

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a black hijab, with their hands held out palms up in a gesture of prayer or surrender. The background is a light-colored, textured surface.

Open *Doors* magazine

60 years of serving persecuted Christians

May 2016

INSIDE:

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The Muslims secretly turning to Christ

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Sowing seeds of hope for farmers

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Faith in the midst of anarchy



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Letter from Lisa: Light

Open Doors is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide.

Open Doors supplies Bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services.

We also seek to mobilise the church in the UK & Ireland to serve Christians living under religious persecution.

If you have any questions about the work of Open Doors, or would like to reprint any of the articles in this magazine, please do get in touch.

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"... there is nothing as wonderful as seeing God at work, leading people from darkness to light." Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury

On Pentecost Sunday (15 May), we celebrate the birth of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. In the days leading up to it, the Archbishop of Canterbury has encouraged a wave of prayer in churches across our nation, which can only be a good thing! Of course, God's Spirit is already active in every part of the world, it's just not reported by our national media. Sadly, the story we hear most frequently is of terrorism, particularly the rise of Islamic extremism in the Middle East. The Open Doors World Watch List reflects the reality of this threat to many persecuted Christians around the world.

There is another news story, however, that mostly goes unreported but has the power to transform the face of the Middle East: the amazing growth of God's kingdom. There is a great move of the Holy Spirit occurring amongst Muslims, with large numbers turning to Christ. Many of the churches or groups we partner with are witnesses to this and it has significant implications for our work. That's because, very often, the first experience of a new believer from a Muslim community is rejection – in some cases by their own families. One brother, who has become a dear friend, has been both shot and stabbed by his own family for turning to Christ, and is not able to have any contact with any of his male relatives.

Others face opposition from the authorities. In the case of Miriam, brought up in an Islamic nation, her family was supportive, but the state was against her, hindering her from getting her professional qualifications. After being detained and interrogated with threats of rape, she sought sanctuary in the UK. We had the privilege of opening our home to Miriam for over six years, and even now, the devastating impact of persecution continues to affect her and her family.

Although we can't all offer a home to believers from a Muslim background, we can all be family to them, ensuring that they are befriended, disciplined in their new faith, and strengthened to meet persecution. I'm thankful to God for every person who is playing a part in this story because, in His gentle hand, our persecuted brothers and sisters are strengthened to become catalysts for peace. And that's not all. With faith in God and hope for the future they can bring stability to their communities: feeding families, building wells, running clinics, giving children a more normal childhood – and through it all, leading people from darkness to light.

Lisa Pearce
CEO, Open Doors UK&I

WORLD WATCH NEWS

PAKISTAN: Group behind Easter bombing vows further attacks

Taliban splinter group Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, which claimed responsibility for the Easter Sunday bombing in Lahore that killed 74 people and injured over 300, has warned that it is planning further attacks on Christians.

Ehsanullah Ehsan, Jamaat-ul-Ahrar spokesperson, said: "We want to send this message to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif that we have entered Lahore. He can do what he wants, but he won't be able to stop us. Our suicide bombers will continue these attacks."

Women and children made up the majority of those killed and injured in the bombing on 27 March. Families had gone to Gulshan-e-Iqbal Park, which is popular with the Christian community, to celebrate after the Easter Sunday church services.

One mourner said, "When you have seen death – you have seen children fly into the air whole, and fall back on the earth in pieces – what have you got to fear? Something fills you with the knowledge that if you lived through that, you will live through anything God wants you to... I am not afraid, just desperately confused."

According to Pakistani media, police arrested over 5,000 suspects in the 48 hours following the attack.

This attack came almost

exactly one year after Jamaat-ul-Ahrar bombers killed 14 people in two churches in Lahore. And in 2013, nearly 100 Christians were killed when suicide bombers attacked All Saints' Church, Peshawar, after which church security was stepped up. A member of the Punjab Assembly said that security around Lahore's churches had been very high this Easter, which is why the terrorists targeted the park.

