



PERSECUTION RELIEF ANNUAL REPORT

**Hate crimes
against Christians
in India**

www.persecutionrelief.org

Persecution Relief

is an inter-denominational initiative to provide Comprehensive Support, (Prayerfully, Financially, Politically, Judicially) to the persecuted church in India.

Our Mission

To provide comprehensive support to the persecuted Church in India by linking it to the free Church of the world

Our Goal

To ensure freedom to worship Jesus Christ in India

Our Motto

Serving Persecuted – Loving Persecutors



**Report Christian Persecution
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PERSECUTION RELIEF ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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CATHOLIC BISHOP'S CONFERENCE ON INDIA (CBCI)

Most Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX
SECRETARY GENERAL

Port.03/Gen.Sec.2019(3-b-10/CBCI-GC



FOREWORD

5th January, 2019

“Princes persecute me without cause, But my heart stands in awe of your words.” These words from Psalm 119:161 come to mind when news about Christians being denied their right to “freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate their religion” as guaranteed by the Indian Constitution.

I am happy to write the Foreword to the Annual Report 2018 of Persecution Relief-an interdenominational initiative, providing comprehensive support to the persecuted Church in India. I personally know the Founder and President of Persecution Relief, Mr. Shibu Thomas, who has been tirelessly working to help the persecuted Church in India and I wish to express our gratitude to him for relentlessly keeping track of Christians being persecuted in various forms in our country. He also diligently keeps us informed of what is happening in terms of incidents, changes of laws, court judgements delivered etc.


I am confident that the work done by Persecution Relief, will go a long way in helping Civil Society and activists, find leads and opportunities to make their own investigations and act as they may feel is prudent. The alerts provided by Persecution Relief often serve as signals to various Churches and groups to unite and progress the creation of more robust laws, to ensure that the Freedom of Religion and Belief guaranteed in the Constitution, becomes a reality in India.

As retired Supreme Court, Hon. Judge Chelameswar has said, “Societies that are not vigilant risk losing their constitutionally guaranteed liberties.” The fringe elements becoming bolder and bolder and taking center stage in some areas is a cause of worry not only to the Christian community but to our nation itself as the very social fabric of our country is endangered. Persecution comes in different forms today: disruption of peaceful gathering for prayers, physical attacks against innocent worshippers, use of laws to intimidate and harass institutions and persons. Civil society needs to be watchful so that the secular fabric of our country which the founding Fathers so ardently desired and laid down is no way threatened. We must however also note that the vast majority of Indians irrespective of their beliefs or religion and cutting across political divides stand and uphold the rights guaranteed in our Constitution.

We are grateful to Persecution Relief for the unique initiative which not only provides immediate and practical relief to the victims of religious hate crimes, but also raises awareness of the violations to their freedom of religion through “Breaking News” and their website. Religious freedom is the basic human right of every citizen of India. Protecting this right is the responsibility of each and every citizen and services provided by organizations like Persecution Relief are much appreciated. I wish Persecution Relief the very best. May God bless Mr. Shibu Thomas and Persecution Relief.

Theodore Mascarenhas

Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX.
Secretary General, CBCI.



"We are grateful to our "Prayer Warriors", sisters and brothers, **who have tirelessly and fervently prayed for the persecuted Church and supported us in the most extreme times of persecution.**"

FOUNDERS NOTE



We are grateful to all our 'subscribers' of "Voice of the Christians" magazine for responding faithfully, as we tell the compelling persecution stories, sharing the witness of the plight of the persecuted. May God's blessing be upon you and your family.

We say thank you to those who have volunteered and extended your services to us – may God's richest blessings be upon you. For all that you have contributed, no matter how trivial, to the Persecuted Church – my sincere thanks.

As Apostle Paul wrote to the Church in Rome. "Therefore, let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another" (Rom 14: 19).

As India grows less peaceful, day by day, the difficult and dark moments provide opportunities for us to reflect God's love and light. May we be encouraged to continue to stand firm together in the challenging times ahead. May we continue to shine and push back the darkness that threatens us, and bring many more into the Kingdom of Light.

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! (Eph. 3:20-21).

Shibu Thomas, Founder

founder@persecutionrelief.org

As we have entered the New Year 2019, I just want to look back to 2018, to thank my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for bringing us thus far with the help of the Holy Spirit.

2018 had been a painful year for the Persecuted Church in India whom we represent. It is only God's infinite grace without measure, strength & resources, that has enabled us to serve the persecuted Church, 24 x 7.

This Annual Report represents the culmination of a year's work by Persecution Relief Family (both staff and volunteers), who have worked tirelessly, behind the scenes.

God is 'Jehovah Jireh', our provider. Our revenue for this year exceeded the previous year, as we were able to honour God by judiciously and compassionately meeting the needs of those who reached out to us. We continued to serve with dedication and integrity, by providing practical relief services which includes financial support, food, Church and Ministry support, safe housing, and many other ways.

We say thank you to those who have donated financially, sacrificially - may God reward you 100-fold for your commitment and generosity.

We are grateful to our "Prayer Warriors", sisters and brothers, who have tirelessly and fervently prayed for the persecuted Church and supported us in the most extreme times of persecution.

OUR BELIEF'S

THE BIBLE CLEARLY TEACHES THAT THE CHURCH WILL GO THROUGH THE GREAT TRIBULATION BEFORE JESUS COMES, AND THAT MANY OF GOD'S SAINTS WILL BE KILLED DURING THAT TIME (REV.13:7). INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER. THIS REFINING AND PURGING WILL CARRY ON UNTIL "THE END OF TIME" (DAN.11:35), SO THAT GOD CAN FULFILL HIS GOAL OF CONFORMING US TO THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST. SO, WE MUST NOT EXPECT AN EASY TIME ON EARTH, UNTIL JESUS COMES. IN THE WORLD D WE WILL ALWAYS HAVE TRIBULATION.

AS GOD'S COMMANDS US, WE NEED TO:

REMAIN ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE

We believe that the greatest manifestation of HATRED this world ever saw was at the crucifixion of Jesus; and the greatest manifestation of LOVE was also seen on the same cross. When Jesus defeated Satan on the cross, He demonstrated that hatred can be overcome only by love and that evil can be overcome only by good. This is the love 'the Pearl' of great cost, that we are called to manifest to others here on earth. Forgiveness of sins is free. But this love is costly.

RECOGNIZE THAT IT IS A SPIRITUAL WARFARE

It is a great honour to be martyred for the cause of Jesus Christ. Not everyone has this calling. If we are true Disciples of Christ, we will find ourselves in conflict with the entire religious system of this world. Jesus said they hated and persecuted Him

because they didn't know His Father. They will do the same thing to us. We read in Daniel 11:33, that in the last days, godly people will be attacked, imprisoned and killed. True servants of God are always persecuted. We do not fight against such people, because we refuse to fight with flesh and blood (Eph.6:12). We fight only with Satan, and we leave it to the angel of the Lord to deal with all our human opponents.

FORGIVE OUR PERSECUTORS

In Acts, Stephen boldly preached the Gospel. They hit and stoned Stephen (Acts 7:54-60). As he was dying, he looked into Heaven and saw Jesus standing at the right hand of God. He then looked at his persecutors and asked God's forgiveness on them. As with many martyrs through the centuries, Stephen was killed by the religious establishment. Those who passionately stand for the cause of Christ will be persecuted by those who have built their own idea of God. The Lord can build His church

only with those who are determined to respond IN LOVE, to all people, at all times. The gates of hell will never be able to prevail against such a church or against such a home.

TO SUBMIT TO AUTHORITIES

PR does not advocate filing counter FIR's or lodging any protest or taking out a rally. Our standard in every area is higher under the new covenant. We are to be servants like Jesus. Sin originated in rebellion, long before Adam was created. The highest archangel rebelled against God's authority and became Satan immediately. That is why "rebellion is like the sin of witchcraft" (1 Samuel 15:23) - for a rebellious spirit brings one in touch with evil spirits, just as much as witchcraft does. Romans 13:1 "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves? A man who experiences the true grace of God will always submit to authority wherever he goes.

TO BE AMBASSADORS OF THIS 'PRINCE OF PEACE'

"If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all". 'Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God'. Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace shows us that

peace is always the priority, never our personal agendas. Earthly rulers can forge a fragile peace with other nations, but who can offer us peace within ourselves? And no man promises peace with God. The Prince of Peace stands high above the kings of the earth, and we are the recipients of his greatness!

God has kept us on earth to demonstrate this great eternal truth that love is more powerful than hatred and that good is more powerful than evil. Let us take our calling seriously. Isaiah's vision of the Prince of Peace offers tremendous hope, blessing, and affirmation for Christians. Far more than using the words, let's really know the Prince of Peace!

HOW WE SUPPORT

PRAYERFULLY

Persecution Relief believes Prayer is the most powerful way to support Christians facing persecution.

We have dedicated Prayer Warriors and Prayer Lines, praying 24 x 7, as the Church prayed for Peter and John. We have seen miraculous answers through prayers, historical decisions coming to pass. We not only pray for the persecuted but also for the persecutors and have seen many Saul's transformed to Paul's. As the days become increasingly dark, we desperately need ongoing, ardent, consistent, faith-filled prayer for our persecuted Church.

FINANCIALLY

Persecution Relief has been called by God to stand as a bridge, connecting with those who face persecution and to provide help in tangible ways. Our mission is to provide immediate financial assistance without bureaucracy, unnecessary delay or discrimination, towards hospital and medical treatment, legal and bail fees, relocation and transport, temporary accommodation, reconstruction of burnt house Church, replacing damaged Church equipment, supporting families when bread winner is imprisoned, adopting the Martyr's families and providing for their livelihood expenses, etc. We are committed to being faithful stewards with whatever resources the Lord has provided.

POLITICALLY

Persecution Relief fills a crucial gap by liaising with Police Officials, Political Leaders, Opposition Leaders, Administration etc. highlighting, influencing and bringing awareness about the prejudice and discrimination meted out to the Christian Community. We regularly launch On-line Petitions, write letters to the President and the Prime Minister, send our periodic reports to concerned officials, so that efforts are made to bring about changes. We speak to the Administration and Government Officials, on behalf of the multitudes who have been arrested or in detention, to secure their release, without any FIR's being filed against them. Our ultimate Goal - freedom to worship Jesus Christ in India.

JUDICIALLY

Persecution Relief provides initial help to the people who are arrested / detained by the Police, by supporting with a Lawyer; if local lawyer has already been arranged, we then provide financial help towards Legal expenses. We also educate and counsel about the laws, guide and mediate for them based on their needs.

TESTIMONIALS



Dr. John Dayal

Activist, Ex-President All India Catholic Union

“I wished we lived in an india which had no persecution of religious minorities, specially Christians. Till then, Persecution Relief serves an important role in informing and conscientising the community”



Sr. Angelica

Persecution Relief, a divine ministry, initiated by God, at the appropriate time in the history of India. We thank & bless God for raising a genuine servant Br Shibu Thomas to undertake this.



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APPRECIATION

Persecution Relief headed by God's servant Shibu Thomas is doing a very important and commendable job for the Kingdom of God and the Church in India. For the last many years persecution to the Church in India has increased very much. Religious intolerance is on its height in many parts of India from a group of extremists. And the authorities many times help them instead of helping the victims.

Even though the constitution of India guarantees the freedom of religion, its practice and propagation, it is practically denied in most instances.

The only thing it prohibits is forcible conversion. Every individual in India must have the freedom to hear about their salvation, and if they are convinced they should have the freedom to accept it. Christians do not forcibly convert anybody anywhere. Born again Christians have experienced peace of mind, deliverance from evil ways, total freedom from alcohol and drugs and experience spiritual bliss. They consider it as their duty to tell others about this great salvation. That is what Christians are doing. And that is the command of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World. But in India now, Christians conducting a prayer meeting in one of their member's house is opposed; Church services are hindered and stopped; distribution of Christian pamphlets is violently opposed; believers are declared outcasts in many villages and their basic necessities are denied; believers and Pastors are beaten, persecuted and falsely accused of forcible conversion and taken to Police station, charge cases against them in the Courts. There is a fearsome atmosphere in India before the Church.

In this situation, our dear brother Shibu Thomas and his team to the forefront immediately and give all possible helps to the persecuted Christians, including legal helps, moral support and help in different other ways possible. When many of our workers were in Police custody, Persecution Relief immediately intervened in them and helped for their release. Their work is a great comfort for the Church in India as a whole. The Assemblies of God in India in very thankful to Brother Shibu Thomas and his team for their effort the help of the Persecuted.

We pray that God would use them more powerfully and effectively in the future as well.

Rev. T.J. Samuel

General Secretary, Assemblies of God of India

Punalur

04-01-2019

Office : Assemblies of God of India. # 6 Anna Salai. Little Mount. Chennai - 600 015. Tamil Nadu





India Missions Association

connecting and empowering for synergized witness



28th December 2018

Dear Mr. Shibu Thomas
Persecution Relief

Thank you very much for being in the forefront in our response to the persecution of Christian Brethren in India, and for your excellent service to the persecuted church in India.

Your timely intervention to help the persecuted in the form of financial assistance and networking for advocacy is not only of great value to the victim and their kin but also a morale booster for all those in the mission field and in threat of being persecuted. It is good to know that out there, there is someone who will come to my assistance immediately when in need and will also plead my case. In that way you are truly an angel in human form - the channel through whom God is active.

Secondly, your documentation of the persecution is indeed a good resource for advocacy and related matters.

While we understand that "the battle belongs to the Lord" he is looking for willing servants to be his humble prophets to bring relief and help to the persecuted. And in you God has found not only a willing servant but also a competent person to do his bidding.

Personally, I appreciate your dedication and commitment to help those in dire need 24x7.

Further, the IMA family, of 262 Mission Agencies, is grateful to you and your team for all the help you have provided and we look forward to closer and deeper partnership in the days to come.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. I. Wati Longkumer, General Secretary

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(Regn. No. 18 of 1949 under Societies Registration Act, 1860 (XXI 1860))

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Rev. RAJU THOMAS
Regional Overseer

Dr. CHARLES SAMUEL
Regional Secretary

December 27, 2018



MESSAGE

We are extremely glad to know the tremendous services rendered by “Persecution Relief” under the dynamic leadership of its founder Mr. Shibu Thomas towards the Christians who faced trials, opposition and persecution in different parts of India so far. Thank God for the deep vision that the Lord has given to our beloved brother. As the oppositions are increasing exorbitantly, the timely intervention and the necessary help provided by the “Persecution Relief” are commendable and praise worthy.

We are sure that the Christians in India would feel a sense of safety and protection by the selfless service of this team. It is our earnest prayer that the Lord may strengthen the hands of Mr. Shibu Thomas and his colleagues to continue their services and use them mightily in the days to come.

Sincerely

RAJU THOMAS
Northern Regional Overseer &
Governing Body Chairman
Church of God in India



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Dear beloved in the Lord,

It's really heartening to note that in early 2017 itself, when persecution of the Christian Church had become almost a daily affair, "Persecution Relief" under the leadership of Mr. Shibu Thomas had the boldness to step out and declare their solidarity towards the Indian Church which is suffering in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, rendering timely legal assistance as well as necessary aid in times of severe Church attacks and torture for God's people.

Stewards Association in India, representing the Brethren Assemblies in India, would like to express our deep appreciation and total support to the selfless service rendered by Mr. Shibu Thomas and his team towards the protection and safety of God's people residing in our motherland.

With Warm Greetings in Christ Jesus,

Adv. Raju M. Koshy M.Sc., LL.M.

General Secretary

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D. Augustine Jebakumar
General Secretary



Testimonial Note on Persecution Relief

Persecution is not new to the Church. The way it is approached and handles needs to be biblical. I appreciate Persecution Relief for raising prayer for the persecuted giving all necessary timely support and for teaching the church to love and pray for the persecutors.

D. Augustine Jebakumar
General Secretary, GEMS.

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JESUS REDEEMS MINISTRIES

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Mohan C. Lazarus

TO PRAY AND TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL!

Greetings



Greetings in the matchless name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I praise God for "Persecution Relief" and for all of its blessed activities. This organization has been functioning on the divine vision given by God to Mr. Shibu Thomas. It works with a great mission of providing comprehensive support to the persecuted Churches in India. Persecution Relief is doing a wonderful job in helping the persecuted Christians through prayer, finance and in all political and judiciary way.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). On the basis of this verse, as you help the least people, God will richly reward each of you.

My desire and prayer is that the Lord may use everyone in Persecution Relief mightily in the days to come. Continue your mission of being His instrument to minister to His children.

"...Thou shalt see greater things than these." (John 1:50)

May the Lord expand the boundaries of Persecution Relief to a great extent!

I Pray! Greet!! and Bless!!

Grace be with you!

Your Loving Brother,

Mohan C. Lazarus

For 24 hours Prayer help Dial: 04639 - 22 00 00

info@jesusredeems.org

info@jesusredeems.org



ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Bethel Church

International Worship Centre

Rev: Johnson V
Pastor In-Charge



04 January 2019

Dear Bro. Shibu Thomas,

Thanks for being available for the many Christians who suffer for HIS name!

In the season of increased persecution of the saints, am reminded of Christ's own words - "What you have done for the least of these of mine you have done unto me" (Matthew 25:40). Your work is a classic example of 'true worship' in lifestyle beyond the boundaries of Sunday Christian Worship.

The legal advocacy, personal assistance and financial support, among the many other efforts are very strengthening for those hurt and lonely in HIS vineyard.

Yours for HIM,

Rev. Johnson V

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No matter how long would it take, history always reminds us that, light break through darkness. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:5)

Bro. Shibu Thomas's vision to reach out to the afflicted is like a beacon of hope for those being persecuted. His initiative, "Persecution Relief" has indeed reached out to hundreds since its inception. It is an enormous task to maintain the momentum when you are the founder! Bro. Shibu has demonstrated faith, patience and endurance on the face of extreme challenges and threats.

