

THE VOICE OF THE MARTYRS

IRAN

GREAT DARKNESS ... GREATER LIGHT

GRAVEYARD EVANGELIST | REDEEMED SUFFERING | TRANSMITTING TRUTH

NOVEMBER 26

"Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them." Heb 13:3

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Stronghold of Darkness

Referring to Iran's Islamists as both dark and powerful is not an overstatement. The country's 1979 revolution gave power to a regime completely devoted to spreading Islamic extremism through violent insurgencies, and it does so today with great effect simultaneously in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen and areas of Israel where there is a Palestinian majority. A nation with a tremendous wealth of people (more than 92 million) and resources (the world's third largest petroleum reserves), Iran has sadly been defined by its agenda to violently spread Shia Islam for nearly 50 years.

Iran's Shia (Shiite or "Twelver") Islam is a sect focused on the coming of the *Mahdi*, the supposed twelfth leader in succession of Islamic rulership who will spread *sharia* law to all parts of the world. Iran's Islamists have sought to pursue these ends through firstly, violent conquest fuelled by martyrdom ideology and secondly, the brutal and truly comprehensive persecution of its citizens who leave Islam to follow Christ. Christian converts from Islam in Iran now number at least 500,000 and may exceed 2 million. In order for us to support them in prayer and loving fellowship, understanding the power of the darkness they face is important.

The regular Iranian military numbers more than 400,000, including conscripts. Additionally, the core of the nation's power, the Revolutionary Guard, numbers roughly 185,000, with 600,000 *Basij* reserves. Combined, this is a million-man military that has controlled its nation's economy for decades. Working closely with underground Christians inside Iran for many years, we can honestly say that the regime has also been effective in monitoring and controlling its populace, punishing Muslim converts to Christ who take great risks to gather for Christian worship, own and distribute Bibles, and evangelize their Muslim neighbours.

I hope everyone will become fully aware of this powerful darkness, for God is glorified as the light of Christ's truth is proven to be greater. We should be thrilled to tell everyone that while powerful darkness has reigned in Iran for nearly 50 years, it is in this country that we have seen the greatest conversion of Muslims to Christ in the 1,400 years since Islam's founding. We need to know that the enemies of our souls, the Devil and the other fallen angels, can marshal all the power of the fallen world — military, economic and otherwise — yet all of God's plans to seek and save the lost will surely come to pass. God is greater. Nothing and no one can stop him.

I pray you will be inspired by our Iranian Christian family members whom you will meet in the pages of this magazine. Armed with the simple truth of the love of Christ, they are showing us how to serve him faithfully and well. Our Iranian Christian brothers and sisters have become brilliant and beautiful heavenly lights that not only shine in their nation's darkness but also overcome it.

Ashley

About the cover: *More than 97 percent of Iranians are identified by the government as Muslims. But a growing disillusionment in Islam has provided new opportunities for Gospel advancement, which is sweeping across Iran through Christian media and bold evangelists like those you will read about in this issue.*













"I think this time is an opportunity. As long as the darkness is great, the action of God is brighter. God can work better in the heart of people who really know their need."
—Arman



The Graveyard Evangelist

When Parastoo became a Christian, cemeteries transformed from places of sorrow into mission fields where she could share hope in Christ. But Iran's secret police were watching.

As a young girl, Parastoo regularly participated in Islamic services and Shiite holidays with her extended family. The events were never joyful.

"In Islam they are always just crying," she said. Parastoo added that they would often hit themselves in acts of self-flagellation practiced in Shia Islam. "They are looking for an opportunity to cry," she said.

She described how, even when a child was born, women in her family would gather to moan and wail as if in mourning. The practice is common among Shiite Muslims, who seek to display their fervency and sorrow for the killing of Husayn ibn Ali, the man Shiites believe should have been Muhammad's successor in the seventh century.

Parastoo found the atmosphere of forced religious grief overwhelming.

"When they came back home, they were always sad," she said of her family's visits to the mosque. "There was nothing that changed when they prayed. My father found nothing in the religion."

In recent years, vast numbers of Iranians like Parastoo have experienced similar religious disillusionment and lost faith in Allah and Islam. And millions more have turned away from Islam due to the repressive policies of the Iranian regime.

While most of those disillusioned with Islam have abandoned all religious convictions, Parastoo still believed there must be an alternative to a sorrow-inducing deity. "I didn't go to the mosque, but I believed in something like God in my heart and I said, 'God, do something for me to have the feeling of joy in my life.'"

When Parastoo was in her twenties, she travelled to another country for a vacation with her father. Their friends, who had become followers of Christ, invited them to visit a church. They agreed out of curiosity.

