

19.INDIA – In 2 separate incidents on Sunday, Sept 6, in West Bengal state, Hindu mobs vandalized a Presbyterian Church and abducted a pastor leading a prayer service. Pray for **Pastor Sukhendu Singh** as he recovers from his ordeal in which he was abused and beaten. Pray for courage for the Presbyterian house church congregation.

20. Egypt – continue praying for Christian convert **Said Abdelrazek**. His case was adjourned until Oct 21. Pray for peace, patience and protection for Said as he waits in prison for the next hearing.

21. ALGERIA – A worship service on Sept 4 at a humanitarian shelter in L'Ayaida was raided by police who detained all 12 Christians present on suspicion of holding an unauthorized non-Muslim religious service. Christian literature, mobile phones, and identity cards were seized, and the 12 Christians were brought to the local police station. They were later released. Pray that the Algerian government will permit Christians to meet together for worship.

22. CHINA – praise God that on Sept 5, **Pastor Lian Xuliang** was released from prison and returned to his family. He is pastor of the **Church of Abundance** in Xi'an in Shaanxi province in central China. The unregistered house church has been banned by the Chinese authorities.

23. CHINA cont – pray also for **Pastor Lian Changnian**. He is the elderly father of Pastor Xuliang and is still in prison along with **Preacher Fu Juan**. Pray that they will be released as well.

24. UNITED STATES – praise God that a federal district court in **Michigan** recently ruled that licensed counselors will not be disciplined for offering talk therapy or 'conversion therapy' to gender-confused youth and are protected under the first amendment. The ruling is a victory for a group of Christian counselors and therapists who sued the state in 2024 claiming that the law discriminated against their viewpoints.

25. PHILIPPINES – Islamists have killed Christians on the island of Mindano. Pray for comfort and provision for the families of the martyrs.

26. AZERBAIJAN – pray that the **secret police** sent to monitor and raid worship services will instead come to faith in Christ.

27. MALI – pray that more Christians will have access to Bibles in their local language.

28. COMOROS – pray that Christian workers will complete the task of translating the Bible into native languages.

29. JORDAN – pray for **Syrian refugees** who have become Christians and now fear being returned to Syria.

30. NEPAL – pray for **Gambir** who was transformed after hearing the Gospel of John. Pray for others who receive audio Bibles.

31. NIGER – pray for **Pastor Moussa** who was imprisoned on false charges. Pray for his wife, **Lariya**, who was rejected by her family for her faith.

And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
Amen.

SOURCES:

CHURCH IN CHAINS; CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE; Mission Network News; OPEN DOORS; PRISONER ALERT; RELEASE INTERNATIONAL; VOICE of the MARTYRS; WORLD MAGAZINE; WORLD WATCH MONITOR

Do arise, O God, and plead Thine own cause; Remember how the foolish man reproaches Thee all day long. Psalm 74:22

STANDING IN THE GAP

for the Persecuted Church

October 2026

1. PAKISTAN (MNN) – A Gospel worker is on the run in Pakistan following a military intelligence raid on recording studios operated by FMI. FMI's ministry partner says security forces confiscated studio equipment. Thankfully, a backup system preserved ministry content. **Brother Labib**, who operated the studio and coordinated projects for FMI, is nowhere to be found. Please pray for Brother Labib's immediate safety and protection from those seeking to harm him.

Call to action

- Pray for Labib's family as they battle fear and uncertainty while he is hiding.
- Pray that the authorities will not be able to use confiscated equipment to identify or endanger other believers.
- Pray for the Lord's provision of new equipment and studio space so that mp3 production can continue.

2. INDIA(MNN) – Maharashtra state just became the 13th domino in India to fall to religious restriction, with an anti-conversion law now in effect. Bibles For The World's John Pudaite says the new law includes bans on religious conversion through broadly-defined "allurement." And penalties for mass conversions – along with redefined terms – could make Gospel outreach harder. Pray for wisdom and boldness for Christians sharing their faith in India.

Call to action

- Pray for courage among pastors and evangelists.
- Ask God to protect believers from unjust accusations.
- Pray Gospel outreach continues despite growing restrictions.
- Thank the Lord for Indians coming to Christ.

3. SUDAN(MNN) – Serving in a war zone has cost a Christian relief worker in Sudan five months of captivity to a rebel group. **Najwa Musa Konda** was traveling from the Nuba Mountains on April 1 when members of the Sudan People's Liberation Army North arrested her. Floyd Brobbel with Voice of the Martyrs Canada says kidnapping or restrictions on aid workers is strategic for rebel groups, who want to maintain control. Pray for peace in Sudan, and for God to work powerfully in this woman's time of captivity. Learn more in the full report at mnnonline.org.

Call to action

- Pray for God to bring peace into Sudan's turmoil, and ask Him to work powerfully in this Christian woman's time of captivity.
- Pray that leaders in Sudan will seek the true good and flourishing of their people.

4. CHINA – On August 10 a court in Fuyang in eastern China's Anhui province sentenced 3 leaders of the **Maizhong Reformed Church** to prison terms of up to 1 year, 7 months on charges of 'organized illegal gatherings.' Pray for **Pastor Chang Sun, Pastor Zhang Sen and Elder Ma Tao**. Pray that they will be treated well in prison. Pray for peace and provision for their wives and children.

