

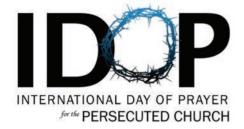


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ONE VOICE is one of the primary tools used by Voice of the Martyrs Canada to engage the Canadian Christian community and bring awareness of believers who suffer because of their faith in Jesus Christ.

FOUNDERS

Klaas and Nellie Brobbel with Pastor Richard Wurmbrand

Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version, unless otherwise indicated.

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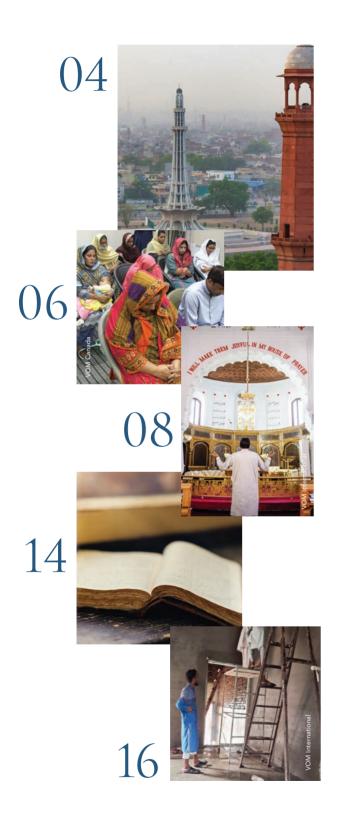
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One Voice magazine is the flagship publication of Voice of the Martyrs Canada. Published monthly, it is available free of charge and without obligation in one-year subscriptions to anyone in Canada who requests it.

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ONE BODY. ONE VOICE.

Followers of Christ in Pakistan

By Floyd A. Brobbel CEO for Voice of the Martyrs Canada "They will put you out of the synagogues.

Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills
you will think he is offering service to God."

John 16:2 ESV



Followers of Jesus residing in Pakistan encounter difficulties, discrimination and persecution because of their Christian identity. Many of them are treated as second-class citizens and coerced into working long hours in labour-intensive jobs, suffering oppression from systems that bind them to their employers. Despite the challenges they face, a great number of these believers courageously share the Gospel and distribute God's Word to their Muslim neighbours. Moreover, others serve as dedicated missionaries across Pakistan, striving to introduce Christ to the spiritually lost.

Due to Pakistan's strict blasphemy laws, Christians are constantly at risk of being falsely accused of blaspheming Islam, the Quran or Muhammad. Those convicted of blasphemy subsequently endure severe punishment and may also be subjected to life-threatening mob violence. Such violence has left communities and families devastated in the wake of anti-Christian attacks. While deemed "extreme"



by non-Muslims, these adverse reactions are considered a justifiable means of protecting Pakistan's culture. Militant Islamists, therefore, view their actions as "righteous" and "pleasing to Allah."

Ironically, street evangelism is legally permitted under Pakistani law, and so several courageous evangelists attempt to share the Gospel publicly. Despite the legal assurance, however, a lot of Christians have been imprisoned for years under the country's blasphemy laws, and many have been killed or forced to flee the country upon their release from prison. Due to the intense religious fervour that typically arises whenever perceived incidents of blasphemy occur, the legislation has garnered significant attention from the international community at large.

Knowing that persecution would be a righteous tool wielded against alleged "blasphemers" by those who believed they were serving God, Jesus warned His disciples about this very reaction from the Jewish religious leaders of their day (John 16:2). Likewise, modern-day disciples encounter a similar mindset as they carry out the work of the Great Commission. As J.I. Packer writes: "Whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. Not all religions are good. In fact, some teach that their followers are doing good when they kill true followers of the Son of God (e.g. Acts 8:1-3.)" 1

Ecclesiastes 1:9 reminds us that "there is nothing new under the sun," and this notion holds true when analyzing persecution through both Biblical and historical perspectives. Years of international news reports clearly indicate that Christians in Pakistan experience significant injustices from those who reject Christ. For anyone reflecting on Jesus, one of two conclusions must be reached: 1) either Jesus is not the true Saviour, or 2) He embodies everything required for eternal salvation. Those seeking salvation outside of Christ will inevitably act against those who profess Jesus as Lord, believing their actions are justified.

