Sudan's ongoing suffering

Three years of brutal civil war have permanently changed the demographics of Sudan. Ethnic killings and mass migrations have completely changed the face of the country. Over 11 million people have been displaced, and Christians, being a small minority among an overwhelmingly Muslim majority, are among those who suffer most.

Pray for peace and healing for Sudan, and for the many countries and organisations, including Christian organisations, that are attempting to support the massive numbers of war refugees. The violence, though extreme, is under-reported by world media. *Mission Network News*

Some respite in India

Praise God for a ruling earlier this year by the High Court of Chhattisgarh, India, that no official permission is required for Christians to hold worship or prayer meetings in their own homes. The decision was made in response to a petition filed by two Christians after police sought to prevent them holding prayer meetings in their homes. Anti-conversion laws are designed ostensibly to prevent forced conversions, but some Hindu nationalists use them to try to prevent all conversions from Hinduism and, if possible, to stop Christian worship. *Barnabas Aid*

North Korea's labour camps

Continue to uphold in prayer believers in North Korea, the world's most difficult country for Christians. The number of Christians held in prisons, along with members of their immediate and extended families, is estimated to be between 30,000 and 70,000. The prisons are in effect slave labour camps. Known Christians in these camps are subject to especially harsh torture and often are worked and starved to death. *Barnabas Aid*

An evangelist in Malawi writes:

"My wife and I went to a poor village to help elderly people and widows as well as preach the gospel. We gave clothes, soap, cooking oil, 5kgs of rice per person and a Chichewa Bible to each house we were able to help. These people are lacking many things. We are praying to buy land to use as a farm to grow crops to feed orphans. We also need furniture in houses like beds, mattresses for all orphans and widows.

"We have more than twenty churches, but most of them gather under trees. They need land and buildings, but we also give them help to feed orphans and pay school fees, because without education children have no future.

"I have marked out eight more regions for our goal to plant churches. We also conduct more leadership seminars about how to win more souls to God's kingdom and at present we are training 20 young people about evangelism."

Bridgeway

Dominican Republic

Church leaders are presenting personalised Bibles to lawmakers across the Dominican Republic. In a largely Christianised country, many politicians are professing Christians, and this program to put Bibles in the hands of all political representatives has been well received. But while many say they want to promote Christian values in society, these values need to be more evident in the daily lives of politicians and churchgoers in general. *Christian Daily International*

Christian youth of Egypt

There is a spiritual awakening among a new generation in Egypt as young people come to faith in Christ. Youths of this generation, now in high school and university, are not just finding personal faith, but they are also eager to spread the gospel, both within Egypt and in other countries of Africa and the Middle East. One large church in Cairo has 500 young people signed up for its mission program.

MNN

Indonesia – a Muslim country with an active church

Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country and its largest Muslim country. But the Islam that is practised ranges from the majority 'folk' form (a mixture of traditional Islam with animism and superstition) to pockets of extremism, which can incite violence against Christians. One province has even implemented sharia law. But the national law is one of religious tolerance.

Being a huge archipelago with thousands of islands, Indonesia has hundreds of ethnic groups and hundreds of languages. Alongside its Muslim majority is a variety of minority groups who follow other religions, among them those who identify as Christians – 13% of the population.

Citizens officially have freedom of religion and there are no anti-conversion laws, but if people from a Muslim background convert to Christianity, they can face severe persecution in their families and communities. Indonesia has seen much church growth over the past seventy years and has some good Christian institutions, including hospitals, schools and Bible colleges. Not just in Indonesia but around the world, Indonesian missionaries can be found spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. *VOM*

School for the blind in Burundi

In the central African country of Burundi, a Christian-run school for the blind that once had about sixty blind students in residence now has more than doubled its numbers because of the addition of sighted students. These additional students, who are not resident, resulted largely from the government's being impressed with the school's services and consequently helping the school's expansion as well as giving assistance with staff and funds. Some blind students are outperforming sighted students in official nationwide exams. *Bridgeway*

Russian ministries

The government of Russia has placed *Child Evangelism Fellowship* and *Mission Eurasia* on its list of 'undesirable organizations', effectively shutting them down. The ministries' removal will leave a gap, especially in children's discipleship efforts. Another ministry, *Keys for Kids*, has not been shut down and still gets devotionals into the hands of children.

In a secular and often negative environment, children, teenagers and families are searching for spiritual truth. Pray for God to move in the hearts of Russian leaders and for spiritual revival. *MNN*

Violence in Congo

Fourteen Christians were beheaded in two separate attacks carried out by Islamists in the Haut-Uélé Province of north-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. These murders represent the first time Islamic State Central Africa Province (ISCAP) has targeted believers in the province. ISCAP is known to have killed around 1,150 believers in north-eastern Congo between the end of 2024 and mid-2026.

Elsewhere in the country, South Kivu suffers from poverty and persistent conflict because of the M23 rebel movement and other armed groups in operation. A pig farming project introduced by an international Christian ministry is providing a vital income source for families in the region. Each family passes on a piglet from the first litter to another vulnerable family, who then carry on the process and so multiply the benefits.

Armenian Christians

Three years after Azerbaijani troops drove out 120,000 Armenians from the Christian enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, many of these displaced people remain desperately impoverished inside Armenia and unable to find long-term employment. Most Christians in Armenia were already struggling to support their families and churches, and now the problem is worse.

Barnabas Aid