



ISSUE #2 DECEMBER 2024



CHRISTMAS  
EDITION

...AND THEY WILL CALL HIM EMMANUEL (GOD IS WITH US.) MATT. 1:23

# WORTHY

PRAYING FOR THE  
PERSECUTED CHURCH



# The Perfect Christmas gift



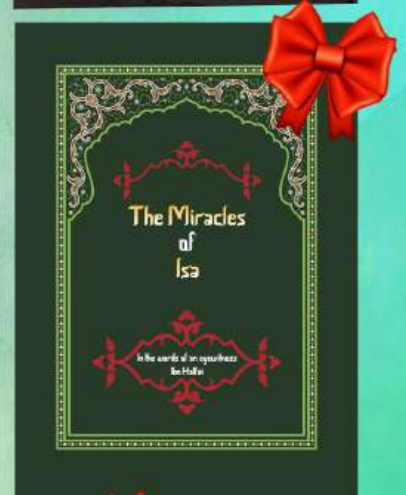
**Ibne Mariam (The Son of Mary)** is the account of the life and teaching of Jesus, specially adapted for the modern Urdu reader.

By popular demand, the account of an eye witness, Matthew, son of Alphaeus, has been revised in Urdu. Accompanied by extensive explanatory notes, maps and images of nineteenth century Palestine, *The Son of Mary* is easy to read, informative and translated directly from the original inspired account.

*The Son of Mary* was soon after published in Sindhi and has been well received. Following the publication of an Arabised English translation, **The Miracles of Isa**, demand quickly spread for other language editions. A Bengali edition was produced by Calcutta's most prominent Islamic book publisher and featured at an international book exhibition. Other completed translations include Arabic, Farsi, Bengali and Bulgarian, with further requests for French, Dari, Russian, Kazakh and Pashto versions. Many readers, including Muslims, Hindus and atheists, have become followers of Jesus as a result.

**The Miracles of Isa** in any language edition makes a superb gift for those yet unfamiliar with the life and work Jesus.

If you'd like to buy a copy or want more info on partnering with us on *Miracles of Isa* projects, please contact us: [info@ywamkausar.org.uk](mailto:info@ywamkausar.org.uk)



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**A Christmas  
Note from the  
editor.**



**Zafar Francis**

This special 2024 Christmas edition of Worthy celebrates the Light that ushered the Kingdom of God into the realm of humanity's darkness. He came bringing Peace, a peace vulnerable believers long to experience today - our dear brothers and sisters worldwide, who are desperate for safe havens from the darkness.

Their heartbreaking accounts of their suffering for the Faith are unimaginable in both scale and scope. I am now almost daily in receipt of pleas from families of three to six year old girls sexually brutalised simply for being 'born Christian'. Perpetrators demand their victim's families vacate their home, flee with nothing, never to return. Entire households of believers are made destitute overnight, homeless, penniless and desperate. This is not ethnic cleansing, it is 'Faith cleansing'. In this season, I ask you, our readers, to stand with believers being denied their basic human right to practice their Faith, they are ill-treated merely because of their religious identity. You can contribute to a transformation that brings healing. By combining Giving with Praying, your Christmas gift can make a tangible difference to suffering Christians, to find out how please see **PAGE 15.**



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In two months' time, we will mark the sad anniversary of the death of 21 Christians who were beheaded by ISIS militants in Libya. The horrific event was recorded on a video that was distributed widely by the murderers and caused revulsion around the world.

These 21 men were murdered in a manner that commanded attention from every part of the world. But what about the thousands who are killed each year because they are Christians? From 2020 to 2023, about 5,000 people were killed for their Christian faith each year. Over 80% of these martyrs died in Nigeria where Muslim insurgents are intent on driving all other faiths from the northern part of the country. And, if successful, they won't stop there.

