

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

ALGERIA (Africa)**General Information**

- Population: 37 million (2012 est.)
- Belief ideology: Muslim 97.3%, Christian 0.3%

**Challenges**

- [From persecution.org] Algeria experienced civil war from 1991 to 2002, and the country still suffers from terrorism as a result of the conflict. More than 160,000 people were killed in the fighting between Islamic militants and the government. Ethnic minority Berbers in the country have long pushed for autonomy.
- 35 out of the 41 people groups in the country are considered unreached by the gospel.

Pray For

- Voice of the Martyrs contacts report that Muslim-background believers number about 200,000. A law passed on Feb. 28, 2006, defining “the conditions and rules for the exercise of religious worship other than Islam” prohibits house churches from meeting without registration. In 2008, persecution intensified as the government sought to enforce the 2006 law by closing down churches. Last year, a governor in Bejaia ordered seven Protestant churches operating without a permit to close. Instead, the churches defied the order and kept meeting. It remains to be seen how the government will ultimately react. In May 2011, a judge sentenced a Muslim-background Christian convert to five years in prison, far beyond the two years the prosecutor had recommended, after authorities discovered hundreds of pieces of Christian literature in his home. It is illegal to distribute Christian literature.
- On Jan. 10, Muslim extremists set fire to **Tafathchurch in Tizi Ouzou**, Algeria, damaging church property, according to The Voice of the Martyrs contacts. The Voice of the Martyrs encourages you to pray for this congregation and especially their pastor, Mustafa Krierch, and his family. Pray that God will protect these Algerian believers and that their courageous testimony will draw nonbelievers to Christ.

Reference

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Algeria>
- http://www.persecution.com/public/newsroom.aspx?story_ID=MjIx

