almost impossible for believers who have converted from Islam.
- Even foreign nationals (such as aid workers or migrants) holding Christian meetings could be seen as evangelizing to local Muslims for which they can be prosecuted.

### Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

- Christian converts are perceived as bringing shame on the family and are likely to be shunned. In many cases they are expelled from their homes, or physically abused.
- If they make their faith public, Christians can be accused of apostasy in a religious court, with severe consequences, or charged by the authorities with terrorism or cyber-crime offences.
- Christians have been detained and prosecuted for 'undermining national security by insulting Islam and threatening Mauritania's sacred principles'.

## Prayer points for Mauritania:

Pray for President Mohamed Cheikh El Ghazouani. Pray for his salvation. Pray that the government and security forces in Mauritania will be stirred and equipped to address the country's growing insecurity problems.

Pray for continued peace and stability through the nation of Mauritania. Pray that the peace of God would reign in every corner of the country, and the power of God would be undeniable through the breakthrough He delivers. (*Jeremiah 29:7*)

People who convert to Christianity from Muslim backgrounds, risk harsh mistreatment from their families and communities. Pray that new Christians facing strong disapproval and persecution would feel the presence of God.

Violent Islamic extremist groups, including a branch of al-Qaeda, are active in the eastern border regions of the country, posing a danger to

any Christians discovered there. Pray the lives of believers will shine with the light of the gospel as they experience these dark situations. (Colossians 3:15)

Conversion from Islam is potentially punishable by execution according to the law of the land. Ask the Lord Jesus to protect His people, and to guide them in all that they do.

Even foreign nationals (such as aid workers or migrants) holding Christian meetings could be seen as evangelizing to local Muslims – for which they can be prosecuted.

Pray for Christians who have been detained falsely and prosecuted for 'undermining national security by insulting Islam and threatening Mauritania's sacred principles'.

A high divorce rate causes much suffering and anguish in Mauritania and some Mauritanian Christians are eager to try to help those affected. Pray that they may be effective peacemakers and also ring comfort and hope to those who have been rejected and abused.

Even though chattel slavery has been repeatedly banished in Mauritania since 1980, very little has been done to enforce this law in a society where this practice of people being treated as property had been ingrained in the culture. Pray that God will bring transformation in the Mauritanian society such that the laws of the country will be enforced and slavery will disappear.

# 5. Saudi Arabia

Leader: King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud

Government: Absolute Monarchy

**Population**: 35 845 000

Christians: 2,165,000 (6.0%)

Main religion: Islam

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression

Persecution Level: Very High

### What does persecution look like in Saudi Arabia?

- Saudi Arabia is a highly conservative Islamic nation and other religions cannot be practiced openly.
- No official churches of any Christian denomination are allowed and it remains one of the few countries in the world where church buildings are forbidden.
- Conversion from Islam to Christianity is unacceptable under Islamic law, so many live as secret believers.

### Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

- Saudi converts from Islam to Christianity face the most persistent and extreme pressure. There are relatively few Saudi converts in the country and they generally live out their Christian faith in secret.
- Most Christians in Saudi Arabia are migrant workers from Asia and Africa. They are often exploited and poorly paid, and face discrimination because of their ethnicity, but also because of their Christian faith.
- There are also Christians from other parts of the world. Foreign
  Christians are severely restricted in sharing their Christian faith and
  in gathering for public worship. Those who do so risk detention and
  deportation.

# Prayer points for Saudi Arabia:

Pray for King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud. Pray that King Salman, the royal family and Saudi government leaders will come to know Jesus as Lord. Pray the king's heart will be inclined in the direction towards religious liberty. *(Proverbs 21:1)* 

Migrant Christians in Saudi Arabia experience a relative amount of freedom although proselytization is not tolerated. Pray the government will continue to progress in its tolerance towards Christians and lift all restrictions on religious freedom.

Ask for the Lord's blessing to be upon the small Saudi converts who generally live out their Christian faith in secret. Pray they will have opportunity and courage to meet with each other, whether in person or online, to worship God and build up their faith. (*Hebrews 10:36*)

Despite the risks, the small number of Saudi Christians is slowly increasing and some are boldly sharing their Christian faith on the internet and Christian satellite TV channels. Thank God for the courage of believers who are sharing their faith. Pray that God will continue to build His church through their witness.

Pray that the underground church would be kept safe and that it can grow. Pray that Saudi Arabia might loosen regulations so that Christians could live without fear and the Gospel can be preached freely.

Saudi converts if discovered, men and boys are more likely to be forced out of the home, whereas women and girls are usually isolated and abused within the home. Both genders risk being killed to 'restore' the family honor. Pray for greater gender equality in Saudi Arabia and an end to the oppressive treatment of women.

Fifty percent of the population of Saudi Arabia is under the age of 25. Pray that God will draw Saudi Arab children and youth to Himself and reveal the truth of His salvation and love to them.

Foreign Christians are severely restricted in sharing their Christian faith and in gathering for public worship. Those who do so risk detention and deportation. Pray that the situation will be resolved, and that the authorities will see that Christian believers does not pose a threat to their national security.

Pray the truth of the Gospel will be presented to the Saudis through personal witness, satellite programs and websites. Praise God that a few Saudi believers are teaching the Bible in Arabic through YouTube, mobile apps and websites. Pray God will give wisdom to those who run media and internet platforms which talk about Christ and the good news.

Pray that the seeds sown then and now will begin to bear fruit after all these years of waiting. Pray all Saudi Christians will be led by the Holy Spirit in everything they do and that the Lord will continue to add to their daily numbers. (Acts 16:5)

### 6. Jordan

Leader: King Abdullah II

Government: Parliamentary Constitutional Monarchy

**Population**: 10,301,000

Christians: 170,000 (1.7%)

Main religion: Islam

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression/ Clan Oppression

Persecution Level: Very High

# What does persecution look like in Jordan?

- Though Jordan fell ten places on the World Watch List this year, it only saw a slight decrease in persecution.
- Compared to Christians living in other Middle Eastern countries, most Christians in Jordan live a safe and stable life.
- Jordan is tolerant as long as everybody stays in their religion of birth. However, for non-traditional churches, those perceived to be sharing the gospel, and people becoming believers from Muslim backgrounds, there is persecution.
- Jordan is also home to some Islamic extremist militants returning from war in Syria and Iraq, who pose a threat to the Christian community.

# Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

• Christian communities are monitored in Jordan, and a Christian from a Muslim background can face beating, arrest or even being killed, if they are open about their new faith.

- Church leaders have been interviewed by intelligence services and pressured to inform on other Christians, especially if they are helping believers from Muslim backgrounds.
- Those seen to be helping or encouraging Muslim converts can face threats and have their daily lives made very difficult.
- Christian men can also experience discrimination in the workplace, verbal abuse, unequal treatment, denial of food and divorce.
- Christian women, especially if they don't adhere to Islamic dress, are always at risk of verbal and sexual harassment in public. Some are quickly married off to Muslim men in an attempt to preserve the family's 'honor' and suppress their new faith.

## Prayer points for Jordan:

Pray for King Abdullah II. Pray for his salvation. Ask God to give the leadership and its representatives the wisdom and perseverance to lead and take the right path toward keeping the country secure and stable. (1 Kings 3:9)

Pray for the Holy Spirit to break the influence of Islam on the Jordanians. Pray for freedom from fear brought on by the false teachings of the occult and Islam. Pray for the Gospel to infiltrate every part of the nation.

Church leaders have been interviewed by intelligence services and pressured to inform on other Christians, especially if they are helping believers from Muslim backgrounds. Ask God to strengthen Church leaders in the face of opposition, encourage them in their faith and keep them safe from harm.

Pray that the small number of believers will not be afraid of the threats that come from their communities. Pray they will stand firm in their faith, not crushed or perplexed, but live in unconditional surrender to the Lordship of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:8)

Christians are free to meet openly, but they have difficulty getting government approval to open new churches or church facilities. Gatherings of believers are monitored, and Muslims who convert to Christianity often meet privately in homes to avoid drawing extra attention. Pray for the small congregations gathering in Jordan.

Jordan is also home to some Islamic extremist militants returning from war in Syria and Iraq, who pose a threat to the Christian community. Pray that Jordan's authorities would be able to stifle the growing threat of Islamic extremism.

Workplace discrimination continues to affect all Christian men, especially those from a Muslim background. Christian men with a Muslim background can be denied security clearances and denied jobs. Pray for the Christian men.

Young women converting to Christianity may face house arrest, beatings and sexual harassment. Christian women, especially if they don't adhere to Islamic dress, are always at risk of verbal and sexual harassment in public. Pray for single women converts who face the prospect of forced marriage to Muslim men. Those who refuse to marry can be ostracized by their community. (1 Peter 3: 13-15)

Jordan is one of the most welcoming nations for refugees, with over 750,000 of them inside its borders, mostly fleeing the conflict in Syria. Pray for refugees in Jordan as they re-establish their whole lives. Pray that they will be covered in the Lord's protection and grace.

# 7. Indonesia

Leader: President Joko Widodo

Government: Presidential Republic

**Population**: 279 135 000

Christians: 34,185,000 (12.2%)

Main religion: Islam

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression

Persecution Level: Very High

## What does persecution look like in Indonesia?

- Indonesia has taken on a more conservative Islamic character in recent years, that has put pressure on Christians, especially those from Muslim backgrounds.
- Concerns are being raised after a revised criminal code was passed in Indonesia, which includes strict laws against blasphemy. This makes it more difficult for Christians to meet in public and share their faith with others.
- If a church is seen to be preaching and spreading the gospel, they soon run into opposition from Islamic extremist groups, especially in rural areas.
- In some regions of Indonesia, non-traditional churches struggle to get permission for church buildings, with the authorities often ignoring their paperwork.

#### Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

- Indonesians brought up as Muslims who become Christian believers will likely face disapproval, intense pressure to return to Islam, verbal abuse and possibly social isolation.
- In some cases, families will withdraw all support, and married women may keep their new faith secret to avoid the threat of their husbands divorcing them.
- Some women are faced with lots of psychological abuse, including death threats, for practicing Christianity.

## Prayer points for Indonesia:

Pray for President Joko Widodo. Pray for his and the salvation of his family. Pray ultimately, they come to know Jesus and live for him. Most of the leaders in higher positions are Muslims since Indonesia is a Muslim majority nation.

Poverty and corruption among leaders are both the cause and result of many political troubles. Pray, for a righteous government that will seek the good of its impoverished people. Pray for a more open and tolerant society towards Christians in Indonesia. Indonesia's Joint Ministerial Decree of 2006 (SKB) makes requirements for obtaining permits nearly impossible for most new churches. Non-traditional churches struggle to get permission for church buildings, with the authorities often ignoring their paperwork. Pray there will be no delays in response to their applications. (*Hebrews 4:16*)

Pray that God's people will not be discouraged or deterred following crackdowns by the government, but will be empowered afresh by the Holy Spirit to press on with all that He is calling them to be.

Some areas have been Christian for centuries (in North Sulawesi, North Sumatra, West Timor, Maluku). But many denominations there lack spiritual life. They struggle with immorality and divisions and local churches are hampered in their ministry by theological divisions. Pray for purity, spiritual clarity and unity among Christians.

A spiritual conflict rages in Indonesia. Ancient and strong occult powers seek to oppose the influence of the gospel, while modern Muslim stratagems seek to eliminate Christianity and remove the presence of the good news. Pray specifically for the binding of these powers and for continued growth of the Church in the midst of intense opposition and growing persecution.

The unique culture and beauty of Bali (a province of Indonesia) attracts millions of tourists. Most visitors bring a godless, self-seeking way of life. Bali has 49,000 Hindu temples, as most Balinese practice a version of Hinduism. Occult, magic, and spiritism all influence the people. Bali needs the power of the gospel to set its people free. Pray for more openness and less resistance to the gospel in Bali.

Sumatra is the largest unevangelized island on earth. Most of its largest people groups are strongly Muslim. Many spiritual strongholds must be broken there. Christianity is strong among the previously animist peoples like the Batak, Nias and Mentawai.

Though Batak people are very successful, their ethnic pride, strong devotion to old customs, and frequent conflicts with Sumatran Muslims all hinder their Christian witness. Pray for Batak Christians to reach beyond their own ethnic groups and witness to the non-Christian peoples around them.

#### 8. Vietnam

Leader: President Nguyen Xuan Phuc

Government: Communist State

**Population**: 98 954 000

Christians: 9.4 million (9.5%)

Main religion: Buddhism

Persecution Type: Communist and post-Communist oppression

Persecution Level: Very High

### What does persecution look like in Vietnam?

• Vietnam is one of five remaining countries in the world which is still ruled by a Communist party.

- Historical Christian communities (such as Roman Catholic churches) enjoy a certain amount of freedom unless they become politically active, which can lead to imprisonment, or are involved in land-grabbing cases.
- The government monitors Christian activity and exercises a high level of pressure on all Christians.
- Evangelical and Pentecostal congregations, most of whom gather in house churches, are closely monitored and face discrimination at various levels of government and society.
- The pressure on Christians and violence against them is most severe among the ethnic minorities in the Central and Northwestern Highlands.

# Who is most vulnerable to persecution?

- Christians are harassed in the workplace and may face discrimination for their faith, while Christian children are ostracized at school and may be pressured to reject their faith.
- It is getting increasingly difficult to receive information from the rural Central Highland provinces, where most of the H`mong Christians live, as the local and national authorities are going to great lengths to hinder any reports coming out from there.

- Converts from Buddhist or Ethnic-animist backgrounds face the strongest persecution, not only from the authorities, but also from their family and community.
- Many Vietnamese follow age-old traditions of worshipping ancestors and spirits, especially in rural areas. Whoever decides not to join in these traditions puts themselves outside of the family and community and will therefore be put under strong pressure to belong again.

### Prayer points for Vietnam:

Pray for the Lord Jesus Christ to reveal Himself to President Nguyen Xuan Phuc. Pray he and his family will understand the need for a Savior. Scripture says: For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8: 36-38)

Pray the government of Vietnam and those in power will continue to recognize the need for freedom for all their citizens, acknowledging that faith cannot be forced. Pray the Lord will touch all the ethnic community leaders through His Holy Spirit to allow religious freedom for Christians.

The deepest spiritual loyalty in Vietnam is to worship their ancestors, even more than to Communism, and even more than to the mixture of Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism traditionally practiced by Vietnamese. Pray that the light of the gospel will banish all darkness and provide hope and purpose to all those who are lost.

The government monitors Christian activity and exercises a high level of pressure on all Christians. The local communities will leverage the absolute power of the local communist government to persecute Christians who stray outside of the traditional belief system. Pray for people to remain bold and steadfast during times of hardship.

Pray for the Spirit of Unity and love to bring believers together in unity and encourage oneness in Christ Jesus their Lord. Continue to pray for unity, peace and understanding among the different denominations in Vietnam. (Mark 3:24)

Most churches are constantly monitored by authorities, hindering, or even preventing worship and fellowship gatherings. Ask God to fill believers with love and wisdom to respond to this situation, and that He would soften the hearts of the authorities to allow Christians to worship freely. *(1 Corinthians 13:7)* 

Pray for the growth of the Church in Vietnam. Many Vietnamese became Catholics under the French rule. More recently, some have turned to Protestantism. (Evangelicals/Pentecostal) Unregistered churches have multiplied and grown significantly all over the country. Praise God that a growing, witnessing Church is emerging despite ongoing persecution in Vietnam.

Believers from the Hmong community, face social exclusion, discrimination and attacks. Their homes are destroyed and are then forced to leave their villages. Pray that they would be protected from oppression at the hands of their family, friends, and community and especially Buddhist monks. (James 1:4)

Christian men in Vietnam are targets for faith-based arrest and abduction, causing many to flee their villages. Once in custody, Christian detainees suffer harsh treatment, physical beatings and pressure to renounce their Christian faith. Pray that those facing pressure/persecution for their faith will feel the Holy Spirit empowering them to stand strong. (*Ephesians 6: 14-17*)

#### UNREACHED/PARTIALLY REACHED PEOPLE GROUPS:

#### 1. Dungan in Kyrgyzstan

Population: 75,000

Main Language: Dungan

Largest Religion: Islam 100.00% Christians: 0.00%

# Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

The Dungan originated in the Kansu and Shensi provinces of northwestern China, but today there are people from Kansu living in the mountains and valleys of Kyrgyzstan. Culturally, the Dungan are similar to the Han Chinese, but their language is greatly influenced by Arabic, Persian and Turkish.

They are a proud, hospitable, nationalistic and conservative people who refer to themselves as "Chinese Muslims" despite having cut ties with China.

The Dungan are primarily farmers, growing rice and vegetables such as sugar beets. Many also raise dairy cattle. Some grow opium.

They are virtually all Hanafite, one of the conservative schools of Sunni Islam. The older people strictly observe Islamic law. The younger Dungan are indifferent to Islam, not turning to religion until the age of 40. The Dungan in Kazakhstan are more committed to Islam than those in Kyrgyzstan.

The Dungan have had little opportunity to hear the gospel. They remain nominally Muslim. The only Dungan believers are in Mongolia. There is a need for believers to teach the word of God as well as to begin a church planting movement among the Dungan.

## Prayer points:

Ask God to call for Christian workers and intercessors to commit themselves to be praying persistently for the Dungan people. Pray God will continue to remind the believers to remember them in their prayers' night and day. (*Romans 1:9*)

Most of the Dungan belong to the conservative Hanafite Muslim group. Pray for the veil to be removed from the eyes of these people. Pray they will be called out of the darkness and come towards the wonderful light of Jesus.

Pray for Christian workers to be impassioned and equipped to share their faith and to answer the claims and questions of the Dungan tribe. Pray God empower them with the vision to reach out to this tribe with the gospel.

Ask the Lord of the harvest to break the pride of the Dungan people and give them humble hearts that will seek truth and righteousness. Pray God would protect those taking the gospel to this people group.

Pray, for Christ-centered fellowships to be formed that will spread far and wide. (1Peter 3:15)

Ask God to provide open doors for Dungan believers in Mongolia to share the Gospel with their people in Kyrgyzstan. Pray for the entire tribe and its families to repent together and spend the rest of their lives following Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. (John 1:29)

The younger Dungan are indifferent to Islam, not turning to religion until the age of 40. Pray their eyes would be opened to the real truth and to renounce the faith of their ancestors. Pray God redeems them from the negative thoughts, lies and misconceptions about Christ, the Bible and Christians.

Ask God for a complete Bible in their language as there are only portions available to them. Pray they will understand and apply the Scriptures available to them, enabling them to be effective in their communities, affecting their culture for Christ.

# 2. Datooga (Barabaig) in Tanzania

Population: 192,000

Main language: Datooga

Largest religion: Ethnic Religion: 94.00% Christians: 6.00 %

# Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

The Datooga have only been reported in Tanzania. The best known and most numerous sub-tribes of the Datooga peoples are the pastoral "Barabaig", who reside chiefly in that part of the northern volcanic highlands of Mount Hanang.

The Datooga keep goats, sheep, donkeys and a few chickens, but cattle are by far the most important domestic animal. They were formerly nomadic, depending largely on milk products for their diet, and moving whenever the needs of their cattle dictated.

The Datooga are a proud people, with a reputation as fierce warriors. Traditionally, young men had to prove themselves by killing an "enemy of the people", defined as any human being not a Datooga, or one of the dangerous wild animals, such as elephant, lion or buffalo.

