PRAYER FOR

East Africa

ARISE AFRICA

East Africa, a tapestry of vibrant cultures and resilient spirits, grapples with profound challenges. In Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Comoros, and Mozambique, Christians face relentless persecution. Somalia's Al-Shabaab executes converts on discovery, while Eritrea's authoritarian regime jails believers in brutal shipping containers. Mozambique's jihadists torch churches in Cabo Delgado, and Comoros' laws punish public Christian worship. Ethiopia's ethnic strife and Islamic extremism endanger believers. Weak governance and ongoing conflicts amplify these threats, displacing communities and stifling freedom. Yet, the Church stands unshaken: Ethiopia's 60% Christian population grows, Eritrea's faithful endure in secret, and Mozambique's evangelists press on. Pray for protection, courage for converts, and wise leadership to foster peace. We invite you to STOP THE VIOLENCE AND START THE HEALING by joining us in prayer for the countries and Christians of East Africa.



Ethiopia

1. Thank God for Ethiopia's rich cultural heritage and its 123,771,000 people. Pray for unity and restoration to heal the nation's ethnic and political divisions.
2. Give thanks for Ethiopia's 74,679,000 Christians, who make up about 60% of the population and remain steadfast despite challenges. Ask for endurance to live out their faith boldly.
3. Praise God for the Church's courage in sharing the Gospel in hostile regions. Pray for opportunities and strength to continue spreading hope through their witness.
4. With Ethiopia ranking 33rd on the 2025 World Watch List, persecution stems from the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC) and Islamic extremism. Pray for clarity and resilience for Christians facing these pressures.
5. Lift up pastors who face arrests and harassment for challenging government policies or marginalization of protestant/evangelicals. Ask for their protection, wisdom, and strength to guide their communities through adversity.
6. Pray for Christian women in Somali and Oromia regions, where they risk forced marriage, violence, and ostracism. Seek their safety and emotional healing from trauma.
7. Support Christian men, particularly leaders and converts, targeted with imprisonment, physical attacks, or death. Pray for their safety and provision for families facing economic hardship.
8. The conflicts in Tigray, Amhara, and Oromia have displaced countless Christians. Pray for comfort, resources, and places of safety for those forced from their homes and for those offering shelter.
9. Ask for guidance for youth struggling with limited access to education and jobs due to ongoing violence. Pray the Church equips them with hope and purpose to resist extremist influences.
10. Pray for churches in Oromia and Somali regions, that have suffered vandalization by Islamic mobs, to be rebuilt. Ask for secure spaces where believers can worship and gather freely.
11. Uphold converts from Islam and EOC backgrounds who face rejection, threats, and violence from families and communities. Pray for their safety and support to practice their faith, even in hiding.
12. Pray for Ethiopia's government, led by PM Abiy Ahmed, to address instability and censorship where it still exists. Ask for transparent leadership that upholds religious freedom for all citizens.
13. Seek an end to the impunity of Islamic and tribal groups targeting Christians. Pray that their actions are disrupted and that many encounter the transformative power of the Gospel.

14. Pray for renewed harmony between Christians and Muslims, especially in Afar, Somali, and Oromia, where tensions are high. Ask for believers to build bridges of peace while sharing their faith.
15. Lift up Christian communities denied access to resources like healthcare and jobs in Muslim-majority or tribal areas. Pray for inclusion and fairness in community life.





Eritrea

1. Thank God for Eritrea and its people enduring under a repressive regime. Pray for freedom and hope to transform the nation's challenging landscape.
2. Celebrate the steadfast faith of Eritrea's Christians, a majority in central and southern regions. Ask for strength to hold fast despite severe restrictions.
3. Praise God for the Church's quiet resilience in sharing the Gospel under surveillance. Pray for courage and creative ways to spread Christ's love.
4. Eritrea ranks 4th on the 2024 World Watch List, with extreme persecution from government policies and Islamic oppression. Pray for endurance for Christians facing these intense pressures.
5. Lift up pastors of non-recognized churches, targeted with arrests and torture. Ask for their safety, wisdom, and comfort as they lead in hostile conditions.
6. Pray for Christian women, especially converts, facing abduction, forced marriage, and detention in brutal military camps. Seek their protection and healing from violence and trauma.
7. Support Christian men, particularly those in mandatory military service, enduring beatings and imprisonment for their faith. Pray for their safety and support for families left vulnerable.
8. Ask for strength for young Christians forced to flee via dangerous routes through Sudan and Libya. Pray for safe passage and provision for those risking death to escape.
9. Pray for youth pressured by military conscription and government propaganda in schools. Ask the Church to guide them with faith to resist anti-Christian teachings.
10. Seek restoration for non-recognized churches, heavily monitored and obstructed. Pray for safe spaces where believers can worship without fear of raids.
11. Uphold converts from Islam and Eritrean Orthodox backgrounds, facing family rejection and violence. Pray for their safety and communities to support their faith journey.
12. Eritrea's government under President Isaias Afwerki enforces strict control, ranking 162nd on the 2022 Corruption Index. Pray for just leadership and reforms to allow religious freedom.
13. Pray for Sunni Muslims and other minorities, like Jehovah's Witnesses, facing bans and detention. Ask for fairness and peace, that Christians may share the Gospel with compassion.
14. Lift up families torn apart by arrests and forced flight. Pray for reunification, emotional healing, and provision for those left behind in a surveilled society.