A Youth With A Mission campus in Nigeria, has welcomed hundreds of "women of honour" into their community over recent years. These are the widows, and their children, of murdered pastors. Each widow symbolises a world of suffering and redemption. Some of their stories are recounted in this video:

<https://tinyurl.com/MartyrsWidows>

Persecution of Christians extends well beyond the thousands of martyrs and their families. It is estimated that 1 in 7 Christians world-wide suffers persecutions. WHY? Most readers would be aware of the more obvious reasons:

- Islam and other religions can be territorial and aim to convert or drive out any Christians.
- Totalitarian governments and tyrannical dictators, like ancient Roman emperors cannot tolerate anyone who does not bow to them.
- Greedy and envious neighbours can turn on prosperous Christians to rob them of their possessions under the guise of religious zeal.
- Men of other religions have been known to kidnap and rape Christian girls claiming that their religion allows it.

But there is another reason that is harder to deny or remedy. The historical churches have often been bound together with governments and their military power. There is, therefore, some validity to the charge that Christianity has been imposed on some nations or tribes. What can we do about that?

Active Christians must avoid aligning themselves with political parties or politicians. Government has a God-given mandate to maintain order, even to the point of coercion, but no government is an expression of God's government.

There is no doubt that Biblical principles usually undergird stable, free nations but Christians must take care to avoid a close association between faith and the role of government.

We must remember that the lives and well-being of fellow Christians can be undermined by the politicisation of our faith. Moderation is required in matters of national pride and patriotism!



## *A Message from*

**Lynn Green**

Founder,  
Youth With A Mission  
England

.....

# 5,000 CHRISTIANS MARTYRED EVERY YEAR



# Editorial

Zafar Francis

Two thousand years ago a state-led plan to snuff out the life of an unborn baby was detected by a group of visiting wise men from afar. They had specifically travelled to find a newborn king predicted by the stars. Given official audience by the reigning King Herod the Great, they soon became aware that their enquiry after the new king's whereabouts had triggered a murderous plan from an insecure monarch. After finding and worshipping the child, they were warned in a dream not to return to Jerusalem. They travelled from Bethlehem by another route. But Herod's barbaric plot was soon set in motion.

Outwitted by the Wise men, he unleashed a massacre of all male children under the age of two. It was into these tragic circumstances, that the Prince of Peace was born. Persecution has beset his followers ever since.

Divine intervention also accompanied persecution. Time and time again we read of how God warned or protected His followers. At the very time Herod was planning murder, God was plan-

## CHRISTMAS BEGAN WITH PERSECUTION

ning freedom. He spoke to Joseph by a dream and through the obedience of Jesus' parents, Mary and Joseph, the newborn king escaped death. The family fled Bethlehem to live in an alien, foreign nation, Egypt. They became refugees. Supplied by treasures gifted by the Magi they were well provided for, but a return to their families and homeland was impossible during the lifetime of Herod the Great. Upon Herod's death, Joseph was guided in a dream and the family returned from Egypt. Still afraid of Herod's descendent however, Joseph avoided returning to his own hometown and settled his family in Nazareth.

Persecution followed Jesus throughout his entire life. Religious extremists took every opportunity to twist his words, harass and discredit him, and they longed for his demise - forces of darkness took no rest in their attempts to extinguish the world's Light. They finally appeared to succeed, turning a volatile crowd and their Roman overlords against Jesus, creating an unjust trial and sending Him to a cruel crucifixion - but this was quickly swallowed up by his victorious resurrection and ascent into the heavenlies.

I don't know of any momentous advance in church history that was not built on the blood of martyrs. Whenever Christianity has taken root as the dominant religious and cultural force but without the suffering of Jesus' followers, even 'to the point of death', the outcome has been ineffectual. There are many examples, such as the conversion of Roman king Constantine (4th C. CE) and his



*Your Christmas gift can  
strengthen their hope!*

establishment of Christianity as the state religion, leading most of his empire to embrace the Faith, often for personal gain. This produced an institutionalised church vulnerable to unrighteousness. The excesses that gradually crept in were later addressed by the Reformation but they perpetuated pain and bitterness toward the church that exists among many Westerners to this very day. Similar concerns exist about the genuine faith of nominal Christians across large parts of the world.

