



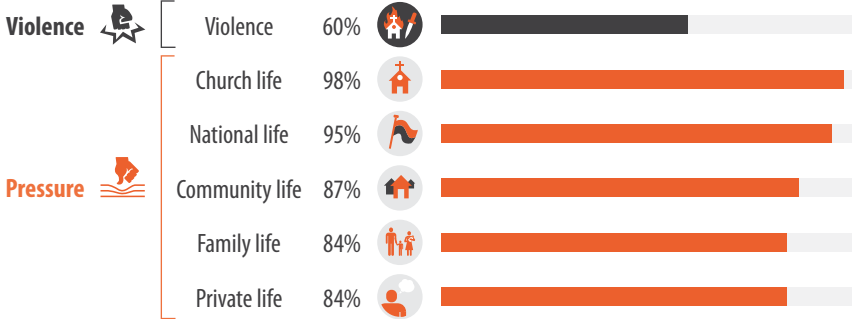
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Iran

Source of Persecution Islamic Oppression
Population 80,946,000
Christians 800,000
Main Religion Islam
Government Theocratic Republic
Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

Profile of Persecution

Based on World Watch List 2018 Data



Militant Government, Moderate Society

In contrast to the neighboring Arab Gulf countries, the main threat for Christians comes from the government in Iran. The Iranian regime defines Iran as an Islamic State based on Shia Islam. Christians and other minorities are seen as an unwelcome distraction from this plan.

Although some reports mention pressure from families and communities on converts from Islam to Christianity, Iranian society is much less fanatic than their leadership.

Prayer Points

- Any Muslim who leaves Islam faces the death penalty, although authorities haven't acted on this law in recent years. Pray that the laws will change, allowing for freedom of religion.
- For a Muslim family, it is a great disgrace when one of its members leaves Islam. Pray for Christians who have been cursed and disowned by their families for their faith.