



Somalia

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On The World Watch List

“We were all dead, but Jesus came to save us and give us new life.”

– Momina, Somali believer.

Score: 92/100

Extreme

Violence:	<div style="width: 59%;"></div>	59%
Church Life:	<div style="width: 98%;"></div>	98%
National Life:	<div style="width: 99%;"></div>	99%
Community Life:	<div style="width: 99%;"></div>	99%
Family Life:	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>	100%
Private Life:	<div style="width: 99%;"></div>	99%

Region:	Africa
Leader:	President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed
Persecution Level:	Extreme
Christian Population:	100 (0.1%)
Main Religion:	Islam
Source of Persecution:	Clan Oppression

There is no safe place for Christians in Somalia. Civil war, tribalism and violent Islamic extremism restrict church life and any Christian activity. Believers must practise their faith in secret or risk rejection and violence from their families, communities or extremists.

Persecution Within The Family

It is impossible to publicly worship or declare your faith in Somalia. Islam is considered a crucial part of Somali identity and anyone who is suspected to be a Christian convert is often assaulted or humiliated in public. Christians also risk being killed by members of their own family and community. Women are often sexually assaulted and forcibly married – making them some of the most vulnerable people in Somalia. The country does not have any domestic violence laws.

Targeted by Extremists

Christians are also in danger from al-Shabaab, a violent group that believes life should be governed by Sharia (Islamic) law. Christians from a Muslim background are targeted by al-Shabaab and often executed on the spot. Christian families are usually left unprotected if the father is killed or abducted.

How can we pray for Somalia?

Pray for the families of martyred believers. Ask they would be comforted by Jesus and find emotional healing.

Ask that a strong church will grow amongst the Somali people as they rely on Jesus in all things.

Pray those who are responsible for killing Christians will come to know Jesus.

Download the full WWL report at opendoors.org.au/resources or opendoors.org.nz/resources