

# OPERATION ORANGE RIBBON



1st Corinthians 12:26

## EACH MONTH

600 Christians are executed for their faith

214 Churches and church property are destroyed

722 Forms of violence are committed against Christians

SOURCES: Franklin Graham

Samaritans Purse &

OpenDoorsusa.com

## SCORE BOARD

People praying	25000
Churches participating	104
Denominations	15
States	9

## CONTACT US

Phone 864-982-6111

Email: [scfrench2@aol.com](mailto:scfrench2@aol.com)

Web :

## OOOR NEWS LETTER January 2019

Why should we pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ? The Bible is very clear about our responsibility.

Hebrews 13:3 tells us to "Remember those in prison, as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourself were suffering"

James 5:16.....The prayers of a righteous man are powerful and effective.

### 2018 A BANNER YEAR FOR OPERATION ORANGE

Total of 104 churches participated with OOR since we inception. We added 13 churches in 2018. The last half of 2018 was used to develop a program for churches for International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church.

Picture of "KIT" materials ready to ship to 25 participating churches



Facebook:  
operation orange ribbon

**EMAIL THIS TO A FRIEND**

## **OPERATION ORANGE RIBBON Mission Statement**

### **OUR MISSION**

To raise local and national awareness of the persecution of our Christian brothers and sisters around the world to a higher level of concern and encourage greater action and involvement, as well as provide financial aid to Christian families that have been persecuted when possible

### **Objective:**

Local community and nation in prayer for our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters. Inspire our leaders, government and religious, to speak out and take bold action to relieve the suffering and persecution.

### **Tactics:**

1. Supply ribbons/wristbands with information card
2. Reach out and educate Christians and churches with

## **Very successful "World Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church"**

While we were extremely grateful for the success of Operation Orange Ribbon, we wanted to do something more tangible to help the churches recognize the plight of the persecuted church. Our solution was to zero in on Nov 4<sup>th</sup> International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, We put together what we call a "Kit " which included everything a church would need to promote and insure a meaningful service. The Kit included, ribbons & wristbands, a poster for promoting the day, handouts including, a prayer guide, list of the 50 most dangerous counties, OOR DVD, OOR pamphlet, sample sermon outlines, and instructions on when to do what. We invited 25 churches to participate and all 25 said yes. The feed back on the service and the materials provided has been great. We followed up with a survey to see how we could improve our program and all that responded said they would like to do it again next year. We will open up this program to a much larger group this year. The Lord continues to bless our mission.

### **Two major team members add:**

Maurice Rice-- Webmaster and Technical adviser  
Gerry Barlick--Communications and Outreach

With their aid we have made improvements to the organization. Specificaly one improvement is the addition to the website by adding a resource page that include; a calender, videos, past newsletters, recommended books, sermons, list of most dangerous countries.

### **Sam Elisha**



We have started 2019 with a bang. This January the 6th, we had our first OOR Sunday at Grace Chapel Church in Cayse, SC. Pastor Rusty Raybon was extremely generous in allowing us to present our message and fed us afterwards. Pastor Rabon was well prepared and had a great display of our material. Sam Elisha presented the sermon and I spoke briefly afterwards. Sam Elisha is the Leader of our Central South Carolina Chapter of OOR and President of S.E.M. International. Sam is a Internationally known speaker and a recognize authority on several religions such as Musiln, Hindu, Budism, as well as several others.

## **THE PRIVILAGE OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

information  
tools, audio,  
video, speakers  
and programs to  
make it as easy  
as possible to  
communicate  
the message

THANKS SO MUCH TO SUNDAY  
SCHOOL CLASSES,  
CORNERSTONE FOR AND PAM  
TEMPLTON'S FOR ASSEMBLING  
HUNDREDS OF RIBBONS AND  
WRISTBANDS



Just two weeks ago we had the privilege of celebrating Christ's birth. It was a festive time for all of us with special church programs, parties, and dinners. It was a joyous time. We should never take this freedom for granted. Unfortunately this is not the case for over 200,000,000 Christians in other parts of the world. [Just a few examples.](#)

#### Risking Death in North Korea

In North Korea, Christianity is illegal—believers must celebrate Christmas in complete secrecy in the woods with a handful of Christians; in homes with candles and in whispers; or in the outhouses of prisons and labor camps.

“Incredibly, many North Korean Christians risk everything to gather on Christmas Day and remember the hope the first Nativity brought to the world,” an Open Doors spokesman says. “A meeting is usually just two people on a park bench muttering prayers and praise quiet

In Somalia, Christmas was banned in 2015—six years after the country adopted Sharia (Islamic law). Every year, there is an announcement reminding citizens that the celebration of Christmas is illegal.

