



Citations for the Report *In Response to Persecution*

Introduction

Brother of two Christian victims of ISIS calls in to SAT-7 live programme 'We Will Sing,' Sat-7 UK, (February 18, 2015), YouTube video available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yCmnyzYeW8&t=184s>

"These beheadings accounted for a mere twenty-one of the 7,100 Christians whom Open Doors estimates died for their faith in 2015..."

William J. Cadigan. "Christian persecution reached record high in 2015, report says," CNN, last modified January 17, 2016. <http://www.cnn.com/2016/01/17/world/christian-persecution-2015/> (accessed April 10, 2017).

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"Christians have been targeted for harassment in more countries than any other religious group..."

"The Pew Research Center reports that between 2007 and 2013, governmental restrictions on religion increased in 37 out of 43 European countries..."

"Trends in Global Restrictions on Religion." Pew Research Center, Washington, D.C. last modified June 23, 2016, <http://www.pewforum.org/2016/06/23/trends-in-global-restrictions-on-religion/> (accessed March 15, 2017), 20-21.

The Contexts of Persecution

"Dr. Charles Tieszen defines religious persecution as..."

Charles L. Tieszen. "Re-examining Religious Persecution: Constructing a Theological Framework for Understanding Persecution," Religious Freedom Series. Vol. 1. p. 43 http://www.worldevangelicals.org/resources/rfiles/res3_325_link_1328908073.pdf

"Feeling empowered by Morsi, a group of Egyptian Islamic scholars signed a common letter in August 2012 in which they called for the killing of Christians..."

Michael Terheyden, "Persecution of Christian Copts in Egypt on Rise as Muslim Brotherhood Consolidates Power," Catholic Online, last modified August 27, 2012. http://www.catholic.org/news/international/middle_east/story.php?id=47348 (accessed March 29, 2017).

Syria and Iraq

“In March 2016, the U.S. State Department declared that Christians, as well as Yazidis and Shiites, were victims of genocide at the hands of the Islamic State....”

U.S. Department of State. “Remarks on Daesh and Genocide,” <https://2009-2017.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/03/254782.htm> (accessed March 26, 2017).

“In 1987, when Iraq took its most recent census, Christians made up about 8 percent of the population....”

“Who are Iraqi Christians,” Iraqi Christian Relief Council. <http://iraqichristianrelief.org/about-us-2/who-are-iraqi-christians/> (accessed March 26, 2017).

Recent statistics on the Iraqi Christian population can be found here: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. “Iraq 2015 International Religious Freedom Report,” <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/256479.pdf> (accessed March 26, 2017).

“Christians have been present on the Nineveh Plain for more than sixteen centuries....”

Suha Rassam, *Christianity in Iraq*, new ed. (Leominster, Australia: Gracewing, 2010), 25-30.

“In the 1920s, they made up some 30 percent of the country’s population....”

“Syria’s beleaguered Christians,” BBC News, last modified February 25, 2015. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-22270455> (accessed March 26, 2017).

“Since 2011, an estimated two-thirds of Christians have left Aleppo, their population plummeting from an estimated 110,000 in 2010 to 30,000 today....”

Kent R. Hill. “Will Christianity Survive in the Middle East? A Christian Perspective.” (Diane Knippers Memorial Lecture at the Army Navy Club, Washington, D.C. October 4, 2016). p. 11. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57052f155559869b68a4f0e6/t/58179bed46c3c4f1cb2dfe32/1477942254048/Hill+IRD+Middle+East+10.4.16+FINAL+PDF.pdf>

Ehsani [George Saghir], “Fewer Christians Live in Aleppo Than Previously Thought,” Syria Comment, February 18, 2012, <http://www.joshualandis.com/blog/the-poor-plight-of-the-christian-minority-in-Aleppo-syria-by-ehsani/> (accessed April 12, 2017).

“Nationwide, even before the war, Christians had declined to some 5 to 6 percent of the population due to emigration and lower birth rates, but they are now estimated to make up only about 3 percent of Syria’s population.”

Hanin al-Naqi for Enab Baladi, “A History of Mass Exodus: The Uncertain Fate of Syria’s Christians,” The Syria Observer, November 6, 2016, http://syrianobserver.com/EN/Features/30094/A_History_Mass_Exodus_the_Uncertain_Fate_Syria_Christians (accessed April 12, 2017).

“One Jesuit priest, Paolo dall’Oglio, had run an interreligious monastery for thirty years and sought to carry out interreligious dialogue during the conflict....”

Michael Weiss, “The Mysterious Fate of the Dissident Italian Priest Snatched by ISIS,” The Daily Beast. February 29, 2016. <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/02/29/the-mysterious-fate-of-the-dissident-italian-priest-snatched-by-isis.html> (accessed March 25, 2017).

Turkey

“When the Ottoman Empire entered World War I on the side of the Central Powers in late 1914, its Christian population (in the region that later became Turkey) numbered 4.5 million....”

K.H. Karpat, *Ottoman population, 1830-1914: demographic and social characteristics*. (Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press, 1985). p. 189–190, 242.