Coming from a business, political and Pentecostal background would give him that extra advantage express himself freely! He had this unique ability to induce faith because of his trust in the Holy Spirit! Brother Shibu's constant attempt has been to turn our focus on to "Despoteas", (which means sovereign Lord) than filling our mind with statistics. He is real in his expression.

May the Lord continue to strengthen his heart and use him to touch thousands in this nation!

Blessings,

Vinu Paul
Newfrontiers - Commission



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Dr Naveen Thomas,

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(HHSM, BITS Pilani)

Director (CEO)



Students of history will acknowledge that the “night of the broken glass” or the “Kristallnacht” was not an accident; it was just the culmination of a sustained campaign of hate mongering. After years of sowing unfounded communal suspicion and hatred, the German general public was ready to partner in the sinister plans of Hitler’s Reich by November 1938. Those who see a parallel in India’s spike in hate crimes against Christians in 2018 are concerned. One can only pray that these fears will be proved unfounded in retrospect. This is not about a party or a sect; but about the changing perceptions among the general populace. As citizens who love the country, we must wish and pray for boldness, patience and love in the face of adversity for those who encounter hatred and for true inner healing for those who are misguided. We must also pray for our leaders and decision makers that they are granted much wisdom.

As an interdenominational initiative to help the persecuted Church in India, ‘Persecution Relief’ has provided a forum and an even platform to inform, confer and present prayer requests. It is so important to pray intelligently. It has spurred action where possible, even in very difficult circumstances. May we, in all humility, continue to kneel in front of the Sovereign, petition the one who wields all authority. We have found the information shared as accurate and objective as possible, avoiding sensationalism. At the same time, facts have been presented without cosmetically altering them. I would like to commend and thank Bro. Shibu Thomas, the founder and the prime mover for what has been achieved. We also want to acknowledge the contribution of the supporting team. It is the Lord’s doing and it is marvellous in our eyes. May the Lord continue to strengthen and use and bless others through you!

Dr. Naveen Thomas

Director (CEO)

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We thank God for the work of Shibu Thomas and Persecution Relief.

We especially appreciate their approach of acting swiftly to contact victims of persecution directly - speaking words of encouragement, advice, offering immediate support and sharing the news so that others can pray and act in response.

David Turner
(Director)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - 2018

All minority communities continue to feel increasingly vulnerable due to the lack of religious freedom and the religious violence engaged against them. Minorities continue to feel unsafe, neglected and largely suppressed, as perpetrators of crimes against humanity are yet to be prosecuted.

Persecution Relief works primarily among the Christian Community and this report focuses on them. Christians continue to remain exposed as persecution continues to spread at a rapid pace across India. In 2018, 477 incidents of violence were recorded as compared to 440 last year.

91 incidents of Church Attack – Worship Service disrupted, Church vandalized, Church sealed by Administration, Holy Bibles burnt, Church eviction by owners on pressure by fanatics, Church construction permission denied by authorities, Access to Church blocked, were reported. The most common form of persecution was ‘Threats, Harassment and Intimidation’ which saw an increase of 118% from 2017. 10 Church buildings were burnt across the country. In one such incident, at Ahladpur Village in Nevada Block in Kaushambi

District of Uttar Pradesh State, Pastor Sone Lal’s Church, where more than 1000 believers used to assemble for Sunday worship service, was burned in the early hours.

The most hostile State Uttar Pradesh in Northern India, topped the charts on persecution as the most hostile state in India, for the 2nd consecutive year. Uttar Pradesh reported 129 validated incidents – a 87% increase over 2017. Sources state that these are only a fraction of the actual violence perpetuated and reported on the ground. Religious organisations have mushroomed across the landscape of Uttar Pradesh, with many reports of vigilantism and incidents of lynching with impunity. Even the Police are not exempt from the mob attacks. (*detailed report on Uttar Pradesh enclosed).

The Top 5 ‘Hot Spots’ in 2018 were Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana. A huge 59% of incidents were reported from these States. Tamil Nadu ranking 2nd, recorded 67 incidents of persecution this year. Several house Churches and regular main line Churches have been forcibly shut down and congregation physically attacked, where men and women of God, including children were not spared.

Dividing India into 6-Zones, based upon geographical and cultural features, a study of the Zonal trend clearly displays

where anti-Christian hostility is particularly intense. States in the North Zone namely Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, contributed 164 of the 477 incidents, where Christians are particularly vulnerable, with concentrated and pervasive persecution. South Zone is a close second. The least hostile was the North East Zone, recording 9 incidents.

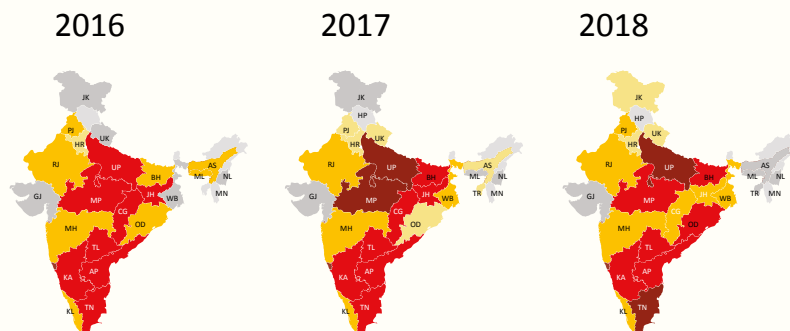
“The Anti-Conversion law” or “Freedom of Religion Act” passed by State Governments, continues to be misused and has only served as a catalyst for the religious fundamentalists to attack Christians and Minorities with license. Currently, the Anti-Conversion Law has been passed in 8 States. In 2018, the Northern State of Uttarakhand and Jharkhand have become the 7th and 8th States in India, to put “anti-conversion” legislation in force. In Jharkhand, we have recorded several instances of Christians being imprisoned under the ‘Freedom of Religion Act’ this year.

Several representations on the contravention and open violation of the Indian Constitution, have been made to the President and Prime Minister of India, by Prominent Citizens from the Civil Society and Human Rights activists, by Peace Initiatives and Fact-finding commission. This has only been met with deafening silence, loudly conveying the

THE RISE AND SPREAD OF CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION IN INDIA

Persecution Heat Map

based on Incidents Logged by Persecution Relief



| | | |
|--|--|----------------------|
| Color coded based on number of incidents | | Severe Persecution |
| | | High Persecution |
| | | Moderate Persecution |

message that no action is to be taken against the perpetrators.

Article 25 of the Indian Constitution, states that “all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion subject to public order, morality and health”.

The role of the Police, both as a competent law enforcement agency and protector of the community, is to maintain the highest standards of integrity, while acting within the framework of the Constitution to ensure that the law of the land is no way violated. However, numerous instances of Police and the Administration being derelict in their duties, working in collusion with the religious fanatics have been reported. These fanatics continue their consistent,

systematic, premeditated attacks, even in the presence of the authorities, with impunity and no fear of the Police or any Agency. Innocent Pastors have been beaten up inside the Police Station. False cases are booked and stringent, unrelated sections of FIR are filed against them.

Several Christian Institutions, especially Children’s homes were under intense scrutiny and shut down for false reasons. False charges were framed against them and several men and women booked under POSCO (The Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act. It is alleged that CWC (Child Welfare Committee) Officials act with prejudice and bias, with only one agenda - to shut down children’s homes run by Christians. In many instances,

children’s homes were raided at mid-night and children forcefully evacuated, against the wishes of their own parents. All of this points to the sinister strategies of the local government agencies.

In several incidents, women were attacked, their modesty outraged and children not spared of violent assaults – a new low in our reporting. A 65- year old Sis. Chadarajupalli Subbaravamma was beaten to death for her faith in Jesus Christ.

Persecution Relief family salutes the 4 Martyrs who laid down their life for the gospel sake in 2018. Pastor Gideon of Tamil Nadu was murdered and left hanging inside the Church, alleging suicide, in spite of evidence to the contrary. The beheaded body of Pastor Abraham Tigga Topno, 46-years of age, was found close to the isolated Kubasal village in Jharkhand. Missionary John Allen Chua from the United States of America, was martyred for Jesus Christ, while attempting to make contact with the Sentinel Tribesmen on the island of Sentinel, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

As the rising trend of religious restrictions and social hostilities against the Church and Christians increase, it also means that Persecution Relief will continue to augment its reach and efforts, to advocate religious freedom, and position itself in solidarity, to be the voice of the voiceless and of those who continue to be persecuted.

Our mandate as soldiers of Christ, is to keep marching ahead in the power of the Holy Spirit, fearing none, except the One who can destroy both the soul & body.

1247

PERSECUTION INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN
RECORDED BY PERSECUTION RELIEF SINCE 2016



www.persecutionrelief.org



SCOPE, METHODOLOGY AND COVERAGE

1. This Annual Report covers the period January to December 2018, highlighting Christian Persecution in India
2. *The data analyzed is for the period 01 January to 31st December 2018
3. Persecution Relief has compiled this Report based on the data obtained from Persecution Relief's State and District Coordinators, Volunteers and staff, across the 29 states of India.
4. Persecution incidents are also directly reported on our dedicated **24x7, Toll Free No 1800-1234-461**, operated by Persecution Relief
5. Persecution Relief has a wide network connecting 29 States of India through WhatsApp Groups to receive the most up-to-date persecution news and provide solutions
6. Persecution incidents are also reported through our Facebook page, which has 1,000's of followers.
7. Once Persecution Relief Operations team receive information about an incident, a thorough scrutiny is done. The Operations Team contacts the persecuted believer; interviews are conducted to establish authenticity of the case; evidence of the incident in the form of FIRs, Photos, Videos etc. are reviewed and validated etc.
8. Genuineness of the persecution is further validated and corroborated with Mission Heads/ Pastors/Leaders/ Priest etc., to confirm the incident and close it.
9. After this groundwork, Persecution Relief provides comprehensive support (Prayerfully, Financially, Politically, Judicially) promptly, helping rehabilitation, encouraging and expressing solidarity with them, so that they may continue serving the Lord
10. Overall, data in each state have '0' margin of error and is 100% accurate
11. The cases chronicled here are only a fraction of actual violence perpetuated and reported on the ground

* The data analyzed is for the period 01 January to 31st December 2018

| LIST OF STATE ABBREVIATION | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| No. | State/ UT | Abbreviation |
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | AN |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | AP |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | AR |
| 4 | Assam | AS |
| 5 | Bihar | BR |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | CG |
| 7 | Chandigarh | CH |
| 8 | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | DN |
| 9 | Daman and Diu | DD |
| 10 | Delhi | DL |
| 11 | Goa | GA |
| 12 | Gujarat | GJ |
| 13 | Haryana | HR |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | HP |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | JK |
| 16 | Jharkhand | JH |
| 17 | Karnataka | KA |
| 18 | Kerala | KL |
| 19 | Lakshadweep Islands | LD |
| 20 | Madhya Pradesh | MP |
| 21 | Maharashtra | MH |
| 22 | Manipur | MN |
| 23 | Meghalaya | ML |
| 24 | Mizoram | MZ |
| 25 | Nagaland | NL |
| 26 | Odisha | OD |
| 27 | Puducherry | PY |
| 28 | Punjab | PB |
| 29 | Rajasthan | RJ |
| 30 | Sikkim | SK |
| 31 | Tamil Nadu | TN |
| 32 | Telangana | TS |
| 33 | Tripura | TR |
| 34 | Uttarakhand | UK |
| 35 | Uttar Pradesh | UP |
| 36 | West Bengal | WB |

* The data analyzed is for the period 01 January to 31st December 2018

PERSECUTION INCIDENTS

STATE & MONTH WISE 2018

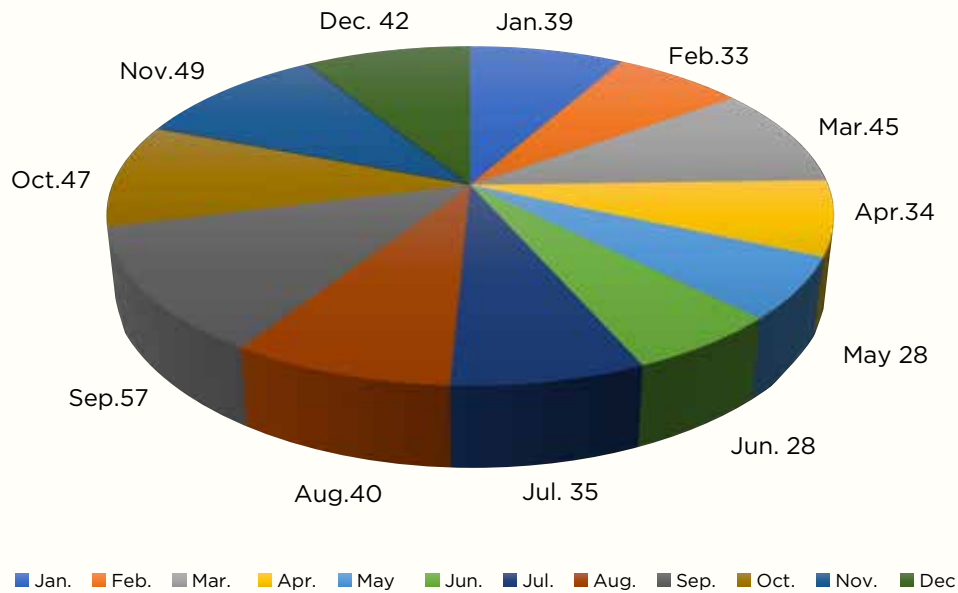
| January to December (YTD - 2018) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| State | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May. | Jun. | Jul. | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec | Total |
| Uttar Pradesh | 8 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 13 | 28 | 12 | 18 | 18 | 129 |
| Tamil Nadu | 8 | 4 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 67 |
| Bihar | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 37 |
| Telangana | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 24 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 24 |
| Odisha | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 20 |
| Jharkhand | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 19 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 16 |
| Maharashtra | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 16 |
| Kerala | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 15 |
| Karnataka | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 15 |
| Rajasthan | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 11 |
| Punjab | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| Uttarakhand | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| Haryana | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| West Bengal | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Delhi | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Gujarat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Assam | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Andaman & Nicobar | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Tripura | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Puducherry (UT) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Daman & Diu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Incidents | 39 | 33 | 45 | 34 | 28 | 28 | 35 | 40 | 57 | 47 | 49 | 42 | 477 |

SUMMARY

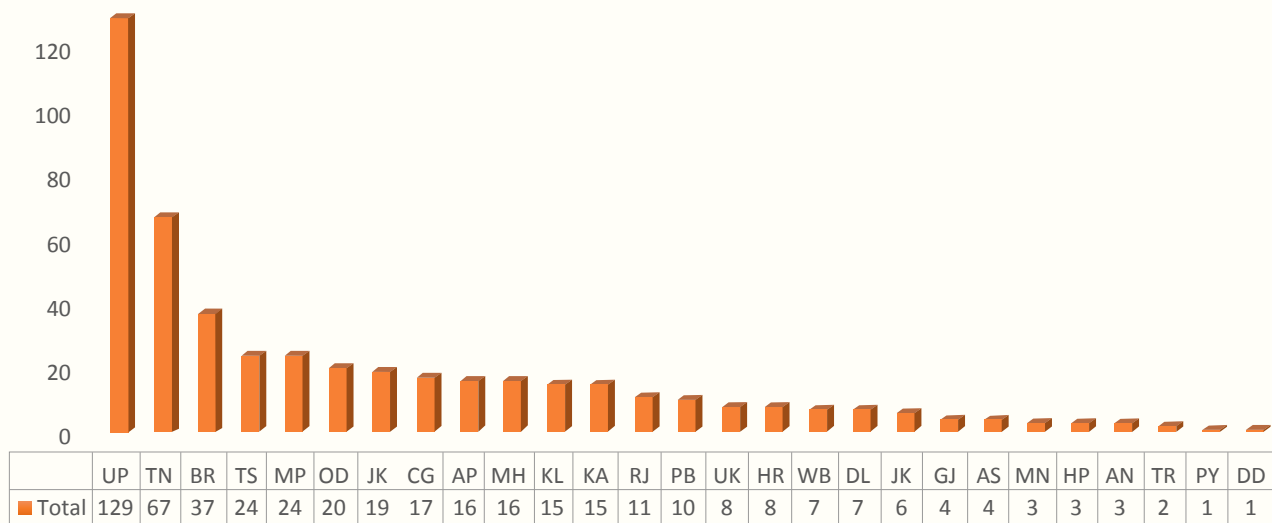
- An 8% increase of persecution incidents in 2018, from 2017 was recorded.
- Uttar Pradesh continued to be the top persecutor of Christians for the 2nd year running.
- For the first time, Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar, Puducherry and Daman & Diu, reported Christian persecution attacks.
- Tamil Nadu continues to witness a worsening law and order situation, and a spike in persecution attacks.
- Of the 10 Churches that were burnt down in 2018, 4 were reported from Tamil Nadu.
- 91 incidents of attack on Churches were reported.
- Threats, Harassment & Intimidation were the most common form of persecution.

