

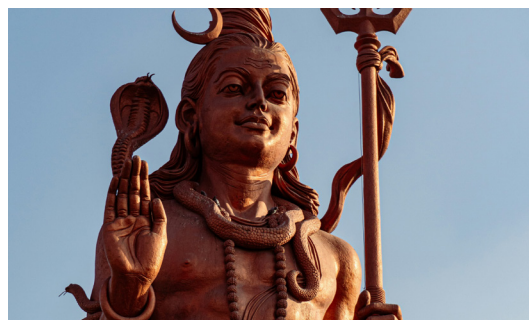
PERSECUTION IN NORTHERN INDIA

Christians in northern India face severe persecution, specifically in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. In 2023, ICR partners documented 275 persecution incidents and 440 arrests in Uttar Pradesh, while Chhattisgarh reported 132 persecution cases. The Evangelical Fellowship of India reported over 720 incidents in both states in 2024. In 2025, these trends are worsening.

Uttar Pradesh has laws against evangelism (known as anti-conversion laws), and in 2020, added an amendment which includes life imprisonment for forced conversions. Persecution takes multiple forms in both states, including:

- Legal Persecution: False accusations resulting in prolonged detention.
- Violent Attacks: Christians face beatings and humiliation by extremists.
- Systemic Discrimination: Christians are denied water access, land rights, and burial grounds.
- Forced Reconversions: Converts forced to participate in conversion rituals.
- Police Complicity: Authorities delay responses or file counter-complaints.

Bindu was the 32-year-old breadwinner for her extended family in Toylanka village in Chhattisgarh. She had led eight families in her village to Christ, which angered her uncle. He took the family's farmland, and the police did nothing to help. One day, as the family was trying to plant crops on the little land they had left, Bindu's uncle and cousin came and attacked her with stones and an axe. The police said it was too dark for them to respond, and Bindu died from her injuries. Villagers would not allow her to be buried in the village, so she is buried 19 miles away. The rest of her family is too afraid to return to the village, so ICR helped relocate them.



PROVIDE URGENT AID \$120-\$600 PER INCIDENT

Here's what it takes to help a persecuted Christian family (five – six people) in either of these two states:

Travel to safe location: \$250

Housing: \$730/year

Basic necessities: \$600/year

Food: \$600/year

Legal help: \$500/year

Small business start-up: \$1,200



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