While Christians in Pakistan courageously embrace the cost of following Christ, believers in Canada must do the same by living with wisdom, grace and truth. I pray that you will feel inspired to serve Jesus more boldly while reading through this issue of *One Voice*. As one body, let us not shrink back in the face of opposition, but rather press on in faith – trusting that "the God of peace will soon crush Satan under [our] feet" (Romans 16:20).

Grace and peace,

LoyD

A Community Rising from the Ruins

By Greg Musselman, VOMC's Minister-at-Large

Sobia finds it difficult to talk about the day that left her and her two children homeless. "Before the incident, I was in my house and living a better life," recalls the 40-year-old Christian widow. "After the incident, I had no home," she tearfully adds. On August 16th, 2023, a large mob attacked numerous Christian homes and churches in Jaranwala, a city located in Pakistan's Punjab province, after Muslim leaders had claimed via mosque loudspeakers that two Christian brothers, Raja and Rocky Masih, had desecrated pages of the Quran.

Hundreds of Muslim militants armed with batons and sticks stormed through the Christian community, defiling Christian symbols and looting churches before finally setting them ablaze. During the hours-long attack, many affected believers hid in nearby fields, where they spent the night fearing for their lives while the rioters ransacked and torched their homes. When the rampage ended, over 80 residences and 26 church buildings had been destroyed.



Today, more than two years since the violent incident took place, Shafiq Masih, his wife Bilqeez, and their two children continue to live in their badly damaged home. Shafiq, who is a professional photographer, stayed in the city during the rampage that day to meet with local officials in an attempt to stop the attacks. "I stayed here all day," Shafiq explains. "In the evening, I saw four churches being burned and I was photographing it. Our family was the last to leave the Christian area."

The ordeal has been especially difficult for the couple's two children, who were traumatized by the loss of their pet dog, birds and cats. "This was a very cruel [act].... My children were very worried about their pets who were all burned in the fire," Bilqeez says. "[They] used to enjoy being with their friends and teachers at school but, after the incident, we don't see that joy [in] our children."

For Sadia Sohail, the memory of that tragic day also lingers painfully. Sadia happens to be the sister of the two believers, Rocky and Raja, who were accused of committing the blasphemous act that sparked the violent rampage. Her brothers and father have since been forced into hiding. For security reasons, Sadia no longer has any contact with them and doesn't know if or when they will return to the community. "It's painful that I can't see my brothers and my father in the same house," the Christian woman laments. "We were all living together in that house. Now they are gone and I'm here without them."

Despite the detrimental effects of the riots, Sadia's uncle,
Pastor Bashir, acknowledges that some good has come out
of the attacks. "The Christian community in Jaranwala has
come together – more united and strong in the faith. We
now care for each other more."

Pastor Bashir urges Christians in Jaranwala to forgive those who have caused them so much pain. "I encourage our congregation and community through the Holy Bible," Pastor Bashir says. "We see examples of how the prophets were being persecuted, like Daniel in the den of the lions. I motivate our congregation [by addressing] incidents of persecution in the Bible."

In collaboration with trusted ministry partners, VOMC has been helping Christian families to rebuild their homes and lives. Sobia is thankful that God is using believers in Pakistan, Canada and other countries to help restore damaged houses like hers. And Shafiq notes that his family is also deeply grateful for the support they've received: "For two months we had no electricity, and meals were provided for us. [We also received essential] household items, and we are grateful for that."