They are resistant to cultural change, including belief in Christianity, maintaining a strong adherence to traditional animist beliefs and practices.

Since most Datooga do not speak Swahili, the national language of Tanzania, and very few are literate, communication of the gospel must be in their own language, using the traditional media of story-telling and songs.

A very small minority of them are believers. All of them need to hear the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.

### Prayer points:

Pray that God will lay the Datooga (Barabaig) in the hearts of many prayer warriors.

Pray as these formerly nomadic people search pasture for their cattle that their souls will thirst for salvation and righteousness. Pray the Good Shepherd will make them to lie down in green pastures and lead them beside still waters and in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. (*Psalm 23: 2-3*)

Pray the word of God that they have been introduced to, would work in them and bring them out of the darkness and into the marvelous light of Christ. (1 Peter 2:9)

Pray the small group of Datooga believers are nurtured in the faith/word and are used by the Holy Spirit to begin an unstoppable movement for Christ.

Pray the church if any, in this region would deeply abide by the teachings of Jesus Christ and not mix any animistic practices. Pray for the church to be strengthened for greater boldness in proclaiming the Good News. (*Ephesians 2:20-22*)

The Datooga are a proud people, with a reputation as fierce warriors. Pray they will understand the truth of the scripture, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." *(James 4:6-7)* Pray they will submit to God the Father and resist the devil and his acts.

Thank the Lord for the availability of the Bible in their dialect. But very few are literate, communication of the gospel must be in their own language, using the traditional media of story-telling and songs. Pray for the needed spiritual break through to happen among the Datooga.

Pray the word of God will purify and purge them as gold and silver as it is available to them. Pray they will as new born babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that they may grow thereby. (1 Peter 2:2)

### 3. Dangaleat in Chad

Population: 128,000

Main language: Dangaleat

Largest religion: Islam 100.00% Christians: 0.00%

# Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

The Dangaleat have only been reported in Chad.

The term Hadjeray, which means "of the stones or mountains," is a collective term used to describe a group of mountain peoples living in the Hadjeray region of south- central Chad.

The Hadjeray include people groups such as the Kenga, the Bidio, the Jongor, and the Dangaleat.

The Dangaleat are primarily farmers who attempt to cultivate the rocky ground of the region. Some, however, have moved to the cities and taken jobs in construction or in the government.

The Dangaleat are influenced by Islam, most still follow their traditional ethnic religion. All of the groups belong to what is known as the margais cult. The margais are believed to be invisible spirits who live in nature's formations and control the natural elements.

Most of them have never yet had an opportunity to hear a clear presentation of the Gospel. Increased mission efforts, additional laborers, Christian broadcasts, and evangelistic literature are greatly needed to effectively reach the Hadjeray tribes with the Gospel.

#### Prayer points:

Beseech the Lord to raise prayer teams who will begin to pray for the Dangaleat people and see them embrace the right and new way of living and bear fruits worthy of repentance. (Matthew 3:8)

All of the groups belong to what is known as the margais cult. The "margais" are believed to be invisible spirits who live in nature's formations and control the natural elements. Pray that the gospel would penetrate and break their folk Islamic and severe animistic practices/beliefs. (*Leviticus 18:30*)

Ask God the Father to draw the hearers of the word towards Jesus, for no one can come to His Son unless He draws them. *(John 6: 44)* Pray the Lord will soon build his church among this community. Pray they will keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Each village is run by a chief or headman also known as "chief of the land," who holds the "religious power" of the village. Ask the Lord to save these key leaders among the Dangaleat, who will boldly commit themselves to Jesus and also proclaim the Good News to sothers.

Pray that new Discipleship Making Movements will begin among them that will transform their communities and families, bringing God's blessings. Pray they be strengthened by the feeling that "Greater is He that is in them than he who is in the world." (1 John 4:4)

The tribes of the Hadjeray region need more educational opportunities and quality health care facilities. Pray that God will call Christian teachers and medical workers to minister to the peoples of the Hadjeray region.

Increased mission efforts, additional laborers, Christian broadcasts, and evangelistic literature are greatly needed to effectively reach the Dangaleat and the Hadjeray tribes with the Gospel. Pray for gospel workers to catch a vision for reaching this indigenous people groups.

Pray for a complete Bible to be available for this group. Pray that God will reveal the truth to them through the Holy Spirit. Pray the word that was in the beginning with God will be revealed to them.

### 4. Dagara in Burkina Faso

Population: 386,000

Main language: Dagara, Northern

Largest religion: Ethnic religions 75.00% Christianity 25.00%

## Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

The Dagara are an ethnic group located in the north of the convergence of Ghana, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire.

They speak the Dagaare language, a Gur language made up of the related Northern Dagaare dialects, Southern Dagaare dialects and a number of sub dialects. In northern dialects, both the language and the people are referred to as Dagara.

The Dagara are subsistence farmers. They grow corn, millet sorghum, and peanuts as their staple crops. "Pito," a mildly alcoholic beverage made of sorghum, is commonly used in all the communities of the Dagara. Women brew the beverage.

The Dagara have strong belief in *Naangmen* (older spelling *Naamwin*), supreme God and creator of the Universe. *Mwin* means "sun" and *Naamwin* is sometimes identified with sun, sky, or rain.

Like many other tribes in the west African region, most of the Dagara practice traditional ethnic religions. They are primarily animists and also worship ancestral spirits.

Though some of the Dagara have heard the gospel and a small percentage have accepted Christ, there has been little impact on the tribe as a whole. Most of them are yet to receive Jesus Christ into their hearts as savior. Complete Bible is available in their language.

#### Prayer points:

As Intercession is the key to breaking down all strongholds over the Dagara people group, ask God to raise more and consistent prayer teams. Pray for the people to see the signs of the times and give their lives completely to the Holy One, Jesus Christ. (*Ephesians 5:16*)

Pray that God will speed the day when the knowledge of the glory of the Lord covers the earth! (*Habakkuk 2:14*) Pray all those who hear the word of God will not move away from the hope of the gospel which they have heard but will walk in Jesus, rooted, and built up in Him and established in faith.

Pray for the existing Christian believers to be "God's field" and "God's building". Pray that no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Pray each believer take heed how he/she builds on it. *(1 Corinthians 3:10-11)* 

Pray churches would blossom and produce a great harvest of believers. Pray for trustworthy, caring disciples to build loving relationships with the people through practical knowledge and demonstrating the love of Christ. *(Galatians 6:9)* 

Pray Christian workers that work among the Dagara to be loving and firm in the truth and doctrines of the Bible, not allowing the converts to mix old beliefs that hinder the growth of the Church. (2 Corinthians 5:17) for if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things have become new.

Music-making among the Dagara, like other peoples of the region, is an intrinsic part of their social life. Pray they will use their talents to praise the Lord God for his excellent greatness and create gospel music, sharing the love of God and His son Jesus to their tribes and build the Kingdom of God.

"Pito" a mildly alcoholic beverage, is common in all the communities of Dagara. Pray for families to be delivered from the bondage of alcohol use. Pray in the name of Jesus Christ over the principalities and the powers of darkness that has bound them to a hopeless future and lead them towards righteousness and eternal life.

Thank God for the complete Bible in their main language. Pray they will be like the "Bereans" who were more fair-minded and received the word with all readiness and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. (Acts 17:11)

### 5. Danu in Myanmar

Population: 115,000

Main language: Danu

Largest religion: Buddhism 95.00% Christianity 2.00%

# Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

The Danu have only been reported in Myanmar. They are an indigenous people who live in east central Myanmar near the Thai border.

The Danu speak their own language, which is part of the Mon-Khmer branch of the Austro-Asiatic family.

Most Danu make their living in agriculture and animal husbandry. Rice is their staple food. Many Danu men fish the lakes and rivers of the region where the Danu live.

The Danu life revolves around their villages. Each village has a shaman whose job it is to protect the Danu from evil spirits.

An estimated 95 % of Danu people adhere to Theravada Buddhism, mixed with spirit worship and folk religion. The village shaman gives the people amulets and charms to protect them from evil spirits and for any medical needs. Elders rule the villages and make judicial decisions.

Only a tiny fraction of the Danu claims to be followers of Jesus Christ. Most of all, the Danu need to hear and respond to the message of Jesus Christ. He alone can free them from their fear of evil spirits and forgive their sins.

### Prayer points:

The Danu needs the body of Christ who will faithfully intercede for them. Pray that God will raise faithful intercessors that will stand in the gap for this people group. (*Hebrews 7:25*)

Ask God to open the spiritual eyes of the Danu and commit them to follow Christ. Pray they will understand that they can find God while they seek Him, and can call upon Him while He is near. (*Isaiah 55:6*)

The Danu need the humility to understand that they must look to the Lord and Savior who paid for their sins by dying on the cross. Scripture says in *Psalm 138:6* "Though the Lord is on high, yet He regards the lowly..." Pray they will humble themselves before the Lord.

The Danu continue to be very superstitious and very concerned about doing everything they can to ensure that they keep evil away and enjoy good luck. Pray they who are in darkness and confusion of mind now, will become children of light and be delivered from all superstitions. (*Ephesians 5:8*)

Each village has a shaman who connects the Danu to the spirit world. They also consult the shaman to deal with their medical needs. Pray they will look unto Jesus for healing for the scripture says (*Matthew 8:17, 1 Peter 2:24*) "who took on our infirmities and bore our sicknesses on Himself" and "by whose stripes we are healed."

They need healing and new spiritual hope. It only takes a couple of Danu to catch God's vision for them and their people and become the beginnings of a movement. Pray there will be a Movement for Christ to be birthed among them.

Pray they will have the opportunity to believe in the true light, that they might become sons and daughters of the light. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life." (John 12: 36, 8: 12)

Pray the small number of Danu believers would grow in the faith and share the gospel with their families and neighbors. Pray that Christian resources especially the Bible are translated into the Danu language.