#### Celebrating Secretly in Saudi Arabia

In Saudi Arabia, churches, crosses and Christian meetings of any kind are illegal throughout the country. There are no churches and even the wearing of any kind of religious symbol is forbidden. A Christmas tree or lights outside are unthinkable. For Christian households, Christmas must be celebrated in secret

In Muslim-majority Tajikistan, no one publicly celebrates Christmas because it has been outlawed. A decree in 2015 by the education ministry in the former Soviet republic banned public displays of Christmas, particularly in schools and universities. That includes fireworks, festive meals and gift giving, as well as “the installation of a Christmas tree either living or artificial.”

In Brunei, an oil-rich country on the island of Borneo in southeast Asia, anyone caught illegally celebrating Christmas could face up to five years in prison and a \$20,000 fine; owning a Bible in the small Muslim-majority country will get you nine years.

### ***Our Christian brethren in these countries and many others need our prayers for them in 2019.***

Here are five specific ways you can pray for persecuted Christians in 2019:

1. Pray that they will sense God's presence (Hebrews 13:5).
2. Pray that they will see God open doors for them to witness for Him (Colossians 4:3).
3. Pray that they will be able to forgive and love their persecutors (Matthew 5:44).
4. Pray that they will experience the joy of the Lord, even amid suffering (Acts 5:41).
5. Pray that they will know you and other Christians are praying for them (2 Timothy 1:3).

There are many ways you can volunteer in the OOR mission, such as assemble ribbons and bage wristbands, pass out materials, etc. One of the most unique ways was by Mike Christon. Mike and his wife Michelle are new to the area and will be a great addition to our community. Mike took the time and effort to write an article for OOR news letter. This article was well written with a great amount of thought and research.

## **The First Christian Martyr**

The apostle Paul, in his final letter before his death, wrote "... all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Tim 3:12).

Acts chapters 6 & 7 document the ministry of Stephen who was the first martyr of the early Christian church. Using the acronym F.A.I.T.H. and the narrative of the scriptures, we can clearly see the power of God working in His servant Stephen. The lessons gained can help us to better pray for those giving their lives for the cause of the gospel.

Full of the Holy Spirit. This term characterized Stephen from the time he was chosen to serve Christ (Acts 6:8) until the moment he was stoned to death by an angry mob of religious leaders (Acts 7:55). Pray that the persecuted would be "full of the Spirit" (continually under Gods control).

Announce the Gospel truth. Stephen boldly proclaimed a defense of the Christian faith starting with the Old Testament. The religious leaders were reminded how they rebelled and disobeyed God. (Acts 7:51-53). Pray that the gospel message of the persecuted would be bold to a lost world.

Invitation to receive Christ. Stephen's message was so convicting that the only two possible responses were to repent and receive the LORD or refuse and face judgement. (Acts 7:54). Pray that many would repent and believe as the persecuted proclaim the gospel.

Throne of God. Stephen "gazed into heaven and saw...Jesus standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7:55b). The LORD was with His servant. Pray that the persecuted would fix their eyes on Jesus.

Heart of forgiveness. Stephen said "LORD do not charge them with this sin" (Acts 7:60). Leave vengeance to God (Romans 12:19). Jesus said, "pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). Who knows, Stephen's final prayer may have contributed to Saul's repentance. Saul became Paul the apostle and was used mightily by God. Pray that God would cause all things to work together for good (Romans 8:28) and that Christ would ultimately be glorified (1 Peter 4:16).

## **OOR Financial Assistance**

We met with a missionary from South Sudan several months back. He and his family were force to relocate twice in South Sudan because of an ongoing military conflict. When they were forced to move with no notice leaving everything behind, the house was looted and then burned to the ground. When they relocated, within a very short time, fighting broke out at their new location. He and his family, wife and 3 sons, spent two days lying on the floor of their house to avoid flying bullets. When there was a loll in the shooting they we able to escape to Uganda. They relocated to a refugee camp for South Sudanese, where he continues his misnistry. OOR was able to provide some financial assistants.

We recently met with a misionary member of the IMB. This person is involved with missions in Cental Asia and Western China. We agreed to work together and developpe a project in that area. More information to come as detail developpe.

The Lord has blessed this ministry from the very beginning and continues to do so, in part because of your loyal support in prayer, and we greatfully thank you.

If you would like to support us through volunteering, prayer, or financially we would be most grateful.

Let us help you raise awareness and generate pray for our persecuted brethren with your church, group, Sunday School and others. Resources we can provide are:

Speakers  
Ribbon with Cross  
Wristbands  
Tee Shirts  
Refrigerator Magnets  
Car Magnets  
Banners (lend)  
Orange Jump Suit (lend)  
Fact sheets  
Videos