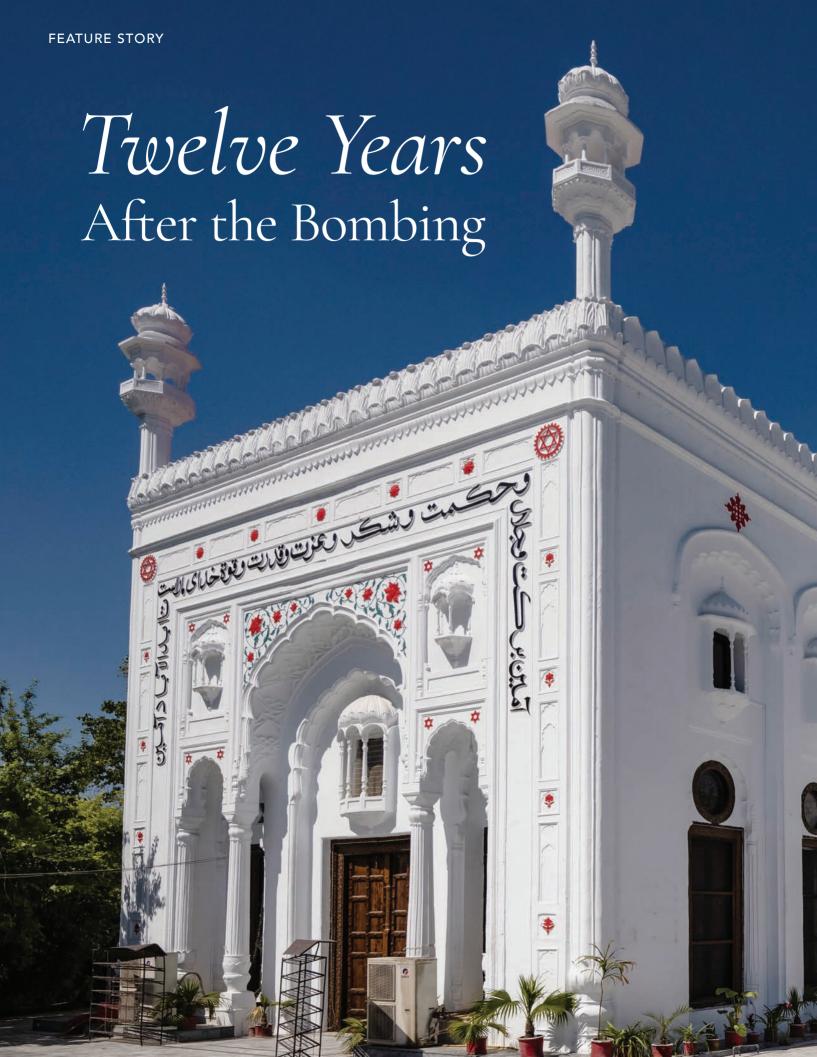
Today, the Christian community in Jaranwala continues to resiliently recover from the attacks, and many believers are looking to the future with renewed hope. Among them is Samina, a young mother who was pregnant at the time of the riots. Knowing that such violence could potentially happen again, this courageous Christian woman states that she no longer fears persecution: "We are strong in our faith," she concludes.

LEARN MORE

In 2024, Greg travelled to Jaranwala to personally meet with members of the attacked Christian community and hear their stories of overcoming faith and resilience.



To watch his informative video report, visit: www.vomcanada.com/jaranwala



Anaya almost stayed home from church on the morning of Sunday, September 22nd, 2013. Her husband Fahmi, a youth ministry coordinator for their province, was on the other side of the globe attending a Christian youth leaders' conference. So Anaya had to get their 11-year-old son Ishan, and nine-year-old daughter Naher, up and ready for the morning worship service by herself.

Naher had woken up with a fever that morning, and Anaya was hesitant to take her to church. But the children begged their mother to take them to Sunday school, even enlisting their father's support during an early morning video chat. Anaya relented, and they headed to All Saints Church, just as they did every week. "[The children] were worried they would miss the Bible story," Anaya recalls. Naher's enthusiasm was no match for her fever, though, so she

came into the sanctuary to rest in her mother's lap about halfway through the morning service.

The closing hymn repeated the chorus, "O Lord Jesus, we all need You." Anaya planned to skip the regular fellowship time after the service so she could get her sick daughter home, but she stopped briefly to talk with her sister and brother-in-law, while Ishan ran off to play with some friends. Then Anaya's world suddenly shattered.

At 11:43 a.m., two suicide bombers detonated their explosives amid the roughly 700 congregants who had gathered in the courtyard for a fellowship meal. The death toll was initially reported to be 81 – including seven children – with at least 150 other church members injured. Anaya was seriously injured, while Ishan and Naher were among the seven children who were killed.

