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# Pakistan

**Source of persecution** Islamic oppression

**Population** 200,814,000

**Christians** 3,981,000

**Main religion** Islam

**Government** Federal republic

**Leader** Prime Minister Imran Khan

## Profile of persecution

Based on World Watch List 2019 data

**Violence**



**Pressure**



## Open discrimination and violent attacks

Under Pakistan’s notorious blasphemy laws, Christians continue to live in daily fear they will be accused of blasphemy—which can carry a penalty of death. Additionally, radical Islamists seem to be gaining more political power, and the new ruling government must maintain good diplomatic relationships with some radical groups. Christians are largely regarded as second-class citizens, and conversion to Christianity from Islam carries a great deal of risk.

## Prayer points

- Pray for Pakistani converts from Muslim backgrounds who suffer the brunt of the persecution in Pakistan. Radical Islamist groups see them as apostates, and their family, friends and neighbors see their conversion as shameful to the community.
- Pray for Christians accused under blasphemy laws, that they would not face violence or mob “justice” and that they would stand strong in the midst of great risk.