

## PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

## UZBEKISTAN

## General Information

- Population: 30 million
- There are no official statistics on membership in various religious groups; however, it is estimated that up to 90 percent of the population is nominally Sunni Muslim.
- Ethnicity (%), Uzbek (80), Russian (5.5), Tajik (5), Kazakh (3), Karakalpak (2.5), Tatar (1.5).
- Religion (%), Muslim (84.93), Non-religious (13.80), Christian (0.75), Other (0.52)
- President: Islom Karimov



## Challenges

- Uzbekistan maintains a ban on all religious activities not approved by that state, with particularly harsh treatment of Protestant Christians being commonplace.
- In 2006 a law, by which printing religious books can be punished with three years, came. The government indulges in massive persecution of Christians.
- Uzbekistan was designated to its list of countries of particular concern of the U. S. State Department.

## Pray For

- Sharofat Allamova, a Protestant from Urgench in northwestern Uzbekistan, has been given one and a half years of corrective labour, after being convicted under criminal charges for possessing a Bible.
- In 2010, a 27-year-old Christian man, Tohar Haydarov, was arrested on false charges of producing or storing drugs and subsequently sentenced to 10 years in prison. Members of the Baptist church in Uzbekistan insist that the charges are fabricated and that Haydarov's sentence was punishment for his religious activity.

## Reference

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uzbekistan#Religion>
- <http://www.persecution.net/uz-2011-01-27.htm>