



THE

# VOICE

OF THE MARTYRS

JANUARY 2025

## OUR FAMILY FOR ETERNITY



\*\*\* PRAYER \*\*\*

*Extended Family:*

- \* Pastor Morris & his wife,
- \* Pauline Ayyad & her children
- \* Susan Ithungu
- \* Mrs. Ha Wan (Vietnam) - widow



"Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them." Heb 13:3



## The South African Flag colours representing Salvation in Christ

**Black** represents sin. *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23*

**Red** represents the Blood of Christ. *"The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7*

**White** represents that Christ cleanses us from our sin. *"Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow." Psalm 51:7*

**Yellow** represents the streets of gold. *"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:3*

**Green** represents growth. *"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever." 2 Peter 3:18*

**Blue** represents baptism - a way to testify to others that we believe in Christ. It is not a requirement for salvation, but a way to show others that you are changed. *"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 28:19*

# Seventeen Years and Counting: Walking with Our Sister in Gaza

Many of you will recognize the individuals in the pages of this magazine. We are thrilled to present several encouraging "Where are they now?" articles this month, providing updates to testimonies we first shared a decade or more ago. Whether you are familiar with these precious Believers or not, you will be blessed to see the Lord's work in their lives through photos taken over the years as well as their encouraging and challenging statements.

As you read their stories, you will notice that VOM has been serving them for years. A core value of VOM's work is standing with persecuted Christians through the ups and downs of their suffering and joy for as long as it takes to see them restored to emotional, spiritual and physical wellness. But please understand that this is not merely the vision of an organisation and its leaders. Entering into one another's suffering so that we may walk together in love and service is what we all do as members of God's eternal family.

Our Lord did not intend for Christian charitable organizations to be the only ones who stand with and serve our brothers and sisters in their suffering. To think that would be a grave error, falling far short of Christ's desire and plan for His church, which is His body and bride. Our Christian brothers and sisters are not a problem to solve. They are not a passing concern. They are our family for eternity.

In spring of 2007, we were shocked and saddened to learn that Rami Ayyad had been brutally killed by Islamists. Rami was the leader of the Bible Society's work in Gaza, and all of us who worked in the missions community in the Middle East were discouraged to see such a tremendous setback for the advancement of the Gospel and God's Word in this region. But pre-eminent in our thoughts and prayers was the cry, "Lord, please have mercy on his wife and their three small children!"

In the 17 years since Rami's killing, VOM and others have had the privilege of helping support Pauline and the children and of telling their story. To us, she is a hero; she has always been honest about the struggles she has faced. Today, we can look back with her and be inspired by her grief as a martyr's widow, her life as a single mother of three for the sake of Christ, and her faithfulness in continued service in one of the world's most difficult and dangerous mission fields. As witnesses to Christ's love, for the glory of God, may we always work to see the reality of heaven's eternal relationships made known here in this fallen world. May we serve our brothers and sisters as they suffer, for as long as it takes.

*Ashley*

*Sudanese children gather at the home of Morris and Cabina, who serve thousands of Christians displaced by Sudan's civil war.*

## YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

**Our organisation exists to aid Christians persecuted for their faith. There is a place for everyone to be part of our family, whether it's by simply following our stories, praying for one another or funding a project. Whichever way you choose to engage, we will value it dearly and honour your support with discipline, and integrity.**

**We value your trust in what we do.**

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## BRINGING DRY BONES

# Back to Life

A decade after being freed from the horrific abuse of her Islamic father in Uganda, Susan Ithungu has found lasting refuge in the body of Christ.

**M**ore than 10 years have passed since Susan Ithungu was rescued from a dark, cramped closet where her father had locked her after his beatings failed to quench her faith in Christ.

The abuse began at age 11, after she received baptism as a Christian. Her father beat her, threatened her life and

finally locked her away to die in the darkness. Susan's brother secretly gave her roasted bananas and a little water occasionally, but it was nearly six months before authorities learned of the abuse and freed Susan in September 2010.

