

India

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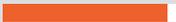
On The World Watch List

“They would call my name and take me to a separate room where they interrogated me roughly.”

– Gaurav*, a believer from India.

Score: 83/100

Extreme

Violence:		92%
Church Life:		82%
National Life:		89%
Community Life:		81%
Family Life:		77%
Private Life:		78%

Region:	Asia
Leader:	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Persecution Level:	Extreme
Christian Population:	67,356,000 (4.9%)
Main Religion:	Hinduism
Source of Persecution:	Religious Nationalism

Opposition to Christianity has reached unprecedented levels in India. Branches of government openly support Hindu extremist groups, allowing and even encouraging the persecution of Christians. Police will rarely intervene when Christians are harassed.

Believers Blamed For Bad Luck

Hindu extremists believe that all Indians should be Hindus and that the country should rid itself of Christianity and Islam. In some states, converting to Christianity is against the law and those who do convert are under constant pressure from their family and community to deny Jesus. They are often boycotted in their workplace. Christians are even believed to bring bad luck into the community because they follow a “foreign faith.”

Persecution And Caste

Christian women are often imprisoned. Some find themselves expelled from their families and forced to marry Hindu men. Many women who convert to Christianity are from the Dalit caste, the lowest of India’s caste system. They are extremely vulnerable to persecution because of their faith, gender and class status.

*Name changed for security purposes.

How can we pray for India?

Pray God will help isolated Christians reconcile with their families and be able to share the gospel with them.

Praise God so many people are coming to faith through miraculous healings in India. Pray this will continue to happen.

Praise God for the love of Jesus reaching the most vulnerable and oppressed people in Indian society.

Download the full WWL report at opendoors.org.au/resources or opendoors.org.nz/resources