

# Christian Freedom<sup>®</sup> International



*In spite of tremendous danger, each week tens of thousands of Believers faithfully gather together in houses of worship throughout the Muslim nation of Pakistan. Read more inside.*



# Growing Persecution in Pakistan

In recent years, the Christians of Pakistan have become one of the most vulnerable religious communities in the world.

With a population of over 196,000,000 people, Pakistan is the third largest Muslim nation in the world, behind Indonesia and India. Christians make up only 2.5 percent of the population. The country suffers from chronic sectarian and religiously motivated violence. Pakistan has been designated a Country of Particular Concern by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom since 2002.

Pakistan is considered by the U.S. State Department to be “a safe haven for terrorist groups.” Pakistan houses more than a dozen groups affiliated with the big names in terrorism like al Qaeda, the Taliban, the Haqqani network and recently the Islamic State group. Pakistani extremist groups Jamaat-ul-Ahrar and Jundallah both are thought to be affiliated with Pakistan’s Tehrik-e-Taliban, which recently pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS.

Churches in Pakistan are increasingly vandalized and destroyed. Christians are

beaten, raped, abducted and murdered with impunity.

➤ A report from the US Commission on International Religious Freedom last year found that violence against Christian communities in Pakistan has risen substantially.

➤ Hundreds of Christians are believed to have fled Pakistan during the past year as a result of religious persecution, while doctors, lawyers and human rights activists have been murdered for supporting the cause of minority rights.

➤ Last November, a mob beat a Christian married couple to death and burned their bodies in a brick kiln for allegedly desecrating a Koran.

➤ Days later, a policeman in Punjab Province hacked a Christian man to death for allegedly making derogatory remarks about the companions of the Prophet Mohammed.

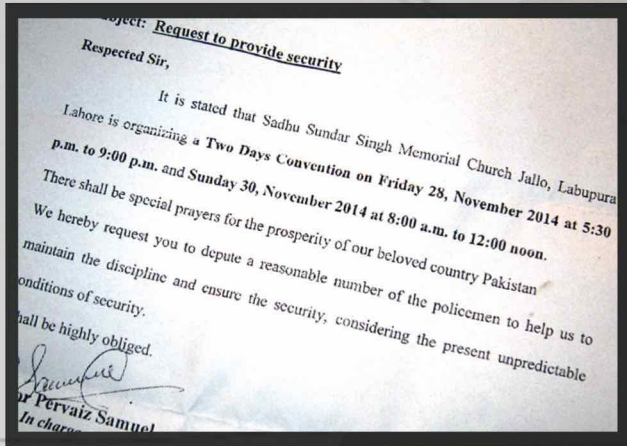
➤ In December 2014 a Pakistani court upheld the death penalty against a Christian woman, Asia Bibi, who is accused of blasphemy, in a case that drew global headlines after two prominent politicians who tried to help her were assassinated.

“Churches in Pakistan are increasingly vandalized and destroyed. Christians are beaten, raped, abducted and murdered with impunity.”

*When local police or security firms do provide protection for churches, they cannot be trusted. The police and private guards are Muslim and their presence is no guarantee against terror attacks. On September 23, 2013, a pair of Muslim suicide bombers hit a heavily guarded Anglican church in Peshawar, killing at least 119 Christian men, women, and children.*



During our most recent CFI relief distribution in Pakistan, our co-worker also visited a local church. His fact-finding mission was to connect with the local congregation, bringing the love of Christ, and assure them that Christians around the world care and want to help.



Pastor Pervaiz Samuel shows a recent petition he wrote to the government asking for protection for his church service. The request was denied. Many churches cannot afford the cost of protection; others use most of their meager Sunday offerings to pay for the "service."

Attending church in Pakistan is very stressful. Yet, each week, tens of thousands of believers faithfully gather together in houses of worship throughout this Muslim nation.