Although 85% of Uganda's population is Christian, Islamic

extremism has been on the rise, and those who leave Islam for Christianity often face physical abuse from family members.

Covered with open wounds, suffering from untreated malaria and weighing only 20,5kg, Susan was so weak that her bones had become brittle and stopped growing. She spent the first year of her freedom in the hospital and has since endured 13 operations to repair the damage done to her body. She still uses crutches to get around, but her prospects and outlook on life are very different now than when she first left her father's house.

"I feel so happy," she said during a recent conversation with VOM. "From the time I became a Believer and those things were happening to me, and afterward during the hospitalisations, I didn't know if I would ever heal or go back to school. But ... I can look back and see how God was always there for me and I was never alone. So I know that whatever comes in the future, God will help me."

One way He helped her was by sending her a Christian woman named Dreda Birra, or "Mama Dreda," as Susan calls her. When Dreda heard of Susan's situation, soon after her release from captivity, she knew the Lord was calling her to help her little sister in Christ. She committed herself to Susan's care and took her in as part of her own family.

A Christian woman who saw Dreda

with Susan in the hospital told a local church about them. And as word spread, Christians began to bring them food and helped pay Susan's hospital bills. The global body of Christ has also helped pay Susan's school fees and provided necessities to support Susan and Dreda.

At times Susan wondered whether she would get to experience a "normal" life, but finding good friends in a good school has helped tremendously. "There have been times when I was sick or recovering from surgeries, where I was missing years of school," Susan said, "and I thought, 'Okay, I am different and I will never fit in.'"

Susan briefly considered quitting school, but her love of learning drove her to persevere. She has now completed 11th grade and is planning her future. She thinks she might want to be a journalist.

When Front-Line Workers first met Susan, they were encouraged by her strong faith and positive spirit, but they noticed an even bigger change during their most recent visit. "This is the most joyous and healthy I have ever seen her," one worker said. "If you did not know her story, you would never assume she would have been through what happened to her. It is an amazing testimony not only of Susan's and Dreda's faithfulness but ultimately the Lord's."

Besides the provision of medical care, Christian friends and support for daily living, Susan has seen the Lord's faithfulness in an unexpected place — her relationship with her father. In recent years, as she entered adulthood, she has begun to talk to him again. Although her father remains unrepentant and blames her suffering on her conversion from Islam to Christianity, Susan has found the strength to face him and ultimately forgive him.

"There are times I just look at him and get angry," she said, "but then I stop and remember I have to forgive him." It

has not been easy for Susan, especially during times of intense pain, but forgiveness has brought her a different kind of freedom. She wants to honour her father despite the abuse.

"Moments of anger can come," she said, "but I find encouragement to keep the relationship. I can't finish one day without thinking about my father, and I pray for him all the time."

Susan enjoys studying the Bible with friends, and she feels a special connection to Ezekiel 37, where the prophet sees a valley full of dry bones. "It talks about the dry bones coming back to life," she said. "That is what I pray the Lord does for me physically and what He has already done for me spiritually."

She expects to have one more surgery, and she hopes it will be her last. She and Dreda were joyfully surprised this year by the gift of a small house from the global body of Christ. Located near Susan's school, the house is set back from

the road to provide peace and security.

"When I heard a home was going to be built for us, I was overwhelmed," Dreda said, laughing. "When I told my family, they said, 'God is good!' So now everyone is longing to see Susan here. And we will dance with Susan in this house! Everything that we have prayed for, God has done. I have joy in my heart; I can hardly speak because of joy!" ■

*VOM began serving Susan in 2013, and we first told her story that same year in our VOM USA December Magazine.*



**TODAY**

► Susan's faith and joyful spirit testify to God's work in her life.