EASTER MASSACRE SPARKS SAFETY CONCERNS FOR ASIA BIBI

On the same day as the Easter massacre, the Pakistan Army was dispatched to the capital, Islamabad, to prevent the advancement of more than 1,000 protestors who were marching to show support for Mumtaz Qadri, who was executed on 29 February for killing Salmaan Taseer, the Governor of the Punjab.

Qadri, who was Taseer's bodyguard, killed him after Taseer had called for reforms to Pakistan's blasphemy laws and publicly shown his support for Asia Bibi – a Christian woman sentenced to death in 2009 after being accused of insulting Muhammad.

Please continue to pray for Christians in Pakistan, and for Asia Bibi. "Her life hangs by a thread in all this," says our source. "Please pray for her safety and for amnesty. Before our God nothing is impossible. She must be released."

• PRAY

- For protection for Christians in Pakistan, especially those who are in hospital
- That the government will be able to bring order and security to this area
- For protection for Asia Bibi, and for her swift and safe release.



A girl lights a candle at an Easter vigil in Pakistan

"Asia's life hangs by a thread in all this. Please pray for her safety and for amnesty. Before our God nothing is impossible."

Open Doors contact speaking about imprisoned Pakistani Christian and mother of five, Asia Bibi

TURKEY: Families of Malatya victims awarded compensation

The Malatya Administrative Court has ruled that the Turkish Interior Ministry and the Malatya Governor's Office are to pay damages to the families of three Christians working at the Zirve Publishing House who were brutally murdered on 18 April 2007.

Turkish daily newspaper, *Today's Zaman*, reported

that each family of the three employees who were murdered will be paid compensation ranging from 800,000 to 1 million Turkish Lira (between £200,000 to £250,000) by the Interior Ministry.

"Up until now, the Malatya murder case had been dragging on endlessly in the Turkish court," says Rolf Zeegers, an Open Doors

persecution analyst. "As a result, all 12 murder suspects, including high army officers, were released in 2014. Now the Turkish court seems to have made a U-turn by admitting that there has been negligence to the families. This verdict could be an attempt to end the case without sending any of the suspects to jail. As such, the families may get money but still no justice."

• PRAY

- For continued healing and comfort for the families of the three martyred men
- That there will be a just outcome with regard to the sentencing of the men's killers.



Necati Aydin, Ugur Yuksel and Tilmann Geske were killed in 2007

BANGLADESH: Preacher from Muslim background killed

Hossain Ali (65), a preacher from a Muslim background, was hacked to death in the early morning of Tuesday 22 March by Islamic militants in Garialpara, Kurigram, northern Bangladesh.

While Hossain was coming back from his morning walk, three assailants on motorbikes approached him, threw a cocktail bomb at him, and attacked him with sharp weapons. He died on the spot.

Hossain left Islam to follow

Christ in 1999. His family pressured and persecuted him, even tying him up with rope for three days, and he was denied his wages as a government health worker for several months because of his new faith. But he refused to deny Jesus, and eventually his entire family became believers. He was very active in reaching out to Muslims in northern Bangladesh.

Open Doors sponsored Hossain's daughter and

son-in-law, Nasima and Abbas, to study at a Bible college in the Philippines.

• PRAY

- For comfort for Hossain's family
- That the local police will uphold justice and the safety of Christians
- For Open Doors teams working with local churches to equip and train Muslim-background believers.

KENYA: Victims of Garissa attack remembered one year on

On Saturday 2 April it was the one-year anniversary of the al-Shabaab attack on the university in Garissa, Kenya, that killed 147 people, mostly Christian students.

A memorial event was held at Moi University in Eldoret. The surviving students from Garissa were moved to the campus in Eldoret following the attack.

A memorial garden has been planted in Eldoret, with a tree planted in memory of each victim. One survivor, Everlyne, planted a tree in the garden, despite the fact she is



Tree planting in the memorial garden



Aden Duale, Garissa township MP

still recovering from injuries she sustained in the attack and uses crutches to help her walk.