The difference between the church services and

"I visited a woman there. She was crying, and I said, 'Can I hug you? Can I pray for you to have joy and for God to change your heart from sadness to joy?'"

mosque meetings she attended was startling.

"When I entered the church, something new happened in my heart. I was not feeling heaviness but positive energy," she said. "Everybody, instead of sadness, they have the joy! They were praying together, and they encouraged and hugged each other."

Even more shocking to Parastoo was the playing of a guitar along with singing verses from the Bible, acts considered *haram*, forbidden, by Islamic law. In Islam Parastoo had been required to memorize Quranic verses in Arabic, a language she didn't know, and listen to long recitations that neither she nor the reciter understood. And when Parastoo had previously tried to pray to Allah, she couldn't understand why she was supposed to pray in Arabic when she spoke Farsi, the official language of Iran.

But in the church, members were reading from God's Word and explaining its meaning in Farsi.

"The first time I entered, it was very interesting for me that they have joy and were singing," she said. "They worshiped and talked to their God in a very easy and simple way."

Parastoo visited the church a second and then a third time. After each visit, she had a dream. "A man in white was saying, 'Take my hands and call me by name,'" she recalled. When she told her friends and their pastor about the dream, they explained that Christ was inviting her to follow him. Parastoo responded by placing her trust in him, as did her father.

"I found my way, the way," she said. "That was the best trip I ever had."

Ministry Among the Mourning

When Parastoo and her father returned to Iran, they refused to participate in Islamic services. Parastoo's husband, Delshad, also later became a Christian, but the three kept their new faith hidden. Other family members regularly asked why they weren't going to the mosque, but the questions eventually stopped. In many Muslim-majority areas of the world, people will grudgingly tolerate nominal and non-practicing Muslims. But Iranians who convert to Christianity can be charged with apostasy and face the death penalty.

Despite the risk, Parastoo soon began sharing Christ with others. She obtained some Bibles and Christian literature from the church she visited and gave them to a few close friends. One of the publications had a story about hope. That gave her an idea.

"I went to the cemetery," she said. It was her first mission trip, going to women mourning in a graveyard. "I visited a woman there. She was crying, and I said, 'Can I hug you? Can I pray for you to have joy and for God to change your heart from sadness to joy?'" She then prayed for the grieving woman and gave her the article about hope, which also contained some contact numbers for follow-up.

The woman told Parastoo that God had sent her when she needed it. "She came with sadness and crying," Parastoo said. "But she left with joy and hope."

Visiting cemeteries soon became a regular ministry activity for Parastoo. "I have a passion for people to understand who the real God is," Parastoo said. "If I could, I would help all the people."

Occasionally Parastoo and some friends would buy food and take it to people they knew were struggling financially. "We named part of our mission 'The Basket of the Fish and Bread,'" she said. When she delivered the baskets, she would often read from the Bible the story of how Christ miraculously multiplied a small gift of bread and fish. "I shared the pages with them, and they found joy," she said.

▼ Parastoo reaches out to those who are mourning, including women weeping in cemeteries, so they can experience the love of God and the hope she has found in Christ.





While numerous people were blessed by Parastoo's Christian witness and benevolence, they weren't the only ones aware of her ministry efforts.

Detained

Parastoo's hands still shake as she recalls what she describes as one of the worst days of her life. One day in 2022, Parastoo received an ominous phone call. The caller ID was blocked, indicating a government number. The person on the line ordered her to go to a specific address at 8am the next morning.

After the call, Parastoo considered running away but thought someone might be watching her. So the next day she went to the address with her husband and a brother. The two men were not allowed inside.