#### 6. Darzi in Pakistan

Population: 438,000

Main language: Punjabi, Western

Largest religion: Islam 100.00% Christians 0.00%

## Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

The Darzis derived their name from the Persian word 'to sew' or darzan. Sometimes the Darzi are known by the name Darji or Khayyat in India where most of their community live.

Darzis work in cities and towns practicing their trade of dying, sewing, and making clothing. As tailors they enjoy close relations with other Muslim tradesmen. Darzi women are very adept at embroidery.

The Darzis are not vegetarian but tend to avoid beef. As a community they prefer adult marriages and offer children's inheritance privileges to both sons and daughters.

The Darzi claim to be descendants of the prophet Idris. This prophet corresponds to "Enoch" of the Old Testament.

The Muslim Darzi need to hear the good news about Isa or Jesus in a way they can understand. They need to see the love and grace of Christ lived out before them in practical ways.

#### Prayer points:

Pray that God will raise intercessors for the Darzi people so they would accept Jesus Christ as their Savior. Ask the Lord for a breakthrough, to send forth laborers into this harvest field, to preach and demonstrate the Kingdom of God.

The Good News is veiled to those who are perishing, in whom the god of this world has blinded their minds. Pray God will cause the unbelieving to see the light of the good news of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)

Pray the Darzi will understand that the only one who can offer them salvation is Jesus.... for the scripture says: Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts4:12)

Pray for Christ- bearers to show that "Jesus" is God's mediator between God and man, and is essential for their salvation. Pray for great breakthroughs to happen, for a rapid multiplication of disciples and house churches to be birthed. (2 Corinthians 12:12)

Pray that the Lord would protect those who work among them for the sake of the gospel. Pray that the beautiful feet of evangelists from nearby people groups will hike the trails to bring the glad tidings of peace and great joy to indigenous people group. (*Isaiah 52:7*)

The government of Pakistan has made evangelism illegal and any Christian who shares their faith could face legal consequences. Pray that Christian workers will remain encouraged by the gospel of Christ as they minister. (Mark 16:15)

The Darzi people claim to be the descendants of the prophet Idris. This prophet corresponds to "Enoch of the Old Testament." Pray the Darzi's will "walk with God" like Enoch did and receive a testimony from God that they "pleased God" in their walk with Jesus. (*Hebrews 11:5*)

Thank God for the complete Bible available in their language. Ask the Holy Spirit to help them understand the word with a noble and good

heart like the ones that fell on good ground, keep it and bear fruit with patience. (*Luke 8:15*)

### 7. Daur in China (DAO-urh)

Population: 198,000

Main language: Daur

Largest religion: Ethnic religions 98.50% Christians: 1.50%

### Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

The Daur people are first mentioned in Chinese records in AD 620. They are thought to be the "remnants of the Chinese garrison left by the Tan tai-tszui (618-626)."

In 1928 there were as many as 300,000 Daur in China. Their numbers have dwindled this century mainly as a result of war, disease, and assimilation to Mongolian or Chinese culture and language.

Daur society is divided into a hierarchical structure. Each group of people with the same family name (hala) live in the same group of three or four villages. It is believed the sport of field hockey may have been invented by the Daur.

For centuries each Daur clan has depended upon shamans. No wedding, burial, long journey, or any other important event was attempted without first consulting the shaman. Some of the Daur who live alongside Mongolians have embraced Tibetan Buddhism.

In the early 1990s more than 1,000 Daur became Christians. In 1997 the new Daur church faced persecution from the authorities, but the believers stood firm in their faith.

# Prayer points:

Pray that God will raise an army in the body of Christ to pray for the Daur, that in God's sovereign timing all their hearts would be opened and ready to follow Him.

Father God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved, so pray for all of the Daur people to be saved. (John 3:17)

Jesus has said "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. *(1 Corinthians15:21, John 11:25)* For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. Beseech the resurrection power of the Lord Jesus Christ to fall upon them.

For centuries each Daur clan has depended on the shamans. No wedding, burial, long journey, or any other important event was attempted without first consulting the shaman. Pray the Lord Jesus would push back the darkness hovering over them and release them into His light. Pray for a huge harvest of Daur souls.

Thank God for the few Daur Christians that are actively involved in evangelism and have a deep burden to see their whole ethnic group come to Christ. Pray that the missionary work that is forbidden would gain access where the people can have a fair hearing of a presentation of the gospel.

Beseech the Lord to prepare workers to be ready for a new assignment from Him. Ask the Lord to thrust out workers who are Spirit filled and compassionate to live among this people group and minister to them with the love and compassion of Christ. (Acts 8: 4-8)

Pray for the complete Bible. Pray for the people to delight themselves in the Bible portions available in their language. Pray they develop a love of hearing and learning the word which will thereby help them to grow stronger in faith.

## 8. Dargin in Russia

Population: 627,000

Main language: Dargwa

Largest religion: Islam 99.99% Christians: 0.01%

### Origin/Location/ Lifestyle/ Beliefs/Ministry Obstacles/ Needs

Most of the Dargin people live in Russia's Dagestan region near Azerbaijan.

The Dargin come from a powerful ethnic tradition—indeed the very name 'Dargwa' means "strong, free communities." However, bondage to superstition, violent power struggles, pervasive male drunkenness, and other endemic forms of human sin, has left this proud collection of peoples far from being free.

Dargin (aka, Dargwa) communities, traditionally strong in trading and commerce, have maintained their ancient family structures, village assemblies, and councils of elders.

Though their economy is predominantly agricultural, the Dargins have developed rudimentary production and crafts such as carving, stoneworking, tanning, and metal-working to support farming and livestockraising.

Though Dargins follow Sunni Islam, it has a strongly syncretistic nature, with a substantial heritage of pre-Islamic beliefs practicing folk Islamic form.

There are now over 40 Dargin followers of Jesus in Dagestan. Since 2007 Matthew, Mark, and Luke have been published in Dargin language—John, Acts, and Revelation are nearly ready, with the goal the entire New Testament in the next decade. This incarnational work of the gospel in the Dargin world is crucial.

## Prayer points:

Ask God for intercessors to faithfully stand in the gap for the Dargins people group living in Russia. Pray for a spiritual breakthrough among them.

Ask God for this precious people to see His glory, for they need to be a part of His Kingdom. (*Acts 26:18*) Pray they will believe in Jesus the Son of God and the Savior of the world who can forgive their sins and grant them eternal life.

The very name 'Dargwa' means "strong, free communities." However, bondage to superstition, violent power struggles, pervasive male drunkenness, and other endemic forms of human sin, leave this proud collection of peoples far from being free. Pray they understand that there is freedom only in and through Jesus Christ- "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." (John 8:36)

Pray He who gave Himself for our sins, might deliver them from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father to whom be glory forever and ever. *(Galatians 1:4)* 

"Therefore, He (Jesus our High Priest) is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them." (*Hebrews 7:25*) Pray the Dargins come to Jesus.

Pre-Islamic traditions are reflected in their daily life style, rites for causing and stopping rain, calling out the sun, veneration of sacred trees and shrines of deceased holy men. Pray the power of superstition and darkness prevailing over them will be broken by the power and authority of Jesus Christ.

Pray for whole households to be reached for Jesus, much like what happened in the book of Acts when Peter won Cornelius and his family to Christ and Paul and Silas won the Philippian jailer and his household to the Lord.

Pray the entire community will be zealous to know Christ and follow his ways and surrender their lives to the Lordship of Jesus. (*Romans 10:15*) Pray for God to raise up the right people with patience and sensitivity to minister to the spiritual needs of this people group.

Thank God for the translated Books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. John, Acts and Revelation are nearly ready, with the goal the entire New Testament to be translated in the next decade. Pray for a complete Bible to happen in this decade. Pray for workers to be available for the process of translating the Bible.

# Prayers for Revival in the Nation: United States of America

"Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."
(Proverbs 14:34)

#### Pray for the Church:

**Repentance:** Receive the Forgiveness of God and repentance from sins. Return to the God of the Bible. All divisions removed.

Christian (Biblical) values to be preserved. Church would value and stand for God's truth over political correctness or cultural ideologies.

**Leaders:** "An awakening is needed just as desperately in our pulpits as in the pews." Pray for God's supernatural anointing on Pastors and spiritual leaders for boldness to always proclaim His Word in all circumstances and at all times without compromise. (Acts 4:29, 2 Timothy 4:2-4)

God has promised to make His ministers a flame of fire. (*Psalm 104:4*) Anoint them with the power of the Holy Spirit. To keep them from the traditions of men and religion which deny the full presence and power of God.

Ask God to grant Pastors and leaders a fresh revelation of heaven and hell that they may preach with increased unction.

Pray that pastors would lead their congregation as a good shepherd like Jesus. Pray they would love and care for the flock God has entrusted them with. (John 10:11)

Pray they have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he/she fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. (1 Timothy 3:7)

To remove all distortions created by man-made traditions from off God's Word.

**Evangelism:** Proclaim the good news of the gospel with conviction obeying the Great Commission. Pray for Jesus to be exalted as Lord in every heart and for each believer to be ready to share Christ for who He is and what He has done.

Word of God/Scripture: Pray that the next generation of believers will recognize the value, authority, validity, and the relevance of the Word of God for their lives today.

Beseech, the Lord to place in them a true hunger for God's Word so they desire to know the Scripture, study it responsibly, teach it reverently, share it boldly, and live it faithfully. Help them to recognize the difference between human philosophy and Godly wisdom by being diligent to study the Word, "rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)

Pray the Lord will open the understanding of everyone who hears and reads, so they might comprehend the Scripture. (*Luke 24:45*)

Pray for the body of Christ to abide in God's word, for then they will be true disciples of Him, and they will truly know the truth and the truth shall set everyone free. (John 8:31-32)

**Church:** The church is a body of believers that Jesus Christ, Himself purchased with His own precious blood. It is not a building, it is a living, breathing entity of which Jesus Christ is the head.

...Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. (*Ephesians 2:19-22.*)

**Pray Hebrews 10: 24-25** over the Churches. "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Pray and bind every territorial power working against the growth of the church to be scattered in the name of Jesus Christ. Pray for every force of disobedience creating stagnancy in the church of God be destroyed. Pray for the Churches to have peace and be edified, walking in fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Pray it be strengthened in its faith and increase in numbers daily. (Acts 9:31) Ask God to cause His church to arise and walk in the fulness of its power.

**Salvation:** Pray for the lost souls to confess with their mouths that Jesus Christ is Lord, and believe in their hearts that God raised Him from the dead, so they can be saved. *Romans 10:10* says "For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

**Life worthy of the Gospel:** Apostle Paul urged the Body of Christ to walk worthy of the calling with which they were called bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Ephesians 4:1-3*)

Pray for the believers to understand that the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Also pray each one remains in the same calling in which he/she was called. (*Romans 11: 29, 1 Corinthians 7:20*)

Believers to be Salt and Light: Pray all believers will be sons of light and sons of the day and not of the night, nor of darkness. Pray believers will cast off the works of the darkness, and put on the armor of light. (1 Thessalonians 5:5, Romans 13:12)

Jesus said "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8: 12)

Unity in the Body of Christ: Ask the Lord to grant a spirit of unity in the local church. Pray that all may be one, just as God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ are one. Pray that the members would be one in God, so the world may believe that Jesus was truly sent by God.

Ask God to give everyone ears to hear what the "Spirit of the Lord" is saying to the church. (Revelation 3:22)

**5-fold ministry gifts**: Apostles, Prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. (*Ephesians 4:11-13*)

Pray for ministries to be fruitful and churches strengthened to face persecution with courage and perseverance. (1Peter 4: 12-16)

The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:2). Pray for older Christian believers the need to share God's truths with others/younger people.

**Prayer focus:** All churches will become "houses of prayer" making prayer a high priority and the altars of these houses of prayer will be filled with the glory of the Lord! (*Isaiah 56:7*)

Pray for more people to stand in the gap for others. Let there be a prayer ministry in every church that is powerful and effective. (*Psalm 32:6, Ezekiel 22:30*) Ask God to raise up intercessors who will stand in the gap for their Church – and co-labor with Him to see His heart's desire of a spotless Bride come to pass. (*Hebrews 7:25*)

**Worship:** The psalmist says in *Psalm 138:2* "I will worship toward Your holy temple, and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth: for You have magnified Your word above all Your name."

Pray true worshippers to worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. (John 4:23)

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, pray we have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. Pray all worship leaders will have an anointing to understand the splendor of God's Holiness and lead worship with that same understanding. *(Psalms 29:2)* 

Beseech the Lord to pour out His Spirit of grace and supplication upon the church that will result in a nationwide response to prayer by the church. *(Ephesians 6:18)* 

Anointing of the Holy Spirit: Pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all flesh in the last days, sons, and daughters to prophesy for visions and dreams for the young and old men. Pray God will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath. (Acts 2:17-19, Acts 2:4, Luke 24:49)

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26) Invite His Holy Spirit to come and live within us, guiding and reminding us of the incredible truth about God.

For the Manifestation of the Holy Spirit: Pray in Jesus' name every family, every church, every ministry, every city, every community, every nation, be baptized anew with the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit - Word of wisdom, Word of knowledge, Faith, Gifts of healings, Miracles, Prophecy, Discerning between spirits, Different kinds of Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues. (1 Corinthians 12: 7-11)

Ask the Lord for the church to eagerly desire spiritual gifts and to use their gifts to minister to one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. To help exercise the gifts in love. To remind the church body to keep fanning into flames the gifts He has entrusted to each one. (1 Corinthians 14:1, 1 Peter 4:10-11)

**Sound Doctrine:** "Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son." (2 John 1:9)

Pray for the Church and believers not be carried about with various and strange doctrines, rather hearts be established by grace.

Pray for the body of Christ to give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine (1 Timothy 4:13) and also to note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine they have learned and avoid them. (Romans 16:17)

**Sanctification of the Church**: Be cleansed by the washing of water by the Word to be presented in all glory having no spot or wrinkle, holy and without blemish. *(Ephesians 5:26-27)* 

Pray for the church to exercise itself towards godliness, for godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that is now and of that which is to come. Also, godliness with contentment is a great gain. (1Timothy 4: 7-8, 6:6)

Pray and ask the Lord to purge His church from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. Purge the Church from all evil, abstain from all sexual immorality for this the will of God. (2 Corinthians 7:1, 1 Thessalonians 4:3)

Pray Church leaders to abide by Christian doctrine on marriage, sexuality and identity even if it means the threat of legal sanctions, financial penalties and social stigma.

Being politically correct and being timid has crept into the church. Pray that the church would not fear and act out of timidity. Pray that the church would value and stand for God's truth over political correctness or cultural ideologies.

Pray believers will never lose sight that their struggle is not with other people but against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces that influence them/us. Ask the Lord, to help them/us to daily put on the armor of God, stand firm, and commit to pray for themselves/our, their/our community and country. (*Ephesians 6:10*)

Ask God to give us wisdom and discernment to recognize the schemes of the enemy and to stand strong against his work. Pray God would help us to stay alert in a dark world.

Day of the Lord: Pray for believers to be "as sons of light and sons of the day, to not sleep, as others do, but watch and be sober. Pray that this Day should not overtake us as a thief. To always live with the realization in the forefront of their/our minds that their (our) citizenship is in heaven. (1 Thessalonians 5: 4-6, Philippians 3:20)

Pray every believer by the grace of God, will deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and live soberly, righteously and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. (*Titus 2:11-13*)

#### Pray for the Government/Leaders/ Government affairs:

Pray the President and the Vice President to lead the nation with Bible principles. To be surrounded by wise and Godly counselors. Deliver them from ungodly counselors. (1Timothy 2:3-4)

Pray for Government leaders to not be deceived by political philosophies that could easily undermine biblical truth, the role of the Church and family, and the values and priorities set in place as Christian heritage.

Pray for the salvation of all of the nation's leaders that they may know Jesus. To place people in power who revere Him and will serve Him for the good of their communities.

Pray the Legislative Branch (Congress) would enact laws that follow God's commands. "If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth". (Deuteronomy 28:1)

Pray against the divisiveness that plagues the land. Humbly plead that, by His miraculous power, the members of Congress would put their agendas aside to work together in humility to serve for the good of the nation. Pray for Congress to exert efforts toward more bipartisan cooperation to solve the issues facing the nation.

Pray government leaders would understand they are held accountable by God. Whether in conflict or unity pray God would implement His plan and accomplish His will in the hearts of those whom He has given authority. (Micah 5:15)

Pray for the Judicial Branch: (Supreme Court) would establish and maintain just laws. This is what the Lord says: "Maintain justice and do what is right..." (*Isaiah 56:1*)

Pray for the Court, the justices, the clerks. Pray for supernatural protection of the Justices, their families and their staff.

Pray for U.S. federal judges who are dealing with controversial political matters to consider facts and law rather than public sentiment. Pray

for the judges to take heed what they are doing for they do not judge for man but for the Lord. (2 Chronicles 19:6)

Lord Jesus is the Righteous Judge who will judge the nations. Pray that they would judge rightly before Him and uphold what is true. Pray for balanced judgment that upholds the Constitution. Grant them divine wisdom to decipher what is right.

Pray for laws and judicial decisions that have misconstrued the First Amendment. Pray that many of these decisions would be challenged and overturned, so that true freedom of religion is secure in the United States once again.

Pray for men and women in the military, that the Lord would draw many of them to Himself and that He would give service members in every level of leadership wisdom as they defend our nation.

There is a new "woke" political bias in America's military institutions. Social justice and critical race theory-focused trainings are pervading the military and are antithetical to biblical, conservative, and traditional values that have long been part of the nation's military code.

Pray for the law enforcement agencies in every state that God would protect them from harm and to have the strength and courage they need in every situation they face.

Pray for perseverance, to endure unjust condemnation, danger, and physical abuse to which they are at times subjected.

Ask God to remove the politicized prosecutors and leaders who are working to defund and undermine police officers at every turn. Ask the Lord to remove those facilitating violence in communities across the nation.

Intelligence services: Homeland Security, NSA, CIA, FBI, ATF, Secret Service, National Security Council, Law Enforcement etc.

Pray that Godly foundations would be restored in the Government, in Education, in the Families, and every area of culture – along with righteousness, honor, truth and the fear of the Lord.

Pray for all state governors and local officials. Grant them grace to face their unique challenges like inflation, unemployment, financial crisis, law enforcement, racial divisions, border crises and rising crimes. To give them insight into the needs of their communities and discernment to make decisions to lead their states and communities well.

#### Pray for Family:

Foremost among the institutions here is the American family. It is the foundation of civil society, and the cornerstone of the family is natural marriage, the union of one man and one woman. Pray the laws and leaders reflect this truth and reflect God's commands about what marriage is. (*Hebrews 13: 4*)

Pray for the families in America to return to the biblical model, reconcile with one another. Ask God to enable families to be a triple-braided cord that cannot easily be broken. (*Ecclesiastes 4:12*)

Pray *John 15:4* Ask God to help the family to abide in Him and His word and bear spiritual fruit that will allow them to flourish each day.

Pray for the husbands to be the leader of their house, to be the image of Christ in the home, to possess Godly courage and will stand guard over his family. Pray they will seek the Lord for wisdom and direction and continue to fear the Lord and honor God's commands. (*Ephesians 5: 25*)

Pray for husband to fear the Lord, love his wife as himself, dwell with his wife with understanding, honoring her and providing for her and the children. (1 Peter 3:7)

**Psalms 128:3** says "Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house, your children like olive plants all around your table. Behold thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.