An Open Doors staff member, Hadassa*, attended the memorial event. At around noon, Hadassa spoke to a young woman called Purity, who told her, "This time last year I was eight months pregnant and lying under a bed, not daring to move and begging God to save my baby. He did! Though I lay on my belly for 12 hours, my son

survived. I named him Kiama – 'Miracle'."

In Garissa, thousands also gathered to remember the victims. A marathon was held in memory of those who died.

The MP for the Garissa township, Aden Duale, took part in the marathon. He said: "Together as a country... we must fight all forms of terror."

**Name changed for security reasons*

• PRAY

- For continued physical and emotional healing for the survivors of the attack and those who lost loved ones
- For strength and protection for the church in Garissa and the surrounding region
- For Open Doors partners supporting churches in Kenya with trauma care training and support for church leaders.

MALAYSIA: Right to convert defended

A Malaysian court has upheld the rights of a Christian, Rooney Rebit, to convert from Islam.

Rooney (41) was born into a Christian family in 1975 but his parents converted to Islam when he was eight years old. In 1999 he embraced Christianity and was baptised. However, his identity card continued to state his religion as Islam.

The judgment establishes a precedent in a country where religious conversions, particularly from Islam to Christianity, have been steeped in controversy. The verdict reaffirms the supremacy of the Federal Constitution, which under Article 11 defends every Malaysian citizen's right to freedom of religion.

• PRAY

- For continuing strength and courage for Rooney
- That this decision will be upheld; the Islamic religious department may appeal against it
- That this case will compel other converts to fight for the same rights.

KNOWN TO GOD

"I sing a song of joy and praise in silence for my risen Lord. How do I know He has risen? He came to me in my dreams and called me by my name. No one knows what is in my heart."

These are the words of a secret believer from a Muslim background. As he bows for the daily prayers that are expected of all Muslims in his nation, he doesn't pray to Allah – he prays to 'Isa', the Arabic name for Jesus. We can't tell you the name of this brother in Christ for his safety – but his name is known to God.





MEETING JESUS DURING RAMADAN

"I felt very empty and distant from the God I prayed to every day," says Mushir, a man in his sixties from the Middle East. He was once an extremely devout Muslim, and did everything required by the 'law of the prophet.' "But I desired more," he says.

One year, during Ramadan, Mushir was fasting and praying. He was in a room in his home, crying out to God and asking to really know Him. Suddenly a picture fell from the wall and smashed into pieces. It was an old picture with a traditional painting that had been on the wall for years – but behind the original was a picture of Jesus Christ on the cross.

"I was speechless, shocked, and in my heart I knew this was the answer to what I asked for," Mushir says. "I knew that I had found God. God had shown me who He was – Jesus Christ was His answer."

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar, and begins on 7 June this year. For 30 days, all healthy adult Muslims will be expected to fast during daylight hours, and

many Muslims become more devout during this period, sincerely seeking answers from God. Stories like Mushir's are often reported during Ramadan – and we hope and pray for many more 'Mushirs' this year.

"I knew that I had found God"

Our field workers and partners are seeing a great move of God among Muslim people. "Never before have so many come to Christ from Islam as in the last fifty years," says Andreas*, Open Doors' Middle East Director. "A few decades ago, in countries such as Mauritania and Qatar, you only found Western Christians. Now, even in these countries there is a living community of indigenous Christians."

But deciding to follow Jesus is just the beginning for believers from Muslim backgrounds. In parts of the Middle East and North Africa, new believers may face attack and rejection from their families and communities, arrest by the state, and

even death if their faith is discovered. Many believers keep their faith a complete secret – but struggle with loneliness and slow spiritual growth without the support of other believers.

When Open Doors partners met Mushir, he had been following Jesus secretly for 24 years. Our partners began providing him with discipleship training, and a year later he said: "In one year I have learned more than during the previous 24 years of being a Christian."

WHEN FAITH IS DISCOVERED

Maysam* is a believer from a Muslim background in Tunisia. When her family discovered her faith, they put her under house arrest and stopped her from attending university.

