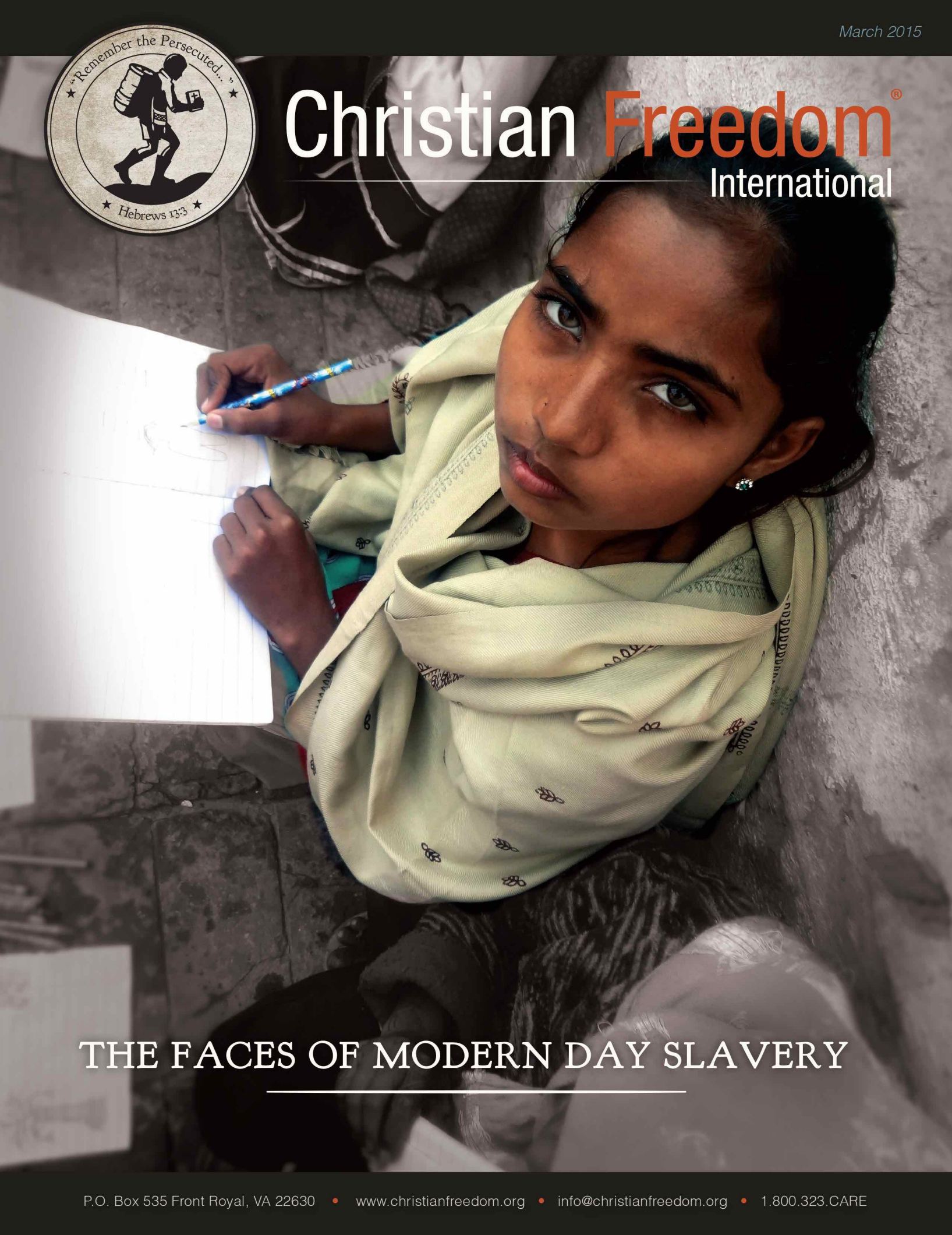


# Christian Freedom<sup>®</sup> International

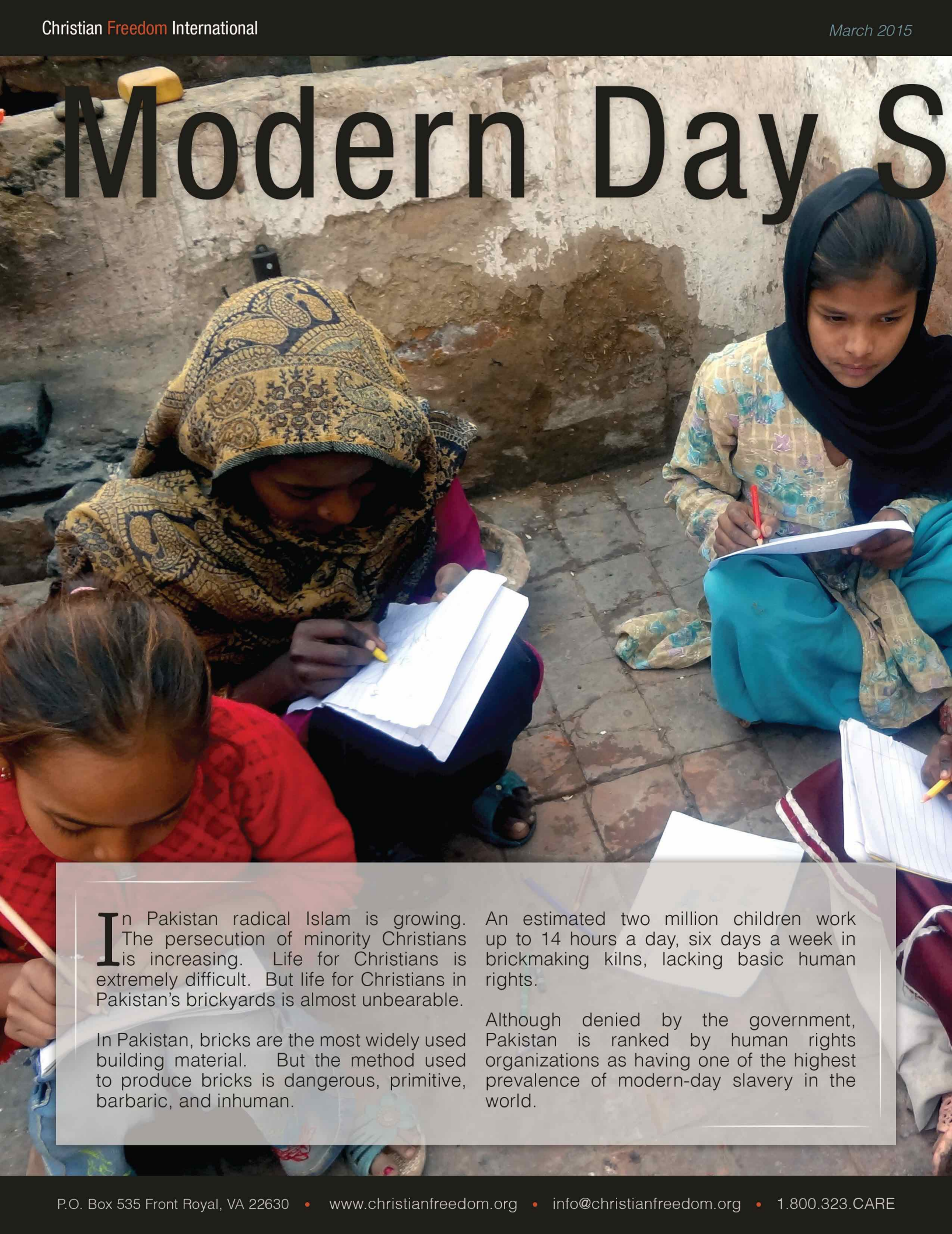


## THE FACES OF MODERN DAY SLAVERY

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# Modern Day S



**I**n Pakistan radical Islam is growing. The persecution of minority Christians is increasing. Life for Christians is extremely difficult. But life for Christians in Pakistan's brickyards is almost unbearable.

In Pakistan, bricks are the most widely used building material. But the method used to produce bricks is dangerous, primitive, barbaric, and inhuman.

An estimated two million children work up to 14 hours a day, six days a week in brickmaking kilns, lacking basic human rights.

Although denied by the government, Pakistan is ranked by human rights organizations as having one of the highest prevalence of modern-day slavery in the world.



# lavery

"Pakistan is ranked by human rights organizations as having one of the highest prevalence of modern-day slavery in the world."



## Cycle of Debt



Shehzad Iqbal and his family from Lahore are "bonded" laborers -- meaning they are trapped into a perpetual cycle of debt that is often passed on to generations of the same family.

It is common for Muslim brickyard owners to provide "loans" to poor, uneducated Christian families who are then unable to repay and have no choice but to work as slaves -- a practice that is widespread throughout Pakistan.

Many Christians in Pakistan are easy victims for these "loans" because as second-class, marginalized citizens, they cannot find employment; many have no education and are extremely poor.

It is common to find parents and children working side by side at brick kilns.

According to the United Nations Development Program, 21 percent of Pakistan's population of 180 million people lives below the poverty line. Christians are on the bottommost rung of the ladder.

Most of the children working at kilns have had no schooling and cannot read or write. An education is their only hope.