A LONG TRIP HOME

Following the youth leaders' conference, Fahmi spent a week with some cousins in another country. A local Pakistani congregation had asked him to speak at a youth event that Saturday and, after the event, he stayed up late to talk with Anaya and the children nine time zones away via video chat.

In the middle of the night, Fahmi was roused from his sleep by a phone call. His cousin, who was working a night shift, had seen footage of the bombing on the news. Fahmi immediately called Anaya's cell phone, but there was no answer. He then tried contacting his older brother – as well as every other family member and friend he could think of – but nobody answered his calls.

"I turned on a Pakistani news channel and I saw the faces [of those] who were injured," Fahmi says. "It seemed I was watching all of my family on that television." He continued to make phone calls until he finally got through to a friend from another church. "[That friend] said [there was] a very, very horrible situation in my church, but he didn't know about my family," Fahmi adds.

Eventually, Fahmi reached another friend who told him that Anaya was badly hurt. At that point, he knew nothing about the children. Within hours, friends helped Fahmi get an early flight home to Pakistan. Fahmi gathered bits and pieces of information as he travelled, checking the news and continuing to make calls between flights. He learned that his mother, two uncles, brother-in-law and some cousins had all been killed. In addition, his brothers, nieces and nephews, sister-in-law and many friends were injured. And finally, someone confirmed that his precious children were gone.

A PLACE OF PRAYER AND PEACE

All Saints Church is a beautiful conspicuous building set inside the old city walls of Peshawar. The ornamental crosses and Bible verses painted on the gate mark it as a Christian site, but the mosque-like architecture was intended to make it welcoming to Muslims, who represent approximately 98 percent of Pakistan's overall population.

The militant group, Jundallah, an offshoot of the Pakistani Taliban, claimed responsibility for the All Saints bombing. Two Jundallah suicide bombers, each one wearing 13 pounds of hidden explosives packed with ball bearings and

other metal pieces to cause maximum damage, had slipped into the church with local workers who were delivering food for the fellowship meal. One of the men was stopped near an outside gate, but the other had nearly reached the front door of the church when they detonated their explosives.

Now, 12 years later, the bombing remains one of the deadliest attacks committed against Christians in Pakistan. The final death toll, including the number of victims who succumbed to their injuries weeks or even months after the bombing, reached a total of 127.

HOPE AFTER THE HORROR

When Fahmi arrived in Peshawar, his first stop was to see his wife at the hospital. She had been in the intensive care unit during that time, passing in and out of consciousness. Her body was terribly burned and riddled with shrapnel from the detonated bombs. Because of her fragile condition, doctors advised Fahmi to temporarily conceal the truth about the children's deaths from Anaya. So, during his visits, he smiled and encouraged her to focus on getting better, dodging her questions about Ishan and Naher.

Fahmi's next stop was the morgue to identify his children and see his mother's body. For Fahmi, the days that followed were a blur. "Most of the time I spent in the hospital," he adds. Between his short visits with Anaya, Fahmi visited other survivors of the attack. He comforted widows, widowers, orphans, as well as parents who – like him – had lost children in the blasts. He prayed with the injured and provided them needed encouragement, while privately carrying his own grief. "I was in the denial stage for a long time, so I didn't cry," he states. "Friends asked, 'Why are you not crying when you have gone through all this suffering and lost so much?' I was praying to God, but sometimes I didn't know what to say to Him."

About ten days after the bombing, a pastor visited All Saints and shared a message from Romans 8. "He put



a question before us," Fahmi recounts of the message.
"'Who will separate us [from the love of God]? Will this
persecution? Will something else that is this bad?' I asked
this question of myself while I was sitting in the church.
Then I gave the same answer as St. Paul did: 'Nothing can
separate us from the love of God.'"

When Anaya was moved to a regular hospital ward, Fahmi finally told her about the deaths of Ishan and Naher. She was initially stunned, but then became angry with Fahmi for keeping the truth from her. Despite Anaya's anger, Fahmi was relieved that they could finally mourn the loss of their children together.