"A month after my conversion my family discovered it," she says. "My brothers even threatened to kill me.

"'You will stay at home, you are not worthy to study,' my parents said. My sister beat me, my mother tried to break my glasses. They locked me in the room of my parents."

But as she slept, imprisoned in her own

home, she says she heard a voice: "Don't think that you are alone; I am always with you."

She found a way to escape, but her family eventually convinced her to return home once more. When she got back, one of her brothers told her: "You need to choose: return to being a Muslim, where you will remain at home, you will not study or work, and you will wait for a husband who will take you as a shame. Or, remain a Christian and have no place with us."

**"I have found a new
spiritual family in
the church"**

When Maysam made it clear that she wouldn't leave her new faith, her family started trying to beat her again. "He [Maysam's brother] came to beat me, but his hand was stopped centimetres from my face. He tried to hit me with his knee, but his knee also stopped without touching me. Then I hugged him."

Tunisia, Maysam's home, is number 32 on the 2016 World Watch List. Although the constitution of Tunisia currently respects freedom of religion and conversion is not prohibited, every Tunisian is automatically registered as a Muslim at birth. No new church has been granted registration since 1956, and the Tunisian authorities prevent Christian books in Arabic from being imported.

Every believer from a Muslim background in Tunisia has a story of opposition, rejection and persecution. As well as facing social isolation, many also lose their jobs or means of support and struggle to provide for themselves. But your prayers and support are enabling Open Doors partners to provide Tunisian believers with training, Christian literature, socio-economic development projects and advocacy support.

After her family delivered their ultimatum, Maysam fled her home once more. "I am alone now. My mother told me by phone that I am no longer her daughter. But I have since found a new spiritual family in the church. God never leaves me alone."

**Name changed for security reasons*





MEETING THE FAMILY

Technology is enabling more people to discover the gospel and connect with other believers than ever before, even in countries that are completely closed to the gospel.

Saudi Arabia is number 14 on the 2016 World Watch List, and uses Islamic law (Sharia) as the basis of its legal system – leaving Islam punishable by death. But some Saudi Muslims are discovering the gospel online, and making the dangerous decision to become followers of Jesus.

Just this year, a young man we'll call Mohammed* came to faith in Christ after using his smartphone to find an online discipleship course, supported by Open Doors, that teaches the foundations of Christianity from the Bible. He then made contact with Christians from another part of the Middle East through a Christian website aimed at the Arab world, saying: "I know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." He was able to visit them, go to church with them, and even get baptised.

For now, Mohammed's wife and children don't know about his new faith, and he has not met a single fellow believer in Saudi Arabia. The Christians he met with in another country are continuing to disciple him over the internet.

It is amazing that technology is enabling Mohammed to stay in touch with his newfound Christian family – but being able to meet in person is even better. Many Open

Doors workers and partners risk arrest, attack, or even death to meet with secret believers to disciple them and encourage them.

"Gathering for Bible study is not allowed in our country"

One of our workers in a closed country in the Middle East is a lady called Nurah*. She's in her 40s, and left Islam to follow Christ 15 years ago. She received discipleship training from Open Doors partners, and has a passion for the Bible. Now, she gives discipleship training to others.

Nurah's Bible studies must be held in complete secret. "Gathering for Bible study is not allowed in our country. We will even get in trouble if anyone finds out we have a Bible for ourselves." Fortunately, Nurah's husband and daughter are also believers, so she is able to hold a Bible study each week in her home.

Nurah knows how important Bible training is for new believers, particularly those from Muslim backgrounds. "In Islam, where we all come from, we read the Quran and closed it again. We read nice words, but no action was required. With the Bible it's totally different.

"I see how lives were changed when people started living with God and that's the most beautiful thing I could wish for."

**Name changed for security reasons*



Stand with your brothers and sisters from Muslim backgrounds

The 2016 World Watch List shows that Islamic extremism is by far the most common driver of persecution – it's the primary cause in eight out of the top ten countries and in 35 out of the top 50. Barely a day goes by without the Middle East crisis hitting the headlines, with Islamic extremists such as the self-proclaimed Islamic State attempting to eradicate Christianity from the region.

