

WORLD WATCH LIST 2016

Guide to Global Persecution



50

OMAN

PERSECUTION IN OMAN

Omanis practise a unique brand of Islam called Ibadhism, which is considered to be far less violent than mainstream Sunni or Shi'a. Conversion is not a crime, according to the constitution, and the basic law prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion. However, new believers risk strong persecution from Muslim relatives and can lose jobs, homes - even, potentially, their lives. They also face discrimination, harassment and bullying in the community, especially in schools. Gathering for faith-related purposes is not easy; it is not even permitted in private homes.

Leader: Sultan Qaboos

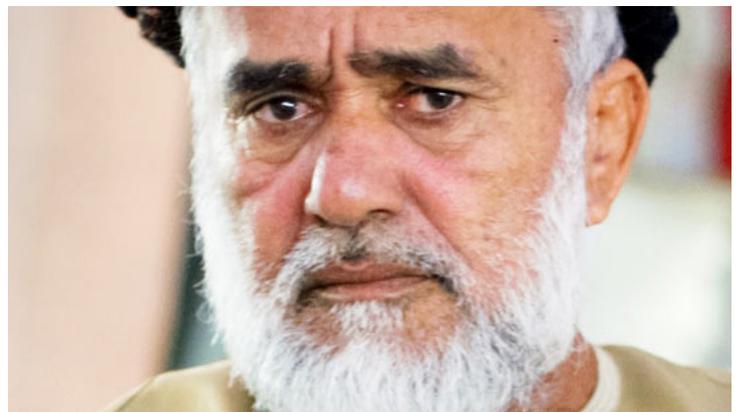
Population: 4.7 million (197,000 Christians)

Main Religion: Islam

Government: Absolute monarchy

World Watch List Rank: 50

Source of Persecution: Islamic extremism / Dictatorial paranoia



PLEASE PRAY...

- For steadfastness for believers who are discriminated against when their identity becomes public
- For increased understanding between Muslims and Christians and justice for believers being judged by Islamic law
- For the continued stability and security of the country; the rise of Islamic State (IS) is putting the region on edge and, as a country bordering Yemen, tension is rising.

THE WORLD WATCH GUIDE 2016

The World Watch Guide 2016 highlights the 50 countries where it is most difficult to live as a Christian. Based on the World Watch List, the most rigorous and detailed report of its kind uses data from Open Doors field workers and independent experts to track the deep structures of persecution, measuring the degree of freedom Christians have to live out their faith in five spheres of life : private, family, community, national and church life. It's an ideal resource for individuals wanting to discover more about the world of the persecuted church.

The World Watch Church Pack is the perfect way to introduce the persecuted church to your church. It includes: a step-by-step Church Service Guide, with prayers, readings, talk outline and discussion questions; a DVD featuring the World Watch film, with testimony from North Korean Christians; and a poster-sized World Watch Map, perfect for displaying in your church.

To order our World Watch resources, go to www.opendoorsuk.org or call the Inspire team on 01993 460015



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