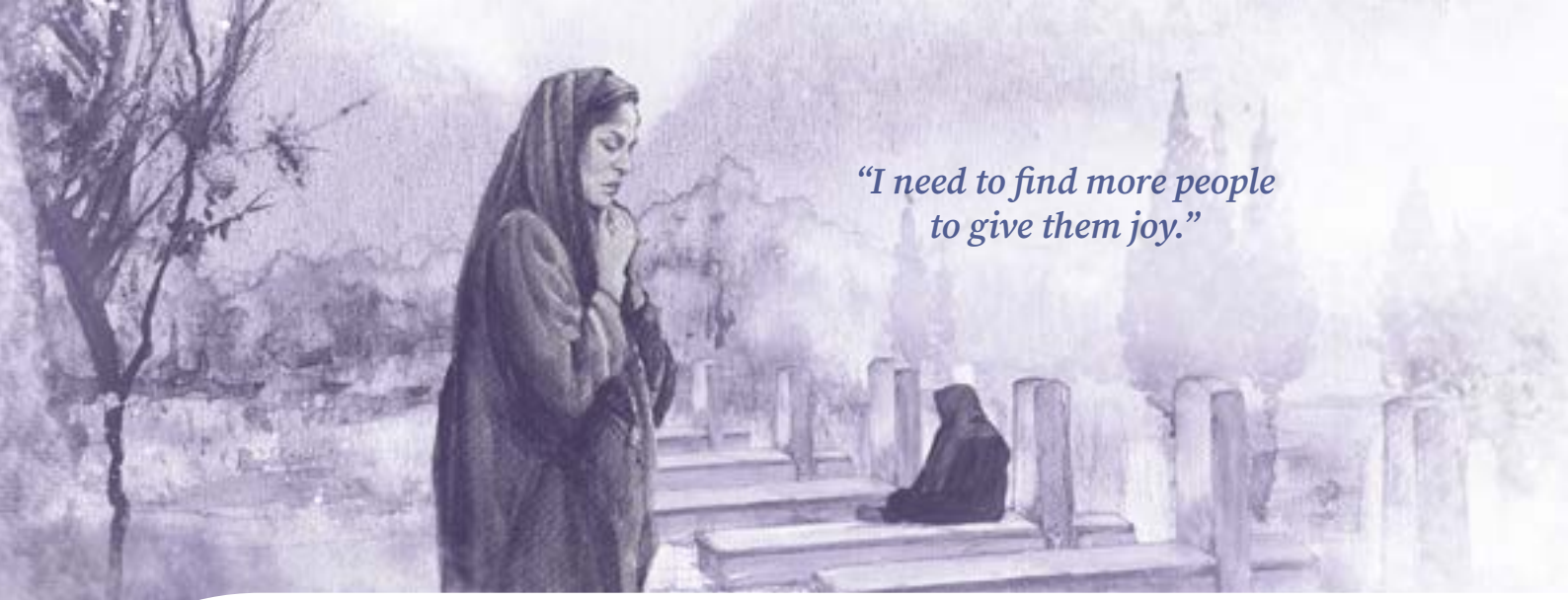
Government agents led Parastoo down a long hallway with doors along both sides. They entered a room and told her to sit at a small table. A bright light shone down on her as she sat. On one wall was a Quranic verse in Farsi, stating that the righteous tell the truth.

A man put a pen and paper on the table and said, "Every question I ask, you should answer me and write it down." Then he interrogated her, asking about her whereabouts and contacts. He showed her photos of people and demanded to know if she knew them. Parastoo explained her movements by saying she was visiting family members. The interrogator said he knew everything, and she would be there for a long time.

After enduring hours of questioning, guards forced her into a small, empty room with only two blankets — one for the hard floor and one to pull over herself. She heard someone screaming in pain from another room. "I didn't know if it was a recorded voice or somebody," she said. "But it gave me so much stress."

The questioning continued for days. Sometimes the interrogators would speak kindly to her before suddenly shouting at her. They asked where she stored Christian materials. They asked why she wasn't going to the mosque and how many mosques were in her neighbourhood. They demanded more information. "My body was full of stress," she said. "My whole body was shaking."

While she was being held, government agents also harassed Delshad. "They called my husband with my phone and said, 'Your wife is doing propaganda against the government!'" she said, and they accused her of being



a spy. "Do you know what the sentence is for that?" they said. "We can kill you."

Throughout her detention, Parastoo cried out to the Lord. "Some hours, I was okay. I was praying and I asked for joy and hope," she said. "But some hours I was in sadness and distress and fear." She began to believe that she would be jailed for a long time. But on the 13th day of her detention, Parastoo felt the Lord's presence as she prayed.

"I was feeling the love of God in the deepest part of my heart," she said. "I remembered Psalm 23, God is my shepherd, and I tried to give everything into God's hands and let him help me pass through this difficult situation."

The next day the examining officer placed a 16-page document in front of Parastoo and told her to sign it or be charged with espionage. The forms required that she cease her Christian activities, including meeting with other Christians or going to places where Christ was worshiped. She signed, just to get out.

After Parastoo's release, Delshad was fired from his government job. The Iranian secret police also flagged the couple's official documentation, limiting their ability to get new jobs. Government agents also wanted Delshad to participate in propaganda against Christians. He refused.

Parastoo was emotionally distraught for weeks following her release. And for months, policemen continued to call and harass her. Then one night she was awakened by her mother screaming in the hallway. Two men had burst into their home and had reached the foot of Parastoo's bed. They were government agents who began tearing through the family's home searching for evidence to use against her and screaming for information. They confiscated her phone and her laptop. Fortunately, she had no Christian material at home.