However, in many places - Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, Nigeria and elsewhere - spiritual opposition to Christianity is so great that people suffer terribly, sometimes losing their lives, simply for having the name Jesus attached to their identity.

The following pages include some heartbreaking stories of people suffering for their faith. A pastor and his family on the run to escape his teenaged daughter's forced marriage and conversion. A six year old child from a Christian family brutally assaulted. A father nearly blinded after being tortured for turning from his life as a terrorist.

As we celebrate Christmas we remember all who suffer in Jesus' name and want them to know they are not alone. If you also want to get involved, you can give a suffering brother or sister a meaningful gift, such as a place to call home, a Christmas meal, or a pair of clothing - please see how on page 15.

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# Female, Young & Pastor's Daughter: Live

Fayyaz Raza

**F**ifteen-year-old 'Saima', is the daughter of a pastor in West Punjab. For nearly eight months without a break, 'Taj', the son of an influential Muslim landowner relentlessly terrorised this young girl. He stalked her everywhere, making advances and refusing to give up on his quarry. Eventually he managed to abduct her, repeatedly assaulting her in an isolated area, out of sight of the villagers. It was hours before he released this now traumatized teenager, making her walk home alone in shame and humiliation. It was the first of many such incidents.

Eventually, the family approached the police for help. However, they took no notice and 'Taj' was soon informed of their report.

Enraged at this affront to his power, a few days later 'Taj' again chased 'Saima' to her front door. She managed to slip inside, narrowly evading his grasp. Her family immediately bolted the iron security gate tightly shut, but this time the young man shouted at the top of his lungs for all to

hear: "Come out you infidel *sweeper!* [derogatory slang for families descended from 19th century low caste Hindu converts]. I'll make you my concubine. I'll convert you to Islam if it's the last thing I do! If you refuse, I'll kill you and your family too!" He pulled out a gun and landed several shots on the front door before firing wildly into the air.

'Saima', her older sister (a school-teacher) and parents fled their house in terror, with nothing but the clothes on their backs, leaving their house exposed to intruders. They are now in hiding and are in touch with our local team.

'Saima' is not alone in her terrifying experience. The abduction and assault of Christian teenagers by Muslim men is an escalating crime in this nation. These assaults appear to be energised by unseen centres of anti-Christian fervour.



See page 15 for details



**Your prayers and financial support can help to bring comfort to the family so they know they are not alone. Your gift can make a difference!**

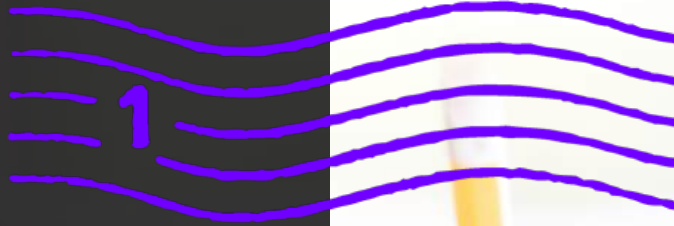


**£100/MONTH  
WILL RENT A HOUSE  
£500  
COVERS BASIC SET-UP  
£120  
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION  
(MEAL AND CLOTHING)**

# Christian es at Risk



LETTERS  
TO THE  
EDITOR



Overall a lovely first issue! It would be useful if you could include some teaching about the dark forces that attack Christians, so we can pray for freedom and release. Also, it's important to follow up on stories so we readers know the outcome of our prayers.'

JUDY, LONDON

Worthy's layout is beautiful. The magazine is a handy size but the font needs to be a little bigger, and I found the sideways page numbers confusing. Also what does 'Kausar' mean?

HANNAH, UK

I read the magazine. Very inspiring. Some interesting view points. Well done all. I think the variety of your output is astounding. The varied ways you reach out to the eastern world should really inspire others with that call to do the same.'

P. K., LONDON

Excellent magazine. I'm an atheist, not a Christian, but the persecution of Christians is a human rights issue. I believe everybody has the right to worship as they wish. Christians should also have freedom to live according to their conscience.

