



# Pray for Rohingya

EXPECTANTLY SOWING

22 March - 21 April 2023

## 30 DAYS OF PRAYER

### ***Expectantly Sowing to See Rohingya Transformed by the Power of the Gospel***

*"For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes - the Jew first and also the Gentile." Romans 1:16 (NLT)*

The prayer points below will lead you to pray for countries where Rohingya live, Rohingya believers, and different ministries (translation, radio, media). We hope this guide will fuel your prayers and inspire you to continue praying for the Rohingya beyond the 30 days.

Thank you for joining us to pray with faith and expectation that God will reach out and transform the lives and situation of Rohingya people around the world.



## COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE

1

The Rohingya in Pakistan remain a closed community for Gospel work. Most of the Rohingya there fled from Myanmar in the 1960s-80s. The situation for Rohingya is becoming worse as the government neglects their needs. Pray for new citizenship laws that allow Rohingya to escape poverty and for access of gospel workers into the community in Pakistan.

2

Rahman is a Rohingya born and raised in Pakistan. He couldn't pursue education, because as a stateless person he is not allowed to. Pray for local believers to befriend Rohingya people and share the good news; that the Rohingya in Pakistan will find hope for their future in Jesus.

3

An estimated 250,000 Rohingya live in Saudi Arabia. Schooling is allowed for Rohingya, and most can find work. Praise God for and pray for fruitful connections between the Rohingya and people sowing seeds of the gospel.

4

Hamid is a young man, who lives in Saudi Arabia. He was able to finish his education and will soon marry. Pray for Rohingya like Hamid, that God's power would make them curious about Christ. Pray that they would meet witnesses of Christ and share with his new wife.

5

El Shaddai is a ministry in Malaysia offering education and support to Rohingya children and families. It is a great witness of God's love, offering dignity to the marginalised. Pray that this and other education ministries in Malaysia will be the seeds of Gospel love that yield trust in the greatest Teacher, Jesus Christ.

6

Bahis and his wife Saniyya live in Malaysia. They are open to Gospel stories and have asked how Jesus can help them. They have experienced evil spirits visiting them at night. They are fearful and desperately seeking hope and freedom and recently enlisted a witch doctor to help. Pray they, and their community, will experience true freedom in the transformative power found only in trusting Jesus.

7

Filip lives in Thailand. He remembers clearly when he saw the Jesus movie in his village as a child. When we met, he asked us: "Do you have any books?" Now he listens to Luke and John, as well as 36 Bible stories, in his own language. Pray that he will take time to listen daily and be touched by the word.



**8** There are approx. 40,000 Rohingya in India. They live under constant threat of detention and deportation as they don't have proper papers. Some Indian believers are reaching out to them, helping meet practical needs and providing education. Pray that they have opportunities to share Jesus' love and care through words and deeds.

**9** In Myanmar, compassion and empathy towards the Rohingya is slowly growing among the national church. Praise God, a handful of national believers are answering the call to proclaim the Gospel among the Rohingya. Their geographic location and unique language abilities give them opportunities and open doors like never before. Pray that God would use them greatly for his glory.

**10** Sami lives in Bangladesh. As she walked out her door Sami saw a large dark figure of a man with glowing red eyes standing in her path. The urge to laugh uncontrollably came over her and she dropped the pot of water she was holding. The figure disappeared and her laughter was replaced with a cold fear. Pray that Sami and the many Rohingya who suffer under demonic oppression would know and trust in the powerful name of Jesus and be free from evil spirits.

**11** Rozi, a new mother, recently joined her husband in Japan. They are part of a small Rohingya community that settled in Japan decades ago. The Japanese language and social system are very different from her own culture, which often makes her feel overwhelmed. Pray for Rozi and the Rohingya living in Japan, that they would find friendship and support from local Christians.

**12** Ken's church was recently visited by a couple that introduced themselves as Rohingya. They asked about Jesus the Messiah and wanted to know more about Him. They came only once but it has caused the church to start praying for the Rohingya. Pray that God will connect more Rohingya people to Japanese Jesus-followers and they will have good conversation about Jesus the Messiah.

**13** A church in America has develop relationships with a Rohingya community in Nepal. Pray for clear communication as they connect with people who are experts in law, real estate, and development. Pray for wisdom as they relate to the Rohingya leaders, and for strategies to minimise dependence and maximise sustainability.

**14** Nepal is home to a small community of Rohingya. A few community leaders are partnering with a church from the USA and open to conversations about faith. Pray that conversations would continue to go deep, and that the power of the Gospel would break through. Ask that the leaders would be inspired by the faith of their American friends and ask more questions about Jesus.

## MEDIA TO MOVEMENTS

**15** Videos about Jesus are sent to over 10,000 Rohingya people in three locations each week. The media posts come with an invitation to ask questions and start a conversation. The hope is that this leads to face-to-face meetings for evangelism and discipleship. Pray the posts will reach people who are seeking and for the follow-up process to be fruitful.