Pray for wives to love, respect, and submit to their husbands and to nurture the children in the ways of the Lord. (*Ephesians 5: 22-33*)

Parents are "both a primary influence and a gatekeeper to other influences" on their children, shockingly, only few parents intentionally speak to their children about beliefs and behavior based upon a biblical worldview. Pray for all parents to obey the command of God and talk to their children.

Pray for parents to train their children in righteousness and the fear of the Lord. Pray for all children to be taught by the Lord, and for them to have great peace. (*Proverbs 22:6, Isaiah 54:13*)

Pray for children to obey their parents in the Lord, to honor their father and mother that it may be well with them and that they may live long on the earth. (*Ephesians 6:1-3*)

Pray for all hindrances to be removed for little children to come to the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Matthew 19:13-15*) Pray for love for His word and their hearts stirred up for His work. To complete the good work God has begun in them. (*Philippians 1:6*)

Beseech the Lord for justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the rights of the afflicted and the destitute. (*Psalms 82: 3-4*)

Thank the Lord for He is the father to the fatherless and husband to the widow. To restore the broken families with His wholeness and let them turn to Him for all spiritual, emotional, and physical needs. (*Psalms 146:8-9*)

**Abortion:** Pray that abortion clinics across the nation would shrivel up and shut down, and that crisis pregnancy centers would thrive. Pray for those who work in the abortion clinics to have their eyes opened and be set free. Pray for mothers to choose their children over fear or self.

**Divorce**: God clearly stated in *Malachi 2:16 "I hate divorce."* God never designed a marriage to end in divorce. He instituted marriage for the loving companionship of a man and his wife.

Divorce is of the devil; it is his handiwork. Pray and bind the power and activities of the spirits of divorce in the name of Jesus. Pray for the restoration of marriages as God intended to be. Ask God to remove unforgiveness and anger from the hearts and help to love one another with a love of Christ.

"Christianity has always held that marriage is only possible between a man and a woman, and that every person is made either male or female in God's image."

Same-sex Marriage: About six-in-ten adults (61%) express a positive view of the impact of same-sex marriage being legal, including 36% who say it is very good for society. Roughly four-in-ten have a negative view (37%), with 19% saying it is very bad.

Ask God to help the nation as whole to desire purity denying all ungodliness, foolish disputes, contentions, worldly lusts, debauchery, perversion, living in malice and envy, being hateful, brutal, lovers of pleasure, headstrong, haughty... (1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Titus 2:12)

## Pray for Education/Students/Educators and School Systems:

Pray God would lead the Department of Education as they set learning standards in place. Pray for students throughout the nation who are relying on digital and virtual learning. Ask God to eliminate the distractions in their lives that keep them from excellence.

Intercede for an atmosphere of learning that would encourage students to publicly express their faith and reverence for God. Pray for all students to be shielded from agendas that oppose biblical values and morality. Ask God to guard our students from those who bully or tease because of their own insecurities.

God's design is for parents to be in authority over their children-not the state, schools or teachers. Prayerfully encourage and participate in the work of those actively fighting for parental rights, choice, and support through avenues or home, private, and public education. Pray for the administrators of local schools, all public schools in the nation to be gatekeepers against harmful ideology and indoctrination that opposes God's Word and design. (Mark 10:13-16)

Pray for a revelation of truth to be revealed to children who do not know Jesus; the truth is what sets people free. Pray for the love of God to abound, even in times where lawlessness seems to be on the increase.

Ask God to put "**Prayer**" back in schools. Pray Christian clubs and support networks would arise and mobilize to witness for Him in the schools. Pray the sound of prayer would rise like incense from our schools at the students' own will.

Ask our Abba Father, that righteous legislation would arise to undo the restrictions on prayer in schools. Pray for every righteous vote to be implemented and not blocked or hindered. Pray every court rule in favor of the free exercise of Christian prayer and worship in schools as well.

Pray all books that have inappropriate reading content material to be removed from libraries and publishing's of it stopped. Pray those books will not be recommended by educators. Pray for boldness and wisdom for educators to stand against the wiles of the enemy. (government)

Pray for men and women of God to fill positions in the Department of Education such as Superintendents, Principals, Teachers, Counselors, Coaches, and school board members, to use their influence for change.

Intercede for all the students, teachers, and administrators on all school campuses who believe in Jesus to be bold in their faith and not back down in the face of opposition. (1 John 4: 4)

Pray for parents to take a stand against covert LGBTQ+ policies found in public school systems across the nation. Pray public education departments should neither play a role in teaching students about gender and sexuality, nor encourage any behaviors related to either gender or sexuality.

Pray for Christian kids who resist pro-homosexual indoctrination will not be bullied in schools. Pray parents will oppose and resist any legislation or amendment that requires mandatory pro-LGBT lectures to public school children, or promotes sin under the false disguise of anti-bullying.

Jesus said, (Matthew 18:6) "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea."

More than 1,000 school districts across the US have adopted policies that permit or advise staff/personnel to withhold information from parents about their child's desire to identify as trans or nonbinary, according to the advocacy group Parents Defending Education.

At least 1,040 districts, representing 18,335 schools with more than 10.7 million students, have "Transgender/Gender Nonconforming Policies" that openly state district personnel can or should keep a student's gender identity status hidden from parents.

These policies are driving "a wedge between parents and their children." Pray God will raise more parents who will protect their children by respectfully and wisely challenging a corrupt system, a satanic system committed to destroying young hearts, minds, and bodies in order to dominate the world of the future.

**Transgender issues:** Pray God would reveal their true identity to the children and youth in schools and colleges, and protect them from the influence of ungodly leadership. Ask God to repeal all of the Biden administration's transgender bills and mandates.

*Pray Isaiah 49: 24-25*: Children across the nation are being subjected to transgender treatments with hormones, surgery, and counseling. Cry out to the Lord for deliverance from the spread of transgenderism in the nation. Protect the people and children from the predatory trans agendas.

Pray for those speaking the truth, going against the grain, exposing, and cautioning about this issue. Pray for boldness for the church,

parents, grandparents, teachers, school board members, legislators, physicians, and volunteers to advocate for a biblical approach to our identity. (1 John 4:17)

Pray about all the threats to cut funding to public schools that won't promote transgenderism as normal, or violate privacy and safety of girls by forcing them to endure co-ed locker rooms and bathrooms to be destroyed in the name of Jesus!

Praise Report: Prayers are being answered! Hallelujah!!

North Carolina is the 22nd state to ban medical gender transitions among minors, although similar laws have been either struck down or face court challenges in other states. (Alabama, Florida, Indiana and Kentucky, according to the Human Rights Campaign's reports.)

In addition to the states named above, similar laws banning such procedures have been passed in Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and West Virginia.

#### Pray for Society/Social Issues /Businesses

Pray God would expose the truth of transgenderism to the American public. Ask God to show them, that this truly is a perverted and sinister ideology, and not a legitimate science.

Gender Clarity: Although men, women, and children know their identity, pray they would not be blinded by a confusion about it. Ask God to lift up all those who are struggling to reconcile their thoughts and desires with the gender of their birth. Pray for God's intervention to help all of them to know that they are fearfully and wonderfully made — that their lives have a purpose exactly as God created them to be. (*Psalm 139:14-16*)

Pray all those who are confused will firmly denounce these untruths related to gender confusion. Rebuke the devourer on behalf of every person; prevent the enemy from devouring the lives of those impacted by this wicked gender-change agenda.

Pray about the forces behind the movement, contributing to the crisis of identity in this nation and the destruction of the family. Jesus said: "Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to the man by whom the offense comes!" (Matthew 18:7)

Pray all leaders of our nation who are promoting this agenda, as well as the heads of hospitals and schools, will be held accountable to God and to the parents. Ask the Lord for justice in this area. Intercede to Him to intervene for the children and deal with those who are leading the children into sin.

While the larger number of Millennials identifying as LGBTQ is attention grabbing, what is more disturbing is 40% "don't believe God exists and also they don't care if God exists."

Ask God to send laborers across the path of all who are living this lifestyle of sin. Pray the workers would expose the lies of the enemy at the same time profess the strong love of Christ for them when they accept the truth of His word and repent.

Pray they turn away from all their transgressions and acknowledge that their lifestyle does not please God. (2 Peter 2:6, Jude 7) Pray that the wounds of their heart will be healed, identity confusion removed, their eyes opened, and their hearts turned to Christ and to walk in their identity.

Ask God by the Blood of Jesus and the Power of the Holy Spirit to cut the webs of witchcraft and anything blinding the people of the Lord. (*Ecclesiastes 4:12*). Pray for God to close all the doors that bring foreign and occult worship cultures.

Almost 70% of Americans oppose legislation that would protect religious freedom and freedom of conscience. Pray that God will continue to bless Christians with the right to openly practice their faith.

Pray for America's businesses to have leaders of integrity, be creators of economic blessing, and givers to the community rather than promoting "selfish gain" and ungodly agendas.

Pray for Christian businesses to thrive, and not to cave under pressure by the demands of LGBTQ and pro-abortion activists, lobbyists. Pray for them to stand firm on Biblical principles, on Christian values providing jobs, helping to decrease the nation's unemployment rate and for them to be blessed more and more.

Pray against cancel culture, woke culture, communism, atheism, agnosticism among many other manifestations of darkness.

Pray God would stop the spreading of Yoga practices across USA especially in schools, colleges and even churches etc.

**Human Trafficking:** Over 4.1 million people are sexually trafficked in our nation each year--including children. Run by cartels and criminals, and empowered by satanic roots, it is an underground industry wielding huge profits and power. Pray the victims of human trafficking would be liberated and perpetrators brought to justice. Pray for the continued safety and rescue of all these poor children who are helpless.

**Addictions:** Substance abuse and pornography addictions can have major impacts on the lives of those affected and the people close to them.