In the weeks preceding the bombing, Anaya recalls reading the book of Job. The words it contained echoed in her heart during her recovery. And just as Job had to face his accusers, friends suggested that Fahmi and Anaya might need to repent of some secret sin, implying that the loss of their two children was a means of punishment from God. Even though Fahmi and Anaya knew that this implication was contrary to what Jesus taught about loss and suffering, they were still hurt and confused while in the midst of processing the tragedy.

"When I was in the hospital, my faith was a little bit shaken," Anaya admits. "I asked God why He had taken both of [my children]. Even then I was not blaming God; I didn't give up my faith. In all this mourning, and throughout this situation, God was with us. It was God who consoled us and gave us comfort."

In the months following the bombing, Fahmi's eyes were opened to a new ministry opportunity. A Korean missionary friend had begun visiting the bombing victims in their homes, and Fahmi felt led to join his friend. His presence during these visits, in which he provided comfort to others while processing his own suffering and grief, had a powerful effect on all those they visited. Fahmi was reminded of 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, and thus began comforting others with the comfort he himself was receiving from the Lord. "It gave me more encouragement when I was helping others," Fahmi states. "It helped me to overcome my own suffering, pain and grief." When she was able, Anaya joined Fahmi during those visits, especially when visiting children who had lost one or both parents as a result of the bombing. Praying over these orphans held special meaning for them. "When we visited these children, we put our hands on their heads and told them we would be like their [spiritual] parents," Fahmi recalls. "This gave them much encouragement, peace and comfort."

A few months after Anaya's release from hospital, two gifts from God brought the couple unexpected comfort and healing. They both received Biblical counselling in another country to help them heal. Additionally, Anaya became pregnant with a daughter. For the following ten weeks, they processed what had happened to their family and gained a clearer vision for serving their anguished church. "There are a hundred families who were victimized by this bombing, but only my wife and I got this opportunity," Fahmi recalls thinking as they considered their next steps. "Now it is our time to go back and give comfort to them."

When Fahmi and Anaya returned to Peshawar, their desire to develop a Biblical counselling ministry through the church only grew stronger. They prayed that God would provide opportunities for them, and He answered their prayers. With the approval of the church leadership in Pakistan, and the support of their brothers and sisters in Christ, the couple relocated in 2015 and Fahmi began pursuing a degree in pastoral counselling.

FAITH AND FORGIVENESS

In the years following the attack, the Lord has healed much of the brokenness in their lives and further equipped them to be instruments of restoration in their church. That restoration has also meant coming to terms with Christ's teachings on forgiveness. "When the media came and asked many of the victims in our church [about forgiveness], everyone said that they had forgiven [the attackers]," Fahmi says. But he realizes that a lot of the church members answered this way because they knew they should, not because it was genuinely the case for each of them. "It is really difficult to forgive those who killed your children," he acknowledges.

Times spent in solitude and contemplation, as well as his pastoral counselling studies, forced Fahmi to confront the unforgiveness in his own heart. He not only considered Jesus' teachings about loving one's enemies and blessing those

who persecute us, he also meditated on Christ's ultimate act of forgiveness on the cross. Fahmi knew that forgiving the militants who committed the bombing was not only essential for healing, but that it was also a matter of faithful obedience to God. "It was a long struggle," he says. "But after [12] years, I can say that we have really forgiven them, because our Lord Jesus forgave those who persecuted Him."

The message Fahmi clings to today, and the message he wants other Christians to learn from the bombing, is that being a Christian requires walking by faith rather than fear. "Even suffering...cannot separate us from the love of God. To live by faith should be our commitment to God and our way of life. Anything could happen at any time and anywhere, but if we have strong faith in God – if we believe Jesus is with us – there is no need to fear."

HEART CHECK

The Apostle Paul's words in Romans 8 brought great encouragement to Fahmi after suffering unimaginable loss:

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ...No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

— Romans 8:35:37 ESV

Paul reminds us that, while God doesn't promise us a life free of pain, He does promise to be with us in the midst of any difficulty we encounter. Whatever trials you are facing today, may you be encouraged by Fahmi and Anaya's testimony, taking heart in the knowledge that God's unfailing love can be counted on during the storms of life. How can you practise walking by faith rather than fear in your life today?