Parastoo's eyes swelled with tears as she recounted that just 10 days before she was detained, doctors had told her she was pregnant with her first child. The stress of the secret police's nighttime raid caused Parastoo to start haemorrhaging. Delshad rushed her to a nearby hospital, but she lost the baby.

She then went into a deep depression. The next time the government agents called, Delshad answered and erupted. "My husband started to shout at them that they killed my son, my baby! And they just cut the phone off. After that they stopped calling me," she said.

Seeking a Psalm 1 Life

It took a long time for Parastoo to feel whole after those events. Slowly she reached out to Christian friends who prayed for her and encouraged her. Using the Word of God, they helped Parastoo confront her fears and doubts. "It was a process," she said. "I found peace again."

Today, Parastoo continues to reach out to women in cemeteries and elsewhere with the Good News about Christ. But she is very aware of the risk. She said she finds motivation in Psalm 1, which says, *"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly..."* Parastoo described the Iranian regime as wicked and said she still feels negatively toward them. But she strives not to walk through life as they do, living instead with godly goals.

"I hope and pray they find Jesus and know who is the real God," she said. "They are really angry. They are not kind people. I feel they don't have any heart. They need to have the heart of Jesus."

Parastoo requested prayer for herself and Delshad to always feel God's peace and to live courageously for him, and for more Iranians to come to know Christ. As she continues her ministry work of visiting Iranians in cemeteries and distributing Christian literature, she seeks to be like the tree in Psalm 1:3 — producing much fruit and never withering.

"Pray for the people," she said. "I need to find more people to give them joy." ■

Keep This SUFFERING IN ME



Once driven to despair because of his upbringing in radical Islam, an Iranian refugee now dedicates his life to telling others about the hope he has found in Christ.



The first time Arman stepped into a church, he did it purely out of spite.

He had grown up with Muslim parents who were strict, controlling and cruel. He described their religion as "without any knowledge, without any purpose and without any love."

"Some of the extreme treatment hurt me a lot," he said.

Twice, driven to despair because of his home life and the brutalities of the hardline Shia Islamic theocracy of Iran, Arman tried to take his own life. He begged Allah for help but heard nothing but silence. So he channelled his frustrations, disillusionment and anger into political protest against the government. When he finally fled Iran at the age of 29, he carried with him a burden of bitterness toward his parents and the harsh Islam they represented.

"I hated them," Arman said, "and before I left Iran I told them, 'I will not forgive you, never.'"

He considered what might cause them the most pain, and going to a Christian church seemed to be just the thing.

"It was the first motivation," Arman admitted, "but after that I found the love of Jesus."

This love eventually replaced the hatred and pain he carried in his heart and led him to a life of evangelism, with a special concern for Muslims in Iran.

The God Who Hears

After leaving Iran, Arman found himself living the precarious life of a political refugee in Europe. He submitted his paperwork and prepared for the long, uncertain wait to receive the documentation that would enable him to settle into a new life in a new country. Others had waited years to be granted official refugee status. He didn't expect his experience to be any different.

Shortly after arriving at the refugee camp and finding his way to a church, Arman learned that his mother had cancer. He was torn between anger at his parents, fear about his own circumstances, the dangers of returning to Iran and a desire to go back to see his mother. But returning to Iran was an almost-certain death sentence. Though still considering himself a Muslim, he brought his growing despair to the church.

"I cried all the time when I went to the church," Arman recalled. "People prayed for me over and over. They were so kind."

One evening, feeling it was too late to return to the refugee camp for the night, Arman slept at a friend's home. Startled from a deep sleep, the suffering in his heart welled up and threatened to overwhelm him. He got up and felt compelled to pray — not to Allah, but to Jesus Christ.

"If you are real, show me a sign," he said. "They tell me that Jesus is love, that Jesus is God. If all these things are real, show me a sign."

Days later, and a mere two months after arriving in the country, Arman received a letter granting him asylum. When he shared it with friends at the church and realized exactly what he held in his hands, he knew this was his sign and began to weep. "For 29 years, I wasted my life on Islam," he said, thinking about the silence he had felt when he prayed to Allah. "But when I accepted Jesus, he immediately answered me."

Thankful and rejoicing, Arman yielded his life to Christ.

Faith and Fares

After embracing the Christian faith, Arman's first desire was to share Christ's love with others.

"After I received the love of Jesus," Arman said, "I grew in knowledge and all the teaching from the pastor. Even my personality changed at that point, and I started to serve … without that anger. Everything changed."