But this isn't the whole story. It's impossible to say exactly how many Muslims have turned to Christ because of the dangers so many face, but our researchers estimate that it's in the millions. The Holy Spirit is working powerfully in the Muslim world, and as Open Doors we have few priorities more significant than strengthening the fledgling church of believers from Muslim backgrounds – we believe this new church could transform the region.

We have the chance to be part of what God is doing in the Muslim world through our gifts and prayers. Will you stand with your brothers and sisters in Christ, men and women like Mushir, Maysam, Mohammed and Nurah, and provide them with the resources they need to continue following Jesus and grow in their faith as they risk it all?

○ PRAY

- For men and women who are seeking God in closed countries, that God would speak to them through dreams and visions, as he did to the young man at the start of this article.
- For Muslims who are seeking God during Ramadan this year. Pray that they would be able to say with Mushir, "God has shown me who He is – Jesus Christ."
- That secret believers would be able to find other believers to meet with for fellowship and encouragement, and that they would know who to trust. Pray for their protection.
- For Open Doors workers and partners who are providing secret discipleship training, such as Nurah. Pray for safety and wisdom for them, and that God would use them to help many believers grow in faith.

○ GIVE

Every £12 can provide three secret believers from a Muslim background with a Bible

Every £35 can provide a place for a secret believer on a discipleship training course to help them live out their faith in places where they could face attack, arrest, or even death.

○ ORDER

30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World. This is a prayer guide to help you pray for the Muslim world during Ramadan, and contains daily readings that focus on various topics, people groups and geographical areas, followed by prayer points. Order yours for free by emailing our Inspire team at inspire@opendoorsuk.org or calling 01993 460015.





Sowing seeds of hope for farmers in Pakistan



While the world focuses its attention on the terrorist attacks that have devastated Pakistan, a quiet work of grace is taking place in rural parts of the country, thanks to your support.

The farmers in Southern Punjab were desperate. Many Christians were leaving the region, seeking asylum outside Pakistan or moving to other parts of the country after years of discrimination and attack by wealthy Muslim landowners. The remaining farmers approached one of Open Doors' partner organisations, ALIVE, looking for help.

"ALIVE visited us with an education based programme. They did not come to us with answers but with prayer and the gift of literacy," says Zahid*, a farmer who is now one of the directors of the training programme.

He remembers his confusion when ALIVE first arrived. "At first I was very upset that they were not helping us lead a protest. I did not understand their strategy. But now I know they were teaching us to farm and live for Jesus. 'We are Christians like you,' they told us. 'We cannot take on the system, but we can bring God into the middle of it and ask Him to show us how to engage with it.'"

Most Christian farmers in the region are bonded labourers on the farms of Muslim landowners. The Christians are from a lower caste than the Muslim landowners, as well as being of a different faith, which means they are relegated to menial and domestic labour. "Our people are uneducated and illiterate. Some of the children here have never been to school, they have been working the fields since they were old enough to accompany their parents to the fields," Zahid says.

"They brought us hope that God had not forgotten us"

ALIVE teams were not only able to provide farmers like Zahid with an education, but also with hope. Zahid says, "From literacy training, to learning how to manage the fields allotted to our care, to learning about God's design for our lives, they taught us step-by-step as they learned with us. They brought in experts. They brought us hope that God had not forgotten us."

BUILDING BRIDGES

Fahrat* is one of few Christians who still owns land in Southern Punjab, but he has struggled to



keep it from his Muslim neighbours. "They try everything to take my land from me. The land mafia have even employed Christians against me to try to discredit me or prove that I am not paying my taxes or that I do not have the correct paper work. Someone stole my deeds. Only one last ploy is left and that is to bring a blasphemy charge against me. I pray that will never happen."