A study on it shows worrying numbers and increasing at an alarming rate. Conditions that frequently co-occur with pornography addiction include Depression, Anxiety, Social Anxiety, Mood disorders, Sex addictions and substance use disorders.

Pray the church would be leading society in addressing this epidemic. Pray God will put an end to this destructive behavior and the double life that is destroying everything in one's life and help regain their integrity.

Pray for the "God of Hope" to intervene in all the other social issues like sexual misconducts, drugs, substance abuse, smoking, vaping, alcohol abuse, etc. to be ended and for complete restoration of lives.

**Drug Overdoses**: The **fentanyl** crisis is now worse than ever. As the number of Americans who are dying from overdoses are increasing ask God to protect the nation from dangerous drugs like fentanyl. Save

those who struggle with addiction, and secure the borders so that these drugs stop entering the country.

Mental health: Pray for stability among young Americans. Emergency room visits for mental health crises among 12-17 years old increased 31% during the pandemic. Recent statistics show steeply rising levels of depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and other very serious problems.

Gun violence/Mass shootings: Pray that all people will realize the profound impact gun violence has and does. Pray God to teach us to value all life. Pray for open doors in school systems across the nation to receive help from Christian parents, adult volunteers, and ministry organizations.

#### Pray for the Media/ News Corporations/Networks:

Pray the word of God *John 16:13* over the media: Pray that journalists across America will do their best to bring light where there is darkness and truth where there is falseness.

Pray that God would remove those who desire to report anything less than the truth and to be a service to humanity. May he raise up those who are bold to confront evil and injustice, who reject the half-truths that deceive and the biased words that corrupt.

Ask the Lord to provide the television, radio and print mediums with staff members and executives who are committed to accuracy and integrity.

As much as we are thankful for the gift of social media, we are equally worried about the harmful effects it also brings. One can acknowledge the growing issue of social media addiction and the damaging effects it can have on our mental health and general well-being. Ask God for help overcoming this addiction and achieving a balance in its usage. Pray, that "Social-Media" shall not be a platform for propagating hatred.

Pray for all politicians, CEOs of multinational companies trying to manipulate others through media disinformation and breaking down the trust of the people. Pray *(Isaiah 5:20-21)* 

# Pray for Repentance/ Revival in India:

"I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." (Luke 5:32)

#### Pray for the Government/Leaders:

Pray for the President, Prime Minister, his Cabinet, MPs, MLAs, Opposition leaders and everyone of influence. Pray for them and their families to be saved.

Pray that they would live in the fear of God and would do what is right and just, would speak the truth and work for the good of all people. Pray for all the various arms of the government to work for all the citizens of India, rather than serving the interests of the rich and powerful alone.

Pray that God would give the Prime Minister wisdom to surround himself with counselors who have the country's best interest at heart. Pray for wise counsel to direct him as he leads the nation.

Pray for the Lord to raise God fearing leaders in India. Beseech the Lord to raise Christian believers in higher positions in Government. (Daniel 2:48)

The current government has been operating on a **Hindutva** (**Hindu nationalist**) **platform**, and the introduction of many barriers has brought about intensifying persecution of other religions. Pray for social and political harmony as well as wise leadership to handle the rapid changes.

Pray for God to expose the darkness and deceit in the government including all hidden agendas and subversive activities, corruption, collusion, bribery, extortion, embezzlement, racketeering, financial mismanagement and fiscal waste.

Pray for the state governments in all of the states in India, for corruption free leaders willing to serve the people with integrity and honesty, seeking the welfare of the people.

#### Pray for the Churches, Missions and Organizations:

Pray for a revival throughout all of India's diverse church groups and unity to complete the Great Commission in India.

Pray that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit will be experienced among numerous denominations and church groups. Thank God that the Holy Spirit has been given to those hungering for Him and that He has not been relegated to any denomination but given to believers for the intensified service to God. *(1Corinthians 12:13)* 

Praise God for the numerous missionary organizations in India. Pray to the Lord for the growth and development of these organizations. Pray for all the missionary organizations such as Vishwa Vani, GEMS, FMPB, BMS, IMA, ICCC, AEFI, IEM, UESI, Gospel for Asia, YWAM, OM, CMS, Scripture Union, AG missions, FGPC missions, CNI & CSI, World Vision, Compassion India, etc. to name a few.

**Praise report:** Vishwa Vani is serving in 10,214 villages and have planted 3,148 Churches among first generation believers. The organization has constructed 1,305 buildings in needy villages with 4,678 full time missionaries serving the purposes to build God's Kingdom. Pray for all of their needs to be provided and for their vision to be fulfilled.

Pray that the Church worldwide might rise to pray for the Indians and see them reached with the Glorious Gospel of the blessed God. Pray that the Church will rejoice in suffering for Christ and in the strength of His promises.

Pray for missionaries, pastors, evangelists, and every servant of God who are out on the field contributing towards the advancement of the kingdom of God. Pray for their protection and provision for them and their families as they serve the Lord faithfully.

Pray against the spirit of stagnation and limitation that is working against the growth of God's church. Ask God that every satanic counsel against church growth shall be confused in Jesus Name. Pray there shall be supernatural expansion, according to His will.

Pray that the Church will be one, just as Jesus was one with His Father. Ask God to heal any divisions that exist between pastors and their congregants, and between denominations so that the nation may see the Body of Christ united in love for one another and toward those whom he has come to save. (John 17:21)

God's word says that the weapons given to us have the divine power to demolish strongholds. Therefore, pray and declare that every stronghold that has revolted against the church shall be demolished in the name of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:4)

Pray for mission workers who are ministering among prisoners, widows, abandoned children and orphans. Pray they receive new life in Christ. Pray also that God will preserve trust and bring hope in the hearts of children who have been mistreated.

#### Pray about the Christian Persecution:

Under BJP's leadership, Hindu nationalist attacks against Christians have risen, believers are given fewer rights in some areas and the government is frequently accused of turning a blind eye to brutal attacks against religious minorities like Christians.

Pray for Hindutva groups like VHP, RSS, Bajrang Dal, Shiv Sena, Sangh Parivar, Hindu Yuva Vahini, Hindu Yuva Sangatam, Hindu Aikya Munnani and other religious organizations for their eyes to be opened to the one and true God.

According to local believers, Radical Hindu nationalists falsely accuse Christians of forcefully converting individuals to Christianity to justify harassment and assault. Local police often overlook violence perpetrated against Christians due to false accusations of forced conversion.

Anti-conversion laws are being used to target Christians in at least 10 of India's 29 states. (Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh) The laws have been used to justify

persecution of Christians in a variety of situations. Pray the laws will be repealed in all these other states like how it happened in Karnataka.

A new study published by the United Christian Forum (UCF) shows there were 400 violent attacks on Christians in India in the first half of this year alone. Documenting a surge in violence against Christians in India, the study shows the month of June saw an average of three attacks per day.

Pray the Lord will restrain the hands of extremists, grant wisdom to the authorities, and protect His people against unjustified accusations of forcible conversion. Pray that our brothers and sisters will be able to express the importance of the voluntary conversion of the heart, which cannot be forced.

Pray for the freedom of speech, freedom to practice and propagate the faith of each individual to be upheld and also for the government institutions to be secular, upholding truth, righteousness and justice.

Pray that those who are persecuting Christians will be exposed. Pray for the protection of Christians. Pray that the police, the judiciary and the public will stand up for Christians. Pray that the gospel will be proclaimed across the nation with signs, wonders and various miracles.

Pray that the authorities would not resort to unjust ways and not hinder Christians from freely practicing and propagating their faith. May they see that the Church of God is not a house or a building, but a company of people?

Pray that the religious fanatic groups who spread hate messages and communal disharmony may come to see and dread the true Lord, the Creator of the Heavens, and the Earth. Pray that the evil plans and strategies of such fanatic groups will be thwarted by the Sovereign God.

Many of those who are coming to faith are poor, converts from impoverished areas and are often accused of illegally being paid to become Christians. Pray for those who have been falsely accused of paying people to become Christians, that their names will be cleared.

India's tribal communities have already faced centuries of discrimination and marginalization, while Christian tribals suffer additional ostracization. Pray that the persecutors who bring false accusations against the innocent tribal Christians are convicted of their sins forgiven by Jesus Christ and renewed by the Spirit of God.

Pray that every threat for "Ghar Wapsi" thrust the Christian heart into deeper communion with Christ! Pray for a change in the hearts of the persecutors so that they too can taste the love of God.

Pray for those who are imprisoned because of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Pray that God would comfort them and hear their cry and answer their prayers. Pray that they would stand strong in the Lord and continue to do good.

Pray for the media platforms in India. That they would recognize and report cases of Christian Persecution. These cases would not be ignored due to the religious majority. That they may not be silenced by the pressure of biased political authorities.

There is a trend to impose religions extremism in the educational curriculum of this secular nation. Pray the aggressive activities of those in the Government against Indian sovereignty is to be curtailed and educational curriculum to be developed by secular educationalists.

## Pray about Idolatry/ Family/ Social and Other issues:

Beseech the Lord to forgive the sins of idol worship. Pray for God to destroy the foothold of devil in India through these idols. Pray for spiritual darkness to be removed from India. (*Isaiah 45:16*)

Pray as a nation people will repent, turn away from their idols and turn away from all their abominations and everything that displeases the Lord God. (*Ezekiel 14: 6*)

Pray that generations will bond together. Pray for fathers and mothers to rise and accept their place as authority figures who will boldly, yet lovingly give direction to the younger generation. Pray for a covenant to unite the generational ages together with strong affection, one for another. (Malachi 4:6, Proverbs 31:25-26, 28)

Pray deliverance for people who are in bondages of addictions, adultery, divination, sorcery, witchcraft, demonic possession, sicknesses and generational curses.

The poorest and least empowered members of society, most often children, women and minority groups in society, face the brunt of immoral and corrupt leaders and systems.