5. UKRAINE (MNN) -- Ukraine prepares for another difficult winter as Russia increases attacks on infrastructure. **Slavic Gospel Association's Eric Mock** says one ministry lost 90% of its food distribution capacity during late August strikes. SGA partners with local pastors to help people who've been overlooked by large aid groups. Needs are increasing on the frontline. Connect with SGA through the full report online to help. Pray for the churches offering relief and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Call to action

- Pray for the protection of Ukrainian people, churches, and essential infrastructure from Russian attacks.
- Ask the Lord to provide food, heating supplies, and other critical resources as winter approaches.
- Pray for local churches serving frontline communities.
- Pray that those seeking hope will understand and receive the Gospel.

6. DRC (MNN) – The body count is growing from the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo. More than 6,600 cases are now confirmed, and nearly 3,200 deaths. **Stephen Hale** with Mission Aviation Fellowship says they are taking action in Jesus's name, flying personal protective equipment to local hospitals with shortages. Pray for God's healing mercies in the DRC.

Call to action

- Pray for endurance and hope among Congolese believers.
- Ask God to protect those serving Ebola-stricken communities.
- Pray for open doors to deliver lifesaving aid.
- Ask God to make His presence known amid suffering.

7. USA (MNN) – The United Nations and European Union are jointly calling for greater action against global religious persecution, recently observing a day to commemorate victims of religious-based violence. Todd Nettleton says Europe is not escaping a global uptick in religious intolerance. For example, a recent study found more than 800 acts of violence against Christians in France alone in 2025. Please pray for persecuted Christians.

Call to action

- Pray for those in governmental positions and for the Christians who have influence there. Pray for persecuted brothers and sisters: that God would protect them and their faith would stay strong.

8. MIDDLE EAST – pray for **Sahir** and his wife, **Marwa**. After becoming Christians, they fled their home after being rejected and disowned by their families. They ask for prayer that God would save their families. Sahir is hoping to enter training for full-time Christian ministry. "Pray that the Lord will protect us from the people around us and let us grow more and more, to go to the depths in our relationship with Him," Sahir says.

9. CHINA – continue praying for imprisoned husband and wife **Yang Rongli and Wang Xiaoguang**. She is serving a 15-year sentence and not due for release until 2036. Yang has a sentence of 9.5 years. They are in the same prison. Pray that they may be allowed to meet each other.

10. NORTH KOREA – give thanks for the release of **Deacon Jang Moon Seok**, a Chinese Christian imprisoned for more than a decade after helping North Korean refugees. Pray for his continued recovery from his prison experience.

11. INDIA – praise God that 7 pastors imprisoned in June under Madhya Pradesh's anti-conversion laws were granted bail in late August. They were welcomed with joy by nearly 150 Christians as they left Dindori district jail. Pray for the Lord's blessings on:

Amit Kumar, 24

Santosh Paraste, 21

Pramod Singh, 28

Karan Maravi, 40

Sonjay Markum, 21

Chhot Dhurve, 49

Jeet Dhurve, 48

as they reunite with their families. Pray that the appeals against their convictions will be successful.

12. MIDDLE EAST – pray for **Zanyar**, a former member of the Iraqi army fighting ISIS. After becoming a Christian, he started a new ministry of telling others about Jesus. He asks for prayer for his ministry and for the safety of his family.

13. NORTH KOREA – pray for daily **Bible broadcasts** transmitted via 5 shortwave radio stations directly into North Korea. Ask that these broadcasts remain free and clear from jamming. Thank God that, despite claims of victory over religion, an underground church of secret believers still exists inside North Korea. Pray also for the North Korean border guards patrolling river boundaries. Although they are strictly warned against letting Bibles in, pray that God will transform their hearts and give them compassion to let Bibles pass safely into the country.

14. NORTH KOREA – It is estimated that there are 30,000 Christians being held in labor camps in North Korea. Ask God to preserve them, strengthen their faith, protect their physical health, and bring them freedom.

15. MIDDLE EAST – pray for **Samuel** and his wife **Miriam**. They have a ministry to kids on the streets in their Muslim community. They teach Bible study and started small clubs at schools and churches. Today they lead 11 clubs and people are asking for more. They request prayer for the children they minister to, many of whom face significant financial struggles.

16. CHINA – continue praying for the 8 **Zion Church** pastors and coworkers who have been arrested and detained. Two of the eight have pleaded guilty and asked for suspended sentences in hope of being released, but the court has refused to let them go. Pray for **Wu Qiuyu**, a young mother whose children are being cared for by their grandparents. Pray for **Wang Zhong** who is suffering from severe coronary heart disease. Pray for the other 6 who are detained: **Wang Liu, Gao Yingjia, Yin Huibin, Liu Zhenbin, Lin Shucheng, Wang Cong**, as they continue to wait for their trial.

17. PAKISTAN – continue praying for 13-year-old **Amber Nadeem**. Christian rights advocates have appealed to the Punjab government, police and judiciary to intervene to protect her, to investigate the alleged fabrication of documents and to ensure that the case is decided according to law and the best interest of the child. Amber has been kidnapped and 'married' to a Muslim man, and the courts upheld the marriage. Pray for her parents as they continue to try to get her back.

18. CHINA – *Church in Chains* learned in September that **Fu Xuanguan**, 47, whose six-year prison sentence was due to expire July 1, 2026, was released in Sept 2025. This information was previously only available on Chinese language sources. In a letter following her release, Fu confirmed that she had returned home and said her release was connected to her illness. Thank the Lord for her release and pray for good health for her. Pray for her husband, **Du Tianyong** and their young adopted daughter.