PERSECUTION STATISTICS MONTH WISE 2018

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES 477

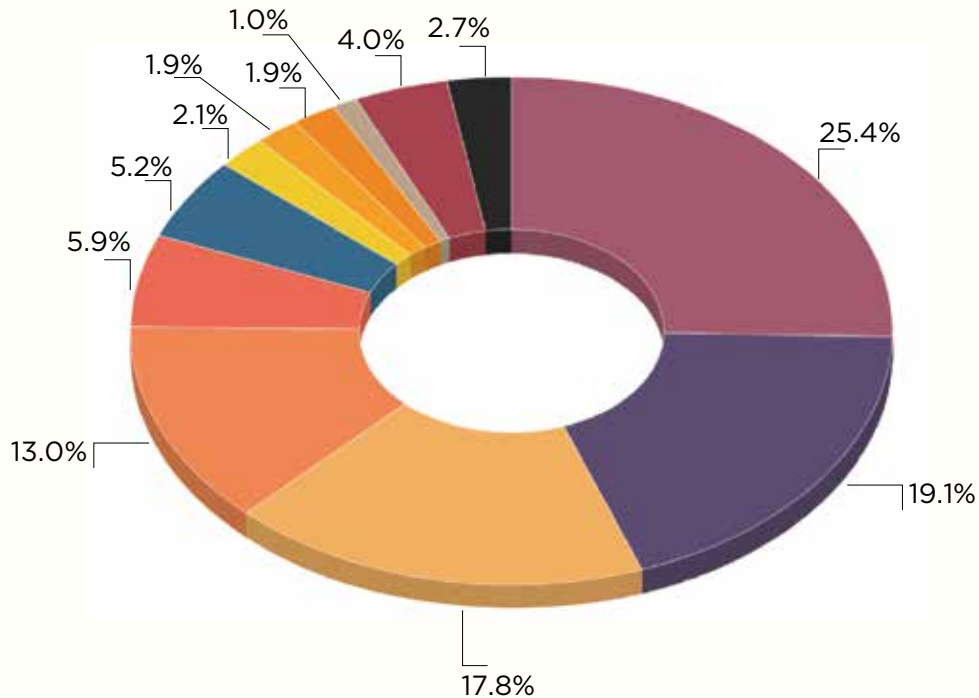


PERSECUTION STATISTICS STATE WISE 2018



TYPES OF PERSECUTION

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INCIDENTS



| | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| Intimidation | 25.4% | Attack in Church | 19.1% | False Arrest | 17.8% |
| Physical attack | 13.0% | Discrimination | 5.9% | Hate Campaign | 5.2% |
| Church Burnt | 2.1% | Attacks on Christian Institution | 1.9% | Collusion of Authorities | 1.9% |
| Murder | 1.0% | Restriction of Assembly | 4.0% | Others | 2.7% |



- Threats, Harassment & Intimidation
- Church Attack
- Arrest
- Physical attack
- Boycott & Discrimination
- Hate Campaign
- Restrictions on religious assembly
- Church Burnt
- Others
- Christian Institution attack
- Collusion of Authorities
- Murder

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS REPORTED IN 2018 vs 2017

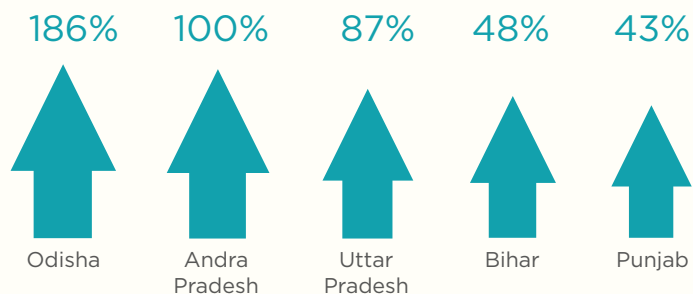


| | 2017 | | 2018 |
|----------------|-----------|---|------------|
| Uttar Pradesh | 69 | ➤ | 129 |
| Tamil Nadu | 48 | ➤ | 67 |
| Bihar | 25 | ➤ | 37 |
| Odisha | 7 | ➤ | 20 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 8 | ➤ | 16 |

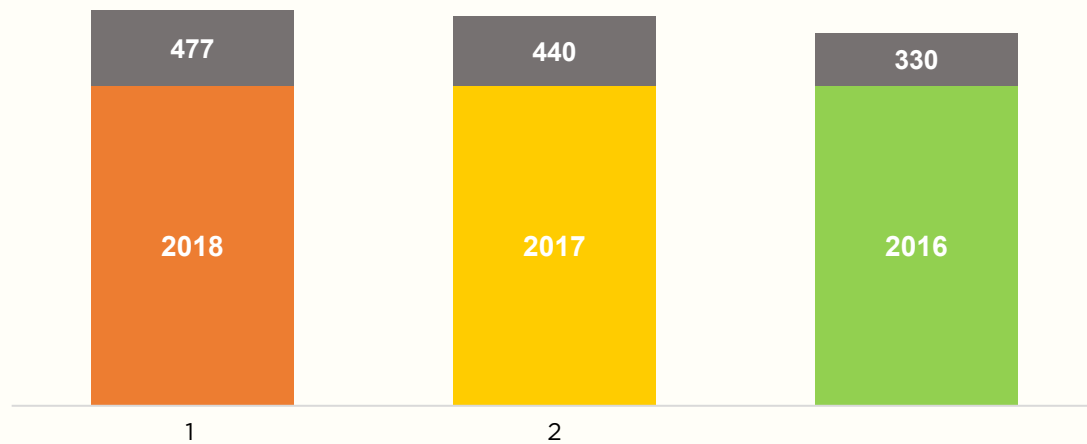
States that recorded the highest absolute jump in incidents

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN INCIDENTS REPORTED IN 2018 vs 2017

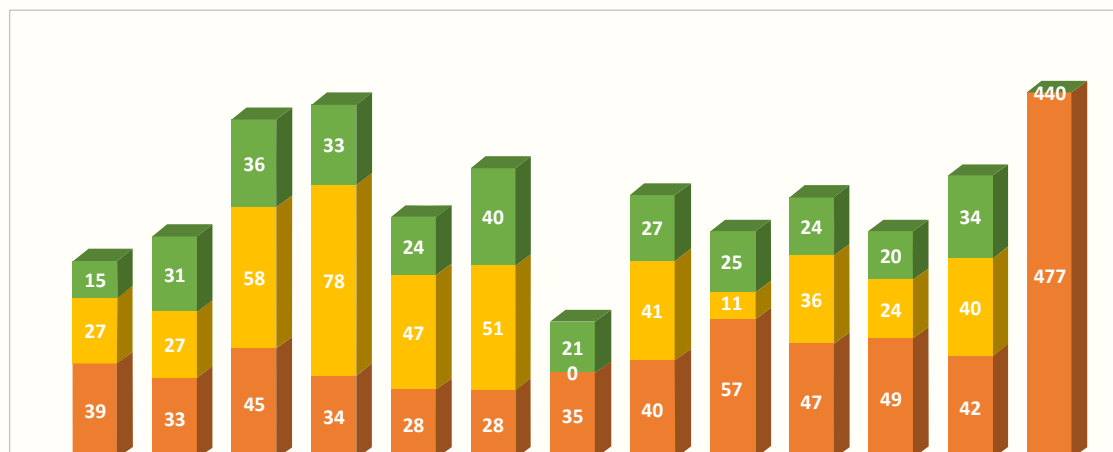
8%
Increase in
incidents
reported in 2018
over 2017



COMPARISON OF ANNUAL COUNT OF PERSECUTION INCIDENTS 2016 - 2018



2018 = 477 2017 = 440 2016 = 330

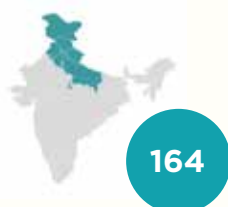


| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May. | Jun. | Jul. | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 2016 | 15 | 31 | 36 | 33 | 24 | 40 | 21 | 27 | 25 | 24 | 20 | 34 | 330 |
| 2017 | 27 | 27 | 58 | 78 | 47 | 51 | 0 | 41 | 11 | 36 | 24 | 40 | 440 |
| 2018 | 39 | 33 | 45 | 34 | 28 | 28 | 35 | 40 | 57 | 47 | 49 | 42 | 477 |

ZONE-WISE BREAKUP

Top 5 types of persecution in each zone

NORTH ZONE



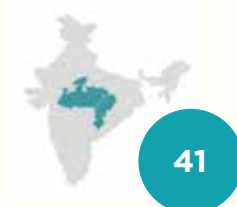
- False Arrest : **53** (32%)
- Intimidation : **45** (27%)
- Attack in Church : **21** (13%)
- Physical Attack : **19** (12%)
- Hate Campaign : **5** (3%)

SOUTH ZONE



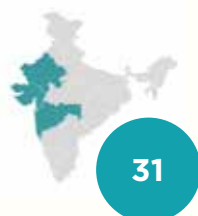
- Attack in Church : **40** (29%)
- Intimidation: **28** (20%)
- Physical Attack : **22** (16%)
- Hate Campaign : **12** (9%)
- False Arrest : **9** (7%)

CENTRAL ZONE



- Intimidation: **16** (39%)
- False Arrest : **6** (15%)
- Discrimination : **5** (12%)
- Attack in Church : **5** (12%)
- Physical Attack : **4** (10%)

WEST ZONE



- Intimidation : **10** (32%)
- Attack in Church : **8** (26%)
- False Arrest : **5** (16%)
- Physical Attack : **3** (10%)
- Meeting Restrictions : **3** (10%)

EAST ZONE



- Intimidation: **15** (18%)
- Attack in Church : **13** (16%)
- False Arrest : **11** (13%)
- Physical Attack : **12** (14%)
- Discrimination : **11** (13%)

NORT EAST ZONE



- Attack in Church : **3** (33%)
- Intimidation: **2** (22%)
- False Arrest : **1** (11%)
- Discrimination : **1** (11%)
- Church Destroyed : **1** (11%)

| North Zone | South Zone | East Zone | Central Zone | West Zone | North East Zone | Union Territories |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Haryana Himachal Pradesh Jammu & Kashmir Punjab Uttarakhand Uttar Pradesh | Andhra Pradesh Karnataka Kerala Tamil Nadu Telangana | Bihar Jharkhand Orissa West Bengal | Chhattisgarh Madhya Pradesh | Goa Gujarat Maharashtra Rajasthan | Assam Sikkim Nagaland Meghalaya Manipur Mizoram Tripura Arunachal Pradesh | Andaman & Nicobar Daman & Diu New Delhi Puducherry |

SUMMARY

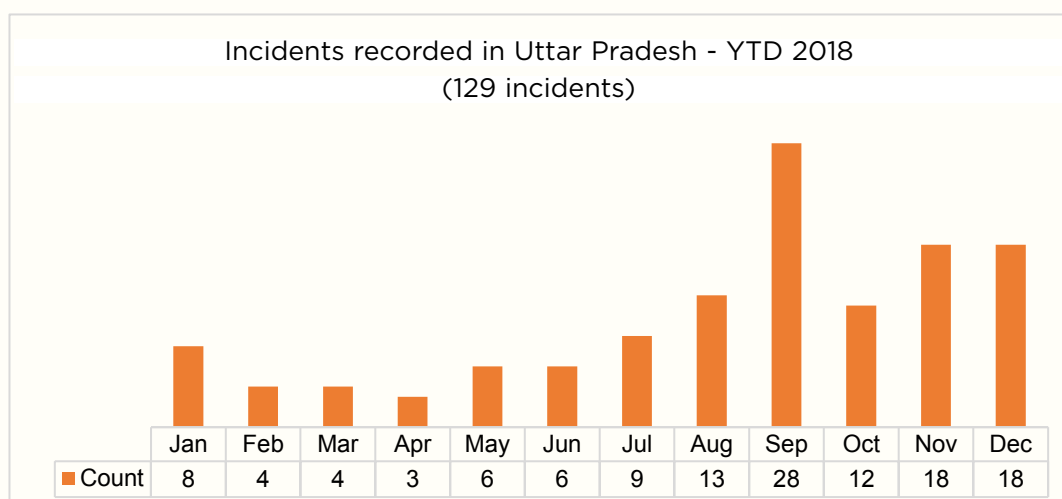
- ❑ 29 States of India were divided into Six Zones namely North Zone, South Zone, East Zone, West Zone, Central Zone and North East Zone
- ❑ The Zonal trend clearly displays areas where the hostility is particularly intense
- ❑ States in the North Zone – Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, contributed 164 of the 477 incidents, where Christians are particularly vulnerable, with concentrated and pervasive persecution
- ❑ South Zone with 137 incidents is a close second
- ❑ The least hostile zone was the North East Zone, recording 9 incidents
- ❑ Of the total 477 incidents recorded, 465 incidents were recorded from 6 zones of the 29 States
- ❑ 12 incidents recorded from the Union Territories are not featured in the map

UTTAR PRADESH MOST HOSTILE STATE OF INDIA PERSECUTION INCIDENTS RECORDED **129**



Persecution Relief recorded 129 Christian persecution incidents in Uttar Pradesh, the highest number among the 29 States of India – the most hostile state towards Christians.

Among the 22 of the 29 states ruled by the governing BJP Party, the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, has emerged as the center of anti-Christian violence, as politicians use a fundamentalist form of Hinduism to intimidate minority communities.



From small house-churches to the mega-churches, with membership of up to 6000 – 8000 worshippers every week, violence in the sanctuary happens far too frequently in Uttar Pradesh. It is alleged that religious fundamentalist organisations, in collusion with the Police, attacked several hundreds of Churches in Uttar Pradesh. Dozens of Pastors were arrested, and taken away for interrogation.

Church Leaders and Churches were targeted as Police raided and investigated them without a shred of evidence to support their allegations. Police arbitrarily arrested Pastors booking them under IPC Section 151, (Section 151 - Knowingly joining or continuing in assembly of five or more persons after it has been commanded to disperse), on any complaint of Christians assembling and worshipping.

Most of the Pastors and leaders in Eastern Uttar Pradesh were in hiding, at unknown locations, their phones switched off. Police teams were raiding their homes at midnight and if they could not find the Pastor, they arrested their relatives, humiliating and verbally abusing them.

The sitting Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, one of the more hard-line proponents of Hinduism, believes that Hindutva should supplant secularism as the guiding principle of Indian society, which is a concern for India, whose history is punctuated by gruesome episodes of religious violence — often between its Hindu majority and Muslim minority. Taken to its extreme, this would entail the political and cultural subordination of the country's Christian and Muslim populations.

In 2002, he set up the Hindu Yuva Vahini, a socio-cultural outfit, but whose volunteers were known to use strong-arm tactics in cow-protection drives and, in their attempts, to curtail 'love jihad'.

In 2005, Adityanath allegedly led a purification drive - Ghar Wapsi - which involved the conversion of Christians to Hinduism. In one such instance, 1,800 Christians were reportedly converted to Hinduism in the town of Etah in UP. However, the Yogi does not think of these as conversion drives, but instead claims them to be 're-conversions' or ghar wapsi.

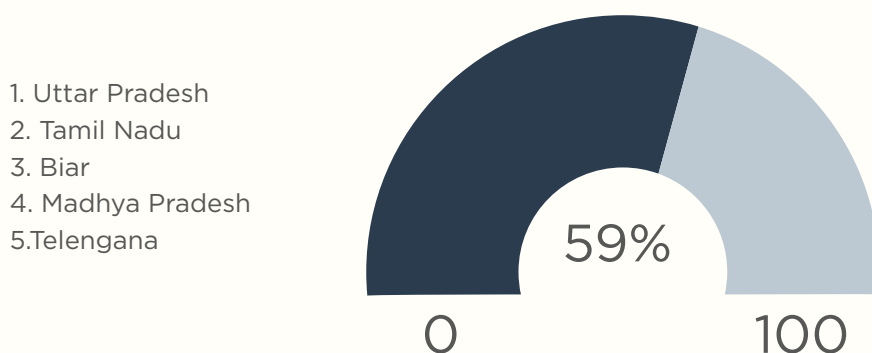
After the Modi government came to power in 2014, Uttar Pradesh saw rise of such drives again and the leader has vowed not to stop till religious conversion is banned.

According to the Hindu fundamentalist organisations, (BJP, RSS, Bajrang Dal, Hindu Yuva Vahini- founded by the Yogi Adityanath), they falsely believe and propagate that Christians are a threat to Hinduism, as they are apparently converting people to Christianity, in large numbers. This political and clash of philosophies and ideologies has resulted in major political ramifications, deepening the country's political polarization.

It is time for Christians to become educated about what's going on in India, to be prayerful, and then to be prepared. At the end of the day, we need to marry faith with wisdom and action. We have to stop and evaluate our situation, ask God for wisdom, obey His Word, and trust Him to bring the help we need.

TOP 5 HOTSPOTS IN 2018

Percentage of incidents attributed to the top 5 states



SUMMARY

- ❑ **In 2018**, Uttar Pradesh continued to top our data as the state with the most persecutions. Tamil Nadu (67), Bihar (37), Telangana (24) and Madhya Pradesh (24), were the other 4 states contending for the Top 5 Hotspots
- ❑ Bihar and Telangana were the recent entries to the Top 5 Hot Spots in 2018
- ❑ Bihar recorded 25 incidents in 2017 and 37 incidents in 2018 – a 48% increase in hostilities
- ❑ **In 2017**, the States that shared the Top 5 Hotspots were Uttar Pradesh(69), Madhya Pradesh (52), Tamil Nadu (48), Chattisgarh (46) and Karnataka (27)
- ❑ Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh continued to feature in the 5 Top Hotspots, in both 2018 and 2017
- ❑ Of the 477 incidents recorded in 2018, 59% of them were attributed to the Top 5 Hotspots

MEDIA REPORTS ON CHRISTIANS / MINORITIES

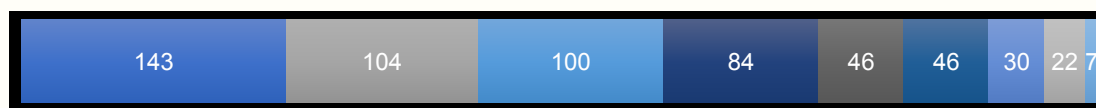
Aside from actual incidents that we record every day, Persecution Relief also records stories of atrocities faced by the Christian and minority communities in India, that are infrequently reported by the State, National and International Media, related to:

- Christian persecution
- Government Policies affecting Christians / Minorities etc.

Our Aim is to be the bridge, capturing stories, creating awareness and advocating on issues that concern Christians / Minorities. We actively publish these stories and invite people to pray for peace and harmony.

