

VOM-USA Prayer Update for May 24, 2013

The Voice of the Martyrs USA: www.persecution.com

SIERRA LEONE—150 New Christians Baptized

Source: VOM Sources

[Matthew 28:19–20](#)

A VOM worker reports that 150 new believers were baptized recently in the village of Kaboreh, and 80 of them are converts from Islam. VOM has provided bicycles, motorbikes, megaphones and Bibles to Christian leaders in this village, and they have seen many of their former persecutors come to faith in Christ. Among the new converts are four village chiefs, all of whom were formerly Muslim. As a result of their conversions, the few remaining Muslims have said they will no longer obey them. Pray that these new believers will trust in Christ despite facing pressure to return to Islam. Pray also for the continued protection of evangelists in Sierra Leone.

CHINA—House Church Pressured to Join TSPM

Source: VOM Sources

[Hebrews 10:24–25](#)

A house church in Panzihua City, Sichuan province, is under intense pressure to join the government-approved Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) church. In April 2013, police and officials from the Department of Religion surrounded the church, expelled everyone from the building and sealed the door with an official document stating that the church was closed and that members must worship only in TSPM churches. The church was left without a pastor in 2012 after he died from breathing fumes from a poorly ventilated gas heater. The pastor's widow, who has been leading the church, has been pressured by authorities to sign a document stating that the church willingly agreed to merge with the TSPM church. She has refused to sign the document. VOM has provided this church with Bibles and other materials.

TURKMENISTAN—International Day of Prayer and Fasting for Syrian Church

Source: Forum 18 News

[Isaiah 55:11](#)

Two Christians in a village in the eastern Lebap region were fined more than two months' average local wages recently after police and state religious affairs officials raided their homes as well as those of other believers, Forum 18 News reports. The raids, which occurred after police were informed that a church member was reading Christian literature at work, resulted in the confiscation of Bibles and other Christian literature. The judge reportedly told one of the fined church members, "If you want to know about God, read the Koran." Muslim leaders in Turkmenistan often serve a dual role as state religious affairs officials. Pray for believers in Turkmenistan, who are under constant threat of raids and confiscation of Christian materials.

NORTH KOREA—VOM Project

Pray for an upcoming balloon launch that will carry 352,000 gospel flyers into North Korea. Last year the North Korean government began telling its citizens that the flyers coming from South Korea are coated with poison. Two years ago they mobilized an entire army unit in an effort to gather flyers launched from China. The North Korean government clearly views the flyers as a risk to its control of information. Pray that these flyers will fall into the right hands and that many North Koreans will come to know Christ.

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