



# Oman

44

On The World Watch List

**“Believers might be mocked. Or the family will find other ways to shame the believers.”**

– Daniel\*, a believer from the Arabian Peninsula.

Score: 63/100

Very High



Sharia (Islamic) law influences everyday life in Oman. Even the legal system assumes all Omani citizens are Muslim. Although there is no criminal penalty for converting to Christianity, it is socially unacceptable and is not officially recognised. Some Christians who have left Islam to follow Jesus have been interrogated by government officials and threatened.

### A Mixture Of Tribal And Islamic Values

In Oman, tribal values are blended with Islamic values. Questioning these values or breaking from tradition is unimaginable. Society shuns those who leave Islam, although violence is generally not encouraged. Those who leave Islam to follow Jesus must still marry under Islamic rites; if a married couple gets a divorce, the Christian may lose custody of their children.

Region:	Middle East
Leader:	Sultan and Prime Minister Haitham bin Tariq Al Said
Persecution Level:	Very High
Christian Population:	185,000 (3.6%)
Main Religion:	Islam
Source of Persecution:	Islamic Oppression

### Pressure On Expatriate Christians

While expatriate Christian communities are tolerated, their meetings are monitored to record any political statements. Even though no expatriate Christians have been prosecuted for evangelism, some have been expelled from the country without due process.

Any non-Muslim religious organisations must also be registered with the authorities and require government approval to lease buildings.

\*Name changed for security purposes.

## How can we pray for Oman?

Pray that God will equip believers with the courage and wisdom to share the gospel.

Pray those who leave Islam to follow Jesus will be strengthened in their faith and find safe opportunities for fellowship.

Pray over the families and authorities who persecute Christians. Pray their hearts will be softened.

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)