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# Uzbekistan

## SOURCE OF PERSECUTION

**Dictatorial paranoia**

## LEADER

**President Shavkat  
Mirziyoyev**

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## TOTAL POPULATION

**33,236,000**

## CHRISTIAN POPULATION

**345,000 (1%)**

## MAIN RELIGION

**Islam**



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***Uzbek believers can be fined for possessing Christian literature or even having worship songs on a smartphone.***



## WHAT IS LIFE LIKE FOR CHRISTIANS IN UZBEKISTAN?

In the former Soviet republic, the government sees Christians in unregistered churches as a threat to its power. The Uzbek government allows no religious activities beyond state-run and state-controlled institutions. If they are found meeting together, believers may have their meetings raided and be arrested or fined for taking part in “illegal” religious activities. Church leaders are especially targeted—in an effort to cause a ripple effect of fear and anxiety among their congregations.

## PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that the new leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev would bring welcome changes and protection for the country’s Christian population.
- Pray for our family who, right now, are behind bars for their faith. Ask God to provide powerful ways to encourage them and bring them His hope and peace.
- Ask God to guide and spiritually nourish church leaders in Uzbekistan, who face immense pressure for their role in discipling God’s people.