We recorded 582 such stories in 2018

CATEGORIZATION OF MEDIA REPORTS 582 Media Reports in 2018



- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Anti-Christian propaganda | ■ Exposing hypocrisy & double standards |
| ■ Fundamentalist strategies, Promoting ideology | ■ Pro-Secularism & Freedom of religion |
| ■ International press highlighting growing intolerance | ■ Public condemnation by civil society |
| ■ Discrimination against minorities | ■ False allegations with evil intent to incite hatred |
| ■ Others | |

CRITICAL INCIDENTS AFFECTING MINORITIES

JANUARY

- Open letter by Retired Civil Servants - “We need PM to speak out, Govt. to act and Hate Crimes against minorities to be stopped”
- India will become Hindu Rashtra by 2024”, says Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA, Surendra Singh
- RSS eyes Christian vote, sets sight on YMCA Properties worth billions
- By 2024, Muslims who assimilate into Hindu culture can stay in India: BJP MLA

FEBRUARY

- You’re not a Hindu if you do not join RSS” says Hyderabad BJP MLA, T Raja Singh
- “Everyone living in India is a Hindu”, RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat
- Rashtra Raksha Mahayagya – A Hundred and Eight hawan kunds, 2,100 priests and 51,000 attendees will pray for BJP’s re-election in next Lok Sabha polls

MARCH

- Many reconverted Christians in “Ghar Wapsi”, allege boycott and discrimination
- Government to take spiritual route to spur Tourism
- A Committee chosen by Modi Government to rewrite India’s history
- Many reconverted Christians in “Ghar Wapsi”, allege boycott and discrimination

SOME SIGNIFICANT EVENTS, ‘HEADLINE’ GRABBING INFAMOUS QUOTES AND DENIGRATING COMMENTS, MADE WITH IMPUNITY AGAINST THE MINORITY COMMUNITY

- Government to take spiritual route to spur Tourism
- A Committee chosen by Modi Government to rewrite India’s history.

APRIL

- US Government Report says Religious Freedom in India on a ‘Downward Trend’, names RSS and VHP
- Under Modi Government, VIP Hate Speech Skyrockets – by 500%
- Sharp rise in attacks on India’s Christian minority
- S Government Report says Religious Freedom in India on a ‘Downward Trend’, names RSS and VHP
- Under Modi Government, VIP Hate Speech Skyrockets – by 500%
- Sharp rise in attacks on India’s Christian minority

MAY

- Media Houses says “Yes” to Hindutva, Black Money paid news
- Government to hire Social Media Monitors for all 716 Districts

- Bajrang Dal cadre get arms training to ‘protect Hindus’
- Houses says “Yes” to Hindutva, Black Money paid news
- Government to hire Social Media Monitors for all 716 Districts
- Bajrang Dal cadre get arms training to ‘protect Hindus’

JUNE

- VHP, a militant religious outfit, RSS Nationalist: CIA factbook
- Rajasthan Government targets Missionary Schools under Juvenile Justice Act
- Government launches Online Tool to monitor Foreign Funding of NGO’s, a militant religious outfit, RSS Nationalist: CIA factbook
- Rajasthan Government targets Missionary Schools under Juvenile Justice Act
- Government launches Online Tool to monitor Foreign Funding of NGO’s

JULY

- Minister Jayant Sinha Garlands 8 Men Who Killed Meat Trader in Jharkhand
- Swami Agnivesh assaulted: Jharkhand BJP denies allegation of youth wing involvement
- Killing in The Name of Cow Could Lead To Another Partition: PDP Lawmaker Muzaffar Baig
- “Hindus Should Not Eat Goat’s Meat”: Bengal BJP Leader Explains His Tweet
- Indian Muslims fear for lives as lynchings continue t the men who beat up Swami Agnivesh: BJP, RSS, Bajrang Dal
- Minister Jayant Sinha Garlands 8 Men Who Killed Meat Trader in Jharkhand
- Swami Agnivesh assaulted: Jharkhand BJP denies allegation of youth wing involvement
- Killing in The Name of Cow Could Lead to Another Partition: PDP Lawmaker Muzaffar Baig
- “Hindus Should Not Eat Goat’s Meat”: Bengal BJP Leader Explains His Tweet
- Indian Muslims fear for lives as lynchings continue

AUGUST

- Police Clash with Jharkhand Villagers during Eid, many injured
- 20 Men Acquitted Earlier Declared Guilty In 2010 Haryana Dalit Killings
- Oil dealers say govt profiling them on caste, religious lines
- Hindus object to Eid animal slaughter in India
- Country’s 1st ‘Hindu court’ on lines of Sharia system
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- Country’s 1st ‘Hindu court’ on lines of Sharia system

SEPTEMBER

- BJP MLA to youngsters: I’ll kidnap the girls you like, if they say no to you.
- Shocking 3-year-old boy shot in head to teach ‘defector’ mom a lesson in West Bengal’s Malda
- Hyderabad: BJP looks for Adityanath type of leader in Paripoornananda
- Opposition Tears into Mohan Bhagwat’s “Wild Dogs” Remark, BJP Defends Him:

SEPTEMBER

- BJP MLA to youngsters: I’ll kidnap the girls you like, if they say no to you.
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- Hyderabad: BJP looks for Adityanath type of leader in Paripoornananda
- Opposition Tears into Mohan Bhagwat’s “Wild Dogs” Remark, BJP Defends Him:
- MP CM Shivraj Singh Chauhan wants to make a ministry for cow protection

OCTOBER

- Sumitra Mahajan Questions Indefinite Reservation, Says Even Ambedkar wanted it for only 10 Years
- Person involved in mob violence will have to pay up too, says Supreme Court
- Rajnath to do shastra puja on border
- Ghulam Nabi Azad’s remarks at AMU event an ‘abuse’ for Hindu: BJP

- Indian police pursue Christian donations

- BJP leaders target minorities, contribute to vigilantism: UN human rights expert

NOVEMBER

- Not heeding ‘advice’ of Constitution will result in ‘descent into chaos’: CJI Gogoi
- Muslim students object to religious profiling
- Newly-Elected Padma Kuppala Endorses Criminalizing Conversion in India
- India’s secular party takes pro-Hindu line for election
- Muslims fret as India’s BJP ‘Hinduizes’ cities
- Varghese Kurien funded conversions with Amul money: BJP’s ex-minister
- India Indian Muslims upset over Taj Mahal prayer restrictions

DECEMBER

- 83 former bureaucrats demand CM Yogi Adityanath’s resignation of Yogi Adityanath’s resignation
- Purvanchal VC Cries Foul As ‘Murder’ Advice to Students Goes Viral
- Country going through troubled times... but it’s a temporary phase: Pranab Mukherjee
- Indian state’s move on tribal people vexes church leaders: Jharkhand plans to remove tribal status and benefits from people who join other faith
- VHP seeks ‘judicial action’ against evangelists on tourist visa in Andamans
- After partition, India should have become Hindu state, observes HC Judge

*Reference to these stories are on Page 98

MARTYR'S 2018

TO SUFFER DEATH FOR THE SAKE OF CHRIST AND HIS GOSPEL IS A GIFT AND AN HONOUR THAT GLORIFIES CHRIST. THE SACRIFICE OF THESE BRETHREN, IS GREAT IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD; THE REMEMBRANCE OF THEM WILL BE PLEASANT, AND THE REWARD FAR ABOVE ALL THEIR SERVICES AND SUFFERINGS.

MARTYR'S FOR JESUS CHRIST - 2018



Pastor Gideon Periyaswamy

TAMIL NADU

On January 20th January 2018, a Pastor in Tamil Nadu was found murdered. It is alleged that **Pastor Gideon Periyaswamy** was brutally beaten and tortured before being murdered. His body was found hanging in the Church at Kovathur, on ECR Road, near Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, situated on the Coromandel Coast, 70 kilometers South of Chennai.



Sis. Chadarajupalli Subbaravamma

ANDHRA PRADESH

On 21st March 2018, **Sis. Chadarajupalli Subbaravamma**, of village Bollapalli, Marturu Mandala, Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh around 65 years of age, belonging to the Kummara tribe, was praying on the terrace of her house. A religious fanatic who used to make stone idols at a temple in the neighbourhood, trespassed into the house and attacked her. He beat her on her head multiple times, with a large stone, fatally injuring her until she collapsed. He was caught by the family members and handed over to the Police.



**Pastor Abraham
Tigga Topno**

JHARKHAND

The beheaded body of **Pastor Abraham Tigga Topno**, 46-years of age, was found close to the isolated Kubasal village in Tamar-I, Tehsil of Ranchi district in Jharkhand State, on 01 May 2018. A well know and prominent Christian, he had been ministering at Ubasal village in Tamar block of Ranchi district, Jharkhand, for more than 20 years. Even though Maoists killed him, it is significant to note that Pastor had received threats in the past, from local religious fundamental groups in the village because of this outspoken faith in Jesus Christ.



**Missionary
John Allen Chau**

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

On 16th November, **Evangelist John Allen Chau**, a US Citizen, was martyred for Jesus Christ, when he ventured to the North Sentinel island in the Andamans, and was killed by its inhabitants, the Sentinelese tribe. It was his desire to preach Jesus Christ to the tribe and see them saved.

“When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held”.

Revelation 6:9 New King James Version (NKJV)



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JANUARY 2018

TAMIL NADU

On January 20th 2018, a Pastor in Tamil Nadu was found murdered. It is alleged that Pastor Gideon Periyaswamy was brutally beaten and tortured before being murdered. His body was found hanging in the Church at Kovathur, on ECR Road, near Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, situated on the Coromandel Coast, 70 kilometers South of Chennai. Investigation have found his death to be an alleged suicide.



MAHARASHTRA

Rev. Binaya Kumar Guru, of the FMPB (Friends Missionary Prayer Band) along with 7 other Christians, were attacked while visiting village Dahanu Taluk in Palghar District of Maharashtra. They were physically assaulted by the local fanatics who were armed with weapons and lathis. The missionaries along with local believers, were eventually rescued and temporarily resettled in nearby village



FEBRUARY 2018

MADHYA PRADESH

Pastor Tarachand Senani, 14-year old son Arun, women and children were beaten up by religious fanatics and local villagers, while dedicating their recently renovated house that was damaged by the rains, at village Jhirigamali, Barwani District, Madhya Pradesh. A mob of 60 youngsters, including the children of the Sarpanch (the village Headman), trespassed into the house and violently beat up the gathering. The home was completely vandalized by the fanatics.



TAMIL NADU

Anti- Christian fanatics, broke the glass panes of St. Mary Statue at Kalaiyarkoil in Sivagangai, Tamil Nadu Police. With the timely intervention of the Tamil Nadu Police, the culprits were nabbed.



MARCH 2018

ANDHRA PRADESH

On 21st March, 2018, Sis. Chadarajupalli Subbaravamma, of village Bollapalli, Marturu Mandala, Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh around 65 years of age, belonging to the Kummara tribe, was praying on the terrace of her house. A religious fanatic who used to make stone idols at a temple in the neighbourhood, trespassed into the house and attacked her. He beat her on her head multiple times, with a large stone, fatally injuring her until she collapsed. He was caught by the family members and handed over to the Police.



UTTAR PRADESH

Pastor R.K. Massi was attacked by religious fanatics as he was participating in a “cottage meeting”, at Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh. 2 enraged radicals, physically assaulted and dragged him down the stairs, to a waiting mob, who viciously kicked, punched, slapped and brutally beat him, until he fell down unconscious. Pastor’s wife, Sis. Asha who had followed him downstairs, was not spared either but physically assaulted and slapped multiple times. Pastor Massi was rushed to Mittal Nursing Home where he was hospitalized and received treatment for the severe internal injuries and later discharged.



APRIL 2018

PUNJAB

When Pastor Vijay Masih has gone to visit his family house at Bhamri village. Aware of the whereabouts of Pastor Masih, a local villager named Presem, broke into the locked house around mid-night. He ransacked the house and burned 100’s of Holy Bibles, along with Pastor’s personal belongings. When Pastor Vijay Masih returned home, he was greeted by the smoldering remains of the senseless late-night arson attack. The incident happened at Kaler village, 12 kms from Batala, Gurdaspur District, Punjab State.



CHHATTISGARH

Pastor Kashinath Baghel, his family and the Church congregation of around 45 believers, were attacked, when a mob of religious fundamentalists barged into Pastor’s house, as they had gathered for a fellowship meal, at Bakel village, located in Bastar district in Chhattisgarh. Alleging that the Pastor was indulging in conversion activities, the mob started attacking and misbehaving with the women.



MAY 2018

JHARKHAND

Pastor Abraham Tigga Topno, 46-years of age, Ubasal village in Tamar block of Ranchi district, Jharkhand, was a very well-known, outspoken and prominent Christian in the community. He had been ministering in the area for more than 20 years. His beheaded body was found close to the isolated Kubasal village in Tamar-I, Tehsil of Ranchi district in Jharkhand, on 01 May 2018.

While Maoists killed him, it is significant to note that Pastor had received threats in the past, from local religious fundamental groups in the village, because of this outspoken faith in Jesus Christ and Mission work. Pastor is survived by his wife Sister Huldah Hareing.



RAJASTHAN

Evangelist Vijender Singh along with Evangelist Kanshiram from village Churur and Evangelist Sahiram from village Ganga Nagar, had gone to 14 Bd. Village, located in Khajuwala Tehsil of Bikaner District of Rajasthan. They were mobbed by local villagers who falsely accused them of indulging in conversion activities as they were distributing Bible Tracts and were later arrested by Khajuwala Police Station, Rajasthan & released.



JUNE 2018

ANDHRA PRADESH

A House Church in Andhra Pradesh, where Pastor Jeeves Merari had been ministering, was completely vandalized. Pastor had been worshiping in this place for the past 1-year and had put up a temporary structure, on his private land at village Pulaganipalem, Vishakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh State. The Church, made with bricks, bamboo and palm thatched roof, was ripped from its fixings and completely destroyed.



UTTAR PRADESH

St. Thomas Church, located in Prime Minister Modi's constituency in Godowlia, Girja Ghar Crossing, Godowlia, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, was broken into and vandalized by religious fundamentalists. The main gate, the main door and side door locks were broken while the mob entered the Church, in the early hours of the morning. Parallely, the alleged mastermind of the whole attack "Yogi Aloknath" posted the entire episode on his Facebook Page and given all glory to god sri ram for the illegal attack on the Church. Yet no arrests were made.



JULY 2018

TAMIL NADU

Sis. Prathiba Stephen of Sathyamangalam Taluk, Erode District, Tamil Nadu, was conducting the worship in the absence of her husband Bro. Paul Stephen, who was ministering at another location. 2 elderly men and a few sisters were also present. 4 religious fanatics belonging to the Hindu Munnani Group, headed by Ajith, trespassed into a Pastor's house, physically assaulted his wife, slapped and dragged her into the bedroom, molested and outraged her modesty. They also beat the elderly men and sisters, who had gathered to pray, twisting their arms behind their back and causing injuries. When her husband returned, he was also attacked and brutally beaten.



UTTAR PRADESH

Pastor Durga Prasad Yadav has been ministering at Jeevan Jyothi Satsangh Prarthana Kendra, Bhulandih village in Jaunpur, eastern Uttar Pradesh, where more than 7000 believers gather for worship. On 22 July, religious fanatics threatened Pastor to stop the worship or face severe consequences. Around 50 Policemen entered the Church and forcibly stopped the worship service. A FIR was filed against 271 believers that day. The Church is now closed for the last 3 months with Police guarding the main entrance.



AUGUST 2018

MADHYA PRADESH

Pastor Ramesh Vasuniya and his son Rahul Vasuniya were ambushed by a mob of religious fanatics. They were brutally beaten and his son Rahul Vasuniya, dragged on the road for visiting the family Bro. Sukiya and Sister Imallyben Bariya in Piplipada village, in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh. Pastor had visited their home to pray as the sister was seeking prayers and deliverance from the evil spirits.



ODISHA

Bro. Royson Prince, in-charge of "Seed Boy's Home", Koraput, Odisha, affiliated to India Church Growth Mission (ICGM), was falsely arrested and booked under Section 75 & 79 by the Koraput Police, under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2007. After 64 days in jail, Bro. Royson was released on Bail.



SEPTEMBER 2018

CHATTISGARH

Returning home after Sunday Worship, Sis. Pramila Bai Bhargav and her son Umesh Bhargav, who live in village Ghanapara in Takhatpur Tehsil of Bilaspur District of Chattisgarh state, were brutally beaten by religious fanatics, who demanded that they forsake Jesus Christ. There are many other families who are discriminated and boycotted by local villagers, instigated by fanatics, making daily life very difficult, coercing them to come back to their original faith of Hinduism.



RAJASTHAN

A Group of Evangelists, visiting village Nosra, in Ahore Tehsil, Jalore District of Rajasthan State, were brutally attacked by a mob of religious fundamentalists, accusing them of involving in conversion activities. The Evangelists were performing street-side skits, to sensitize the villagers about the ill effects of drug abuse.

They were taken to the local police station and released later.



OCTOBER 2018

BIHAR

Evangelist Krishna Jacob along with 50 believers had gathered for Sunday worship service, at Mahanar Church, in Vaishali District, Bihar. A mob of fanatics, shouting slogans and abuses, trespassed into the Church.

They placed photos of their idols and gods & started singing bhajans, clapping their hands as they worshipped their images, with the intention of grabbing the property.



UTTAR PRADESH

Sister Anita Vinod and Bro. Amarnath Emmanuel were distributing Bible Tracts at a commercial place called Alpha, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, when a mob of religious fanatics surrounded and abused them, shouting anti-Christian slogans. They began to question them on why they were distributing the Bible tracts and what they were speaking to the people. They were finally rescued by a Police Team.



NOVEMBER 2018

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLAND

On 16th November, Evangelist John Allen Chau, a US Citizen, was martyred for Jesus Christ, when he ventured to the North Sentinel island in the Andamans, and was killed by its inhabitants, the Sentinelese tribe. It was his desire to preach Jesus Christ to the tribe and see them saved, “around the throne of God, worshipping in their own language, as Revelations 7:9-10 states”, becomes a reality. His body could not be recovered.

