



PRAY FOR **NIGER**

The situation for Christians in Niger has worsened significantly since the July 2023 coup. Jihadist groups, including IS-Sahel (formerly ISGS), Jama'at Nasr al-Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM), Boko Haram, and The Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), have expanded their presence and intensified attacks on Christian communities. In western Tillabéri and Tahoua, ISISSahel and JNIM impose strict Sharia, targeting Christians and converts. In southeastern Diffa, Boko Haram and ISWAP continue to destroy churches, abduct aid workers, and kill believers.

1. Niger has suffered from extended droughts, causing much hardship for farming which constitutes the largest sector of the economy. Labelled as one of the poorest countries on earth, her people have had to show great resilience. Thank the Lord for this **remarkable country and people**. Pray that He will bless Niger in all aspects.
2. Christians form less than one percent of the population. Thank the Lord for the 1% of **the church's courageous testimony**. Thank the Lord for the protections Christians have enjoyed from their government over much of its recent history.
3. Pastors serve communities that face great poverty. Thank the Lord for their **sacrificial service** and pray that they may continue to experience His provision. Pray for wisdom and protection as they care for flocks vulnerable to increasing hostility.
4. Niger is 26th on Open Doors' 2026 World Watch List, with Islamic oppression the strongest type of persecution. There has been a surge in jihadist attacks, especially in the west and south-east. There the situation for Christians is dire. Communal worship and meetings are dangerous, and must happen in secret. Pray for protection for believers who chose to stay and that they may have wisdom in navigating these dangers. Those who have been displaced are experiencing different challenges, among which is great discouragement. **Pray for comfort and peace of mind.**
5. In the West there has been a rise in attacks on Christian properties, including churches, schools and health care centres. Please **pray for communities** affected by these realities to be freed from the militants and that these destroyed services will be restored soon.
6. Christians face uncertainty over the space they will enjoy in society in the future. Pray that they will remain clear witnesses for Christ and that the Lord will continue to build **His Church that will remain salt and light** live in these changing circumstances.
7. Pray that the Lord will raise up shepherds for these believers. Pray that believers from affected areas, may experience **support and fellowship**, whether they have stayed or fled.
8. Christian men are often specific targets of violence to instil fear. Pray for God's comfort and for the **grace to remain firm in the faith**. Pray for courage to live out their faith and that they will find a way to encourage and minister to each other.
9. Women and girls in Niger are particularly vulnerable to abduction, rape and sexual abuse by extremist groups here too. Pray that the church will be a place of safety and healing for our sisters who may have experienced such targeting. Pray for **sufficient physical and emotion care** for survivors.
10. Christian boys are targeted for killing or forced recruitment into labour or trafficking between militants in exchange for money, weapons, or other resources. **Pray for God's intervention** and that captives will be freed.
11. Among the drivers of persecution are Muslim extremists like the Izala group (a radical Islamic group from northern Nigeria), the Tariqa (Sufi group), Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJWA). Pray that many members of these groups may hear the Gospel and **turn to Christ**. Pray that the Church will use every opportunity to share the Gospel.



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