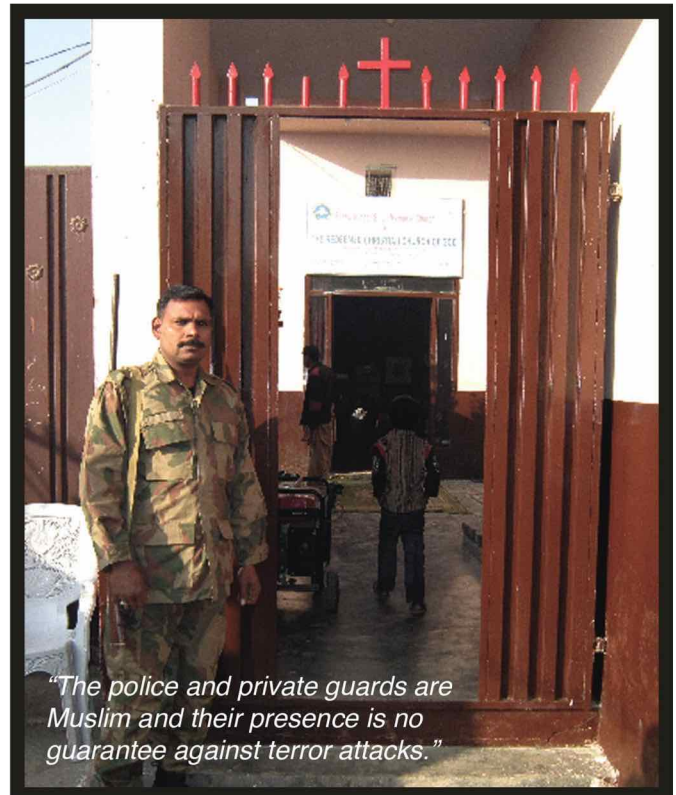
Believers come together to worship Jesus Christ despite the constant threat of Islamic suicide bombers, death squads, and surveillance by Muslim terror organizations.

Many churches in Pakistan have been attacked, destroyed, and pastors and congregants martyred by jihadist "warriors."



Pastor Pervaiz talks to our coworker from Pakistan about their need for security.

# Christians Ask for Protection



"The police and private guards are Muslim and their presence is no guarantee against terror attacks."

Minority Christians are asking for protection. Senior Pastor Pervaiz Samuel of the Sundar Singh Memorial Church in Lahore -- and many other pastors -- are asking Christian Freedom International to provide a security camera for their church.

The security camera will provide an extra layer of protection. A few precious seconds can literally mean the difference of life or death for our brothers and sisters in Christ; the added seconds they need to escape a Muslim suicide bomber or death squad.

The camera is controlled and operated by Christians in the church. It is a reliable, trustworthy form of protection for the pastor and congregants. In addition, recorded documentation on the identity of the attackers is both a deterrent, and proof if necessary, for reporting attacks to the authorities.



# What You Can Do:

➤ First, please pray for the Persecuted Church in Pakistan. Pray for safety of these brave men, women, and children who risk their lives simply by attending church.



➤ Second, give a gift for a security camera. This is a practical way to demonstrate the love of Christ to believers in a very dangerous place for Christians.

*A suitable security camera, including installation, training, and relevant hardware and software, costs \$180. Our co-workers in Pakistan purchase the devices locally.*



## Christian Freedom International



Christian Freedom International is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). Members of the ECFA are held to the highest standards of financial responsibility. Gifts are used for the project identified unless our Board of Directors, in good faith, determines that the changing situation in the Persecuted Church requires applying them to another urgent project. Your gift to Christian Freedom International is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



## Jim Jacobson's Interview with Pastor Pervaiz Samuel:

➤ Jim: *How will the camera help in your Church?*

**Pastor Pervaiz:** *As you know very well that now a days Pakistan is facing problems regarding terrorist activities. Missionary institutions and churches are under threat. Churches should have their own CCTV Cameras for security reasons.*

➤ Jim: *How many people attend your Church?*

**Pastor Pervaiz:** *300 – 400 peoples are attending church every Sunday and Tuesday.*

➤ Jim: *Would cameras be helpful for other Churches in Pakistan ?*

**Pastor Pervaiz:** *Yes cameras are helpful for churches of Pakistan and some of the churches have already installed cameras in their churches but due to shortage of funds we and many others are still struggling for our security.*

➤ Jim: *Can we get your picture?*

**Pastor Pervaiz:** *You can use my picture sir*

➤ Jim: *Can we use this in our Newsletter?*

**Pastor Pervaiz:** *You can use sir in your newsletter.*

➤ Jim: *Do we need to blur your face to protect your identity?*

**Pastor Pervaiz:** *You can use my original picture.*

➤ Jim: *Can we use your name or do we need to use a different name for security.*

**Pastor Pervaiz:** *You can use my original name.*