Church friends saw in Arman great potential as a teacher and leader, so they urged him to get Bible training. He soaked up the Bible learning, all the while looking for ways to serve and share.

As a beginning language learner in his host culture in Europe, Arman had very limited vocabulary when he started inviting people to get to know Jesus Christ. But whatever ability he had, he used.

"Even when I couldn't speak the language fluently, I told people simple words," he said. "I said, 'God loves you,' and even that was impactful."

He saw hundreds of people come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ as he boldly shared with them. Then in 2023 he took it a step further.

"I wanted to talk with people more, and I want to give my time more," Arman said. "So I changed my job and started doing taxi driving." He estimates that since that time almost 150 people have come to faith in Christ through conversations in the cab.

Now, besides this outlet of taxi-cab evangelism, Arman



▲ Many Iranians turn to satellite broadcasts and digital media to help them grow in their Christian faith and engage in prayer and worship.

leads a team of online evangelists as part of a media ministry that reaches into Iran through the internet. The ministry engages people across various platforms to answer their questions about Christianity and — when they are ready — invite them into online discipleship and fellowship. Among those who write in to the ministry, some are genuine seekers, while others are Muslims who want to critique or attack Christianity. Arman said that sometimes the messages contain threats and vulgarity, pressuring the ministry to stop.

"We explain all the things patiently and share words from the Bible," he said. "We try to be super patient with them, until they are interested to know Jesus in a real way. But if they aren't, we are still responsible to respond compassionately to their message." The hope is that these online attackers will develop a true openness and interest as they hear words of peace. More than once, people coming online to level threats spent a couple of hours on the platform and left having given their hearts to the Lord.

Light in Iran's Darkness

These anonymous online threats are not the only ones Arman has received. At one point Arman learned that his brother, still in Iran, had been arrested and beaten by government officials for engaging in protests. They sent a message through this brother, saying, "We know that Arman is a Christian, doing activities for Christian people. If we catch him, we will burn him alive. The life of your brother is in our hands."

When Arman heard this threat, he responded with faith. "I know that they have threatened, and maybe it will happen again, but … I believe in God," Arman said. "If God wants, he will save me. Because of that I am not frightened at all. I just concentrate on the mission I have from God."

He characterizes that mission by pointing to words from Isaiah 49:6, a verse that has strongly motivated him, especially in light of the physical, spiritual and economic suffering of Iran's people: *"And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth."*

"I think this time is an opportunity," he said. "As long as the darkness is great, the action of God is brighter. God can work better in the heart of people who really know their need. When people are in suffering or in trouble or are in a hard situation, they are more open to God."

Arman asked for prayer that more Iranians would receive the message of Jesus and want to grow deeply in their knowledge of him. He also encouraged the global body of Christ to remember Iranian Front-Line Workers who are living under constant threats and pressure, sometimes having to make choices between ministry and survival. The unity of Christ's body standing with these brothers and sisters is a powerful testimony in Iran.

In Arman's view, the Lord has redeemed the suffering of his early life, giving him a way to identify with the sufferings of his countrymen, especially those apart from Christ. He recounted a moment he had with the Lord in prayer. He told the Lord, "You suffer in your heart because of them; so keep this suffering in me, too, to not regard them carelessly."

"I want to always keep these strong feelings inside me, to continue this way like the first day I knew Jesus," he said. "God led me to see people the way he sees them, so in this way I will reach those who need God's words and God's help." ■

Broadcasting Hope *into Iran*



For nearly 50 years, Iran's oppressive Islamic regime has tried to restrict efforts to spread the Gospel. Many Christian ministries have developed specialized media strategies to circumvent the regime's restrictive policies. Through satellite TV and internet platforms, these ministries engage Iran's population of more than 92 million people, of whom less than 2% are Christian.

One Front-Line Worker has organized and trained 50 Farsi-speaking pastors who directly disciple more than 4,000 Iranians online. Every participant in the programme has studied the Bible and taken training courses through the internet. The ministry supports more than 250 Iranian underground churches and their courageous leaders. "We are raising up Christian leaders in Iran to establish, strengthen and multiply the church," he said.