JEAN MATHIEU

WOW! "Worthy" is certainly remarkable! I have read all of your November issue. I have suggested that the article "Assault of a Five Year Old Christian Girl" be used as a prayer focus in our church meeting tomorrow. We are praying for your staff,

J. S., USA

"Worthy" certainly looks impressive and provocative. Is this going to be a regular e-publication?

JOHN, USA

How can I send a gift to help the people you've written about?

FATIMA, CANADA

*Thank you for your valuable feedback. We have taken it on board and from January we plan to add a dedicated prayer page. We're delighted to share the answers to your prayers.*

*You will find we have increased the font size to 10.5 and simplified the page numbers. 'Kausar' is Arabic for 'living water'. Hope this helps!*

*Thanks for your inspiring and encouraging words.*

*Thank you, your thoughts are valued.*

*We're so glad to provide you a useful resource for prayer. The object of Worthy is to lead the Body of Christ to intercede for believers in difficult and dangerous situations. Your prayers and thoughtfulness make our work possible.*

*Yes, the electronic edition will be available bi-monthly worldwide in print in some locations.*

*Giving info for the UK, Europe, USA and Australia can be found on [page 15](#)*

# Age Six, Life Shattered

BLESSY SHAMAON  
VOICE OF A TEENAGER

**Y**oung Christian girls in my country are increasingly targeted for assault. This cannot go unnoticed, unreported, ignored. The police should not look away. Families must act. Recently a young girl was brutally raped at school, by a 23-year-old campus guard on account of her Christian identity. Once reaching home visibly distressed, drenched in blood, her grandmother realised what had happened. She cried out, her voice cracking with the shock of what she had witnessed. The family rushed to the school. But with a heavy heart and deep disappointment, I must write that the school chose to deny the incident. Nevertheless, the family remained there, resolute in the pursuit of justice for their daughter, refusing to back down. The culprit descended the stairs. The young girl erupted in a loud cry of terror, her sudden cry identifying the guilty one. Incontrovertible forensic evidence confirmed the accusation. The severity of this crime, calls for an urgent need for vigilance and swift action to protect vulnerable Christian

children from religiously motivated sexual predators. We Christian girls need protection.

An experience of rape has lasting effects. Experts suggest that children who experience such events may develop issues with trust, fear of social situations and difficulties in expressing their emotions. This child, who previously enjoyed school, refused to return. A child's trust and sense of safety had been shattered. She now needs professional help.

To protect young girls from such violent acts, schools must foster safe, supportive environments. They need to adopt and implement comprehensive safeguarding policies as in other countries. Our teachers need training. I urge schools to check all staff backgrounds, foster cultures of safety. Schools MUST create safe environments where pupils can thrive academically and emotionally, building the skills they need to navigate their world with confidence and self-respect.

Families must learn how to empower daughters to protect themselves from violent crime. Open, age-appropriate communication is

key. Parents should encourage daughters to practice how to stand up for themselves in uncomfortable situations. Parental guidance gives courage and confidence.

In conclusion, I wrote this article with the hope of sparking meaningful change in how we, as a society, address the issue of protection of young girls from violence. The alarming reality of targeted sexual violence against Christian girls cannot be ignored. Adults must take responsibility. Schools, families, and communities must collaborate to educate, empower, and support our Faith community's girls, ensuring they grow up in an atmosphere of respect and security. In protecting us, they would protect all vulnerable girls.

Through raising awareness, challenging prejudicial attitudes, by adopting strong safeguarding practices, adults can collectively foster a culture where violence has no place. As I, Blessy, have emphasised, the urgency to act is NOW. Every girl should be able to live without fear so she can realise her full potential.



**Dr Ron George - UK**  
**CEO Eurasia Education**  
**Foundation**

# The Suffering of HAZARA BELIEVERS

**T**he Hazaras are an ethnic group of around 2,619,800. Their homeland in central Afghanistan has been shaken by rebellions and civil war. After an unsuccessful uprising in the 1800's, some Hazara fled and settled in what is now Pakistan. Their original homeland was more recently rendered uninhabitable by the abundance of Russian mines laid over their traditional farmland. Families fleeing the civil war in Afghanistan joined other Hazaras in Pakistan. Their language, called Hazaragi, is an Indo-Iranian tongue with many words borrowed from Mongol. Many also speak Dari Persian as a second language.