“Today, Turkey’s five Christian communities number 1,700-2,000 Greek Orthodox Christians; 60,000 Armenian Orthodox Christians; 15,000-30,000 Armenian Christians; about 3,500 Roman Catholics; and some 4,000 Protestants. The surrounding population is 98 percent Muslim....”

Sources vary on the number of Christians in Turkey today. The U.S. International Religious Freedom Report offers slightly different figures. See:

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. “Turkey 2015 International Religious Freedom Report,” <http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/religiousfreedom/index.htm?year=2015&dlid=256251> (accessed March 25, 2017).

“During World War I, 1.5 million Armenian Christians were killed in genocidal violence...”

Resources on the genocide against Armenian Christians are available here: “Armenian Genocide,” Armenian National Institute, <http://www.armenian-genocide.org/index.html> (accessed March 25, 2017).

“[T]he 2006 murder of a Roman Catholic priest, Fr. Andrea Santoro, at the hands of a Muslim assassin; the 2007 murder of Armenian journalist Hrant Dink...”

“Priest in Turkey is killed,” *The New York Times*, February 5, 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/02/05/world/europe/priest-in-turkey-is-killed.html> (accessed March 25, 2017).

“Turkish Armenian writer shot dead,” BBC News. January 19, 2007, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/6279241.stm> (accessed March 25, 2017).

Egypt, Libya, and Gaza

“Various sources estimate that Christians make up between 5 percent and 10 percent of Egypt’s population....”

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. “2015 Egypt International Religious Freedom Report,” <http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/religiousfreedom/index.htm?year=2015&dlid=256263> (accessed March 25, 2017).

“[O]ne episode in which they assaulted sixty-four Christian places of worship within twelve hours...”

Alistair Beach, “The Copts Under Siege as Mob Attacks Cairo Cathedral,” *The Independent*, April 9, 2013, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/coptic-christians-under-siege-as-mob-attacks-cairo-cathedral-8563600.html>

Moustapha Rahouma, “Al Watan Documents 64 Assaults on Churches and Copts in Twelve Hours,” *El-Watan News*, August 15, 2013, <http://www.elwatannews.com/news/details/260930>

“In Libya, Christians make up between 3 percent and 5 percent of the population....”

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. “International Religious Freedom Report for 2015-Libya.” <http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/religiousfreedom/index.htm?year=2015&dliid=256279> (accessed March 26, 2017).

“The Christian community in Gaza dates back to the fourth century, but according to a March 2014 estimate, the community today has only about 1,300 people....”

Bernard Saballa, *Palestinian Christians: Historical Demographic Developments, Current Politics and Attitudes Towards Church, Society and Human Rights* (Jerusalem: Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center, 2006), 42.

Iran and Saudi Arabia

“Christians in Iran number between 240,000 and 370,000 in a population of about 77 million....”

Dean Smith, “Why Is the Christian Population Exploding in Iran?” *Open the Word*, September 26, 2014, <http://opentheword.org/2014/09/26>

Liana Aghajanian, “Iran’s Oppressed Christians,” *New York Times*, March 14, 2014, www.nytimes.com/2014/03/15/opinion/irans-oppressed-christians.html?r=0

“In Saudi Arabia, the vast majority of Christians are expatriate laborers from South and East Asia; they number between 1.25 million and 3.5 million in a population of about 29 million....”

“Saudi Arabia: World Watch List,” *Open Doors*, www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/world-watch-list/, (accessed October 5, 2015).

“In 2014 alone, Iran arrested about 500 Christians....”

“Christians Sentenced to 80 Lashes for Drinking Communion Wine,” *Christian Solidarity Worldwide*, November 12, 2013, <http://www.csw.org.uk/2013/11/12/news/1908/article>

“Their numbers are not known, but in 2012 Germany granted asylum to 4,384 Iranians, many of whom were Christians....”

Liana Aghajanian, “‘Our second mother’: Iran’s converted Christians find sanctuary in Germany,” *The Guardian*, May 12, 2014. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/iran-blog/2014/may/12/iran-converted-christians-sanctuary-germany-muslim> (accessed March 26, 2017).

Sub-Saharan Africa

“Kenya, which is 82 percent Christian and 11 percent Muslim...”

David Barrett, ed., *World Christian Encyclopedia*, Second Edition, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001).

“Boko Haram, it is estimated, has destroyed over 200 churches, internally displaced 1.5 million people, created 200,000 refugees, inflicted 13,000 deaths, and kidnapped and made sex slaves of Christian women....”

These statistics are taken from Nigeria’s National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

“World Watch List: Nigeria,” Open Doors, <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/world-watch-list/nigeria/>, (accessed March 26, 2017).

Michael Gryboski, “More Christians Killed Last Year in Northern Nigeria than Rest of the World Combined,” Christian Post, November 15th, 2013, <http://www.christianpost.com/news/expert-more-christians-killed-last-year-in-northern-nigeria-than-rest-of-world-combined-108796/>, (accessed October 1, 2015).

India and Sri Lanka

“In India, where Christians are officially estimated to account for 2.3 percent of the population...”