Bearing Witness

By Carl Villeseche, Community Relations for VOMC

WHAT IS A "MARTYR"?

This is a word you've most likely heard before or encountered when reading your Bible. Yet, what exactly does "martyr" mean, and is this term relevant to us today?

When the New Testament of the Bible was originally written, the word "martyr" simply referred to a "witness" – someone who had seen something firsthand and was willing to testify to its truth. In fact, when Jesus was saying goodbye to His disciples, just before being taken up into heaven for the ascension, He told them in Acts 1:8:

"...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

In this passage, the word "witness" has been transliterated from the Greek word "martys." Just before the ascension, Jesus wasn't telling the disciples they would die for Him, but simply that their job was to inform the world about who He is and what He has done.

Since then, the word "martyr" has taken on a very different meaning for us today than it would have had for the early Christians of the New Testament. It has since become a term that describes someone who has sacrificed their physical life for their faith. This added weight may have resulted from situations where an individual's witness was so unpopular

that those vehemently opposing the Gospel resorted to violence in order to silence the believer's testimony. We see this very situation happening throughout the world around us today, as our Christian brothers and sisters suffer severe persecution for sharing the message of Jesus.

THE WITNESS OF THE EARLY CHURCH

Persecution is certainly not new to people of the Christian faith. If we carefully look at the Biblical narratives, we'll see that it didn't stop believers from bearing witness to the death and resurrection of Jesus. For example, Acts 4:19-20 reads:

"...Peter and John answered them, 'Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.'"

During the first century, when the religious leaders tried to stop the witness of Peter and John, the punishments that were inflicted on these faithful disciples of Jesus actually had the opposite effect. Biblical accounts, such as Acts 4:29, reveal that they were even more strongly convicted to speak openly about what they had seen, heard and experienced spiritually.

"And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to Your servants to continue to speak Your word with all boldness." "As followers of Christ, each of our lives should be a witness, expressing to others who Jesus is and the many great things He has done for us."

It wasn't just Peter and John who felt this way, for the first part of the book of Acts indicates that the whole church had become bolder in its witness. And although the believers in Jerusalem scattered when Stephen was "martyred" for his faith, they continued to boldly preach the Gospel everywhere they went. When these new disciples left Jerusalem following Stephen's death, they weren't running away; rather, they were doing exactly what Jesus had instructed them to do in Acts 1:8 – serve as His witnesses "to the end of the earth."

WHAT ARE WE BEARING WITNESS TO?

While pondering on the Lord's final words before His ascension, let's examine how the concept of martyrdom is relevant to us today. In doing so, we need to consider the fact that our words and actions are always communicating a message to those around us – whether it's intentional or not. For example, when people receive something they're very excited about, they usually tell others how amazing it is! In their enthusiasm, they may not even stop to ask those individuals if it's a topic they want to hear about.

Each one of us ought to ask ourselves: "What am I excited about? Does my life bear witness to the significance of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus? Or am I more focussed on the temporal, materialistic things of this world?"

As followers of Christ, each of our lives should be a witness, expressing to others who Jesus is and the many



great things He has done for us. After all, He loves the world so much that He has sacrificed His life so that those who willingly receive Him as their Saviour can have the assurance of eternal life. So, even if surrendering our lives, belongings and comforts comes at a cost, He is worthy of it all – and that's something to really be excited about!

PAUSE & REFLECT

The task Jesus gave His disciples in Acts 1:8 has not changed over the years. He is calling each one of His followers to serve as His witnesses "to the end of the earth." Reflect on the testimony of the early church, and then ask yourself:

Today, am I excited about what Jesus is doing in my life? If so, is my excitement visible to others?

Am I living in such a way that my life is bearing witness to the Gospel – even when I'm not speaking?

