

HOPE & HELP FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Serving the persecuted well includes being able to immediately respond. Over time, ICR has developed a network of partners and churches on the ground who are able to react quickly when persecution happens.

When a riot occurs, when someone is beaten, when a home is burned down, or when someone is imprisoned, believers need emergency help. Often, this need is financial. ICR supports numerous projects for persecuted Christians that focus on long-term help, but the instant response fund is specifically for immediate, emergency needs.

**Last year, ICR used these funds in the following ways:**

- In Syria, ICR assisted hundreds of Christian families displaced by the conflict that began in December 2024.
- In Pakistan, the fund supported two groups of Christians accused of blasphemy against Islam. They needed legal defense and living assistance for family members.
- In Iran, a young woman who recently came to faith has faced both family persecution and governmental harassment and threats. She desires to stay in the country, so ICR helped her move to another area.
- In Laos, an evangelical church was destroyed by local authorities after church members refused to renounce their faith. ICR gave encouragement along with rebuilding supplies.
- ICR provided emergency relocation assistance (within the area) to 76 families who were former Muslims whose lives were in immediate danger in Central Asia.

During 2024, ICR met immediate needs for more than 650 cases.

Your gift to the Instant Response Fund enables ICR to help meet these needs as they occur. These funds are most often used for individuals and families who are at risk of greater persecution or death without assistance. In general, the amounts needed for each case range from around \$200 to \$3,000, depending on the need and location.



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**SUPPORT  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE**



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HOPE & HELP FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

# SUPPORT PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN

Since the Taliban takeover in August 2021, our Christian brothers and sisters in Afghanistan have been facing severe persecution and hardship. Many have fled to neighboring countries like Pakistan, living as refugees without legal documents, making it nearly impossible for them to find work or relocate safely. Returning to Afghanistan is not an option for them, as their official IDs indicate that they are Christians and puts them at risk of being killed by the Taliban.

For those who choose to stay, life is extremely difficult, especially for those who are most vulnerable under the current regime: women and widows. With no right to work, widows are often left with no choice but to resort to desperate means to provide for their families.

In this region, ICR works closely with partners who are connected to networks of believers. Not only are believers helped with their physical needs, ICR partners spend time encouraging them and praying with them. This gift of fellowship is highly valued by people who must always remain guarded. They often feel very lonely and have little opportunity to grow spiritually.

Your support and gifts can make a critical difference for these brothers and sisters living under dire circumstances, bringing them hope and help in their time of need.



**SUPPORT A BELIEVING FAMILY FOR THREE MONTHS: \$130**



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# BIBLES FOR IRAN

Christians in Iran often face persecution for their faith from both the government and family members. Conversion from Islam is illegal and is punishable with long prison sentences. Any sort of evangelism or gathering others for worship is also illegal, and the government reserves harsh prison sentences for those it perceives to be Christian leaders. This forces most Christian converts to practice Christianity in secrecy and depend on the underground network for their spiritual sustenance.

However, despite the risk of persecution, the underground church in Iran continues to grow, with hundreds of individuals making requests for Bibles in the last year. These believers, facing daunting challenges due to their faith, rely on the clandestine distribution of Bibles to help sustain and enrich their spiritual lives. Getting Bibles into their hands is challenging as Bibles are illegal and owning them can lead to severe repercussions. Bible distribution is also illegal.

ICR desires to equip local believers by helping provide access to the Word of God. These Bibles will either be taken to the homes of individuals who have directly requested a Bible from our partners or given out at house churches to members who can then distribute them among family and friends.

Our partners have a team of mature believers who do on-the-ground follow-up work, in partnership with the local church. This partner works through a wide-reaching network of believers who are serving to fulfill the Great Commission throughout Iran. This network of Persian believers inside Iran, and in neighboring countries, is enabling their team to be able to identify the needs, print high-quality Bibles, coordinate with the networks needed for distributions into various locations, and deliver the Bibles.



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**COST PER BIBLE: \$13**



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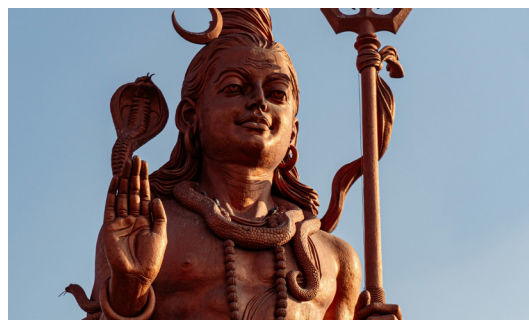
# PERSECUTION IN NORTHERN INDIA

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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HOPE & HELP FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

# SUPPORT CHRISTIANS WRONGLY IMPRISONED IN PAKISTAN

The Christian community in Pakistan has historically faced discrimination and persecution. As a marginalized community, opportunities and resources are limited for our fellow believers. Christians are given the lowest-status jobs available, such as cleaning street gutters and garbage collection. There is no opportunity for advancement or social status change.