Somalia

1. Thank God for Somalia's 17,339,000 people and their resilience amid turmoil. Pray for peace and renewal to touch this fractured nation.
2. Give thanks for the small, hidden Christian community, numbering only hundreds, who cling to faith despite extreme danger. Ask for courage to persevere.
3. Praise God for the quiet bravery of Christians sharing their faith in secret. Pray for wisdom and openings to spread the Gospel in a hostile land.
4. Somalia ranks 2nd on the 2024 World Watch List, with intense persecution from Al-Shabaab and societal rejection. Pray for strength for believers facing life-threatening risks.
5. Lift up Christian leaders, prime targets for execution by Islamic militants. Ask for their protection, discernment, and endurance to guide others in faith.
6. Pray for Christian women, especially converts, facing rape, forced marriage, and house arrest. Seek their safety, freedom, and healing from trauma and shame.
7. Support Christian men suspected of conversion, at risk of torture, abduction, and death. Pray for their safety and provision for families facing boycotts and loss.
8. Ask for hope for Christians forced to hide their faith or flee due to Al-Shabaab's control. Pray for safe havens and resources for those in constant fear.
9. Pray for youth pressured to join Al-Shabaab or attend Islamic training. Pray that many would come to faith in Christ and feel extremist influence.
10. Believers are unable to gather or rebuild churches. Pray for safe spaces to worship in secret.
11. Uphold converts from Islam, viewed as betrayers and often killed on discovery. Pray for their safety and support to practice faith in complete secrecy.
12. Somalia's government under PM Hamza Abdi Barre enforces Sharia and bans other faiths. Pray for open-minded leadership and reforms to allow religious freedom.
13. Pray for peace within Somalia. Conflict between the Sunni Muslim majority and other minorities like the Shia school, in addition to ongoing Al-Shabaab control over many areas has made it a volatile place for everyone.



Comoros

1. Thank God for the Comoros archipelago and its 926,000 people. Pray for harmony and openness to embrace diversity in this island nation.
2. Give thanks for the small Christian community of a few thousand holding fast in a restrictive environment. Ask for resilience to live out their faith quietly.
3. Praise God for the hidden witness of Christians sharing their beliefs despite risks. Pray for wisdom and courage to shine in their communities.
4. Comoros ranks 42nd on the 2025 World Watch List, with persecution driven by Islamic oppression and government restrictions. Pray for strength for believers facing these challenges.
5. Lift up Christian leaders, especially converts, who risk harassment and ostracism for their faith. Ask for their protection and guidance to lead in secret.
6. Pray for Christian women, particularly converts from Islam, facing house arrest, forced marriage, and social exclusion. Seek their safety and emotional healing.
7. Support Christian men, especially converts, at risk of expulsion from homes and workplace discrimination. Pray for their safety and provision for families facing isolation.
8. Ask for hope for Christian families pressured to send children to Islamic schools. Pray for resources and safe spaces to nurture their faith privately.
9. Pray for youth navigating a society that shuns non-Muslims. Ask the Church to guide them with faith to resist cultural pressures and radical influences.
10. Seek freedom for Christians limited to worshiping in only two designated churches in Moroni and Mutsamudu. Pray for opportunities to gather safely.
11. Comoros' government enforces Sunni Islam as the state religion. Pray for leadership that respects religious freedom for all.
12. Pray that Christians may share Christ's love discreetly and courageously.



Mozambique

1. Thank God for Mozambique's vibrant culture and its 31,693,000 people. Pray for peace and renewal to mend the nation's northern conflicts and economic struggles.
2. Celebrate the faith of Mozambique's Christian majority, thriving in southern and central regions. Ask for steadfastness to anchor communities amid rising violence.
3. Praise God for the Church's bold efforts to share the Gospel despite threats. Pray for courage and opportunities to extend Christ's hope across the nation.
4. Mozambique ranks 37th on the 2025 World Watch List, with persecution fueled by Islamic militancy and government restrictions. Pray for resilience for believers facing these dangers.
5. Lift up pastors and church leaders in Cabo Delgado, targeted by jihadists for abduction and killing. Ask for their safety, wisdom, and strength to guide their flocks.
6. Pray for Christian women and girls in northern regions, vulnerable to abduction, rape, and forced marriage by Islamic militants. Seek their protection and healing from trauma.
7. Support Christian men and boys, especially in Cabo Delgado, facing death and forced militia recruitment. Pray for their safety and provision for families stripped of livelihoods.
8. Ask for comfort for thousands of Christians displaced by jihadist attacks, fleeing raided villages. Pray for resources, safe refuge, and restoration for those in need.
9. Pray for youth entangled in violence and drug cartel influence. Ask the Church to mentor them with faith and purpose to resist extremist and criminal pressures.
10. Seek rebuilding for churches vandalized and burned by al-Sunnah wa Jama'ah militants. Pray for secure spaces where believers can worship and serve freely.
11. Uphold converts from Islam and traditional African religions, facing family rejection and attacks in the north. Pray for their safety and support to live out their faith.
12. Mozambique's government under FRELIMO restricts religious expression and monitors churches. Pray for transparent leadership that upholds freedom of worship.
13. Pray for the Christians living with Muslims in northern provinces. Ask for mutual respect and peace, and that believers may share the Gospel with love.
14. Lift up church youth workers combating drug cartel influence. Pray for their protection and impact as they advocate for change in vulnerable communities.



The Arise Africa Campaign

1. Pray for greater global awareness about the plight of Christians in regions across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) facing targeted violence.
2. Pray that we will make a strong and clear case to state actors, media, and churches around the globe about the specific targeted violence Christians face in parts of SSA.
3. The narrative in media is often oversimplified, failing to give sufficient attention to the targeting of Christians. Pray for increased opportunity and wisdom to speak up.
4. Violence in the affected areas of SSA often takes place without restraint. Governments do not sufficiently protect communities or bring perpetrators to justice. Pray for discernment and protection for workers at various levels.
5. Pray for efforts to create greater understanding of and respect for Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) and to equip Christians to speak up when it is violated, especially where Christians are targeted by jihadists for their faith (different groups, same ideology).