



EXPECTANTLY SOWING

30 DAYS OF PRAYER ROHINGYA

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." Numbers 6: 24-26

Rohingya around the world continually face trials of various kinds, yet not one of these trials is overlooked by God or outside the scope of his glorious power to change. This year for Ramadan we invite you to join us as we **B.L.E.S.S** the Rohingya through prayer. We invite God to work in the areas of Bodily health, Livelihood, Emotional health, Social well-being and Spiritual transformation to bring about real and lasting transformation among the Rohingya in a way that can only happen through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

B

BODY: We lift up the needs of the Rohingya that relate to their physical bodies, health, and wellbeing.

DAY

1

Shaju speaks fondly of Myanmar and her childhood growing up on a farm, surrounded by siblings and nature. She is raising her own children in the confines of a small apartment in Malaysia. At times she seems wistful for the space and freedom she enjoyed as a child. Active play is so important for children's development. Pray for God's provision for Shaju's children and the many Rohingya children around the world in similar situations. Ask God to open doors that can nurture physical growth and development.

DAY

2

Salima once said that she does not want to go to the government hospital no matter how serious her condition because of the stories she heard of how some friends and relatives were being treated by the nurses. Pray that the Rohingya would be treated with dignity and respect by the doctors and nurses in the government hospitals. Furthermore, that they will receive proper medical treatment without any discrimination.

DAY

3

Zomilah has a bleeding problem. Her husband loves her very much and has visited many doctors and hospitals but with no success as she still gets sick and turns very pale. There seems to be many other Rohingya women who are suffering like Zomilah and do not have proper treatment in time. Zomilah is a major support for her Rohingya neighbors and the children nearby. Pray for her healing, and for the miraculous healing of many others who suffer with little or no access to care.

DAY

4

Fatima has a health problem that has been coming and going for the last several months. Doctors have not been able to discern the cause of her illness. Believers have prayed for her many times and the problem will subside for a while, only to return with a vengeance later. Pray for healing for Fatima, for wisdom for her doctors, and for her heart to be receptive to the Truth shared with her.

DAY

5

May followers of Jesus who have formed relationships with Rohingya be equipped with the power of the Holy Spirit to pray for physical healings in the name of Jesus. He promised "I am sending you just as my Father has sent me" (John 20:21). And may these healings show that Jesus is alive and more than a prophet, and draw Rohingya into God's kingdom.

DAY

6

Pray that churches where Rohingya are scattered worldwide will be inspired and motivated to initiate ministries that reach out to the Rohingya people in a holistic way. Fear, prejudice and inconvenience can often stand in the way of applying the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40 where he says: 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Pray for the Holy Spirit to move churches worldwide to overcome any of these obstacles, and to display Jesus by loving, reaching out to and serving Rohingya.

L

LIVELIHOOD: We lift up the needs of the Rohingya that relate to their work, and the ability to provide for their families and better their lives.

DAY

7

Many Rohingya in Rakhine State (in Myanmar) rely on relatives in other parts of the country to provide money for them to survive. With the current political situation in Myanmar, many Rohingya are out of work and are unable to provide for their families. Furthermore, normal means of transferring money have been shut down. Pray for new job opportunities for Rohingya in Myanmar and for means to transfer money to open again so much-needed support can reach their families in Rakhine state.

DAY

8

Ishmail has struggled to get back to work since the Covid pandemic. In Malaysia, refugees have been blamed for the spread of the virus, meaning many employers have stopped offering jobs. Others have requested staff pay for their own Covid test, which can be up to a week's salary upfront. Pray for supernatural provision for Ishmail and the many Rohingya out of work at this time. Ask for just employers and for mercy to be shown.

DAY

9

Rohingya have been fleeing Myanmar for 35 years, with the largest exodus happening a little over two years ago when about a million fled from violence in their homeland. Bangladesh has taken the bulk of the refugees, but they really do not want the people in their country. Currently the people receive money each month from the NGO groups to buy supplies, receive medical care and very basic housing. They are not legally permitted to work, go to school beyond age 8 or travel further than 2 miles from their home. People cannot live like this forever, please pray for a long-term solution to this crisis. Humanly speaking, there is none, but with God miracles can happen.

DAY

10

Anuwar came to Malaysia as a 15-year-old boy. His parents were angry when they found out he had left the family home. They later had to borrow money to secure his release from traffickers into Malaysia. Seven years later he still sends money back for his family, with the hope his younger brothers can get a good education. With the current Covid lockdown he cannot work and send money back home. Anuwar questions why he is so far away from his family if he cannot send money back to help them in the camps. Pray for supernatural provision for Anuwar and many others. Pray also that these struggles and questions would bring Anuwar to find hope in the Gospel.