UTTAR PRADESH

Pastor Sone Lal, from Ahladpur village, Kaushambi District in Uttar Pradesh, had been ministering with Dwar Ashram, a subsidiary of Yeshu Ashram, since 2014. More than 1200 persons gather every Sunday to worship. Religious fanatics burnt the place down, just before Sunday worship service could begin, in the early hours of the morning



DECEMBER 2018

MAHARASHTRA

Pastor Bhimsen Chauhan and the congregation of 200 members, were attacked during Sunday worship service, at village Kowad, Taluk Chandgad, District Kolhapur, Maharashtra. A mob of around 20 fanatics, wearing face masks, stormed into the Church, throwing stones, empty liquor bottles, and beating people with sharp instruments. Even women and children were not spared in this violent and senseless attack. 11 persons needed medical treatment while 4 persons suffered critical injuries. They were released after a week of medical treatment.



UTTAR PRADESH

Evangelist Varughese Abraham, his wife and other members from Brethren Church, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, were abused and threatened while praying at a private residence, by fanatics who raised objections to conducting prayers in the house. Alleging religious conversion, shouting religious slogans and threats, they warned of dire consequences if it was not stopped immediately. They eventually locked all members in, from the outside. Police were informed and the Christians were rescued and taken to the Police station, and released after a few hours.

PERSECUTORS

PREDOMINANT VIOLATORS

W

e are living in a time when one's patriotism is questioned. Forces who believe in an aggressive form of nationalism, have fanned out across the Indian Landscape and attack with impunity, anyone who do not subscribe to their beliefs. These forces or organisations have set the scene for a militant style of nationalism.

Persecution Relief has handled more than 1200 cases over the last 2 years. A majority of the reported incidents of violence against Christians, has been perpetuated by members of affiliate Hindutva Groups, based on the confessions of the persecuted people, Media reports and by the admission of the fundamentalists themselves, who proudly raise slogans of their organizations during the attack.

Hindutva is commonly identified as the guiding ideology of the Hindu Nationalists. Most nationalists are organised into political, cultural and social organisations; using the concept of Hindutva as a political tool.

In Uttar Pradesh, the Hindu Yuva Vahini, a Hindu youth militant group founded by Yogi Adityanath the present Chief Minister, is behind most of the attacks.

In Tamil Nadu, most of the persecutors of the Church attacks are by Hindu Munnani (a religious and cultural organization) cadres and their affiliated organizations and leaders.

In States like Madhya Pradesh, & Chattisgarh, the Bajrang Dal, a militant organisation, is very active. It is a member of the RSS family of organisations. They have formed local teams in every village to ensure that no Christian is allowed to worship.

In Rajasthan, the Vishva Hindu Parishad, (VHP) have been behind many of the attacks.

In Jharkhand, most of the attacks have been by uneducated





youth, who claim to be members of Bajrang Dal cadre.

A multitude of new religious organisations with similar ideology, have mushroomed across the landscape, with the sole intent, of arresting all activities of Christians and Minorities. There have been several instances where local Political leaders and Policemen, have been derelict in their duties and in collusion with these religious groups, who persecute Christians.

The standard rhetoric is the allegation that Christians are indulging in conversion activities by luring people through money, jobs or other material benefits. More than 11,000 non-governmental organizations have lost their licenses to accept foreign funds, on suspicion of engaging in religious conversion, leaving other Christian ministries vulnerable.

Another flawed argument that the religious fanatics propagate, is that Christian missionaries have destroyed their culture with the Gospel message of a “Western God”.

Several fact-finding missions and national human rights organizations have attributed the increase in violence to the growing presence and activities of self-proclaimed Hindutva groups. Even the police personnel and the administrators, have discreetly admitted that communal flare-ups have become frequent in recent months with the spurt of activities of the VHP and Bajrang Dal.

The CIA annually publishes a World Factbook which feeds intelligence or factual reference material on a country or issue to the US government. Recently, The CIA’s (Central Intelligence Agency, USA), World Factbook called the “RSS a ‘nationalist’ body; Sangh affiliates Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal have been classified as militant religious outfits.

Besides the above organisations, several serving Politicians, Spiritual Gurus, Government Officials have made provocative hate speeches and religious intolerance statements, injecting venom into the society and polarizing communities based on caste.

Persecution Relief have dedicated Prayer teams, who pray for the Persecutors 24x7, that they may be transformed from Saul to Paul.

Our Motto, SERVE PERSECUTED- LOVE PERSECUTORS, is because Jesus Christ has commanded us to forgive our Persecutors.

Our battle is not against flesh and blood. Our warfare is a battle in the spirit that manifests in the natural. *“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.*”
“(2 Corinthians 10:4)

“And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise; and knowledge to those who have understanding”

Daniel 2:21 New King James Version (NKJV)

**TOLL-FREE CALLS RESPONDED BY
PERSECUTION RELIEF
SINCE 2017**



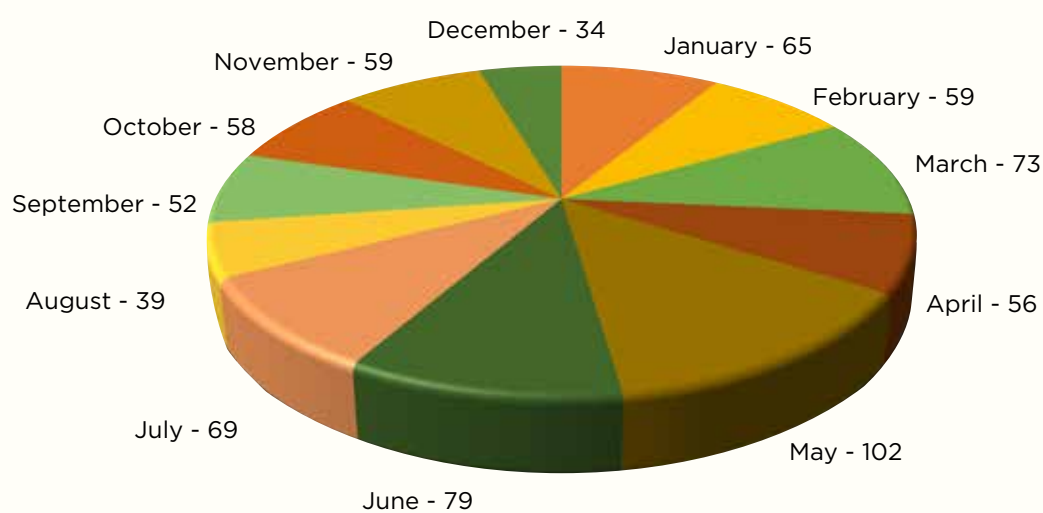
1235 calls

**TOTAL CALLS RECEIVED
744 IN 2018**

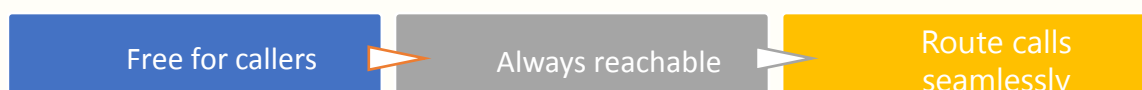
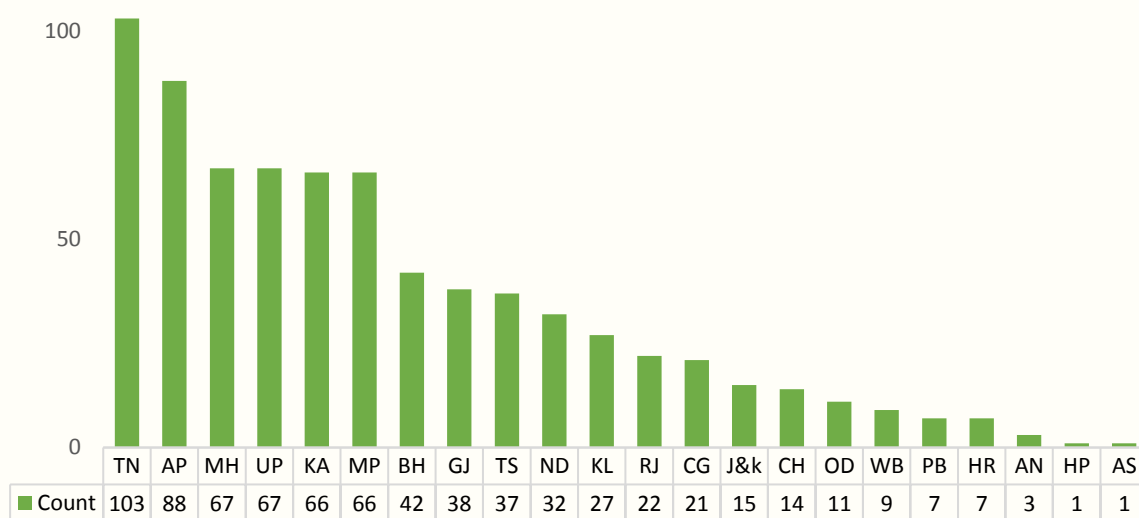
Persecution Relief Toll-Free Number

1800-1234-461

MONTH-WISE CALL RECORDS



STATE-WISE CALL RECORDS



IPC SECTIONS



Listed below are few of the IPC Sections, under which most of the arrests of Christians have been made. The Sections are to educate and create awareness among the Christian community only.

The Constitution of India does not provide for a state religion. Under the Constitution, laws are passed to prevent discord among its many ethnic and religious communities. The laws allow a citizen to seek the punishment of anyone who shows the citizen

disrespect “on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, caste or community or any other ground whatsoever”. The laws specifically forbid anyone from outraging someone’s “religious feelings”.

Sections 34 - Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention

Description:

When a criminal act is done by several persons in furtherance of the common intention of all, each of such person is liable for that act in the same manner as if it were done by him alone.

Section 66 - Imprisonment for non-payment of fine

Description:

The imprisonment which the Court imposes in default of payment of a fine may be of any description to which the offender might have been sentenced for the offence.

Section 81- Act likely to cause harm, but done without criminal intent, and to prevent other harm

Description:

Nothing is an offence merely by reason of its being done with the knowledge that it is likely to cause harm, if it be done without any criminal intention to cause harm, and in good faith for the purpose of preventing or avoiding other harm to person or property.

Section 107 - Abetment of a thing

Description:

A person abets the doing of a thing, who:

1. Instigates any person to do that thing; or
2. Engages with one or more other person or persons in any conspiracy for the doing of that thing, if an act or illegal omission takes place in pursuance of that conspiracy, and in order to the doing of that thing; or
3. Intentionally aids, by any act or illegal omission, the doing of that thing.

Section 116 - Abetment of offence punishable with imprisonment - if offence be not committed

Description:

Whoever abets an offence punishable with imprisonment shall, if that offence be not committed in consequence of the abetment, and no express provision is made by this Code for the punishment of such abetment, be punished with imprisonment of any description provided for that offence for a term which may extend to one-fourth part of the longest term provided for that offence; or with such fine as is provided for that offence, or with both;

If abettor or person abetted be a public servant whose duty it is to prevent offence — and if the abettor or the person abetted is a public servant, whose duty it is to prevent the commission of such offence, the abettor shall be punished with imprisonment of any description provided for that offence, for a term which may extend to one-half of the longest term provided for that offence, or with such fine as is provided for the offence, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Abetment of an offence, punishable with imprisonment, If the offence be not committed in consequence of the abetment If the abettor or the person abetted be a public servant whose duty it is to prevent the offence | | One-Fourth of Offence or Fine or Both Half of Offence or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Same as Offence Same as Offence | Same as Offence Same as Offence | Same as Offence Same as Offence |

Section 120B: Punishment of criminal conspiracy

Description:

1. Whoever is a party to a criminal conspiracy to commit an offence punishable with death, imprisonment for life or rigorous imprisonment for a term of two years or upwards, shall, where no express provision is made in this Code for the punishment of such a conspiracy, be punished in the same manner as if he had abetted such offence.

Whoever is a party to a criminal conspiracy other than a criminal conspiracy to commit an offence punishable as aforesaid shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months, or with fine or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Criminal conspiracy to commit an offence, Punishable with death, imprisonment for life or rigorous imprisonment for a term of 2 Years or upwards Any other criminal conspiracy | | Same as For Abetment of that Offence 6 Months or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Same as Offence Non-Cognizable | Same as Offence Bailable | Same as Offence Magistrate First Class |

Section 124A - Sedition

Description:

Whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards, the Government established by law in India, shall be punished with imprisonment for life, to which fine may be added, or with imprisonment which may extend to three years, to which fine may be added, or with fine.

| Offence | Punishment | |
|------------|--|------------------|
| Sedition | Imprisonment for Life + Fine or 3 Years + Fine or Fine | |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Court of Session |

Section 151 - Knowingly joining or continuing in assembly of five or more persons after it has been commanded to disperse

Description:

Whoever knowingly joins or continues in any assembly of five or more persons likely to cause a disturbance of the public peace, after such assembly has been lawfully commanded to disperse, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | Punishment | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|
| Knowingly joining or continuing in any assembly of five or more Persons after it has been commanded to disperse | 6 Months or Fine or Both | |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Bailable | Any Magistrate |

Section 153A – Promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc. and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony

Description:

1. Whoever
 - a. by words, either spoken or written, or by signs or by visible representations or otherwise, promotes or attempts to promote, on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, caste or community or any other ground whatsoever, disharmony or feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities, or
 - b. commits any act which is prejudicial to the maintenance of harmony between different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities, and which disturbs or is likely to disturb the public tranquility, or
 - c. organizes any exercise, movement, drill or other similar activity intending that the participants in such activity shall use or be trained to use criminal force or violence or knowing it to be likely that the participants in such activity will use or be trained to use criminal force or violence, or participates in such activity intending to use or be trained to use criminal force or violence or knowing it to be likely that the participants in such activity will use or be trained to use criminal force or violence, against any religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community and such activity for any reason whatsoever causes or is likely to cause fear or alarm or a feeling of insecurity amongst members of such religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.
2. Offence committed in place of worship, etc. — Whoever commits an offence specified in sub-section (1) in any place of worship or in any assembly engaged in the performance of religious worship or religious ceremonies, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|--|--------------|---|
| Promoting enmity between classes Promoting enmity between classes in place of worship, etc. | | 3 Years or Fine or Both 5 Years + Fine |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Magistrate First Class |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Magistrate First Class |

Section 153B – Imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration:

Description:

1. Whoever, by words either spoken or written or by signs or by visible representations or otherwise:
 - a. makes or publishes any imputation that any class of persons cannot, by reason of their being members of any religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community, bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established or uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, or
 - b. asserts, counsels, advises, propagates or publishes that any class of persons by reason of their being members of any religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community be denied, or deprived of their rights as citizens of India, or
 - c. makes or publishes and assertion, counsel, plea or appeal concerning the obligation of any class of persons, by reason of their being members of any religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community, and such assertion, counsel, plea or appeal causes or is likely to cause disharmony or feelings of enmity or hatred or ill-will between such members and other persons, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|---|--------------|---|
| Imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration If committed in a place of public worship etc. | | 3 Years or Fine or Both 5 Years + Fine |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Magistrate First Class |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Magistrate First Class |

Section 161- Repealed by the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988

Description:

Repealed by the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (49 of 1988), S. 31.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|
| Being or expecting to be a public servant, and taking A gratification other than Legal remuneration in respect of an official act | | 3 Years or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Magistrate First Class |

Section 170 – Personating a public servant

Description:

Whoever pretends to hold any particular office as public servant, knowing that he does not hold such office or falsely personates any other person holding such office, and in such assumed character does or attempts to do any act under colour of such office, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Personating a Public servant | | 2 Years or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Any Magistrate |

Section 292A - Sale, etc., of obscene books, etc.

Description:

For the purposes of sub-section (2), a book, pamphlet, paper, writing, drawing, painting representation, figure or any other object, shall be deemed to be obscene if it is lascivious or appeals to the prurient interest or if its effect, or (where it comprises two or more distinct items) the effect of any one of its items, is, if taken as a whole, such as to tend to deprave and corrupt persons who are likely, having regard to all relevant circumstances, to read, see or hear the matter contained or embodied in it.

