



**CHRISTIAN
SOLIDARITY
WORLDWIDE
USA**
VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

PRAYER CALENDAR

December 2015

December 1: Please pray for the nation of India, the world's largest democracy. With 1.2 billion citizens, hundreds of languages and various religions, inequality and marginalization are still common.

December 2: Pray the violent attacks against Christians in India would stop. Pray for physical, mental and emotional healing for the victims of recent attacks, including the nun who was raped.

December 3: Pray India's Prime Minister Modi will keep his promise to take a hard line on religious intolerance. This commitment has yet to materialize since he took office in May. Christians remain frightened and vulnerable with a 55% spike in attacks.

December 4: The recent increase of violence and attacks on Christians in India is troubling. About 300 clergymen and Christian leaders across India were targets for violence. Pray that state authorities will begin to investigate incidents of violence against Christians.

December 5: Pray congregations in India whose churches have been demolished will be able to find new places to safely meet together. Pray the Holy Spirit pours peace into the hearts of those surrounded by violence and tension.

December 6: Iran is known for its lack of religious tolerance. Since the 1979 Revolution, Christians have been viewed with suspicion and treated as a threat to the government. Pray for converts to Christianity from Islam, who are especially at risk.

December 7: Pray for Christian prisoner, Farshid Fathi, a convert from Islam and a church leader in Iran, who has been imprisoned since 2010 on false security-related charges. His crime is his Christian faith and ministry work.

December 8: Praise God, Farshid Fathi has been told by prison officials he will be released Dec. 10. He had previously expected to remain in prison until December 2017. Please continue to pray for Farshid's safety during his final days in prison.

December 9: Please pray for Farshid Fathi's wife and two young children, Rosanna and Bardia. They resettled to Canada where they were offered refuge. Pray for strength to endure, and that God would give them His peace.

December 10: Pray for Farshid Fathi, due to be released from Iran's brutal Rajai Shahr prison today. He has been separated from his family for over 4 1/2 years. Pray the Iranian government sticks to its promise to release him.

December 11: Pray God would comfort, strengthen, encourage and protect other Christians in Iranian prisons, such as Behnam Irani and Saeed Abedini. Dear Lord, secure their release and provide for their wives and families.

December 12: Thank God for the courage shown by Iranians who speak out against injustice, despite the risk. Pray for their safety and protection.

December 13: Pray Iran's President Rouhani would be moved to protect the rights of religious and ethnic minorities, as he promised when he was elected in 2013. Pray Iranian government officials stop their hate speech, which often incites violence against Christians.

December 14: Loving God, we thank You that Your Church continues to grow in Iran. We pray for strength and courage for Iranian Christians and that Your Church will stand strong as a light in the darkness.

December 15: Pray for Iran to become a nation where no faith or ethnic group faces discrimination or persecution. Pray Iran becomes a major missionary sending country, taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ all over the Islamic world and beyond.

December 16: The Iranian government steps up its campaign of repression of Christians every year at Christmas. Some Iranian Christians describe this ruefully as the government's "Christmas gift." Pray for a peaceful Christmas season in Iran.

December 17: Pray for Christians in Iran where the Christmas season is marked by a surge in the government's campaign of repression. Pray for Muslim converts to Christianity, who are particularly targeted and face increasingly severe charges, including capital ones.

December 18: Please pray for Christians around the world, driven from their homes by religiously-motivated terrorist violence and celebrating Christmas in refugee centers or camps for displaced people.

December 19: Pray for vulnerable Christian communities around the world who face the threats of attack, violence or imprisonment at this time of year. Remember our brave brothers and sisters in Christ who are unable to celebrate Christmas openly for fear of persecution.



Pray for healing + help in Iran

December 20: As we look forward to celebrating Christmas, pray for Christians around the world without religious freedom. Pray for Christians and churches that are vulnerable to attacks over Christmas. May God's mercy and protection be with them to overcome all threats of violence.

December 21: Tensions between different religions can lead to conflicts, especially over the Christmas season. Pray for understanding and peace between different religious communities. Dear Lord, protect those who have already been forced from their homes due to religious attacks.

December 22: At Christmas we think of Jesus' earthly family. Please pray for Christian families throughout the world who are torn apart by persecution that they may know God's comfort and peace.

December 23: The angels proclaimed, "Do not be afraid." Pray for safety and courage for persecuted Christians around the world as they celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

December 24: Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, said "blessed are the peacemakers." Pray for protection and peace upon Christians meeting together to celebrate the birth of Jesus who is God's amazing gift of love and salvation.

December 25: Almighty God, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for those who are unable to worship and celebrate in safety. Be close to them and keep them safe from all evil. We pray for peace in war torn areas and an end to persecution and violence.

December 26: Pray for Christians in vulnerable communities worldwide to be a beacon of hope during the Christmas season. May they express God's message of peace, love, and salvation.

December 27: Please pray for peace in areas of war as Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Pray any plans of terrorist attacks on Christmas church services would be stopped.

December 28: Jesus came to "proclaim freedom for the prisoners." Pray for freedom to all who are in prison for their faith or for defending truth and justice. May their faith sustain them and the Holy Spirit comfort and empower them.

December 29: Praise God for CSW's contacts and partner organizations in our countries of focus. Please pray for God's protection over them in the coming new year as they support Christians facing persecution.

December 30: Please pray for God's blessing and guidance for CSW's work in 2016. Pray for God's wisdom to lead CSW's Advocacy Team leaders as they develop effective advocacy strategies for their regions in the New Year.

December 31: Almighty God, we thank You and praise You for the ways You have used CSW throughout 2015. We pray You would continue to use us to advance Your work for the Persecuted Church. Your will be done throughout 2016.

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