'Hussaini' was a guard with the Taliban in the mountainous, central region of Afghanistan. Local believers who encountered him told him about the Messiah. He became convinced of their message and repented of his cruelty and evil. His

change of heart did not go unnoticed. Following the Prince of Peace is not the Taliban way. They beat and tortured him to renounce his faith. He lost an eye and was close to losing his sight altogether, but he managed to escape his tormentors and make contact with other believers. He and his family fled and after lodging an application in Islamabad for visas to Canada, they fled once more and are now in neighbouring Iran. In Iran, his wife gave birth to their third child. Unable to work in this land, they are now destitute, dependent upon whatever relief global believers can send them. The Taliban's long reach has extended to refugees in Pakistan. The family has an uncertain future, but hold onto their hope in Christ.

**PRAY** for a safe place to live and a safe way to reach it.

**PRAY** for financial support for 'Hussaini' and other Hazara families  
**To give**, please see page 15



# Our Christmas Appeal



**‘W**orthy’ reports on the lives of the persecuted believers we serve. Their voices are seldom heard. This Christmas we want their cries for help to be loud and clear. They are homeless and destitute through no fault of their own. Their faith has attracted murderous greedy mobs to attack, harass and destroy their witness. You can help them survive and thrive, not just this month, but every month.

Our CHRISTMAS APPEAL is for continuous fervent prayer for persecuted believer refugees and Christian youth. We are also calling for the financial resources they need to recover, mentally, emotionally, physically. We have included a report written by a Pakistani teenager, Blessy. She writes about a six year old victim, but she herself was bullied. As the only Christian in her class she was harassed so badly she had to abandon her education. The school

refused to return the fees her parents had paid in advance. Blessy’s experience led to mental and emotional suffering that impacted those closest to her. Her entire family moved to another city to recover from the trauma and start again. This cost money. They are amongst those we wish to support. Please consider setting up a monthly donation on top of your Christmas giving.

We rightly remember the homeless and the poor at this time, but the comfort of regular support for traumatised families will not only help them recover, but will lead to those who suffer becoming strong enough to become the Voice in Society that the teenager Blessy so fervently calls for in her contribution to Worthy. The up and coming generation insists on change.

Please visit page 15 for information on how to donate to the suffering families amongst us at this time.



# Your Christmas Gift Counts

**UK:** Youth With A Mission Kausar London, Metro Bank, Sort Code: 23-05-80, Account 51230477

UK tax payers can increase your gift at no cost to yourself by completing and returning a Gift Ad form. Request one by emailing [rosemary@ywamkausar.org.uk](mailto:rosemary@ywamkausar.org.uk)

**USA:** For tax deductible receipts, email: [missions.support@ywamtyler.org](mailto:missions.support@ywamtyler.org) or write them at YWAM Tyler, PO Box 3000, Garden Valley, TX, 75771, United States. Enquiries, call Emily Sinke 903-509-5307.

[ywamkausar@ywamlondon.org.uk](mailto:ywamkausar@ywamlondon.org.uk)  
(PayPal: No tax deductible receipts available for USA.)

**EUROS:** Youth With A Mission Kausar London, WISE BANK:

Account holder: Youth With A Mission Kausar London

Swift/BIC: TRWIBEB1XXX

IBAN: BE35 9679 9892 2837

Bank name and address: Wise, Rue du Trône 100, 3rd floor, Brussels 1050 Belgium

**AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS:** WISE BANK: Youth With A Mission Kausar London.

Account holder: Youth With A Mission Kausar London

Swift/BIC: TRWIAUS1XXX

Account number: 220450463

BSB code: 774001

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Ministering in London and overseas,  
reaching the bibleless and unreached

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# MAG

PRAYER

[www.ywamkausar.org.uk](http://www.ywamkausar.org.uk)



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