

Dear Friends and Supporters.

The **February 2024** issue of the **Caucus Newsletter for the Persecuted Church** and other religious minorities is now available from c.v.r.blacker@btinternet.com.

The newsletter opens with a review of how Christians are suppressed and controlled by the Chinese Communist Party. And a new report shows that Uyghur forced-labour increased in 2023.

In India things have been a little quieter this month but a Christian couple are beaten up in Karnataka State.

Thousands of Afghan Christians are at risk as Pakistan goes ahead with its plan to deport a million refugees back to Afghanistan.

Also, in Pakistan Muslim gunmen kill a 14-year-old Christian boy whilst several Christian workers are abducted, tortured, and forced to recite the Islamic creed presided over by an Imam.

A Pakistani Archbishop tells the UK Parliament about the impact of the recent Jaranwala violence – reported in the last to Caucus newsletters.

In Vietnam, as part of a growing crackdown on Christians, a pastor is given a four-and-a-half-year prison sentence for hosting prayer meetings.

In Burkina Faso 15 Catholics and a number of Muslims are killed in a coordinated Islamist terrorist attack.

A report describes the Govt's tightening reins on Freedom of Religion or Belief in Nicaragua

From the UK (but reflected in other Western countries) there are some articles describing the growing problem of antisemitism – and where this is coming from. The UK Govt is slowly waking up to this problem now that MPs are being targeted but a new report reveals that there is a lack of research into Islamist extremism whilst Christians are finding themselves referred to Prevent.

From the USA author and broadcaster Eric Metaxas urges Christians to resist the rising evil in society in a new documentary.

The newsletter ends with the usual list of NGOs who provide vitally important aid advocacy spiritual and practical support for persecuted Christians; clicking

on their websites reveals the many *positive* things they do, and which represents a welcome antidote to the discrimination and violence within the main report.

Thank you for your continuing interest and support – and written feedback.

Do use this information to bring these matters to the attention of your MP or other political representative, to friends and family, and to your churches mosques temples and synagogues.

Dr Russell Blacker / Caucus for the Persecuted Church - TR17 0AF

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