DAY

11

Jasmin moved to the U.S. 3 years ago with her husband and 4 children. Her husband was abusive and refused to work or help with raising their children. A few months ago, Jasmin kicked her husband out of their home and now is the sole provider and care-giver for her 4 children. Her two oldest children could graduate high school and attend college this year, but funding is an issue for them. Pray for provision for Jasmin's family and that they will truly come to know the God who sees, hears, and provides.

DAY

12

Rafik is a middle-aged man who lives in a refugee camp in Bangladesh. He finds work wherever he can, often from nearby Christians. He has 4 daughters and 1 son, and worries about how to pay for his daughters' weddings. It is becoming increasingly difficult to exit the camp in search of work. Some in the camps have jobs as day laborers, translators for NGO's or community workers. Still, so many are unemployed, and distributions have decreased. Recently, a fanatic group has been terrorizing many Rohingya and extracting heavy taxes especially from those who are employed. Pray for employment opportunities and for protection from those who are taking advantage of them.

E

EMOTIONAL: We lift up the emotional needs for the Rohingya as they process past and ongoing trauma and seek to find peace in their hearts.

DAY

13

The Rohingya have experienced several waves of violence against them over the last decades. That's why they are still considered to be among the most persecuted people groups. They have suffered mental health consequences caused by physical violence of different forms. Added to this come also daily environmental stressors caused by continued displacement and having no home and no hope for the future. Pray for healing and comfort of these traumatic experiences through the work of the Holy Spirit and loving people to embrace, love and care for them.





DAY
14

Nurujan is not married and has a child. She says that the father of the child reneged on his promise to marry her. Additionally, she cares for her 15-year-old sister who is disabled. Even though she lives in the middle of the refugee camp, surrounded by thousands of people, she is shunned by the Rohingya community and lonely. Even small children look down on her and are mean to her sister. Pray for expelled women, who feel unprotected and very lonely. Pray that they experience God's acceptance and love. Pray that they experience a community where they belong and feel appreciated.

DAY
15

Faiza's family fled Myanmar in 2017 together with a group of Jesus followers to Bangladesh. Since then, she lives there in the refugee camp. She struggles to provide for her family. Her 5-year-old son suffers from a chronic disease and has to visit the camp clinic regularly. Her husband was once severely beaten up for his faith. He is also often tempted to use drugs. Pray that Faiza, despite all the difficulties, will know how God sustains her and carries her through.

DAY
16

Anna, a young girl of 17, came to Bangladesh with her big brother and his family, while her parents remained in Myanmar. A few months ago, her brother married her into a family she had never met. Everything is new and unfamiliar. She feels lonely and insecure. Sometimes she misses her parents so much, that she becomes depressed and cannot stop crying. Pray for all divided families. Pray that they find ways to connect and have fellowship. Pray that they find a new family in Christ,

DAY
17

Many Bangladeshi aid workers in the camps hold heavy prejudices and do not treat the Rohingya kindly: speaking with degrading language, ignoring them, withholding care, and even exploiting them. Pray that the hearts of those who work directly with the Rohingya would change from just wanting a paycheck, to truly serving this vulnerable people group with kindness and respect. Pray that the sacrificial love and compassion of Kingdom workers would show the light of Jesus to both Bangladeshi and Rohingya alike.

DAY
18

Claiming the following promises we pray for Rohingya teenage girls trafficked for sex, for widows, orphans and broken-hearted. "The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin... he heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 146: 8-9; 147:3).



S

SOCIAL: We lift up the social wellbeing of the Rohingya, with regards to betterment of their community and families.

DAY
19

What a gift it is to be able to read, write and have a language with an agreed-on script. For many Rohingya this is not the case. It brings so much encouragement, dignity and hope for Rohingya to learn to read and write their own language. Pray for various literacy initiatives being developed and offered to Rohingya people in the camps, and where they are scattered over the globe in various other countries, to bear fruit and also create a hunger to read God's word and be transformed by it.

DAY
20

Lord, we trust in your transforming power in each and every circumstance. We pray that you will use the recent political change in Myanmar with all the challenges it has brought, and that your Kingdom will come. We ask for a growing sympathy for the Rohingya where there used to be indifference, prejudice and even hatred towards them. Open the eyes of political and religious leaders and change their hearts. May they see the dignity of Rohingya as fellow human beings made by you and may they serve as role models for others by displaying a changed attitude towards the Rohingya that makes a difference.

