

## Open Doors Hong Kong

# JULY

## PRAYER CALENDAR

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*Believers pray for Kanya\* in Laos.*

### ARISE AFRICA

1

We recently spoke to Ruth\* whose daughter and stepdaughter remain missing—captives in the 2014 attack on a Chibok girls' school. She asks us to pray with her: "Brothers and sisters in Christ, help us with prayers ... pray we will see [our girls] with our [own] eyes."

2

Alheri was 12 when Boko Haram fighters took her captive. She escaped and came to Open Doors' trauma center. Praise God! Alheri asks: "Pray that God will strengthen my faith and take away my dreams about Boko Haram."

3

Meet 27-year-old Blessing. She is a former captive of an extremist group and received trauma care from Open Doors. "I've learned to forgive," she says. Ask God to perfect her healing.

4

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the violence against majority-Christian communities has

reached alarming proportions. Pray for the strengthening of the church in the face of these attacks.

5

Pray with DRC leader Rev. Kitika: "We ask for the prayers of brothers and sisters across the world for the return of peace ... so that we may continue to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ."

6

Praise God for justice today. In Nigeria, almost 400 terrorists linked to known extremist groups were convicted in a mass trial and received prison sentences ranging between five years to life in jail.

7

Today on the International Day of Forgiveness, ask God to help persecuted believers forgive their persecutors and experience healing.

### SRI LANKA

8

Pray with your sister Sunisha\*. She watched her brother burn her Bible and endured beatings. "God will not give me a trial I cannot bear," she says.

9

Surrendering to Jesus has cost Jerusha her family. Pray that our sister can reconcile with her father. He uses both bribery and harassment to compel her to return to her Buddhist roots.

10

Pray with Open Doors local partners for wisdom as they continue to visit Sunisha and Jerusha. They are exploring ways to support the women and their families.

## COLOMBIA

11

Pray with 13 families forced to leave their community in Nariño, Colombia, for trusting Jesus. Pray that these families will remain united and strengthen each other.

12

Pray for the displaced church where violence and criminal control have driven entire congregations from their homes. Pray for stability as these believers rebuild their homes and lives.

13

July 20<sup>th</sup> is Colombia's Independence Day. In many regions, Christians don't feel free. Pray today for Christian communities facing threats, limiting their ability to worship and serve openly.

## UNDERGROUND CHRISTIANS AND CHURCHES

14

Pray for wisdom and resilience for underground churches in Laos, Yemen and Iran as they navigate intensified surveillance and pressure. Ask the Lord to provide creative ways to grow in their faith and to continue sharing the gospel.

15

Kanya\* (pictured on the cover) and Phonesay\* have lost nearly everything for their faith, including their home in Laos. Still, they continue to worship in secret. Kanya asks: "Pray that whatever happens, we will stand firm and never deny Him."

16

Pastor Khoun\*, a 59-year-old leader of a house church in Laos, has seen his home destroyed. He and his family are displaced. But he continues to press on: "The Bible teaches that nothing can harm me—not ghosts, black magic, poison or others who want to hurt me," he says. "I stand strong in my faith, and I know that my life is safe in Jesus."

17

Satan has blinded the eyes of many in Laos and sown seeds of deception about Christianity. Ask God to break down these spiritual strongholds and replace lies with truth.

18

Praise God for trainings for leaders and believers in Laos. May our local partners be used mightily as they train participants to examine biblical principles.

19

Pray also for leadership workshops focusing on women and children. Leaders are working together to strengthen teaching materials. Pray for their wisdom and discernment.

20

Pray for persecuted leaders and workers who serve ethnic minorities and faces the risk of surveillance and harsh measures. Ask God to grant them wisdom.

21

Pray with Pastor Bounchan\* for perseverance. His hands were tied to a post to compel him to renounce his faith. He continues to lead his church in southern Laos.

22

Pray for God's Word to reach every household in Laos, especially in areas where the gospel is unfamiliar or unheard. Ask the Lord to raise up and send faithful workers like Bouchan.

23

Pray that authorities will allow displaced church leaders to return to their homes. Pray for softened hearts—that authorities might see God's love through these leaders' witness.

24

Pray for endurance and protection for imprisoned underground pastors and church members. Ask God to comfort, strengthen and provide for their families.

25

Pray for those who persecute underground believers. Ask God to lead them to encounter His loving kindness and saving grace.



*Pastor Khoun\* touches the cross.*

**26**

Pray for strong discipleship and leadership ministries within underground churches, that they will produce faithful and obedient followers of Jesus.

**27**

Pray especially for the next generation in places like Laos, Yemen and Iran—that they will grow in their knowledge of God, and that He would raise up more workers to minister among them.

**28**

Pray for new underground converts, especially for the boldness to practice their faith. Pray that their lives become living testimonies.

**29**

Praise God that a plan to secretly deliver relief to Christians expelled from their homes was a success. Our partners were able to get the needed supplies to Christians at midnight.

**30**

Pray for the children and youth of displaced house church leaders. Many are banned from school because their parents refuse to renounce their faith. Pray these children will grow in knowledge and faith.

**31**

Pray for Open Doors' presence ministry. May our partners be led by the Holy Spirit, grounded in truth and filled with God's love. Lord, let this ministry bring glory to You.

*\*Name changed for security reasons*



*Ruth\* holds a photo of her missing daughter.*

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**“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith.”**

I CORINTHIANS 16:13