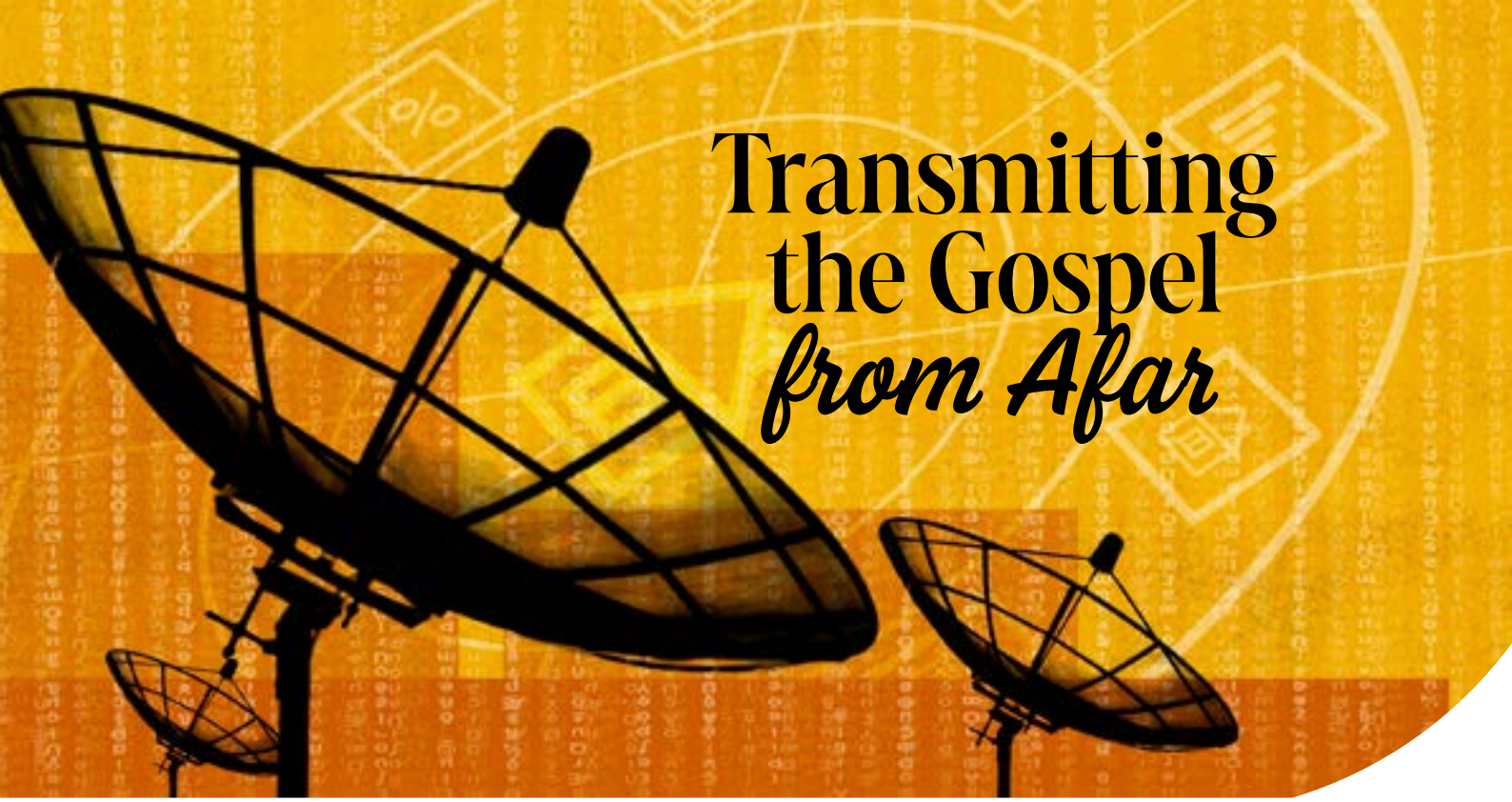
During recent conflicts, even as the Iranian government cut the internet and tried to jam satellite broadcasts, Christian satellite TV programming was still viewable in most areas, and some Iranians still found ways to connect to outside ministries using VPNs and other creative means.

The worker said around 1,200 Farsi speakers come to know Christ monthly through the ministry. "People are ready, and we need to be ready to help establish people and disciple them," he said.

And coming to Christ and making him known have been costly for these new Believers.

"Being a Christian inside Iran is dangerous," said the worker. "Witnessing is dangerous; being in a home-church is dangerous." He added, "A mother of a newborn was recently sent to prison for 17 years just for attending a house-church."

Amid the regional instability and uncertainty, he said his team will continue in the important work of equipping the church inside Iran, regardless of what the country's repressive regime intends. "We have a strategy if the government falls," he said. "But if it doesn't, we have a plan for that too." ■



Transmitting the Gospel *from Afar*

Inside a building in Europe, two technicians faithfully upload Farsi-language Christian programming onto streaming services that are popular inside Iran.