Whoever:

- sells, lets to hire, distributes, publicly exhibits or in any manner puts into circulation, or for purposes of sale, hire, distribution, public exhibition or circulation, makes, reduces or has in his possession any obscene book, pamphlet, paper, drawing, painting, representation or figure or any other obscene object whatsoever, or
- imports, exports or conveys any obscene object for any of the purposes aforesaid, or knowing or having reason to believe that such object will be sold, let to hire, distributed or publicly exhibited or in any manner put into circulation, or
- takes part in or receives profits from any business in the course of which he knows or has reason to believe that any such obscene objects are, for any of the purposes aforesaid, made, produced, purchased, kept, imported, exported, conveyed, publicly exhibited or in any manner put into circulation, or
- advertises or makes known by any means whatsoever that any person is engaged or is ready to engage in any act which is an offence under this section, or that any such obscene object can be procured from or through any person, or offers or attempts to do any act which is an offence under this section, shall be punished on first conviction with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, and with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees, and, in the event of a second or subsequent conviction, with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to five years, and also with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Sale, etc., of obscene books, etc. | | First conviction 2 Years + Fine, then 5 Years + Fine |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Bailable | Any Magistrate |

Section 295 - Injuring or defiling place of worship, with intent to insult the religion of any class

Description:

Whoever destroys, damages or defiles any place of worship, or any object held sacred by any class of persons with the intention of thereby insulting the religion of any class of persons or with the knowledge that any class of persons is likely to consider such destruction, damage or defilement as an insult to their religion, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|
| Destroying, damaging or defiling a place of worship or sacred object with intent to insult the religion of any class of persons | | 2 Years or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Any Magistrate |

Section 295A - Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs

Description:

Whoever, with deliberate and malicious intention of outraging the religious feelings of any class of citizens of India, by words, either spoken or written, or by signs or by visible representations or otherwise insults or attempts to insult the religion or the religious beliefs of that class, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|
| Maliciously insulting the religions or the religious beliefs of any class | | 3 Years or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Magistrate First Class |

Section 29 - Uttering words, etc., with deliberate intent to wound religious feelings

Description:

Whoever, with the deliberate intention of wounding the religious feelings of any person, utters any word or makes any sound in the hearing of that person or makes any gesture in the sight of that person or places any object in the sight of that person, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|--|--------------|------------------------|
| Uttering any word or making any sound in the hearing or making any gesture, or placing any object in the sight of any person, with intention to wound his religious feelings | | 1 Year or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Non-Cognizable | Non-Bailable | Any Magistrate |

Section 506 - Punishment for criminal intimidation

Description:

Whoever commits the offence of criminal intimidation shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both;

If threat be to cause death or grievous hurt, etc. — and if the threat be to cause death or grievous hurt, or to cause the destruction of any property by fire, or to cause an offence punishable with death or imprisonment for life, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years, or to impute unchastity to a woman, shall be punished with

Whoever commits the offence of criminal intimidation shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both;

If threat be to cause death or grievous hurt, etc. — and if the threat be to cause death or grievous hurt, or to cause the destruction of any property by fire, or to cause an offence punishable with death or imprisonment for life, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years, or to impute unchastity to a woman, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|--|----------------|-------------------------|
| Criminal intimidation | | 2 Years or Fine or Both |
| If threat be to cause death or grievous hurt, Etc. | | 7 Years or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Non-Cognizable | Non-Cognizable | Non-Cognizable |
| Non-Cognizable | Non-Cognizable | Non-Cognizable |

Section 508 - At caused by inducing person to believe that he will be rendered an object of the Divine displeasure

Description:

Whoever voluntarily causes or attempts to cause any person to do anything which that person is not legally bound to do, or to omit to do anything which he is legally entitled to do, by inducing or attempting to induce that person to believe that he or any person in whom he is interested will become or will be rendered by some act of the offender an object of Divine displeasure if he does not do the thing which it is the object of the offender to cause him to do, or if he does the thing which it is the object of the offender to cause him to omit, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

| Offence | | Punishment |
|---|----------|------------------------|
| Act caused by inducing a person to believe that he will be rendered an object of Divine displeasure | | 1 Year or Fine or Both |
| Cognizance | Bail | Triable By |
| Non-Cognizable | Bailable | Any Magistrate |

ANTI-CONVERSION BILL

The Anti-Conversion Bill has unfortunately positioned the Government as the arbiter of truth or religious correctness, as they empower officials to enforce particular religious views against individuals, minorities, and dissenters. In practice, they have proven to be ripe for abuse and easily manipulated with false accusations.

Allowing the State's involvement, promotes increased governmental involvement in matters that involve pure ethical choices; they ingrain a deep and dangerous sense that the state is always watching you, and it has nothing but your best interests in mind. This is a matter of grave concern.

These laws were decreed because of concerns raised about apparent unethical conversion tactics and to promote religious harmony. Government officials need to assess the legality of conversions out of Hinduism and to provide for fines and imprisonment for anyone who uses force, fraud, or "inducement" to convert another. While the laws allegedly protect religious minorities from forced conversions, they appear one-sided, only concerned about conversions away from Hinduism but not toward Hinduism. Observers note that these laws create a hostile and, on occasion, violent environment for religious minority communities because they do not require any evidence to support accusations of wrongdoing.

The Law encourages extremists to enforce their notions of truth on others, often through force, thereby worsening religious intolerance, discrimination, and violence, which is frequently used to silence critics or democratic rivals under the guise of enforcing religious piety.

Eight Indian states - Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand and recently Uttarakhand —have passed the so-called "Freedom of Religion Act(s),"

commonly referred to as anti-conversion laws, restricting religious conversion.

Most of the outbreaks of communal abuses against Christians, tend to occur more frequently from these states that have passed this bill. Most of the attacks were simply based on suspicions or allegations that Christians are forcibly converting Hindus through inducement and denigrating Hinduism.

We urge the Central Indian government to constrain the States that have adopted anti-conversion laws, and to repeal them. The Central Government needs to strengthen the capacity of State and Central Police, to implement effective measures to prohibit and punish cases of religious violence and protect victims and witnesses.

The Indian government needs to publicly rebuke government officials and religious leaders who make derogatory statements about religious communities. While Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke publicly about the importance of communal tolerance and religious freedom, members of the ruling party having ties to Hindu nationalist groups implicated in religious freedom violations, continue to use religiously divisive language to inflame tensions, and call for additional laws that would restrict religious freedom.

Freedom of religion bill gives us no freedom to exercise it.

STATE ANTI-CONVERSION LAWS IN INDIA

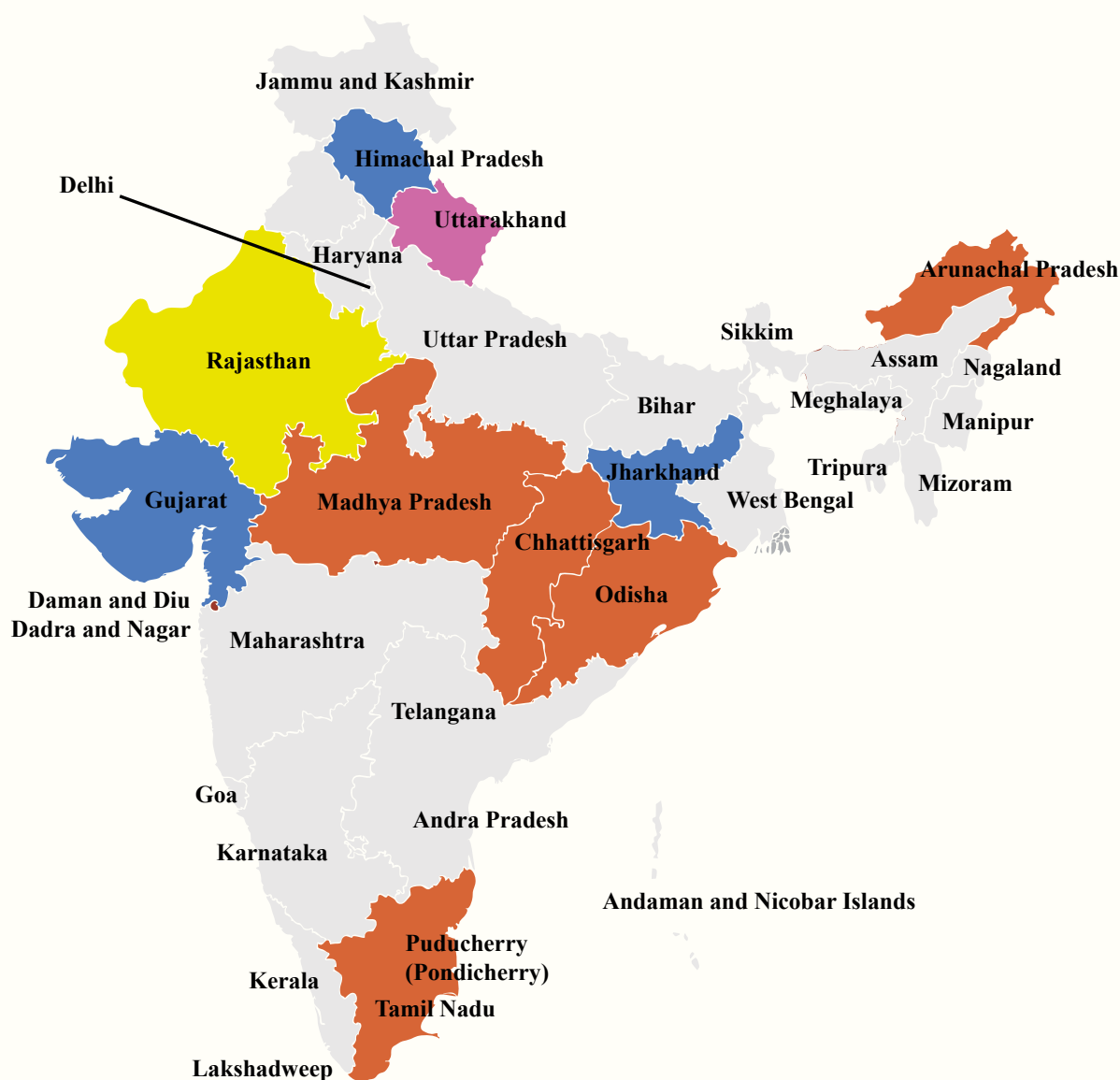


Status of State Anti-Conversion Laws in India

- Law currently in force with implementing rules
- Law currently in force, but no implementing rules
- Law passed but did not receive assent
- No current or prior law identified
- Prior law repealed
- Law currently in force, but unclear whether there are implementing rules

Source of Maps: The Law Library of Congress

STATE ANTI-CONVERSION LAWS IN INDIA



Conversion Permission and Notice Requirements

- Prior permission and notice by convert
- Notice by priest/other person
- Notice by convert
- No permission or notice required
- Notice by priest/other person and notice by convert
- No current or prior law identified

Source of Maps: The Law Library of Congress

ANTI - CONVERSION BILL

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
SIGN OUR PETITION FOR THE

Abolishment of Anti Conversion Law in India



Freedom of religion in India is a fundamental right guaranteed by Article 15 and Article 25 of the Constitution of India

Article 15(1) in The Constitution of India 1949

- The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them

Article 25(1) in The Constitution of India 1949

- Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this Part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion

Credit: //indiankanoon.org

So far, eight Indian states – Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand, have officially passed the Anti-Conversion law.

Church / Readers, your signature and support could make this a reality. Freedom of religion is our Constitutional right. By clicking on the link, you are asking the Prime Minister to abolish this draconian law across India. It is the responsibility of every Christian to sign this petition and make our voices count as it will adversely affect you and your children generation, either directly or indirectly.

<http://persecutionrelief.org/stop-the-killing-brutalizing-of-christians-in-india/>

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/abolishment-of-anti-conversion-law-in-india/>



ADOPT A MARTYRED FAMILY



Call +91 9993200020

Email : persecutionrelief@gmail.com

OUR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Persecution Relief is registered in India under “Registrar Firms and Society” Act and is a non-denominational organisation, serving ALL CHRISTIANS, across denominations, for the glory of God.

Since our inception in 2015, we have been inspired and fully committed to the ministry blue print provided by Lord, directed and executed by the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe that ‘the will of God will never lead us where the grace of God cannot keep us’. This has been our testimony.

Jesus’ ministry is our example. He never appealed for money but received financial support from His followers. In Luke 8:1-3, the writer mentions that there were several women who considered themselves Jesus’ disciples, who supported Him and the other disciples from their own personal financial means.

Absolutely, no efforts are made to raise funds in any way except trusting in the Lord for His provision. For those whom the Spirit of God has led to call or write to us, and express a desire to support the work of the Lord - secretly, cheerfully and voluntarily – we give them our Bank Details.

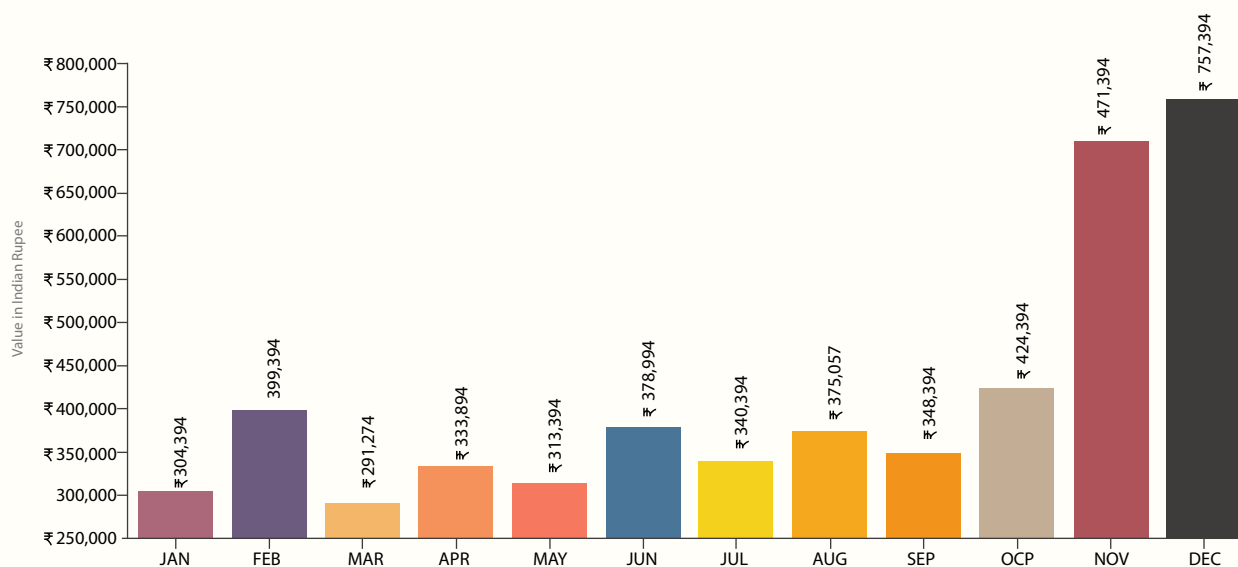
We have sought the kingdom of God first and God has always supplied all our needs. Therefore, we have never been in debt at any time since we commenced our ministry. We do not judge other ministries who do things differently from us but this is the way God has led us. We believe above all, that our accountability is to the Lord whom we serve, and to you.

Our ministry certainly requires a lot of money. Considering the incredible spike in the number of persecution cases, the Church in India has a big responsibility to stand and support the persecuted Church too.

Persecution Relief had invested in a parcel of land for building the envisioned “Paran”, the Refuge Centre, as per the vision given by God. Our focus in 2019, will be to complete this project, which will address the desperate need of widows and children of martyrs, forsaken by the community and the Church; a place of refuge for our brethren facing subjugation, discrimination, socially, culturally, religiously, economic deprivation, financial constraints and legally marginalized with little support from the government and non-government organizations.

In 2019, we desire for our Teams to strategically visit regions of persecution, and actively respond to the cry of the persecuted. Please pray for this aspiration.

FUND DISBURSAL IN 2018



Persecution Relief's role is to step outside the safety of our Church pews and serve as a bridge, connecting and linking churches to the persecuted & vulnerable Christian community - making their crisis personal enough to understand in real life, with real acts of service, while sharing the truth of Jesus Christ.

Listed below is a representation of how your offering was utilized to support the persecuted Church throughout India, across all denominations.

Categories of Monthly Fund disbursal:

- Families of Martyrs'
- Families whose husband's are imprisoned
- Bail expenses towards release of men and women of God from prisons
- Legal expenses towards Advocate/Lawyer
- Medical / Hospital expenses to the believers who are beaten up
- Re-location & transportation of believers who are boycotted
- Temporary accommodation when Christian families are chased out of a village or displaced when houses are burned
- Helping re-construct infrastructure when Churches are burnt or destroyed
- Replacing damaged church equipment
- Provide counselling for the persecuted family by sending volunteers

All Operation and Administration expenses of Persecution Relief - travel expenses, accommodation, Office expenses & equipment, Conferences, Mobile Bills etc. are borne by the Founder himself.

Up to the moment of writing of this Report, no plan of God for Persecution Relief's expansion has been delayed or stopped because of financial shortfall. Our greatest testimony is that we have freely offered

financial support and never had to say ‘no’ to any persecuted person, by the grace of God. We have received everything freely from the Lord and we give it all out to others freely.

Many people have asked us why Persecution Relief Website does not carry a “Donation Page”. I wish to share this for the glory of God.

When we designed the Website of Persecution Relief, I put a ‘Donation Page’. One day, during my travels, I heard the Lord asking me to remove the ‘Donation Page’.

God said “Why do you have the ‘Donation Page’? It is I who gave you this Vision and it is mine to provide everything you need. Empty yourself first. It is very easy to do ministry with someone else’s hard-earned money.” I felt humbled by His chastisement but this incident propelled me to trust Him 100%.

God is a promise keeping God. Looking back, the hand of God can be clearly seen moving, guiding, protecting me through this journey.

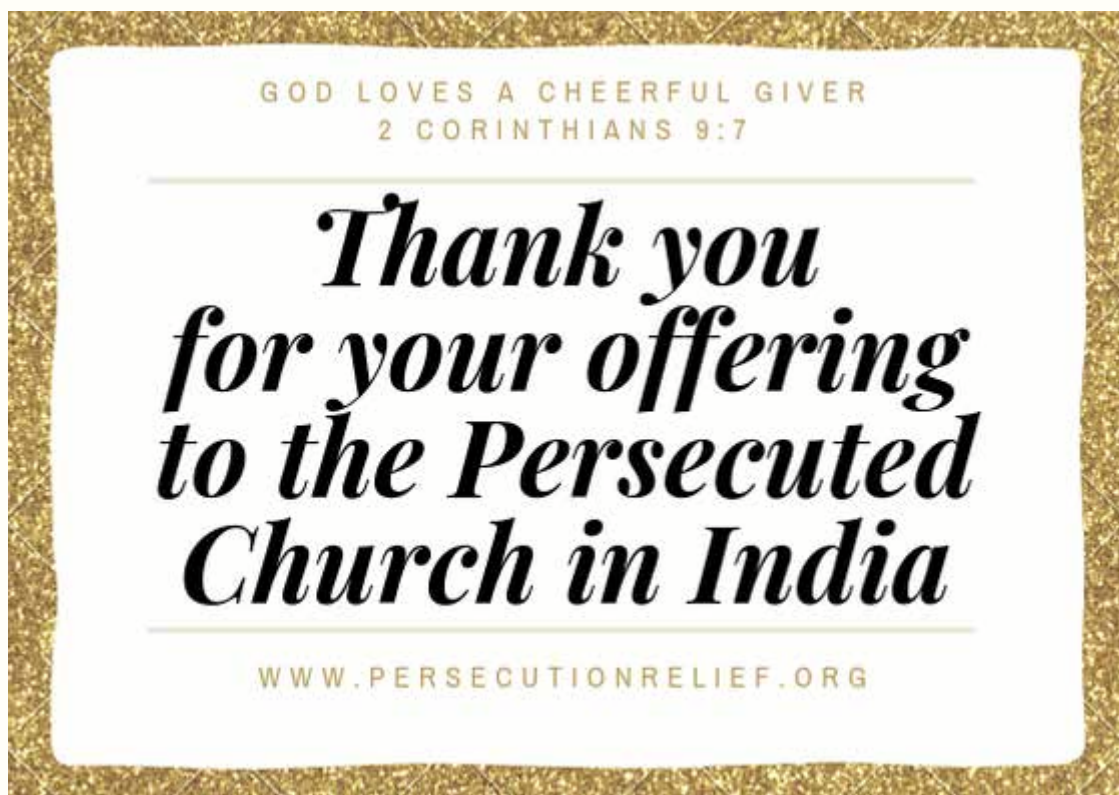
What a mighty God we serve!

