

## A WARNING

*Case studies of persecution are often harrowing to read, demonstrating much cruelty and extreme suffering. It can be overwhelming and it is easy to despair. But the stories also reveal extraordinary courage and inspirational faith. Learning of the experiences of others is humbling, but also draws us nearer to God. We can have confidence that evil will be defeated, 'for nothing is impossible with God' (Luke 1:37). Churches can offer pastoral support when you need it — do talk to your own minister if things look too black.*

## WHAT DOES THE LOGO MEAN?

The letter 'N' in Arabic (*Nun* - pronounced *noon*) at the centre of the logo stands for *Nazarene* — as Christians are referred to in the Middle East. IS painted 'N' on the doors of Christians' homes so they could be targeted.

The 'Nun' sign has been adopted by Christians as representing their persecution — much as the yellow star, forced on the Jews by Nazis, represented theirs — and with the supporting hands forms the logo of the Caucus for the Persecuted Church.

## USEFUL LINKS

**Open Doors** : <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>

*Open Doors' World Watch List ranks the 50 countries where Christians face the most persecution*

**Barnabas Fund** : <https://barnabasfund.org>

*Hope and aid for the persecuted church*

**CSW** : Christian Solidarity Worldwide : <https://www.csw.org.uk>

*As Christians, we stand with everyone facing injustice because of their belief*

**Aid to the Church in Need** : <https://acnuk.org/>

*an international pastoral aid organization of the Catholic Church*

**Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust** : <https://www.hart-uk.org/>

*supporting local partners in 8 countries and advocacy in the UK and internationally*

**Caucus for the Persecuted Church** :

contact Dr Russell Blacker [c.v.r.blacker@btinternet.com](mailto:c.v.r.blacker@btinternet.com)

**International Christian Consulate** :

<http://www.internationalchristianconsulate.com/>

*Protecting the growing needs and interests of Christians in the Middle East*

**International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church** :

<http://idop.org> *Includes prayer resources*

**Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East** :

<https://frrme.org/>

*Christian charity which aims to rebuild lives and restore hope in the Middle East*

**Bishop of Truro's Independent Review for the Foreign Secretary of FCO Support for Persecuted Christians**:

<https://christianpersecutionreview.org.uk>

*see more on*

[www.falmouthchurchestogether.org.uk/persecution](http://www.falmouthchurchestogether.org.uk/persecution)

## SUPPORTING PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

## WHAT CAN I DO?

PRAY

LEARN

WITNESS

Falmouth  
+ Penryn  
Churches  
Together

practical suggestions inside



# PRAY

## *Privately* —

include persecuted Christians and those working to relieve their suffering in your personal prayers. Many organisations offer guidelines or prayer diaries to help you focus. Prayer Pointers are available on the FPCT website.

## *With others* —

encourage any groups you attend that pray together to include the persecuted. The FPCT Justice & Peace Action Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 2-4pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Falmouth, to discuss a wide variety of topics but the second half of each meeting always includes prayer for the persecuted and refugees. Everyone welcome for all or part of the afternoon.

## *In church* —

encourage those leading intercessions to pray regularly for the persecuted church

# LEARN

## *Join* —

most of the organisations working in the field have mailing lists and produce regular newsletters. The Caucus for the Persecuted Church produces a monthly digest: to receive it e-mail Dr Russell Blacker at [c.v.r.blacker@btinternet.com](mailto:c.v.r.blacker@btinternet.com).

## *Read, listen and watch* —

There is much material available on the background, history and reasons for persecution. Browse online, look out for films and broadcasts, explore your local library and bookshop. Perhaps start a book group with others interested?

## *Study* —

the Bible has much to say about persecution. Why not encourage your church to make study materials available and perhaps run courses?

# WITNESS

## *Remember* —

wear a badge or wristband as a reminder to you to keep the persecuted in your thoughts and prayers, and to encourage others to ask questions. Support Red Wednesday and the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church in November.

## *Lobby* —

ensure you MP understands the importance of UK support for persecuted Christians. Write to papers, join social media groups, attend local events discussing the issues, and raise awareness in your church congregation. FPCT has materials to help.

## *Support* —

Join letter writing campaigns to support individual Christians. Financial support is always needed by organisations working in the field.