

Somalia (East Africa)

- **Leader:** President Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud
- **Government:** Federal republic
- **Population:** 11,392,000 (a few hundred Christians)
- **Main Religion:** Islam
- **Persecution Level:** Extreme
- **Source of Persecution:** Islamic Extremism, Ethnic Antagonism

Somalia has been on the ‘Open Doors’ World Watch List since 1993. Islam was already firmly established in Somalia before the arrival of Christianity, and as a result, life for believers is defined by hostility. Somalia’s tribal system — as an informal way of governing Somalia — is very resistant to modern government models, including democracy, which means that Christians have absolutely no voice in society.

Since 1991, Somalia has become a safe haven for Islamic militants. Christian converts from Islam in the country have been facing a great deal of persecution, and martyrdom is very common. The mere suspicion of one’s having renounced Islam leads to a rushed public execution.

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for Christians in Somalia who risk martyrdom if their faith is discovered and struggle with keeping it to themselves.
- Pray that they would have wisdom and discernment in sharing the gospel with others, along with a quiet boldness and sense of God’s presence with them.
- Pray for Christians in Somalia who are isolated from the larger Body of Christ.