Two-thirds of all children suffer physical abuse, and half suffer some kind of sexual harassment or abuse. Over 1 million end up in prostitution. Pray that God will change attitudes and practices in society to reflect His care for women and children.

Pray for the youth of the nation. Pray that the Lord would give them direction and purpose. Pray that they would be equipped by God for every good work so that the nation would progress, and people may be benefitted.

Pray for the ministries among Children and Youth and other community-based programs that are reaching out to the next generation today that God would provide for them and use them to reach many unreached youths in every part of our country. Pray that God would strengthen them, meet their daily needs, and raise up Godly leaders who will champion their cause among the powerful.

# Pray for Repentance/ Reconciliation/Restoration/Revival in Israel:

"Break forth into joy, sing together, you waste places of Jerusalem! For the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem." (Isaiah 52: 9)

# Pray for Jerusalem and the Land of Israel:

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. (*Psalm 122:6*) Pray Jerusalem to be protected from being divided (*Joel 3:2*)

Pray for believers around the world to receive revelation and understanding of God's heart for Israel. (Romans 11:25-32)

For the fulfillment of Jerusalem's future glory, and that God would continue to raise up intercessors to call on the LORD for it to be established and praised. (Isaiah 62:1, 6)

Sovereign Lord, restore the judges to Israel as in the days of old, their counselors as at the beginning. Then will Jerusalem be called the "City of Righteousness, the Faithful City". Pray God our Savior, redeem Zion with justice, her penitent ones with righteousness. (*Isaiah 1:26*)

In the face of Palestinian rhetoric that "Jerusalem will only be the capital of Palestine," call upon the Lord, reminding Him that He has chosen this city to be His eternal dwelling place. Proclaim the words of Psalm 132 in its entirety, especially verses 13 and 14.

#### Pray for the Church/Salvation of the Jewish people:

Pray for the people of Israel to come to know their Messiah, Yeshua. For the Lord to pour out a spirit of grace and supplication, so that many will see Yeshua and mourn for Him, having a full revelation of who He is. (*Zechariah 12:10-14*)

Pray for the Jews who believe in Jesus as their Messiah. Pray for persistence in their belief when they encounter incomprehension by their fellow countrymen. Pray that they may be a blessing for all the people around them.

Pray for the Believers to be strengthened with power in their inner being, so Messiah may dwell in their hearts through faith, and that they would know the love of Messiah (*Ephesians 3:16-19*)

Pray they would be filled with God's will, wisdom and understanding; live a life worthy of Him; bear fruit in every good work; have great endurance and patience; and be grateful. (Colossians 2:6-7)

Pray God Almighty, to return to His people. Look down from heaven and see! Revive His people that they may call upon His Name. Redeemer, restorer of Israel; may shine His face upon them, that they may be saved. (*Psalm 80:18-19*)

For Believers to not be ashamed of the Gospel but to share its saving power with everyone, Jewish People first and also to Gentiles, so they have opportunity to believe. May they be enabled to love their enemies, and have a prophetic voice amongst their peoples, and be truly united together as the One New Man in Messiah Jesus. (*Romans 1:16*)

Ask God to pour out His Holy Spirit upon the people of Israel especially upon the youth and children so that His works can be declared to future generations. (Joel 2: 28)

Ask the Lord God to pour out His Spirit on the whole Haredi (Ultraorthodox) communities, as well as Israelis who call themselves traditionally Jewish saying they know about Him greatly and yet not really having a living relationship with, and personally knowing, Him.

Pray for a move of God's spirit that will bring evangelicals back to the Bible, sound theology and the message of Christian support for Israel. Ask God to pour out a deep hunger for the complete Word of God on the church Body so that they will not be just New Testament believers, but Bible believers.

Cry out to the Lord for young evangelicals who need to understand the critical importance of God's everlasting covenant with Israel and its impact on the future of the Church. Pray for pastors who will instill in young Christians a love for the Word of God and a commitment to truth rather than an unbiblical understanding of social justice.

Pray for God to touch the hearts of the Muslim background believers with a radical love for Israel and zeal to proclaim the Gospel to their Jewish brothers and sisters; that the enemies of Israel would become salt and light, provoking the Jewish people to jealousy unto salvation. (Romans 11:11)

Pray that the Palestinian Arabs will come to faith in Christ and embrace God's end-time purpose for Israel; to send forth laborers to bring in the appointed harvest from the whole of the Middle East.

#### Pray for Government and leaders:

Pray for Israel's leaders to be blessed and lead well, so Israel's citizens can live in peace, and many will come to salvation (1Timothy 2:1-4)

Pray fervently for Prime Minister Netanyahu and the new coalition government. Cry out to the Lord for an abundance of His wisdom as they deal with difficult and complex domestic, international and security issues.

Ask God to give Netanyahu courage to do what is right and not what is popular, as well as a God-given wisdom to discern the truth from lies.

Beseech the Lord to move on the hearts of the leaders to choose what is best for their nation and not for their political careers. Ask God to touch the hearts of all ministers to embrace the responsibility they have accepted. (*Proverbs 19:21, 21:1*)

Pray God impart wisdom and courage to PM Netanyahu in dealing with US President Biden's anti-Israel Administration and to have wisdom in responding to Biden and America's Israeli Ambassador Nides denigrating and ridiculous remarks concerning Israel's current government.

Ask God to not allow the US administration to manipulate Israel's government, especially PM Netanyahu, to compromise its right to their land to the benefit of the Palestinians just to be able to normalize relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Thank God for leading the Knesset for overwhelmingly passing the first part of the much-needed judicial reforms last month.

Pray for the future of the judicial reforms to be in God's hands and not be at the whim of the opposition, demonstrators or outsiders who threaten the nation in different ways.

Ask the Lord, to block all attempts to bring down Israel's democratically elected government through non-democratic means while protesting that what the government wants to do is undemocratic.

Ask God to aid Israel's current coalition to move ahead with His will for Israel today by fearing Him more than they fear other nations.

Pray God cast out the spirits of anarchy, rebellion, intimidation, rage, jealousy, hatred and even insanity from Israeli demonstrators and calm this dangerous storm. Ask God to stop Israel's mainstream media from fanning the flames of this anti-government agitation.

Ask God to convict Israeli doctors and IDF reservists of how wrong they are to decide to serve their patients or guard over their nation based on a political stance of Israel's government and not honoring their commitment to serve/keep their oath of office.

Pray the "God of Israel" will deflate the anti-government demonstrations and remove/dry up all of its financial backing.

Beseech the Lord to hedge in the High Court so that they only deal with cases that are appropriate for judges to deal with and not get involved with those cases which are not part of their responsibilities.

#### Pray for Security/Issues with Iran/Palestine/Hamas/Hezbollah

Beseech the Lord that the eyes of the world—especially the UN, European nations, and other governing bodies—will be opened to the truth about Iran and its nuclear and expansionist ambitions.

Intercede for Israel and for the world as the threat of a nuclear Iran comes closer to reality every day. Pray that the plans of Iran's leadership to destroy the Jewish people would not prevail and that the world would know there is a God in Israel.

Beseech the Lord to send a spirit of the fear of Israel's God on Iran's leaders – causing division, miscommunications and paranoia between them, their allies and their proxies. (*Joshua 2:9-11*)

Bring the evil scheme hatched by Iran to unite its proxies to form a united front against Israel with the aim of inflicting greater carnage. Remind God of His promise to watch over Israel without slumbering or sleeping (*Psalms 121:4*) and pray that these malicious plans will be brought to nothing.

Pray Psalm 83:1-18. Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah recently said that Israel will "cease to exist" if conflict crupts with the Iran-backed terror groups surrounding the Jewish state. Pray that those who are threatening war with Israel will realize that any such confrontation will in reality be with Israel's God. Pray that fear will strike them and plans to attack Israel will be abandoned. Also cry out to the Lord for His protection to surround the Land and all those who live there.

Pray for every soldier in the IDF who serves with integrity and a concern for human life. Ask the Lord to not only protect them physically, but also to shield them from false accusations that seek to blaspheme and malign them.

Intercede for the border patrol, law enforcement, soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces. Ask the Lord to be their shield of defense and bind the schemes and resources of their enemies so they can do them no harm.

#### Pray about Anti-Semitism/Aliyah/ Other Issues:

In recent months, antisemitism on Twitter has increased. It mainly involves tweets with conspiracy theories about Jews. Antisemitism is also rife on other social media. Pray for people to stand up to this and for antisemitic posts to be blocked.

Cry out to the Lord for an end to the vile hatred that is perpetuated on social media, and plead with Him for an end to the global trend of increasing violence against His chosen ones.

A special study in Australia revealed that anti-Semitism has become widespread in local campuses. Two out of three Jewish students in the country experienced anti-Semitism during their studies, and over half of the students (57%) hid their Jewish identity in higher education institutions to avoid experiencing anti-Semitism.

Pray for a change in the atmosphere existing in Australian educational institutions that causes students to feel the need to hide their Jewish identity. Pray for programs that will ensure that Jewish students receive the recognition, voice and representation they deserve.

Pray for those who choose Israel as their home, making Aliyah. Scripture says in *(Jeremiah 32:37)* Behold, I will gather them out of all countries where I have driven them ... I will bring them back to this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely.

Beseech the Lord, to guard Israel from the anti-biblical homosexual spirit and instead embolden more Israelis to draw a line on what is acceptable behavior and what is not.

Thank God for the strong friendship that has been built between Israel and the global Christian community. Pray that the relationship will continue to grow and strengthen. Pray that Christian leaders will reach out effectively to younger Christians, passing on their love for Israel and instilling a commitment to support the nation of Israel.

Praise the Lord that the number of embassies located in Jerusalem continues to grow. Pray for the Lord's blessing to be on the nation of Paraguay as they return their embassy to Israel's capital Jerusalem again. Pray for His favor as the two nations work to strengthen relations.