The technicians, married couple Samira and Sajjad, have performed this underground work for years. They worked throughout the Israel-Iran war of 2025. They uploaded programmes in early 2026 as protesters demonstrated against the repressive Islamic government, which responded by killing thousands of them. And when conflict in the Middle East erupted in February 2026, they continued posting biblical programming even as the regime cut internet access.

Years ago, Samira and Sajjad separately stumbled upon Christian satellite television programmes that changed their lives. Now they reach out digitally to Muslims who are curious but sceptical about Christianity, as they once were. "All of us are here so we can help people in Iran, people who are in sin, like we were," said Samira. "To give them the chance to hear about the Lord and to love Christ."

Samira was in a previous marriage when she first encountered Christ. Just after learning she was expecting a second child, her joy vanished when doctors told her that her baby would not be born alive.

Samira's mother-in-law, who had become a Christian, prayed for Samira and the baby, urging Samira to ask the Lord for healing.

Miraculously, Samira delivered a healthy baby boy, yet she struggled to credit the God of the Christians. "I couldn't believe that God is the real God. I couldn't accept that," she said.

Still, Samira couldn't deny that her son had been born healthy, which should have been medically impossible. So she started occasionally going to church with her mother-in-law. Then one day as she was scanning through TV channels, she landed on a Christian programme.

"When the pastor was talking, whatever he said, I said, 'Oh, it is about me, he's talking to me!'" she recalled. The pastor's words convinced Samira to start reading the Bible. "During one week I read the whole Bible," she said. She began attending church services regularly and fully committed her life to the Lord.

Around the same time, Sajjad was experiencing a spiritual revival.

Sajjad had long enjoyed a wild and immoral lifestyle. "We were in bad stuff, sin," he said. "I was with other people partying." But Sajjad had one friend who didn't participate and always prayed before meals, which left an impression on Sajjad. He asked the friend why he prayed that way. The friend replied that he had become a Christian.

"Then he told me about Christ, and I liked Christ," Sajjad said. "I went to read the Bible. I saw that Jesus is wonderful, but I didn't come to the Lord."

As he read God's Word, Sajjad saw that Christians were expected to stop living sinful lives. That was too great a hurdle for him. "Back then I liked the sin more," he said. "I was sinning a lot."

One day he came across a Christian pastor on his satellite TV. He liked what the pastor was saying but struggled to accept the Gospel message. "I was trying to

"I got connected, and the whole world changed."

say no. I made excuses not to become a Christian," he said.

As Sajjad mentally debated the pastor's claims, the pastor immediately responded as if he knew Sajjad's thoughts. In that moment Sajjad uttered a kind of prayer. "If you are God," he said, "I want to believe in you. Please show me right now, show me something."

Right then the pastor on the live programme from another country said that anyone who wanted to give his life to Christ should repeat after him in prayer.

"I did that," Sajjad said.

Sajjad's life changed that night. He stopped partying and found a church to attend, where he was discipled. It was the same church that Samira attended.

Meanwhile, Samira's husband, Eslam, was not happy about her conversion and demanded she stop going to the church. When she refused, he sent police officers to disrupt a church service. One of the policemen ripped a cross necklace from the neck of Samira's baby son and warned her to stop going to church. But Samira continued.

Eslam eventually divorced her and refused to pay for child support. When Samira appealed to authorities, Eslam told the judge, "Giving money to her is not worth it because she is a Christian!" The judge sided with Eslam.

Rejected by her husband and without an income, Samira struggled. In time she met Sajjad at church, and the two married and began serving the Lord together. But when she learned that Eslam was planning to seize her children, she and Sajjad fled Iran and were granted asylum in Europe.

While they were safe, they felt isolated in their small town where they didn't yet know the language. Soon, Samira began struggling with depression.

Then one day they stumbled upon the same TV ministry that had led them both to Christ. They reached out to the channel and were invited to serve with the ministry. "I got connected, and the whole world changed," Samira said. She found purpose in serving the Lord.

Today, as the couple continue serving in the media ministry, their hearts are constantly on Iran. "Our duty is to bring to everyone the message of Christ," said Samira. She knows many Iranians live with fear because of nationwide upheaval. But the instability has also given Iranian Christians opportunities to share the reason for the hope within them.

"It says many times in the Bible, don't be afraid," Samira said. "The Lord is telling us every day, don't be afraid; I am here."

Samira and Sajjad pray more Iranians will receive that message. ■

▼ Sajjad and Samira are two of many Iranian Christians who have fled the country and now work to proclaim the Gospel and support Christians living inside Iran through online and transmitted media.