"We keep building friendships based on Christ's model of love"

ALIVE has tried to create better relationships between Christians and Muslims in Southern Punjab, as well as helping Christians defend themselves from attack. Zahid says: "ALIVE came to us with the hope that we would be able to use our newfound skills to build the community and be a blessing to our Muslim neighbours, but also that we would be able to stand up for our rights and share Jesus in all we do. There is risk attached to sharing Jesus, but now we are comforted by all ALIVE has brought us."

ALIVE's training programme provides expert teaching on farming and agriculture

three times a year, inviting both Christians and Muslims to take advantage of what is offered.

Sam* is another of the farmers who is now a programme director. He says: "We have to design these programmes very carefully and we have to build relationships with our Muslim neighbours very carefully. They are very rich and we are not. They have access to all kinds of facilities, but what attracts them to come and be with us is the friendship we have built with them. Some of them come to see how they can sabotage us too, but we keep building friendships based on Christ's model of love."

ALIVE has developed a two pronged approach: to provide agricultural education, and to share the gospel. "When we visit various farms and reach out to Christian farmers who are working as bonded labour for some wealthy landlord or other, we have to do so very cautiously," says an ALIVE director. "If we have a relationship of good will with the landlord, it is easier but still frowned upon. However, this opens doors to meet others who are not from our own faith community. This gives us the opportunity to be witnesses of Christ in the heart of Pakistan's feudal centre, where it costs to live like Christ."

*Name changed for security reasons

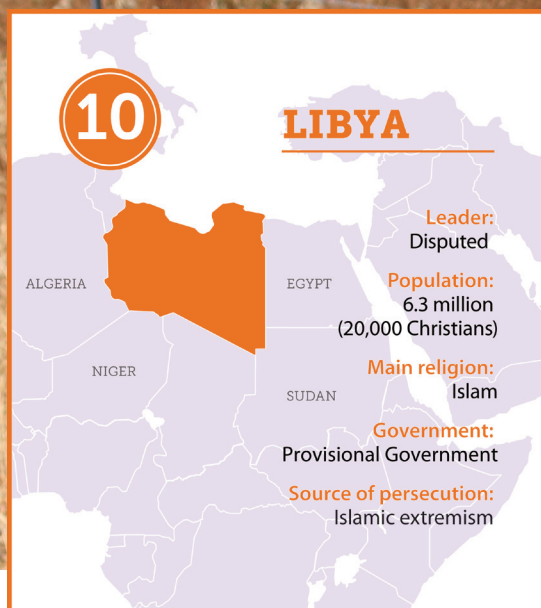


Image used for illustrative purposes only

LIBYA: FAITH IN THE MIDST OF ANARCHY

Libya entered the World Watch List top ten for the first time in 2016. Its descent into lawlessness since the fall of Gaddafi in 2011 has increased the pressure on the country's few Christians, who now find themselves at risk from fanatical religious groups, criminal gangs and their communities.

When civil war ended Colonel Gaddafi's regime, two main competing governments took over: a coalition of nationalist and tribal groups in the east, and a mix of radical Islamists and tribal groups in the west. In the midst of this anarchy, the self-proclaimed Islamic State (IS) has moved into the city of Sirte, leading to reports of forced Islamic re-education classes, public floggings and even crucifixions.

Many migrant Christians are now fearful to identify themselves as Christians or attend church, and native-born Libyan believers, who already face strong persecution from families and communities, are under even more pressure to keep their faith secret.

SIGNS OF HOPE

But there have been recent, if small, signs of hope. In March, a new Libyan unity government was officially established, which some hope will end the state of anarchy in Libya. And we are also receiving encouraging stories of people meeting Jesus and the gospel being spread...

RAFIQ HEARS THE GOSPEL

Jesus appeared to Rafiq when he was a teenager. It was a glorious moment – he could never forget it – but he did not know the story of Christ. Soon afterwards he met an older relative who was a follower of Jesus. He explained the gospel to Rafiq, who made the brave decision to follow Christ.