With a powerful Muslim majority and laws and society designed to benefit the dominant religion, persecution affects every Christian in Pakistan daily. These persecutions range from small inconveniences to wide-scale riot attacks to kidnapping and rape to accusations of blasphemy against Islam that result in imprisonment or death.

The country has strict laws for blasphemy against Islam. These laws are often used against Christians. False accusations made under these laws have resulted in violence, imprisonment, death, displacement, and destruction of property. Another way these laws are used are when someone makes it seem like a Christian has spoken against Islam.

Bashir (name changed) is a Christian. A Muslim friend asked to borrow his phone and then sent a blasphemous message against the prophet Mohammed. Bashir was charged with blasphemy and has been in prison since 2016. ICR is providing financial resources to ensure that Bashir is well represented legally. His lawyer is fighting the case in court, even a death penalty was already handed down. Bashir is married, though his son was born after he went to prison, and his son hardly knows him. His family is worried about what will happen to Bashir.

ICR currently supports 30 families whose family members are in prison because of blasphemy accusations with food, rent, and medicine. ICR also covers legal costs for 14 Christians accused of blasphemy.



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**SUPPORT FAMILIES OF IMPRISONED  
BELIEVERS FOR ONE MONTH: \$110**



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HOPE & HELP FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

# SUPPORT CHRISTIANS MINISTERING TO THE DISPLACED IN SYRIA AND IRAQ

The civil war in Syria began 13 years ago. Ten years ago, the Islamic State (IS) was at the height of its expansion in Syria and Iraq. The world was horrified by the atrocities and declarations to help came quickly. In time, the images faded from the world's awareness. The suffering, however, remained, and is still present today.

Many people still live in refugee camps. There are still more than 6 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Syria and more than 1 million in Iraq. They live in precarious situations and depend on outside help for most necessities.

ICR partners distribute basic food staples about once a month. They also give hygiene supplies to particularly needy families.

The food baskets are distributed by local churches in the name of Jesus. Believers spend time with the families and pray with them. Through this, people experience the love of God and hear the good news. Our partners tell us the church is growing in these countries as people are drawn to faith when they interact with the faithful Christians who bring the food.

ICR aims to help 3,000 families in Syria and 500 families in Iraq. Each food basket costs \$33. The food packages contain things like sugar, tea, salt, rice, noodles, vegetable oil, and other items.

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**SUPPORT FOOD FOR ONE  
FAMILY FOR ONE MONTH: \$33**



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# TRAIN A CHURCH PLANTER IN TURKEY

Although Turkey was the home of the early Christian church, it is now more than 96% Muslim. In recent years, it has been a difficult place to make disciples of Christ because of an Islamist government and strong anti-Christian propaganda throughout society. This is slowly changing, however.

Most believers agree that there are between 15,000 and 25,000 evangelical Christians in Turkey (though there are probably many more secret believers than that). About 10,000 evangelicals attend church weekly, and that number is growing.

The devastating earthquakes in February 2023 left many people with almost nothing. The earthquakes affected 11 cities – an area the size of Alabama – leaving and left thousands homeless, injured, and hungry. The government wasn't equipped to meet the needs, but Turkish churches, among others, stepped in. They set up street-corner soup kitchens and makeshift clinics and took the unsheltered into church buildings. Through local churches, ICR was among those supporting relief efforts.

The actions of Christians created an unprecedented openness to the gospel in that region. People asked for Bibles and prayers. Partners baptized about two dozen people and saw dozens more come to faith in Christ. Many people were willing to attend church services, either out of curiosity or genuine interest.

Our partners want to take full advantage of this opportunity by faithfully equipping believers. They want to train new believers in theology and church planting. The plan is to train 25 believers over seven months. In that period, students will get one weekend training course each month. After these seven sessions, the believers will be sent out to different parts of Turkey to start new house churches.

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**THE TOTAL COST TO TRAIN  
ONE BELIEVER: \$1,300**



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HOPE & HELP FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

# EQUIP MBBS TO SHARE THE GOSPEL THROUGH MEDIA

Almost everyone is connected to some form of media today. It has become an effective way to share the gospel, especially in places where people cannot openly question prevailing religious beliefs.

ICR partners with Al Hayat Ministries to use cutting-edge media to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and bring eternal change in the hearts of Muslims worldwide. Al Hayat is a 24/7 Arabic Christian television network that was founded in 2003 with the vision to have believers from a Muslim background (MBBs) produce programs for a Muslim audience.

The programs provide analysis of Islam, apologetic teaching, and personal stories to guide viewers to a saving knowledge of Jesus as Lord. Programs also disciple new believers by teaching how to read and study the Bible and what Christian worship and prayer look like. The Al Hayat team is from both Christian and Muslim backgrounds and desires to unveil the deception of Islam respectfully yet fearlessly.