# Life is Hard in the Brickyards



Brickyard workers are exposed to physical violence, long working hours and dangerous working conditions.

Children who work in the brickyards are denied their basic right to a childhood, to an education and to play. Forced into labor by religious persecution, lack of education, and severe poverty, children work up to 14 hours a day with scarce food, no sanitation and little pay.

Salma Bashir, 11, is just one of these children. She has no option but to work. It is a choice between work or starvation. Working six days a week, from first light to midnight, her hands repeatedly delve into the furnace that bakes the bricks.

The more bricks she makes, the more food her family can afford to buy that night.

With no breaks, no water and no hygiene, symptoms like diarrhea, and even diseases such as cholera, are common among workers.

According to estimates, there are more than 6,000 brickyards across the country, 5,000 of them in the Punjab alone.

Most children engaged at kilns do not go to school and have never regularly attended one.

## FORTUNATELY THERE IS HOPE

TODAY YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. You can help break the cycle of illiteracy and provide a child the tools they need for a better future. You can become a sponsor, a friend, to a Christian child in a brickyard in Pakistan.

Your sponsorship will ensure that your sponsored child will attend school, receive educational materials, clothes, medical care, food, and other necessary support.

Your sponsorship will give a brickyard Christian child a chance for a better future.

Most importantly, each child in this brickyard will see God's love through the compassionate touch of a sponsor like you.

Your sponsorship of \$25 a month will make all the difference in the world to a waiting child in the brickyard in Pakistan. Please sponsor today.

**To sponsor, complete the enclosed form or call 1.800.323.2273.  
Or, sponsor online: [www.christianfreedom.org](http://www.christianfreedom.org).**

# 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.