Rebuilding Hope

Report from VOMC's Ministry Partner in Pakistan











Through the grace of the Living Lord, our ministry team was recently able to complete the extensive renovation work that had begun on the house of a resident belonging to the Christian community in Jaranwala. This home was one of many that were destroyed during the devastating riots on August 16th, 2023, when false accusations of blasphemy unleashed a wave of violence upon local Christians.

Rizwan David works as a rickshaw driver, and his wife runs a small tuck shop near their home to help support the family. When our ministry workers visited their home – 15 months after the attack – the house was still without a roof and had fallen into a severe state of disrepair. Through fervent prayer and the Lord's divine provision, a way was made for our ministry team to help restore the family's home and provide them with a safe and secure place in which to live. When the renovations began, our ministry team faced several challenges. In addition

to sweltering high temperatures, the team had to complete the extensive repairs while the family was living within the vicinity. The rebuilding process also required managing the tasks of various skilled labourers, ensuring the building materials had arrived on time, and travelling long distances each day to oversee the construction. Despite these challenges, it was an immense joy to witness the fulfillment of the restoration. Praise be to God that all the essential construction work was completed successfully – including the installation of a new roof, fresh paint, and vital electrical and plumbing systems. The family is happy and deeply grateful to God, as well as their Christian brothers and sisters whose love and support have helped them to rebuild not just a house, but hope itself.

If you would like to contribute towards assisting other Pakistani believers, visit: www.vomcanada.com/donate.

VOM Global Reports

EAST AFRICA: Entire Village Changed by God's Word



As a result of Musa's conversion, almost everyone in his village is now following Christ.

When Musa was serving his community as a Muslim imam, he discovered that his son Saad had become a Christian and was preaching the Gospel throughout the village.

Saad's bold witness angered other local Muslim leaders, who demanded that Musa stop Saad from evangelizing.

Though Musa didn't find any fault with his son's evangelistic activities, he decided to confront Saad about them.

However, when Musa approached his son, something surprising happened. Since Saad was studying the Bible with his pastor at the time, Musa carefully listened as they discussed different Scripture verses together. "He was so impressed with what he was hearing," a local ministry worker explains, "that he asked if he could also join them to really understand what the Bible is teaching." Musa then placed his faith in Christ, which has since impacted the entire village. "As a result of his conversion, almost everyone in his village is now a Christian," the ministry worker concludes.

TAJIKISTAN: Christian Woman Beaten

When Dinara came to faith in Christ, her Muslim family members beat her severely. After fleeing from the abuse, Dinara's family tricked her into returning by stating that her grandfather was ill and urgently needed her attention. When the believer returned, she arrived to a room full of people who were waiting for her, including a Muslim man who was going take her as his second wife.

Thankfully, Dinara escaped a second time and eventually fled to another nation, where she is presently endeavouring to start a new life. Nearly all Tajiks are Sunni Muslims, whereas Christians represent only a tiny minority of the population. Tajik women who convert to Christianity, like Dinara, often receive severe pressure from their opposing families.

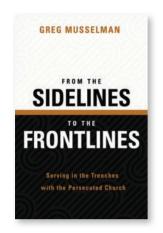
Please pray that God will grant His divine protection, encouragement and peace to new believers in this Central Asian nation, giving them the strength to stand firm amid persecution from their family members.



After suffering abuse from her family for her Christian faith, Dinara was able to flee to another nation and start a new life.

Resources

Shop online at store.vomcanada.org



From the Sidelines to the Frontlines - NEW RELEASE!

Serving in the Trenches with the Persecuted Church | \$15

When we hear about the thousands of Christians who are being killed every year for their faith, or the remaining tens of millions living under extreme persecution, the numbers seem impersonal and overwhelming. We need to be mindful that these numbers represent far more than just statistics, but real members of our persecuted family in Christ.

From the Sidelines to the Frontlines brings readers up close to those who have paid an enormous price to follow Christ, conveying not only their sufferings but also their overcoming faith. In this captivating book, author and podcast host Greg Musselman also shares about

his own personal spiritual journey in which he received Christ as his Saviour more than 25 years ago. It all began when this former sports broadcaster received a new assignment: to serve as a voice for those who are experiencing persecution.

