

19 October 2026

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH 1st and 8th NOVEMBER 2026

“You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, sufferings ... In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” 2 Timothy 3:10-12

Greetings from the Evangelical Fellowship of India,

We would like to invite you to participate in the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP). IDOP gives us the privilege of joining churches around the world in prayer for the persecuted Church each year. An initiative of the World Evangelical Alliance, IDOP is promoted in India by the Evangelical Fellowship of India (EFI) as a time of intercession for persecuted Christians around the world.

Across the world, millions of Christians live in places where following Jesus comes at a great cost. Some estimates put this number as high as 380 million, approximately one in seven Christians worldwide who face persecution because of their faith. Globally, millions of Christians experience significant persecution, facing constant threats to their lives, livelihoods, and freedoms. Persecution continues to escalate across the Middle East, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and parts of the West. Many are oppressed and silenced because of their faith in Jesus Christ, yet their unwavering faith remains a testament to God's power at work in their lives.

Across India, Christians have, over the years, suffered loss of life and livelihoods, property damage, and false accusations. Many have languished in prison amid rising intolerance toward missionaries, pastors, priests, and the Christian community at large. As of 15th October 2026, the Religious Liberty Commission, an initiative of EFI, documented close to 435 incidents of violence and hate crimes against Christians in India. These incidents range from threats and disruptions of prayer meetings to physical violence, social boycotts, and arrests resulting from false accusations.

On the occasion of the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) 2026, we are reminded by 2 Timothy 3:10–12 that following Christ requires faith, patience, love, and endurance, even in the face of persecution and suffering. Across India and around the world, Christians continue to face threats, violence, false accusations, and imprisonment because of their faith. Yet, they remain steadfast in their devotion to Christ.

Organised by the World Evangelical Alliance, the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) has, for more than three decades, united the global Church in prayer for our suffering brothers and sisters. Observed each November, IDOP provides an opportunity for churches around the world to dedicate time to intercede and act on behalf of those who remain steadfast in their faith amid hardship and hostility.

EFI appeals to churches, organisations, and individuals across India to organise special IDOP services dedicated to praying for the persecuted Church on 1st and 8th November 2026, at their convenience. We encourage churches and Christian communities to use these occasions to pray for persecuted Christians, raise awareness about the challenges they face, and stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters who continue to faithfully follow Christ despite persecution.

The following resources for IDOP are available and can be accessed at our website (www.efionline.org) and on our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/EFoIndia>

- **Posters and Pamphlets:** designed specially to create awareness in the local church to mobilize and organize prayers.
- **Monthly Prayer Calendars** to help Christians pray better for the persecuted Church in India and the World. You can sign up for the monthly prayer calendars by writing to efirc.india@gmail.com

We earnestly encourage you to support and organize this important observance in your church, house group, fellowship, or organization, providing encouragement and solidarity to the persecuted Church through prayer and

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intercession. We believe that as we pray together, we stand with our brothers and sisters who are suffering for their faith and remind them that they are not alone.

If you would like an EFI representative to participate in your IDOP observance, please contact us at mail@efionline.org. We would be honoured to join you in this significant time of prayer, fellowship, and unity with the persecuted Church.

We would also love to hear how you observed IDOP in your church, local group, or organization and how the experience blessed and encouraged your community. Please feel free to share your reports, testimonies, and photographs with us at mail@efionline.org. Your stories can encourage others across India to pray and stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians.

If you feel led by God to strengthen EFI's efforts to provide assistance, advocacy, and support to Christians affected by persecution in India, we invite you to prayerfully consider partnering with us financially. Your support can help us stand alongside those who face persecution, provide practical assistance to those in need, and strengthen efforts to uphold religious freedom and justice. Donation details are provided in the letter below.

Warm Regards,



Rev. Vijayesh Lal
General Secretary – EFI

Donation Account Details:

Account Name: Evangelical Fellowship of India

Account Number: 909844182, IFSC Code: IDIB000N044

Bank Address: Indian Bank, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019

Please send your email ID, phone number, and PAN (in case of a donation of more than 2000 Rupees)

You can also donate at www.efionline.org/give