

World Update September 2009

Prayer points:

INDIA

In India, a year has passed since the worst religious violence in the nation since partition in 1947. And there are signs the attacks against Christians have spread out now from Orissa.

'Initially it appeared that the church has been destroyed, but as months have passed by we have seen as we have always seen that persecution has united the church. Persecution has forced the Christians to look into God's Word to see what it is that God is teaching us through this.' – Rev Sudhakar Mondithoka

- Please pray that the church will stand strong in India in the face of persecution.
- Pray especially for the Dalits – the untouchables – who have come to Christ, that they won't be intimidated into giving up their new-found freedom.

EGYPT

Muslims are forbidden from changing their faith. And Christian men are not allowed to marry women from Muslim backgrounds - even those who have become Christians.

'They tied my hands behind my back and they kept kicking me and slapping me, and sometimes they pulled my ears so hard, and different kinds of beating and torture.' – 'Joshua'

- Please pray for that Joshua and Mary will be allowed to live together as husband and wife
- and pray for the Christians of Egypt who live under the pressure of Islamic law

NIGERIA

Christians in north have again been targeted by militants who have murdered pastors and burned churches.

'Jesus never promised me that all is going to be that easy. And from the Scriptures we know that the Bible tells us that persecution will definitely come. And so even in this thing we still know that we can still praise our God. The church is in our heart, it is not in this building, so they destroy the buildings, but we are still there and the church is there. And we believe strongly, as a result of this, that the church shall come up very strong.' – Pastor Enoch Atiyaye

- Please ask God to heal and bless His church in Maiduguri, which has suffered so much.
- Pray the authorities will do all in their power to prevent the militants regrouping.