Ministry of Home Affairs, Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India. Census Data, 2001, Religion, Table 21. http://censusindia.gov.in/Census_And_You/religion.aspx (accessed April 10, 2017).

“The Supreme Court has upheld anti-conversion laws that restrain Christians in some six states...”

Vishal Aora, “Sixth Indian state seeks to adopt ‘anti-conversion law’” World Watch Monitor, September 11, 2015, <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2015/09/sixth-indian-state-seeks-to-adopt-anti-conversion-law/> (accessed March 20, 2017).

“The best known examples are the riots in Kandhamal, Odisha, in 2007 and 2008, in which at least fifty Christians were killed, many more suffered assaults, and an estimated 30,000 were forced into refugee camps...”

National Peoples Tribunal on Kandhamal, *Waiting for Justice: A Report* (New Delhi: Peace & ANHAD, 2010), 103.

John J. Allen, “Kandhamal’ tells the whole story of anti-Christian persecution,” July 28, 2015, <https://cruxnow.com/faith/2015/07/28/kandhamal-tells-the-whole-story-of-anti-christian-persecution/> (accessed March 20, 2017).

“Christians, who form 8 percent of the population...”

Department of Census and Statistics Sri Lanka, “Census of Population and Housing, 2012,” <http://www.statistics.gov.lk/PopHouSat/CPH2011/index.php?fileName=FinalReportE&gp=Activities&tpl=3> (accessed April 10, 2017), 159-161.

“An estimated 103 such incidents took place in 2013 and another 111 in 2014...”

“Attacks on Christians in Sri Lanka,” National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka, <https://slchurchattacks.crowdmap.com/reports/download> (accessed March 20, 2017).

“Christians engaged in limited violent retaliation (though not nearly on the scale of the violence they received), destroying some 120 Hindu homes...”

See also Chad M. Bauman and James Ponniah, in *Christianity and Freedom: Volume 2, Contemporary Perspectives*. Allen D. Hertzke and Timothy Samuel Shah, eds. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016).

Pakistan and Afghanistan

“Christians in Pakistan, about 2 percent of the population...”

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, “Population by Religion.” <http://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/population-religion> (accessed March 20, 2017).

“Though there has been no census since before 2001, it is estimated that there are 500 to 8,000 Christians in the country....”

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, “Afghanistan 2012 International Religious Freedom Report,” <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/208634.pdf> (accessed March 22, 2017), 2.

Indonesia

“Muslims constitute 87.2 percent of Indonesia’s population, while Christians make up almost 9.9 percent (7 percent Protestant and 2.9 percent Catholic).”

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, “Indonesia 2015 International Religious Freedom Report,” <http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/religiousfreedom/index.htm?year=2015&dliid=256107>, (accessed March 22, 2017).

China

“[O]ne 2010 estimate held that some 5.5 million Catholics and 23 million Protestants populated China’s official churches....”

Ze Jin and Qiu Yonghui, *Annual Report on China’s Religions* (2010) (Beijing: Social Science Resources Press, 2010).

Vietnam and Laos

“Christians are 10 percent of Vietnam’s population of 93 million....”

Phat Huon Phan, *History of the Catholic Church in Vietnam; Tome 1: 1533 to 1960* (Ho Chi Minh City: Vietnam Redemptorist Press, 2002).

Reg Reimer, *Vietnam’s Christians: A Century of Growth in Adversity* (Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2011).
Stephen Bailey, “Laos and Religious Freedom Studies,” *The Review of Faith and International Affairs* 11, no. 2 (2013), 64–73.

“less than 3 percent of Laos’s population of seven million...”

Stephen Bailey, “Laos and Religious Freedom Studies,” *The Review of Faith and International Affairs* 11, no. 2 (2013): 64–73.

Russia

“Suffering as a result are non-Orthodox Christians, who make up less than 5 percent of the Russian population....”

Census, “Религиозный состав населения России” [*Religious composition of the Russian population*] (2012); Sergei Filatov, ed., *Religion and Russian diversity* [Религия и российское многообразие] (St Petersburg: Letnij Sad, 2011).

Central Asian Republics

“Meanwhile, ethnic Russians, most of whom identify as Orthodox Christians, are less than 25 percent of the population in Kazakhstan, less than 7.7 percent in Kyrgyzstan, and less than 5 percent in each of the other republics....”

Demographic data comes from several sources, including: U.S. Department of State, International Reports on Religious Freedom (2013-2104); USCIRF Country Reports (2013-2014); CIA World Factbook; and USSR Nationalities Data, found at : <https://chnm.gmu.edu/1989/exhibits/nationalities/introduction/item/383>

The West

“The Pew Research Center reports that between 2007 and 2013, governmental restrictions on religion increased in 37 out of 43 European countries, as well as in Canada and the United States, while social hostilities increased in 38 out of 43 countries....”

“Trends in Global Restrictions on Religion.” Pew Research Center, Washington, D.C. last modified June 23, 2016, <http://www.pewforum.org/2016/06/23/trends-in-global-restrictions-on-religion/> (accessed March 15, 2017), 54-55.