

Kuwait

48

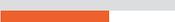
On The World Watch List

“The Word of God is eaten here. People are so hungry for the Word that it just finds its way to them.”

– Judah*, a believer from Arabian Peninsula.

Score: 63/100

Very High

Violence:		12%
Church Life:		79%
National Life:		73%
Community Life:		59%
Family Life:		80%
Private Life:		79%

Region:	Middle East
Leader:	Emir Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah
Persecution Level:	Very High
Christian Population:	513,000 (11.9%)
Main Religion:	Islam
Source of Persecution:	Islamic Oppression

Kuwait is a very small country with the capital city being the centre of all activities. The risks that Christians face — especially converts from Islam to Christianity — depend on the sort of community Christians are part of, rather than the geographical area where they live.

Danger for Domestic Workers

In Kuwait, expatriate Christians are relatively free to worship informally, as long as they refrain from evangelising. Non-western Christians with lower levels of skills are more likely to face discrimination and abuse, especially female domestic workers. Many of these are from the Philippines.

The existing places registered for worship are very small for the number of people gathering, and this can lead to tension between different Christian groups. It can be extremely difficult to obtain a property for gathering for worship.

Life Hardest For Local Christians

Local converts from Islam face the most extreme persecution from both family members and the local community. These believers have all their activities monitored by the police. Converting from Islam to another faith is not officially recognised and likely to lead to legal problems in personal status and property matters.

*Name changed for security purposes

How can we pray for Kuwait?

Pray for the many expatriate Christians who work and live in Kuwait. Ask God to give these believers the opportunity for fellowship.

Pray for the government of Kuwait to provide more freedom for Christians — especially Christians from a Muslim background — to meet, pray and share their faith freely.

Pray for detained Christians who have converted from Islam to Christianity. Ask God to give them boldness and perseverance to stand strong in Christ.

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