Discover how meeting Christians in many different parts of the world has impacted Greg's life and what we can learn from them – including the importance of forgiveness, the ways in which God uses persecution to advance His Kingdom, the value of having an eternal perspective, and why we all need each other. As you travel along with Greg to meet some of these amazing followers of Jesus, you will be both challenged and inspired throughout the process. Paperback, 128 pages

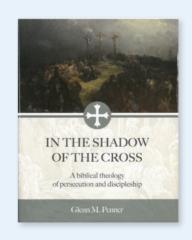
In the Shadow of the Cross

A Biblical Theology of Persecution & Discipleship | \$18

In the Shadow of the Cross is a thought-provoking study book by Glenn Penner that explores incidents of suffering and persecution throughout the entire Bible from a theological perspective. Included in this comprehensive compilation are observations and studies from nearly 200 Christian scholars, both ancient and modern.

Never before has such an intensive study of persecution been assembled. Recommended for all who are pursuing a greater understanding of the theology of persecution, this book will also be an informative resource to include in your church or seminary library.

Hardcover, 329 pages



SEPT 2025

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- Romans 8:38-39 ESV

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	NIGER Pray that God will use widowed Halima to demonstrate His love and forgiveness to Islamic militants.	ALGERIA Pray that members of churches that have been closed can worship together and share the Gospel.	RUSSIA (AND AREAS UNDER ITS CONTROL) Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and a great turning to Christ throughout this region.	BURKINA FASO Pray for increased access to print and audio Bibles in the people's local languages.	PAKISTAN Pray that Christians who are forced to work menial jobs will receive new opportunities and freedoms.	TANZANIA Pray that Bible translation work will continue in languages spoken by unreached people groups.
7	8	9	10	11	12	1:
YEMEN Pray that media outreach ministries will increasingly make God's Word accessible in Yemen.	INDONESIA Pray for Maria Solon whose husband Marten was killed in Indonesia because of his Christian faith.	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Pray for ministry workers who provide practical and spiritual support to internally displaced people.	SAUDI ARABIA Pray that God will help Christian converts from Islam to share their faith with family members.	VIETNAM Pray that believers denied access to schools and social services will receive care from the body of Christ.	OMAN Pray on behalf of Christian converts from Islam who have been harassed through legal challenges.	Pray for believers who are taking bold risks to disciple Christian converts from Islam.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
CAMEROON Pray for Christian workers who are meeting the needs of those displaced due to Boko Haram attacks.	KENYA Pray for the boldness and strength of mis- sionaries proclaiming the Gospel in hostile communities.	NEPAL Pray that believers will stand firm in their faith despite opposition from militant Hindu nationalists.	OATAR Pray that new believers who have suffered hardships because of their faith will find joy in the Lord.	PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES Pray for Christian converts who are facing violent opposition from their families and local authorities.	VENEZUELA Pray that Venezuelans will recognize the emptiness of Marxist ideology and turn to faith in Jesus Christ.	LIBYA As Bibles are restricted, pray that every believer will have access to their own copy of God's Word.
21	22	23	24	25	26	2
TUNISIA Pray that Christian converts from Islam will share the love and truth of Christ with their coworkers.	BAHRAIN Praise God for the steadfast faith of those who are following Jesus despite loss of jobs and social status.	ETHIOPIA Pray for the courage and safety of pastors faithfully serving in areas where Islamic militants are active.	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Pray for Christian workers who are reaching out to Emiratis with the "Good News" of the Gospel.	IRAQ Pray for Christian satellite TV, radio and Internet ministries that are proclaiming the Gospel message.	BANGLADESH Pray for Abdul, a former imam who was beaten by his nephew because of his faith in Christ.	KYRGYZSTAN Pray that Christians who have been physically abused for their faith will receive adequate medical care.
28	29	30				
LAOS Pray that the truth of Jesus would be revealed to Buddhist monks who persecute Christians.	TAJIKISTAN Pray for protection and perseverance on behalf of those translating the Bible into local languages.	COMOROS Pray that God will send more workers into the challenging harvest field (Matthew 9:38).				





OLYMPIC FAITH

Women's Ministry Retreat