The channel broadcasts via satellite, and all programs and productions are also available on-demand on Al Hayat website and social media. Viewers can email questions, post comments, and request material. A dedicated team responds to all inquiries, sends church contact information and literature, and arranges in-person meetings.

The channel receives an average of 9 million viewer engagements every month, with 7.8 million of those on Facebook.

Many of the messages are like this one: “I am Adel from Cairo, and I left Islam and came to know Jesus and now I believe in Him. All credit goes to the Christian channels that revealed the myths that we believe in. I read the Bible in secret and my family and co-workers do not know anything about it. Unfortunately, I am not currently a member of any church because I am afraid, but look I forward to finding one.”

Will you partner with ICR and Al Hayat to help produce this content and respond to seekers and new believers? This ministry needs financial help to cover airtime costs, produce programs, and to disciple brothers and sisters in Christ.



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**SUPPORT CHRISTIAN  
MEDIA OUTREACH  
TO THE MUSLIM WORLD**



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# SUPPORT DISPLACED CHRISTIANS IN MYANMAR

As armies war and bombs drop, a group of Christian families in Myanmar are in desperate need.

Fighting has been ongoing in Myanmar since 2021. Ethnic armies have been battling government armies, and military aircraft bomb villages and towns regularly. They most often hit civilians. The repeated attacks have forced many to flee their homes. Christians are especially targeted because they differ from the majority religion.

In the summer of 2024, a battle over Myanmar's most important city in the northeast forced thousands from their homes. Most people fled to safer towns to live with relatives or friends, or they hid in the surrounding forests.

Myo Ain is a church leader who runs a children's home for about 100 children. When the fighting in her town began, the grounds of the children's home were hit by rockets. One child was killed and others were seriously injured.

After the attack, Myo Ain sent the children to various churches outside the city while she stayed behind with the oldest children. "We wanted to make sure our houses weren't looted. A few days later, however, a People's Defense Force combat group arrived and took up position next door. We knew then that our entire neighborhood would be attacked by airplanes at any moment, so we left immediately and got to safety. The church, the children's home, other buildings, and everything is now razed."

ICR's partner in the region knows most of the churches in the city. When Christians fled the fighting, they mostly took refuge in other churches. Churches took them in, but several months later, most churches' resources are strained caring for these families. Churches have already been caring for people for three years since the fighting began.

With the constant violence, new families are displaced every day, and there is an ongoing need for food support. However, an ICR partner has identified 160 families who lost everything and need help being reestablished with clothing, basic household goods and food.



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**SUPPORT A BELIEVING  
FAMILY FOR ONE MONTH: \$130**

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# SUPPORT FOR NIGERIAN CHRISTIAN WIDOWS

This project will benefit 100 Christian widows who lost their spouse because of persecution. The project will also benefit their children. Over 50,000 Christians have been killed in this area of Nigeria in the last 15 years. These 100 selected widows are only a few of the total victims, as ICR partners estimate there are 25,000 widows in Nigeria as a result of persecution. The women chosen have extreme need.

Losing a husband in a religiously motivated attack leaves families traumatized emotionally. Additionally, homes and crops are often destroyed in these attacks, rendering families homeless. When families flee to other places, they often lose community connections, also. Then, having lost the family breadwinner, the surviving spouse must find work.

This project mitigates their needs, while addressing spiritual needs and emotional trauma, setting these families up for long-term success.

This cost covers each widow's rent, medical costs, and monthly support and is a part of a larger endeavor conducted by our partners, which includes business training and capital, household goods, and clothing.

A team of Nigerian project coordinators oversee the implementation of the project while ministering to the widows' physical, spiritual, and emotional needs in cooperation with a local church.

This approach is aimed at long-term success and sustainability and cares for the women and their children for several years before financial support expires. When they graduate from the program, they are equipped with necessary skills to support their family financially and spiritually.



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**TOTAL COST FOR EACH WIDOW  
(AND FAMILY): \$200 A MONTH**



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# EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN OF CHRISTIAN MARTYRS IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

This project will benefit 459 Christian children who have lost one or both parents because of persecution. Over 50,000 Christians have been killed in this area of Nigeria in the last 15 years. These 459 selected children are only a few of the total victims.

- This educational project is managed by a trusted local partner ministry that provides oversight, follow-up, and accountability for each student.
- Primary schools have a distinctly Christian focus.
- University students attend national universities.
- This program also incorporates trauma counseling, necessary for children who have seen or heard about their parents' brutal murders by Muslim extremists.
- The long-term goal of this endeavor is to strengthen the Church in northern Nigeria. By investing in these children and strengthening their faith with counseling and teaching in cooperation with the local church, these children may be future leaders of the church.
- There are potential opportunities to visit this project by leadership or short-term mission teams.

