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# Afghanistan

SOURCE OF PERSECUTION  
**Clan oppression**

LEADER  
**President Ashraf Ghani**

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TOTAL POPULATION  
**38,055,000**

CHRISTIAN POPULATION  
**A small number<sup>1</sup>**

MAIN RELIGION  
**Islam**



Photo by IMB



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***For the last three years, Afghanistan has almost tied with North Korea for the No. 1 spot on the World Watch List.***

## WHAT IS LIFE LIKE FOR CHRISTIANS IN AFGHANISTAN?

In Afghanistan, living openly as a Christian is impossible. Christian converts face dire consequences if their new faith is discovered. Essentially, converts have two options: flee the country or risk being killed. If their family discovers their conversion, the family, clan or tribe must save its “honor” by disowning the believer, or even killing them. Christians from a Muslim background can also be sent to a psychiatric hospital, because leaving Islam is considered a sign of insanity.

## PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for protection for the small percentage of Afghani believers. Pray that anyone who might be hunting down secret Afghan Christians would not discover them.
- Pray that despite their isolation, Afghan believers would be strengthened in their faith and that they would find safe ways to access God’s Word and communicate with other believers.
- Pray that God would be at work in the hearts of Islamic extremists—such as the Taliban and ISIS.

<sup>1</sup>Open Doors’ estimate