**16** Abdul has watched videos about Jesus online in the Rohingya language. He has started sharing them with his friends and followers over TikTok. His following is more than the original number of people that watched the videos. Pray that Abdul decides to follow Jesus, and for God to use his influence to reach more Rohingya. Praise God for opportunities beyond our imagination!

**17** Imran clicked on a Facebook advert inviting him to watch a video about Jesus in the Rohingya language. After watching the video about oaths, he sent a message to the team: "From now on, I [will] expend my life on the right path. Also I will never tell a lie to people [again]." Then later he said, "From now on I [will] perform my activities on this guidance [from Jesus]; I [will] communicate [to] every person honestly, piously and [will] pray for them earnestly." Pray that his desire to follow Jesus will grow and for the team following-up on his message.



## RADIO MINISTRY

18

A great number of Rohingya villagers in Rakhine State have been listening to shortwave radio and learning about topics of salvation, peace, and reconciliation. The 'listener correspondent' person who visits the region periodically has been collecting good testimonies about the broadcasts. Their hunger for God is evident. Praise the Lord for the impact radio is having there, and pray for an expansion of this media ministry.

19

Two organisations are partnering to supply and distribute mp3 devices loaded with content in the Rohingya language into villages across Rakhine State. This is designed to complement the radio ministry and offer listeners with more opportunities to hear God's word. Please pray for the practicalities around distribution, for open hearts, and give thanks for this Kingdom-minded attitude of the ministries involved.



## TRANSLATION

20

Translation of the Bible into the Rohingya language is a key and strategic ministry. The enemy tries to hinder in any way possible to stop people hearing God's word. Pray for unity, wisdom, patience, and humility for Rohingya and expatriate translators involved with translation. Pray that those that hear God's word in Rohingya will be transformed by the power of His love.

21

Praise God for the precious, yet still few, Bible portions and other materials with Scripture content which have been translated. Pray that they would reach people seeking as they are distributed amongst Rohingya communities around the world. Pray that God would work powerfully through the translated Scripture to transform lives and bring healing in all the places where Rohingya live.



## BELIEVERS

22

Sayid came to faith a few years ago but is the only believer in his area. Community pressure and a lack of Christian fellowship can cause seasons of great challenges and discouragement. Pray that Sayid would walk closely with Jesus daily and find strength to stand amid opposition. Pray for the many others like him in similar situations.

23

Zakir, a Rohingya believer had no access to the scriptures for over two years because of his circumstances. He kept his faith by recalling what he had learned in the past. Praise God, he now has access to scriptures and is eager to grow. Pray that God's word would become more accessible for Believers and unbelievers alike.

24

There are roughly 400,000 Rohingya still in Myanmar. There are a few known believers among them who faithfully follow the Lord despite the struggle with the harsh conditions of a country in turmoil. Through their loving and discreet witness more people are turning to Jesus. Pray for protection, boldness and wisdom as they share, and for their physical and spiritual needs to be met.

25

Rohingya have been coming to faith in Jesus for more than 15 years – both individuals as well as entire families and communities. Unfortunately, soon after this encouraging beginning, splits and divisions along the lines of dominant leaders and family loyalties started to emerge. Pray for unity, trust and reconciliation. Pray for a new generation of humble servant-leaders to rise up.

26

Some families in the Bangladesh camps which until recently have followed Jesus in secret have now openly declared their faith. As a result they face massive pressure and intimidation, and they are no longer allowed to access the water source. Please pray for a peaceful resolution of the conflict and that both sides are brought together again. Pray for open hearts among their Muslim neighbours.

27

The Jesus followers in the Bangladesh camps are frequently targeted with false accusations and arbitrary punishments. Several weeks ago some brothers and their Muslim friends were arrested. All but one were released shortly after. He is now facing a baseless charge for murder. Please pray that justice prevails and that our imprisoned brothers may use this time to be bold and give witness even in jail.

28

Jesus is building His Kingdom among the refugees in Bangladesh despite the difficult circumstances. Through a string of miraculous “coincidences” a seeker in a remote location got in touch with a believer in another location. Some months later, there are now several dozen people who gather regularly to study Bible stories! Pray for a breakthrough and community of faith to be birthed in that place.

29

It is exciting to see new shoots of Rohingya believers in Myanmar, but life for followers of Jesus is challenging and their faith is vulnerable. Practical discipleship is greatly needed to nurture and help grow their faith. Pray for creativity, innovation, and flexibility in discipleship. Pray that these tender shoots would grow to be oaks of righteousness.

30

Salim is a Rohingya believer in Bangladesh who is leading discipleship Bible studies with other Rohingya believers who find themselves on the fringe of the Rohingya church. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide Salim, a young believer, to grow this group of misfit believers into a unifying and powerful movement for God’s kingdom. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring reconciliation and grace to the fractured Rohingya Church.



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