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**COST PER STUDENT  
AVERAGES \$1,200/YEAR.  
TOTAL COST IS \$550,800.**

*Costs cover K-12 schooling, vocational training for teens and young adults, and university for others. It includes books, uniforms, transportation, school meals, and administration charges.*



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# EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR MANIPUR, INDIA

When violence broke out in May 2023 in the state of Manipur, it disproportionately affected Christians. More than 200 people were killed, including 176 Kuki tribal Christians. Over 7,000 homes and 350 churches were destroyed. The conflict sprang from a high court directive to grant tribal status to the Meitei community. The Kuki are mostly Christian and the Meitei are mostly Hindu, though there is a Christian Meitei minority who have also suffered in this conflict.

More than a year after the initial violence, over 60,000 people, including 40,000 Kuki Christians, are homeless. At least 20,000 of these live in 100 relief camps in neighboring regions. These camps have inadequate healthcare and substandard living conditions, and about 100 people have died. The heat is searing, there is little shelter, and food and water are scarce. Families are struggling to survive, while clinging to their faith.

The violence shuttered schools and moved children elsewhere. “Without proper education, these children face a bleak future, perpetuating the cycle of poverty and instability,” the ICR partner said.

This partner will establish temporary learning centers staffed with qualified teachers in the relief camps. The center will be equipped with necessary educational supplies and resources. The partner will recruit teachers and provide a salary.



**SUPPORT A TEACHER  
FOR ONE MONTH: \$155**



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# HOUSING SUPPORT FOR MANIPUR, INDIA

When violence broke out in May 2023 in the state of Manipur, it disproportionately affected Christians. More than 200 people were killed, including 176 Christians from the Kuki tribe. Over 7,000 homes and 350 churches were destroyed. The conflict sprang from a high court directive to grant tribal status to the Meitei community. The Kuki are mostly Christian and the Meitei are mostly Hindu, though there is a Christian Meitei minority who have also suffered in this conflict.

More than a year after the initial violence, over 60,000 people, including 40,000 Kuki Christians, are homeless. At least 20,000 of these live in 100 relief camps in neighboring regions. These camps have inadequate healthcare and substandard living conditions, and about 100 people have died. The heat is searing, there is little shelter, and food and water are scarce. Families are struggling to survive, while clinging to their faith.

One of the simplest things ICR can do to help displaced believers is to put a roof over their heads so they have a permanent place to call home and they can get out of the relief camps. There are two options for this: rebuilding homes or renting available housing. Both options will be implemented, depending on individual situations.

An ICR partner said, “We can help these Christians rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience.”

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**REBUILD A BURNED  
HOME: \$1,170**



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# MEDICAL SUPPORT IN MANIPUR, INDIA

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More than a year after the initial violence, over 60,000 people, including 40,000 Kuki Christians, are homeless. At least 20,000 of these live in 100 relief camps in neighboring regions. These camps have inadequate healthcare and substandard living conditions, and about 100 people have died. The heat is searing, there is little shelter, and food and water are scarce. Families are struggling to survive, while clinging to their faith.

There are no hospitals in the district, and the nearest facilities are 18 hours away. Many sick people simply don't receive treatment.

ICR partners plan to provide essential medical supplies and healthcare services in the Manipur relief camps. Partners will source medicines, first-aid supplies, and medical equipment and distribute them as needed. A mobile health clinic staffed with volunteer doctors, nurses and paramedics will serve select relief camps and provide regular health check-ups, vaccinations, and treatment for common ailments. They will also implement hygiene and sanitation programs to prevent disease outbreaks.

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**SUPPORT A MEDICAL CLINIC FOR DISPLACED BELIEVERS FOR ONE YEAR: \$12,000**



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HOPE & HELP FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

# SUPPORT, EQUIP, ADVANCE

Here is a sample of specific projects you could sponsor. Perhaps your church could choose a project to give to monthly that aligns with your ministry goals. Or a Sunday school class could take on the sponsorship of a Christian worker in a region they are passionate about. Or a homeschool co-op could support the education of a child.

COUNTRY	PROJECT
Where ICR Serves	Emergency Response
India	Rebuild Homes Education for Displaced Christians Medical Help for Displaced Christians Persecution Help
Nigeria	Widows of Martyrs Orphaned Children
Iran	Bibles
Middle East	Media Ministry
Turkey	Training Church Planters
Syria/Iraq	Support Displaced Christians
Afghanistan/Pakistan	Support Believing Families
Pakistan	Families of Imprisoned Christians
Myanmar	Care for Christians Run out of Homes



*ICR serves in more than 50 countries, so if there is a part of the world where you want to make a difference, we can point you there.*

**SCAN THE CODE BELOW  
TO SEE DETAILS ABOUT  
CURRENT PROJECTS.**



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