We take this opportunity to earnestly thank all our Donors and Patrons, for your ongoing financial support, which is making a huge difference to the persecuted Church in India. God bless you richly and give you back a 1000-fold.

“May the Lord God of your fathers make you a thousand times more numerous than you are, and bless you as He has promised you!” Deuteronomy 1:11

Our only appeal to you is to remember Persecution Relief in your prayers, for the wisdom of God to move forward, and to fulfill His Vision.

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope”. (Jer. 29:1)



CHURCH SAFETY MEASURES

PERSECUTION RELIEF HAS COMPILED A LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO MITIGATE RISKS, FROM THE LESSONS LEARNT THROUGH INCIDENTS RECORDED BY US

| Types of persecution | Precautions |
|--|--|
| Christian Institution, Orphanages shut down | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Christian Orphanages must be registered agencies and should follow the guidelines laid by the government Websites with guidelines stipulated by the 'Central' Government as well as a 'State' are available While admitting children into the orphanage, always retain a 'signed' undertaking/affidavit from the 'single parent' or agency to show evidence that there was no coercion to admitting the child If both the parents are dead then the legal guardians should provide suitable government ids to establish their relationship with the children's, when they handover the children to the orphanage Often times, when there is an inspection by Police or local Government Officials, the legal guardian is untraceable |
| House Church attacked/ closed down | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every household conducting 'Church service' at their homes must inform the Police of their schedule and frequency of meeting Install CCTV's (at least one) on the premises to monitor and be prepared of any imminent attacks Identify and educate a few members of your congregation not to panic if attacked but to step away and discreetly record the proceedings, both audio or video. This evidence will help identify the perpetrators and assist the Police with their investigations Ensure that you do not create parking issues for your neighbors; respect and keep the volume under control Please keep your nearest police stations numbers handy. |
| Financial transactions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is mandatory for all Christian Organizations (Church, orphanage, old age home, schools etc.) to be registered either with a Society/Trust etc. All collection of funds in Church should be transparent and accounted for All funds received / deposited in Bank, must be well documented and audited |
| "Know Your Believer" / False Allegation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New believers attending worship service or asking for baptism must be handled with discernment. If a new comer asks for baptism, analyze the seriousness and commitment, then get an affidavit signed by him that he wishes to be baptized of his own will You may write to us at admin@persecutionrelief.com for a format of the 'affidavit' Train volunteers in your Church on how to identify and interview new comers – to establish their intent of visit and collect their personal details From our case studies, we have seen unidentified people gain entry into the Church discreetly, call other miscreants and attack the members |
| Distribution of tracts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the Police that you are visiting a particular area to distribute the tracts Secure permission before going Ensure the content of the tracks are not inflammatory or derogatory about other gods |

| Types of persecution | Precautions |
|---|--|
| Social Media (Uploading photographs of Church activities) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With immediate effect, stop posting pictures of baptisms, conventions, worship services, conferences in Social media (for example; Twitter; Facebook and Blogs) • Please do not post images of posters of meetings, giving dates, timings, names etc. • There are agencies employed by religious fanatics monitoring social medias/ websites and once they get any incriminating information, they shut down the site. • Exercise caution when accepting friend requests or sending invitations to interact over social media with anyone you have not met face-to-face. This is especially important if you have a ministry working with Tribals and villages |
| WhatsApp forwards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid forwarding videos and posters without knowing the authenticity of the contents • There is a possibility that these forwards may instigate local fanatics to perpetuate the same thing in other areas • Do not send your WhatsApp link inviting people to join your Group. Many non-Christians use this opportunity to join Christian Groups to monitor contents, as has been our experience in the past • Filter and remove suspicious and unknown names. If unbelievers are part of your group and if the group is being monitored, you could be implicated if you are the Administrator, • If you are unsure of the authenticity of the video or the poster, write to us at admin@persecutionrelief.com |
| Anti-Christian Propaganda ('Love Jihad', 'Ghar Vapsi', Bahu Lao, Beti Bacho') | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create awareness among the Church members • Record (audio & video) the proceedings so that the Church can pray against such activities. |
| What you should speak when visiting villages / cities to evangelize: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missionaries should be very cautious about what they speak in village and surrounding cities • They must be well trained on how, where and what to speak • Never hurt the religious sentiments of anybody - only speak about Jesus Christ • Avoid travelling as a troupe / team crowd - only 1-2 persons should travel together to villages • Avoid travelling in large numbers in cars/jeeps/buses or trucks. Instead go in motor cycles • Dress in a manner that does not draw attention • Caution must be taken not to deride their gods and hurt religious sentiments it will invite conflict and disagreement • Missionaries visiting villages should avoid carrying tracks, bibles etc. as these documents may be used against you as evidence, to incriminate that you are converting / propagating Christianity |
| First Information Report -FIR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please do not encourage the local pastors or village believers to file counter FIRs and creating a hostile environment as they have to minister in a particular area lifelong; this creates animosity and impedes the progress of the gospel. • Always reflect the heart of Jesus which is forgiveness and mercy |
| Identify a Christian Lawyer in your City/ Village and carry his details with you | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and keep details of Christian Lawyer residing near you in case of any emergency • The Lawyer will help to secure anticipatory bail or to accompany you to the police station as he knows the law and penal codes that are applied • Always carry the Toll-Free number of Persecution Relief 1800-1234-461 |

| Types of persecution | Precautions |
|--|--|
| Forced Confession or pressure by officials to make false statements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create awareness in your congregations that no persons, no Government official (Collector / SDM/ ADM/TI), has the right to demand that you write down or sign on a blank paper • For e.g. a Pastor was forced to write that 'the meeting that was being held in my house is illegal and I will not continue the Sunday worship in future'. This document was used as further evidence against him. • For any further clarification, please call us on our Toll-free number 1800-1234-461 or email us admin@persecutionrelief.com |
| Conference/Large gatherings/ conventions/ shut down | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police must be informed well in advance, required permissions and sanctions secured for all large/small gathering and mass programs • No programs should be conducted without written permission in hand • Do not transport large groups of people in buses, trains and large trucks attracting attention • De-centralize working style and work in smaller groups as first century Church practiced • All Organizers should take prior permission for the use of speakers and ensure it adheres to the minimum sound levels • Secure necessary permissions whether Auditorium, Hotel, School or Tents in open Maidan, even outside your own property • Even after permission is secured, religious fundamentalists put pressure on the Venue Owners to cancel the booking thus causing Christians to incur loss of large sums of money i.e. Electrical installations, transport, venue rent, hotel bookings, food and beverage arrangements. • In the event the Venue Owners cancel or terminate the contract for any reason, no liability should fall upon the organizers of the Convention/Conference, including the advance • Ask for Police protection at the venue for the duration of the program |
| Protection for woman and children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dedicated email address has been created for women and children to file complaints related to abusive behavior, harassment and hateful conduct on social media • Please visit the website click here to learn more • Such complaints may be sent to complaint-mwcd@gov.in |
| Conversation in unfamiliar settings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be mindful of your conversation when travelling in a hired vehicle or public mode of transport • The Driver of the vehicle may be listening to your conversation so ensure that you are not discussing your plans openly. We have had situations of a similar nature where the driver has been the conduit to inform religious fundamentalists of our movements • Do not engage in negative conversation about any persons or groups |
| Boycotted and isolated in villages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When Christians are boycotted in a village - either being denied access to the community well, or to the grocery store or ration shop, or government hospital, or cattle being denied access to water or land to graze - please contact the nearest Church to your village • The nearest Church should 'adopt' these families temporarily • Persecution Relief will provide their basic needs • Forced Conversion - No Church Leader or member may force/pressure an individual or Group to convert to Christianity • It is totally unlawful to lure someone to 'accept' Christ, with the promise of healing/prosperity/secured life/jobs etc. • When a new Christian 'accepts' and commits to following Christ, please ensure that you keep an audio recording of his self-confession as evidence of his personal choice |

| Types of persecution | Precautions |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Unlawful Arrest | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Police threaten to arrest you, politely insist to see the 'Arrest Warrant' Police cannot arrest you without a warrant. So, don't agree to go with the Police to the station without seeing this document • Request to know all the facts before you go to the police station like what is the complaint against you, who has lodged it. Also request for a copy of the complaint. • Ask a copy of the Report/FIR and make sure you read and understand the contents • Do not give your mobile phones to the police to the extent possible - resist giving it to them as it is your personal property |
| Cross cultural evangelism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prudent when sending out Missionaries to preach ensuring that you send people who are native to a particular region • The local language, the significance of the local culture must be respected and not be careless as these petty issues can create strife and fuel tension |



SERVING THE PERSECUTED IN GOD'S LOVE



SERVING PERSECUTED-LOVING PERSECUTORS

www.persecutionrelief.org

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATES & CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

- ❑ Persecution Relief requests the Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi to speak out without further delay, condemning crimes against minorities, to ensure and support, full religious freedom for all minorities in India, just as you had spoken in the Parliament, on 27th November, 2015, stating that the religion of the government was “India First “and the Constitution is its “holy Book”. The situation in India today is far from this promise! The Constitutional and fundamental rights of minorities have been drastically eroded. The Prime Minister should take measures to combat rising instances of hate speech and religious intolerance, which injects venom into the society and polarizes communities based on caste.
- ❑ The Home Ministry should instruct Police Heads in every state, to impartially uphold the law at all times; to protect religious minorities and treat every threat against religious minorities seriously
- ❑ We request the Ministry of Women & Child Development to instruct Child Welfare Committee (CWC), not to harass Christians Institutions and Orphanages maliciously across India. In 2018, we have recorded many instances of false cases booked under POCSO, of whom several are still in jail. Children were evacuated in the middle of the night against the wishes of their parents, with little compassion or understanding.
- ❑ The Indian government must repeal the ‘Anti conversion law’, which has been passed in 8 States in India. This is a direct attack on individual’s freedom of conscience, to choose one’s faith and on the freedom to profess, practice and propagate the faith of one’s choice, enshrined in Article 25 of the Constitution - which is demonstrably at variance with the promotion of national harmony and is against international norms of human rights and religious freedom.
- ❑ State Governments must emphasize and mandate that religiously motivated violence will not be tolerated. State Police under their jurisdiction, must bring perpetrators of such violence to justice. The current widespread practice of prosecuting the victims instead of the perpetrators of religiously-motivated violence, must be sternly condemned and completely stopped.
- ❑ Central and State Governments should take immediate measures to ban religious fundamentalist groups, who take law and order into their hands, harassing poor and weak sections of society, not allowing them to follow their choice of religion; threatening them with social discrimination boycott and ostracization.
- ❑ Minority Departments in the Center and State Governments, should take immediate action against hate and violent attacks against minorities. Precautionary steps must be taken to counter violence against minorities.
 - A helpline number must be available to every citizen to contact the Minority Department in their respective states, in case of attacks
 - Ensure that Government rations and subsidies are not stopped to the minorities, in the name of religion

- Special fund to support the displaced minorities must be set aside
 - Land to reside and cultivate must be provided to villagers who are boycotted and chased out of a village
 - ☐ State Governments must allot designated places of worship, to all the religions across India, not favoring any particular religion
 - ☐ As the State Governments wants to discourage the practice of gathering to worship in houses, the government must provide land to build a church in a particular location, which has 25 or more Christian families, at subsidized rates.
 - ☐ Religious fanatics record the attack of the Church or Christians and post the video as religious propaganda on Social Media, in an attempt to create fear psychosis, spread and ferment hatred in the society. Fake news and morphed images related to Church attacks are posted on Social Media for the same end. Perpetrators must be held accountable and sternly dealt with and their Facebook/Twitter Account cancelled. Strict rule of law must be exercised to punish those engaged in spreading hatred against religious minorities in the country
 - ☐ Government should not gag or restrict the press but permit Newspapers and TV channels to freely and responsibly broadcast and highlight issues related to Minorities
 - ☐ All Centre and State Political Leaders should condemn the attacks on minorities, as their silence is taken as a license by religious fanatic groups to act against the Minorities
 - ☐ Human Rights Organisation and other Agencies in the Country, should partner with minority institutions, to report and highlight issues in an unbiased manner, both locally and internationally.
 - ☐ The Government must assure and ensure the Christian Community that Sunday Worship Services will not be disrupted and Police protection be provided in volatile states.
 - ☐ All Christian Institutions and Churches must be given special Police Protection during Christian Festival times.
 - ☐ The Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) licenses of Minority NGOs and Civil rights activists that were revoked, should be reinstated.
-

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of an elderly man's face, focusing on his eyes and a white beard. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights on his skin and hair. The background is blurred, showing hints of green and brown.

TEARS MAY BE RARE BUT THE JOY OF THE LORD IS FOREVER

Shibu Thomas
Founder - Persecution Relief

www.persecutionrelief.org

OUR ANNUAL INITIATIVES

INDIAN CHRISTIAN MARTYRDOM DAY (ICMD) 22nd JULY

“Indian Christian Martyrdom Day” (ICMD) was commemorated on July 22nd, for the first time in India, to acknowledge and honour the sacrifice made by the martyrs’ families. Millions of believers, breaking barriers of denomination, partnered with us to commemorate ICMD).

ICMD will be commemorated every year on 22nd July.



PARTICIPATION ACROSS CHURCHES FOR ICMD 2018



INDIAN CHRISTIAN DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED (ICDPP) 01st OCTOBER

“Indian Christian Day of Prayer for the Persecuted (ICDPP) was commemorated on 01st October, for the first time in India, calling a nation to prayer, exclusively for the Persecuted Church, Millions of believers, breaking barriers of denomination, partnered with us to commemorate ICDPP.

ICDDP will be commemorated every year on 01st Octoner

Blessing Today Church, Cochin



PARTICIPATION ACROSS CHURCHES FOR ICDPP 2018

Life Fellowship, Trivandrum



Cochin Pastor's Breakfast Meeting



True Hope Church, Uttar Pradesh



Bethel Sharon, Kerala



PARTICIPATION ACROSS CHURCHES FOR ICDPP 2018

Youth Group, Kerala



Logos church, Maharashtra



Bible Fellowship Church,
Andhra Pradesh



Good News Church, Bhopal,
Madhya Pradesh



PERSECUTION RELIEF EVENTS – 2018



PASTOR'S
CONFERENCE,
UTTAR
PRADESH



FOUNDER CALLED UPON
FR. TOM UZHUNNALIL SDB



FOUNDER MET
DR NAVEEN THOMAS
BANGLORE BAPTIST
HOSPITAL AMD HANDED
OVER THE REPORT



REMEMBRANCE OF
PASTOR SULTAN MASHI,
MARTYRED ON JULY 15,
2017, PUNJAB

MR. K.P. SASI
ACTIVIST, FILM
PRODUCER,
CARTOONIST





BOC – ‘BODY OF CHRIST’ NATIONAL MEETING WAS HELD AT MUMBAI ON 30TH OCTOBER 2018, WHERE MORE THAN 200 CHRISTIAN LEADERS ATTENDED FROM 36 DISTRICTS OF MAHARASHTRA.



BLESSING TODAY, COCHIN, KERALA



PERSECUTION RELIEF EVENTS – 2018



FOUNDER
ADDRESSING YOUTH
OF BLESSING TODAY



BETHEL SHARON
FASTING PRAYER
MEETING, FOUNDER
WAS THE SPEAKER



FOUNDER
ADDRESSING THE
PASTORS OF COCHIN
DURING PASTORS
BREAKFAST MEETING
AT EXODUS CHURCH





FOUNDER ADDRESSING
LIFE FELLOWSHIP,
TRIVANDRUM, WITH
SENIOR PASTOR SAM
VARGHESE – BOTH AT
ENGLISH & MALAYALAM
SERVICE



DR. PAUL DINAKARAN,
JESUS CALLS MINISTRIES,
VISITED BHOPAL, TO
PRAY WITH THE CHURCH
LEADERS FOR MADHYA
PRADESH
ON 4TH NOVEMBER 2018



LIVING HOPE
CHURCH,
BANGALORE,
KARNATAKA, ON
25TH NOVEMBER



PERSECUTION RELIEF TEAM MET DR. PAUL DINAKARAN,
JESUS CALLS MINISTRIES, IN BHOPAL, ON 03RD NOVEMBER
2018, TO SPEND TIME IN PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED
CHURCH IN INDIA.
A COPY OF THE PERSECUTION RELIEF'S HALF YEARLY
REPORT – 2018 WAS HANDED TO HIM



PERSECUTION RELIEF EVENTS – 2018



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN INDIAN CHRISTIANS IN THE USA (NAAIC), IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PERSECUTION RELIEF, OBSERVED A DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN INDIA



FOUNDER MEETING BENEFACTORS OF “PERSECUTION RELIEF” IN PATNA ON 27TH NOVEMBER



FOUNDER, PERSECUTION RELIEF MINISTERING AT NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, ON 28TH OCTOBER, 2018, WITH SENIOR PASTOR SHEKAR KALLIANPUR, MUMBAI, MAHARASHTRA



FOUNDER PERSECUTION RELIEF, ADDRESSED MORE THAN 500 PASTORS OF FILADELPHIA CHURCH AT THE NAVAPUR CONVENTION, ON 14TH NOVEMBER, 2018, RAJASTHAN





MINISTERED AT PASTORS & LEADERS CONFERENCE OF INDIA MISSION, PATNA, BIHAR ON 27TH NOVEMBER



ADDRESSING THE SENIOR LEADERS OF GEMS, BIHAR 28TH NOVEMBER



BRO. D. AUGUSTINE JEBAKUMAR, FOUNDER, GEMS BIHAR, ON 28TH NOVEMBER

“ALL INDIA UNITED CHRISTIAN VOICE 20TH ANNIVERSARY”, HELD AT BANGALORE, KARNATAKA, ON 24TH NOVEMBER.