Prayer Diary

November 2026

S	1.	Bhutan	Pray for the courage of Christian converts from Buddhism whose families oppose their faith in Christ.
M	2.	Sierra Leone	Pray for Brima and Osman, whose lives were changed when they left demon worship and human sacrifice to follow Christ.
T	3.	Nigeria	Pray for pastors and their families who minister in regions where Islamic militants are active.
W	4.	Saudi Arabia	Pray that those opposed to the Christian faith will be unable to hinder the spread of the Gospel.
T	5.	Western Sahara	Pray that Christians will remain faithful while living under tight scrutiny.
F	6.	Djibouti	Pray that Christian converts who are isolated or harmed for their faith will find refuge and fellowship in the church.
S	7.	Lebanon	Pray for Khaled, whose family locked him in a room for following Christ. He escaped and now shares Christ with others.
S	8.	Jordan	Pray for the protection of Christian converts from Islam who are threatened by their Muslim families.
M	9.	Rwanda	Pray that God will replace any fear in Christians with "a spirit of power and love and self-control" (2 Timothy 1:7).
T	10.	Colombia	Pray for Pastor Santiago and other Christians who have been driven from their homes in the "red zones."
W	11.	Mexico	Use Colossians 1:9–14 to pray for the encouragement and strength of Christians in central and southern Mexico.
T	12.	Egypt	Christian converts from Islam face pressure from their families and Islamist groups. Pray for their perseverance.
F	13.	Azerbaijan	Pray that evangelistic efforts through social media will reach the lost in rural areas.
S	14.	Russia	Pray for Christians facing persecution from their families and communities in Muslim-majority regions such as Chechnya.
S	15.	China	Pray for house-churches that are pressured and harassed by the Communist government.
M	16.	Nepal	Pray for Pastor Mahesh, who boldly shared the Gospel with a Hindu monk known for campaigning against Christians.
T	17.	UAE*	Use Colossians 3:15 as a guide to pray for the peace and encouragement of Emirati Christians.
W	18.	Bhutan	Pray that Christians will have discipleship opportunities, despite government restrictions.
T	19.	Mozambique	Using Psalm 90:14 as a guide, pray that persecuted Christians in Mozambique will experience the joy of the Lord.
F	20.	Niger	Since a 2023 coup, some have sought to make Niger an Islamic republic. Pray for the safety of Christians.
S	21.	Ethiopia	Pray for Christian converts from Islam who are now being persecuted for following Christ.
S	22.	Eritrea	Eritrea's oppressive government tracks Bible sales. Pray that Christians will have increased access to God's Word.
M	23.	Honduras	Pray for the salvation of those who practice syncretic Christo-Paganism and persecute biblical Believers.
T	24.	Sierra Leone	Pray for the encouragement of Christians whose church building was destroyed by local Muslim officials.
W	25.	Togo	The country is influenced by voodooists and animists. Pray that the power of Christ will be evident in his church.
T	26.	Kuwait	Using Matthew 9:37–38 as a guide, ask the Lord of the harvest to send more labourers to Kuwait to proclaim the Gospel.
F	27.	Syria	Pray for Christians who have lost jobs, homes and family relationships because of their faith.
S	28.	Brunei	Pray for bold evangelists who continue to share the Gospel in Brunei.
S	29.	China	Pray for John Cao, who faces ongoing persecution after enduring seven years in prison for missionary work.
M	30.	Cameroon	Praise God that translation ministries have made great strides in translating the Bible into local languages.

*United Arab Emirates

Please Stand with Persecuted Christians



Serve persecuted Christians in hostile areas and restricted nations and be a voice for them. Your gift addresses all ministry needs, including the immediate needs of our persecuted brothers and sisters, while calling Christians around the world into closer fellowship with the persecuted and to a deeper commitment to Christ.

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"Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them." Heb 13:3

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Email: **cmi@vomsa.org/bianca@vomsa.org** | Website: **www.persecutionsa.org** |
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INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Sunday, 1 November 2026, and throughout the month of November

The International Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians (IDOP) is a special day when Believers around the world join in prayer for our brothers and sisters who serve Christ and proclaim the Gospel in hostile areas and restricted nations.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

» Pray with the App
Download the VOM App on your smartphone to receive daily prayer requests and to access free audiobooks, videos and VOM Radio episodes.

» Inspire Others to Pray
Use VOM's free IDOP resources to pray for persecuted Christians with your family, group, class or church.

» Watch the 2026 IDOP Video
Invite others in your family, small group, class or church to watch this year's IDOP video.

» Pray Through Social Media
Follow VOM on your favorite social media platform and stay informed so that you know how to pray for the persecuted.

www.persecutionsa.org/idop