In the years that have passed since his conversion, Rafiq has never been to a church – as a Libyan, he is forbidden from attending non-Islamic religious meetings. He is one of many secret believers who continue to follow Jesus despite the isolation and risk that this brings. He longs to be part of a

gathering of believers from his nation, but although it is unlikely that he will be able to partake in Christian fellowship anytime soon, he finds joy in studying God's Word.

MOHAMMED THE PRISON GUARD

Mohammed is a policeman. While on duty at the police station, he was told to guard an imprisoned Christian. He saw that the believer had a Bible, and became curious. He had heard about the Bible – and how he shouldn't read it. But this made him even more interested.

He went up to the Christian and asked if he could look at the book. The believer handed the Bible over and, as he did so, he pointed out a few passages. Mohammed learned about how the Psalms bring comfort and was told the story of the gospels. Mohammed gave the Bible back to the prisoner and went away. But within a few minutes he was back. He wanted to show the Bible to his friend!

'IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR YOUR PRAYERS...'

Open Doors works through local churches and partners to support the church in Libya through training, literature distribution and socio-economic development projects – as well as by raising prayer for Christians in Libya. This prayerful support is a lifeline to believers in the country.

When we told a pastor in Libya that people worldwide were praying for him and his congregation, his response was immediate:

"I must admit that you always contact me in a time that I am discouraged by the situation and events here. I wish to thank you very sincerely for this. If it had not been for your prayers things could have been worse for us."

WORLD WATCH LIST FACTS:

- Only about 150 of the 20,000 Christians in Libya are Libyan nationals; all are Muslim converts
- Churches for Libyans and Christian literature in Arabic are forbidden
- Christian refugees from sub-Saharan Africa travelling through Libya are at risk of abuse from human traffickers and armed groups
- Three major attacks against Christians took place in 2015: 21 migrant Christians were executed by IS in February; 79 Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees were kidnapped by militants in April, 30 of whom were killed; 86 Eritrean migrants were abducted by militants in June.

I truly appreciate your prayer and would urge you to continue.

"Thank you very much for appreciating the little efforts we are making for the Lord in Libya. We very much understand we are called to serve the Lord in this difficult and uncertain country. Our faith remains in the Lord God Almighty. He alone is trustworthy. Your words of encouragement are received with joy and thanksgiving."

"The situation currently is so discouraging that we despair, yet we hope in God. As a church we are able to meet, but with reduced attendance as people are afraid. We are not safe on the street, we are not safe at home. Pray for protection and safety for the body of Christ."

→ PRAY

- That Christians in Libya will receive God's protection, strength, peace and guidance in how to grow the church
- For Rafiq, Mohammed and other Libyans who hear the gospel, that they would all come to know Jesus and find safe ways to worship Him
- For a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Libya.

To find out more about Libya and other countries where it is hardest to be a Christian, order our free 2016 World Watch resources:

- 2016 World Watch Guide
- World Watch Church Pack, including DVD, Map, Kidzone and Youth resources
- Open Doors 2016 World Watch Advocacy Report

Fill in the enclosed response form or go to www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution





MAYSAM*

*REAL NAME KNOWN TO GOD

Maysam is a believer from a Muslim background. To tell you her true name would be to put her life in danger.

In the region where she lives, those who decide to leave Islam and follow 'Isa', the Arabic name for Jesus, can face arrest, physical attack, and even death.

"My brothers threatened to kill me," she says. Maysam was forced to flee when her family discovered her faith.

Despite the grave dangers these believers face in many parts of the Middle East and North Africa, Muslims are coming to faith in Christ in their

millions – God is truly at work. But these believers need our support to help them continue on their journey of faith – a journey that could cost everything.

Maysam says: "I am alone now. But I have since found a new spiritual family in the church. God never leaves me alone."

Will you be their family too - and support them today, along with your prayers?

EVERY £12

can provide three secret believers from a Muslim background with a Bible.

EVERY £35

can provide a place for a secret believer on a discipleship training course to help them live out their faith – even in places where it could cost them everything.

To give a gift, please use the enclosed response form, phone 01993 460015 or go to www.opendoors.org/known Thank You.



OpenDoors

60 years of serving persecuted Christians