MEETING WITH SENIOR LEADERS OF PATNA, BIHAR ON 29TH NOVEMBER



PERSECUTION RELIEF EVENTS – 2018



MEETING WITH
PASTOR SUBASH
AND FAMILY WHO
WERE ARRESTED
ON CONVERSION
CHARGES
AT PATNA, BIHAR
ON 29TH NOVEMBER



MEETING WITH LEADER
OF OPPOSITION, CONGRESS
STATE HEAD KULDEEP
RAI SHARMA ALONG
WITH THE LEADERS OF
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR
ISLAND ON 18TH DECEMBER

MEETING WITH
CHURCH LEADERS
OF ANDAMAN &
NICOBAR ISLANDS –
AND FORMATION OF
NEW CHAPTER OF
PERSECUTION RELIEF
ON 18TH DECEMBER



SPOKE AT GOA
PASTORS ASSOCIATION
MEETING IN
VERNA, GOA
ON 06TH DECEMBER



FOUNDER PERSECUTION RELIEF WAS INVITED TO SPEAK
AT THE ANDAMANS & NICOBAR PASTORS ASSOCIATION
MEETING, PORT BLAIR, ON 17TH DECEMBER



MINISTERED TO THE YOUTHS OF MARTHOMA CHURCH, ENCOURAGING THEM IN BANGALORE, KARNATAKA, ON 25TH NOVEMBER.



MINISTERED AT IPC DISTRICT CONVENTION, THODUPUZHA, KERALA ON 23RD DECEMBER.



MINISTERING AT CITY CHANGERS CHURCH, COCHIN, KERALA ON 16TH DECEMBER

MEDIA COVERAGE OF PERSECUTION RELIEF

Persecution Relief would like to thank the Media Houses for using Data and material from our reports, to highlight the plight of Christian Persecution in India to the national and international audience.



The Telegraph



agenzia fides



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED STATES



WorldWatch Monitor



Online
goodnews.com
goodnews is good news



INDIA'S PREMIER CHRISTIAN NEWS TABLOID SINCE 2000



America
THE JESUIT REVIEW



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2018



IRELAND:
TDS AND SENATORS
PETITION INDIAN
AMBASSADOR TO
PROTECT INDIAN
CHRISTIANS

Seventeen members of the Oireachtas have signed a petition to the Indian Ambassador to Ireland requesting the Indian government act to protect Christians who continue to face ongoing attacks from Hindu extremists.

Among those who signed the petition (which has received cross-party support) are Senator Ivana Bacik (Labour), Seán Barrett TD (Fine Gael), Kevin “Boxer” Moran TD (Independent), Senator David Norris (Independent), Maureen O’Sullivan TD (Independent), Eamon Ryan TD (Green Party leader) and Robert Troy TD (Fianna Fáil).

In the petition (full text below), the TDs and Senators express their concern at the fact that the incidence of attacks on Christians in India has been growing alarmingly in recent years and ask the Indian government to take effective action to combat the

attackers, protect the victims and promote religious freedom.

David Turner (Director, Church in Chains) said: “We are encouraged by the response of the TDs and Senators who have signed this petition. It clearly shows the widespread concern across the political spectrum in Ireland for those Christians who are victims of religiously-motivated violent attacks by Hindu extremists, the shock at the inaction of the Indian government and the demand for the Indian government to act swiftly to halt the violence and protect religious freedom.”

Church in Chains has written to the new Indian Ambassador to Ireland, Mr Sandeep Kumar, to advise him of the petition and to request a meeting with him to present the petition and discuss the concerns expressed in it.

The Oireachtas petition is the latest initiative taken by Church in Chains to highlight the dramatic upsurge in persecution of Indian Christians in recent years. It follows the publication of a report titled “OFFICIAL INDIA: ON THE SIDE OF THE MILITANTS” in Spring 2018 and a subsequent appearance by a Church in Chains delegation before the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Defence.

The Indian Ambassador chose not to accept an invitation to appear before the Joint Committee and has not responded to several approaches from Church in Chains to discuss the matter.

The full text of the letter is:

“I write, as a member of the Oireachtas, to express my deep concern at the fact that Christians in India face violent attacks from Hindu extremists on an ongoing basis. I understand that the incidence of such attacks has been growing alarmingly in recent years – over 700 such incidents were reported in 2017 according to figures provided by Church in Chains to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs earlier this year and anti-Christian violence has continued on a weekly basis throughout 2018.

“It is clear based on the multiplicity of reports from monitoring agencies, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, that attackers are generally acting with impunity and are rarely arrested.

I am disappointed to learn that, to date, you have not responded to many expressions of concern about this issue and failed to respond to an invitation to appear before the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs.

“I ask that you convey our appeal to your government to take effective action to combat the attackers, protect the victims and promote religious freedom.”

The petition was signed by: Bobby Aylward TD, Senator Ivana Bacik, Seán Barrett TD, Pat Casey TD, Joan Collins TD, Noel Grealish TD, Seán Haughey TD, Senator Kevin Humphreys, John Lahart TD, Mattie McGrath TD, Kevin Moran TD, Senator Rónán Mullen, Senator David Norris, Maureen O’Sullivan TD, Willie Penrose TD, Eamon Ryan TD and Robert Troy TD.



MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SAM BROWNBACK

Founder had the privilege and opportunity to meet with Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom Sam Brownback, to discuss about religious freedom issues in India, and handed over the Half Yearly Report.



FIRST-EVER MINISTERIAL TO ADVANCE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, WASHINGTON DC, JULY 24-26, 2018

The first-ever Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom, three-day summit, by the U. S. Department of State, commenced on 24th July, 2018, bringing together leaders from more than 80 foreign governments, representatives from non-profit organizations, religious leaders, grassroots activists, and hundreds of civil society partners.

The singular focus: to promote and protect religious freedom around the world.

Persecution Relief, on the invitation from the State Department of the United States of America, had the privilege to participate and discuss challenges, identify concrete means to “push back against persecution and discrimination” and “to advance international religious freedom and greater respect for all”.



FRANCE 24, 01 APRIL, 2018

France24, a 24-hour international news and current affairs television network, broadcasts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to 250 million TV households, in 177 countries around the world, based in Paris, France. On 01 April 2018, they ran an Easter Special Report, on the persecution of India's Christian minority along with Persecution Relief.

The France24 Crew, travelled with the Founder, to get first hand reports of the reality on the ground, interviewing innocent victims. France24 also met with Hon. Minister Ajay Singh, Leader of Opposition, Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly, the state which has recorded high numbers of incidents against Christians. He denounced the bill which violates the freedom of conscience and religion, which is contrary to the constitution. Among several ground visits, the crew visited the site of the demolition and partition of Pushpa Mission Hospital in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh. France24 drew attention to the Anti-conversion bill in India, through the documentary.





CHURCH IN CHAINS | TDS, IRELAND, 29TH MARCH 2018

On 29th March, 2018, Persecution Relief was re presented by Pastor Baiju George, Ireland, in front of the Parliament of Ireland, TDS (Teachtaí Dála (Deputies) and Senators to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs of Ireland (legislature of Ireland).



CHURCH IN CHAINS CONFERENCE, IRELAND:

Persecution Relief's Annual Report 2017, detailing attacks on Christians in India was used for discussion at the meeting. The initiative was made by a religious organization working for the persecuted Church globally 'Church in Chains'. The Joint Committee conceded that they would act on the report's recommendations by inviting the Indian Ambassador to attend the committee to respond to the report and that he would also write to Minister for Foreign Affairs, encouraging him to take up the matter at the next meeting of the EU Foreign Ministerial Council.





SPIRIT RADIO, IRELAND:

Founder Persecution Relief was invited by Spirit Radio is an Irish Christian Radio Broadcasting to the cities of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Waterford, Bray, Greystones, Dundalk, Naas Athlone, Carlow, Kilkenny and Newbridge on FM.

He was invited to speak about Religious Freedom in India on 17/9/18

Persecution Relief presentation at the UN



THE 38TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL, UNITED NATIONS HEAD QUARTERS , GENEVA

On the 2nd July, Persecution Relief Report was presented at UNHRC COUNCIL.

AWARDS - ALL GLORY TO GOD!



MARTIN LUTHER AWARD FOR CIVIL RIGHTS & JUSTICE – BRAVERY

Persecution Relief Founder, Bro. Shibu Thomas, was awarded the Martin Luther Award for the category “Civil Rights & Justice – Bravery”. AICMF organised an Award Ceremony “Martin Luther Vision is our Mission”. which took place on 3rd February at Rajinder Bhawan, New Delhi. All India Christian Minority Front (AICMF) organization has been working for the minorities since last 16 years all over in India.



PRABHU YESHU JANMOTSAV APPRECIATION AWARD FOR ADVOCACY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN INDIA

On 15th December 2018, Prabhu Yesu Janmotsav, conducted their 53rd Year celebrations at Juhu Beach where 1000's of people attends every year headed by Dr. Abraham Mathai, who is the chairman of Janmotsav and ex vice chairman of the Minority Commission of Maharashtra. Bro. Shibu Thomas was conferred with “Prabhu Yesu Janmotsav Appreciation award for Advocacy for the Persecuted Church in India”.



PERSECUTION RELIEF TOLL FREE HELPLINE

NUMBER FOR THE
PERSECUTED
CHRISTIANS IN INDIA

1800-1234-461

భారత దేశములో హింసింపబడుచున్న
క్రైస్తవుల సహాయముకై టోల్ ఫ్రీ హెల్ప్ లైన్ నెంబరు

ഭാരതത്തിലെ പീഡിതരായ
എല്ലാ ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികൾക്കും
വേണ്ടി ടോൾ ഫ്രീ നമ്പർ

भारत में सताए हुए ईसाइयों के लिए
टोल फ्री हेल्पलाइन नंबर

இந்தியாவில் கிறித்தவர்களுக்கு
எதிரான வன்முறை ஏற்பட்டால் தொடர்பு
கொள்ள வேண்டிய கட்டணம் இல்லாத
இலவச தொலைபேசி எண்



SERVING PERSECUTED - LOVING PERSECUTORS

www.persecutionrelief.org



**THANK
YOU
PERSECUTION
RELIEF**



TESTIMONIES OF THE PERSECUTED CHURCH



Archbishop Jonathan Ansar, Chairman

“I had been watching the work of Persecution Relief and I am really amazed to see, you did much more than we expect you to do. Specially I appreciate your reaching out to remote places of India through your coordinators and specially we are blessed by your Breaking News posts Thru which people across the globe pray for the persecuted.

And now in India everybody knows about Persecution Relief. God Bless you and give strength to do greater work in the days to come.

On behalf of Mr Biju Vallavanadan, Our General Secretary & All India United Christain Front family, I wish you all the best”.



Dr. Aby P Mathew Corordinator, India MISSION

“We thank God for the ministry of persecution relief. 2018 was a year of persecution in our ministry here. Many workers of India Mission and IPC went through severe opposition.

We want to thank Persecution relief team for standing with us during this time. For talking g with the authorities and for interceding before the Lord. May God bless the ministry of Persecution relief and also Brother Shibu Thomas to give leadership”.



Rev. Saji Chacko, President Gilead Gospel Mission

“I am Pastor SAJI CHACKO, based in Agra, our organisation Gilead gospel mission is committed work in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab. We are fully committed for our call. In last few months we are going through some difficult time of persecution, our churches and pastors have been persecuted many times. During this period of time Persecution relief team and Br Shibu Thomas is always there with their help and assistance. Not only that they are ready to help us with legal assistance. We are being blessed by persecution relief. From the bottom of our heart we want thank persecution relief and specially Pastor Shibu Thomas for standing with us.”



Pr. Livingston Joseph, President, Bethel Outreach Ministry , Jharkhand

“First of all, we are so grateful to God for persecution relief. In a time as this Persecution Relief is the Esther for Christians in India. We were helped in such dark situations through Persecution relief that we will never forget. Once when one of our missionaries was arrested with false accusations in Banswara, Rajasthan and we as an organisation couldn't reach there soon but persecution relief reached to the local police station with their authorities and helped in the release of this wonderful missionary. And one more time our Outreach team was arrested with false accusations in Odisha Koraput district and their mobile phones were seized. They were not able to contact us and so did we. But in that situation also persecution relief helped not only reach them but rescued them out of that prison on the same evening. Our prayers for them is people like them should grow more in this nation of India to raise voice for those who cannot raise their voice for themselves. Let Jesus' name be glorified. Our love, prayers and support will always be there for you”.



Pr. Bangali Das

“I was told about Persecution by Pastor Vinod and Pastor Renjith of India Mission. When I called Bro. Shibu and narrated the incident, he was immediately very sympathetic and supportive. He immediately provided me financial assistance for my medical treatment and other incidentals. I am grateful for the timely help. God bless you Bro. Shibu”.



Pr. Bijoy

“I am so thankful to Bro. Shibu Thomas for helping me and Pastor Packiyaraj to be released for the Police custody. The moment he spoke to us, he reached out to SP Mr. Singh and the SHO. Though the SHO was not available, he rushed back to the Police Station and helped us be released.

May God bless Persecution Relief Team. My prayer and best wishes are always with them”.



Pr. M. Varghese, IPC Ebenezer Church

“Thank you, Persecution Relief team for all your help specially the financial support you extended towards my Scanning and other expenses. I never asked for anything but thank for sending the financial in a time like this and I am also thankful for all your care and support.”



Pr. Sikandar Ravidas

“Thank you, Persecution Relief team, for the response given when we called on your Toll-Free Number: 1800-1234-461. Thank you for the Judicial help provided for our release. Please continue to pray for us”.



Pr. Dinesh Maddad, Disciples of Christ Church

“I had never heard of Persecution Relief, so I just recorded the number when I got it. When we faced the issue with Sis. Pramila and her son, I called the Founder directly and he immediately provide all the necessary judicial and financial support. The following day, when I was arrested, I called him again and he guided me and supported me financially too. He was also a huge source of support to my family in a time like this. God Bless Persecution Relief and may they continue to be blessing to the persecuted Church in India.”



Pr. Leslie Nagarajan, CEO

“India Church Growth Mission (ICGM) is an inter-denominational, Church planting organisation, based in Odisha State.

At one of our Children’s Home, religious fanatics forced some of the children to testify falsely against Bro. Prince Royson, who was running the Institution, alleging that he was giving Bibles to children, forcing them to work and making it compulsory to attend prayers The FIR was filed and Bro. Prince was lodged in jail on 25th August 2018. It took us 64 days to get him released on bail.

Persecution Relief Ministry run by Bro Shibu Thomas mobilized prayer and financial support for Bro. Prince. ICGM are thankful to God for Persecution Relief and their ministry to the persecuted Church.

May the good Lord bless this ministry”



GET PERSECUTION
UPDATES

JOIN
THE MOVEMENT

www.twitter.com/PersecutionR

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PERSECUTION RELIEF

HEADS OF STATE AND UNION TERRITORIES

STATE



Pastor Plathaneth Noel Samuel
Andhra Pradesh



Pastor Phasssang Simi
Arunachal Pradesh



Rev. Somni Simang Islary
Assam



Rev. Mariyosh Joseph
Bihar



Bro. Philip Mathew
Chhattisgarh



Pastor Ignatius Fernandes
Goa



Pastor Geo Varghese
Gujarat



Rev. Sobichen Thomas
Haryana



Dr. Sam Abraham
Himachal Pradesh



Rev. Manoj Mon Daniel
Jammu & Kashmir



Rev. Finny Samuel
Jharkhand



Bro. Pericho Peter Prabhu
Karnataka



Rev. Biju Varghese
Madhya Pradesh



Adv. Devdan David
Tribhuvan
Maharashtra



Rev. Suantak Prim Vaiphei
Manipur



Bro. Baby Thomas
Meghalaya



Rev. B. Zazawna Lai
Mizoram



Mrs. Arenla Imsong
Nagaland



Rev. Dr. Charles Lakra
Odisha



Pastor K. Koshy
Punjab



Pastor Raj Kumar
Rajasthan



Rev. Kalyanakumar. J
Tamil Nadu



Dr. R. John Joseph Navajeev (Jt.)
Tamil Nadu



Rev. Kasetti Anil Kumar
Telangana



Pastor Subrata Ganguli
Tripura



Bro. Vedha Moorthy
West Bengal



Rev Alok Srivastava
Uttar Pradesh



Pastor Bala Sundaram (Jt.)
Uttar Pradesh



George Oommen
Uttarakhand



Bishop Dr Anil Sam George
Sikkim

UNION TERRITORY



Pastor Abraham P Rajan
Andaman and Nicobar Islands



Rev. Saji Varghese
Chandigarh



Pastor NM Rao
Daman and Diu



Bro. Ebin Thankachan
New Delhi



Bro. D. Gnanasekaran
Puducherry

OUR CONTACT DETAILS



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please send your name and city,
so that we can add you in our group for live updates.

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LOOKING BACK 2018