DAY 21

Due to Covid restrictions in Malaysia, many Rohingya families suffer due to loss of income. Many teenage boys are being taken out of schools to start work in order to help provide for their families. Pray that the parents would realize that education is vital for their children's future. Pray that no matter how difficult their situation, God will make ways to allow their children to continue with their education.

DAY 22

From across the United States, Rohingya refugees continue to relocate to Milwaukee, where a growing Rohingya community is established. One street has four Rohingya grocery stores in less than a mile, and Rohingya families purchase clusters of houses near each other to stay connected. This has caused many to lose the desire or need to learn English or develop outside relationships. Pray for Christ-followers to become friends with the Rohingya in Milwaukee, making them feel loved and welcomed. Ask God to raise up Christians to move into these areas to be salt and light among the Rohingya community.

DAY 23

A local project for Rohingya in Rakhine (State), Myanmar focuses on providing solar stoves that save energy and fuel costs and help protect the environment. It is not always easy to get access to that area. Please pray for favour in the eyes of officials to grant permission to allow this social enterprise project to happen for the Rohingya, for stoves to be distributed, workshops on how to use them offered and that the project will be seen as a visible sign of love from followers of Jesus towards them.

DAY 24

The apostle Paul calls followers of Jesus through the ages to pray for governments and leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Let us pray for the leaders of countries where Rohingya can be found such as Myanmar, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the U.S. (and others), that they will make decisions that improve their physical, social and educational circumstances and increase justice where there is injustice. Pray that more permits and asylum will be given to refugees to help them find new homes in different nations.

S

SPIRITUAL: We lift up the spiritual needs of the Rohingya, that the Gospel of Jesus Christ would go forth among them, bringing with it salvation, truth, justice and transformation.

DAY 25

Most Rohingya practice a form of folk Islam. The majority of people live in fear. The people consult with local witchdoctors for blessings, curses, protection from evil spirits and good fortune. The use of qur'anic water, amulets and other charms is entrenched in Rohingya culture. Most Rohingya fear the spirits more than they fear God. "The Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8). Pray that God would bind up every evil spirit, break the bondage of every curse put on the Rohingya and lead them to trust in the power of Jesus over evil spirits.

DAY 26

In Bangladesh, there are several national believers and other Christian workers who are doing direct ministry. Each group knows about Rohingya refugees who have either come to faith or are close to coming to faith. However, for multiple reasons, often these refugees do not know about each other. That means each believer feels like he or she is the only one and each believer is scared to tell other people that they believe. Please pray that believers and seekers become aware of each other and learn that they are not alone. Pray for a vibrant Rohingya believing community to rise up in Bangladesh.

DAY 27

Praise God for the scripture translation work that is happening. An important step in the translation process is community checking to ensure that the text is being understood correctly. It has not been easy to do this, especially with the current restrictions. Pray for people to help with this stage and for creative ideas in doing it. Please pray that speakers of the language will use what has been made available and grow in their understanding of who God is.

DAY 28

Ibreez has been in Malaysia for almost 7 years now. He has been a leader among his community members no matter where he has worked. In December he found a great job, and he has been treated very well even during the Covid lockdowns. He is being encouraged to leave his job and go and study under a Muslim teacher who has a reputation for his radical teachings. Please pray for Ibreez and other young men like him who are being recruited to go and sit under this kind of teaching. Pray that they will look to Jesus.

DAY 29

A religious leader has forbidden Lamiah and all Rohingya women in her neighborhood to speak about spiritual things with their Christian friend who is visiting them regularly. He says it isn't appropriate for good Muslim women to reflect on God's words. Rather, they should listen to the teaching of the spiritual leader and follow without questions. Pray that despite the challenges they have, Rohingya women will search for the truth and find ways to get answers and learn about who God really is.

DAY 30

"May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favour on us. May your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among Rohingya everywhere. May the Rohingya praise you, O God. Yes, may all the Rohingya praise you. Let the Rohingya sing for joy, because you govern the Rohingya with justice and guide the Rohingya of the whole world. May the Rohingya praise you, O God. Yes, may all the Rohingya praise you. Then the earth will yield its harvests, and God, our God, will richly bless us. Yes, God will bless us, and Rohingya all over the world will fear him." (Psalm 67 adapted from NLT)