



# Tajikistan

33

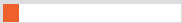
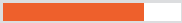




On The World Watch List

**“My church was attacked...  
now we gather inside a 40-tonne container.”**

– Pastor Bahrom, a church leader from Tajikistan.

Score: 66/100

Very High

Violence:		13%
Church Life:		79%
National Life:		75%
Community Life:		71%
Family Life:		74%
Private Life:		84%

Region:	Central Asia
Leader:	President Emomali Rahmon
Persecution Level:	Very High
Christian Population:	66,300 (0.7%)
Main Religion:	Islam
Source of Persecution:	Dictatorial Paranoia

## A Permit Needed To Worship

In Tajikistan, all religious activities must be approved by the government. Christian gatherings that take place without a permit will be fined. Church leaders are often detained for having Christian materials that aren't government-approved. In Tajikistan, it is common for churches to be raided by the authorities. Police will disrupt meetings and interrogate church attendees.

Tajikistan also has a law specifically targeting religious work among young people, leaving Christians unsure of what they are legally allowed to say or how to share the gospel with children.

## Converts At Risk

In Tajikistan, Christians who have converted from Islam are most at risk. They are targeted by both the government, and their community and family. Christians living outside Tajikistan's major cities experience more pressure to denounce their faith, than followers of Jesus living in the city.

## How can we pray for Tajikistan?

Pray for pastors and church leaders, especially those who are monitored and detained by the government. Ask God to sustain their faith.

Pray for converts from Islam who experience pressure from their families. Pray they will have a sense of community and know they aren't alone.

Pray that the hearts of government leaders in Tajikistan will be softened to Jesus.

Download the full WWL report at [opendoors.org.au/resources](https://opendoors.org.au/resources) or [opendoors.org.nz/resources](https://opendoors.org.nz/resources)