# Generations OF FRUIT-BEARING FAITH

*Ha Wan suffered imprisonment and privation as a pastor in Vietnam, but he left a legacy of Christian disciples with a deep and abiding faith.*

**A**mong pastors in Vietnam, Ha Wan holds near legendary status for his courage and perseverance. Evangelists and Bible teachers in distant provinces know his name and still use his methods to reach their communities with the Gospel.

But to his wife, Hien, he was simply a patient, hard-working, loving partner and co-labourer who humbly proclaimed the Good News of Christ. Reflecting recently on their marriage, she chuckled while recalling their unorthodox courtship.

When Ha Wan arrived in Hien's district as a young evangelist in 1973, authorities soon took notice of his ministry work and arrested him — the first of many arrests in nearly half a century of serving the Lord. Though still a teenager, Hien disguised herself in Viet Cong (Communist guerrilla) clothing and snuck into the local jail to set him free. The jailbreak began a partnership in marriage and ministry that lasted the rest of their lives.

Hien's father, the first known Believer in his people group as well as the first pastor in his village, had raised her and all her siblings in the Christian faith. She knew from an early age that following Christ as a tribal person in Vietnam was a difficult path. In the years immediately following the war with the United States, the Communist government

▲ Children's ministry has been a core focus of church growth since the time of the Vietnam War.

suppressed Christianity throughout the country. And they reserved their harshest treatment for tribal groups, many of which had supported U.S. forces and were seen as disloyal to the Communist cause.

In the early years of their marriage, after the Vietnam War and takeover by the Communists, any kind of Christian worship or outreach was extremely difficult. But Hien and Ha Wan found a way to gather children for Bible lessons, eventually teaching classes of up to 30 children.

Ha Wan was arrested repeatedly, sometimes for just a few days but other times for much longer periods. He was imprisoned for nearly three years on two separate occasions and, in total, spent more than 11 years behind bars for proclaiming the Gospel among Vietnam's tribal groups.

During each of her husband's imprisonments, whether days or years, Hien found ways to care for their family while continuing to teach Bible classes to the local children. When food was scarce or when she didn't have enough money to visit Ha Wan in prison, she trusted God to meet her needs. And His provision sometimes came through the children she faithfully taught.

"Although the children were small," Hien said, "they knew how to give." She recalled one time when she needed 30,000 dong (about R90 at that time) to buy food for Ha Wan in prison, and it seemed an impossible amount. "I could only kneel down, cry out to God and ask for help from Him," she said. "God answered my prayer through the kids." The 30 children gathered up just what she needed and gave it to her.

That class of children grew to become the largest church in the province, with more than 600 children now in regular attendance. And Ha Wan's influence reached farther still. Besides cheerfully sharing the Gospel with fellow inmates while in prison, he and other Christian leaders developed a vision for taking the Gospel to other tribal groups, training and discipling them to endure persecution and make even more disciples.

Their model of ministry has had a significant effect throughout Vietnam. In their two-year training programme, students are required to share the Gospel with 100 people before advancing to the second year of the programme. This hands-on fieldwork ensures that they can apply what they learned about evangelism in their first year of study. After graduation, most students assume roles as leaders and teachers in their churches. The classes are now taught all over the country, and they are transforming churches and communities.

"God used my husband in a very special way," Hien said. "Although he faced many challenges in his time serving God, he didn't give up and he didn't become discouraged. He served God until his last breath."

Ha Wan died on 5 June, 2021, after suffering increasingly difficult health problems and a protracted final illness. When his health began to fail and he required hospital care, he ministered to other patients in the hospital. His son, Emmanuel, recalled that his father once persuaded the doctors to let him leave the hospital to lead a worship service. After mustering the strength to preach that day, he returned to the hospital to continue treatment.

His passion for telling others about the love of Christ never waned, even as he approached death. One day after being resuscitated from cardiac arrest, he turned to his hospital roommate and recited John 3:16. "If you believe in Jesus today," he told the man, "He will save you."

Ha Wan's perseverance in the faith through years of imprisonment and privation under an oppressive Communist government has left a lasting legacy. His son, Emmanuel, now serves the church that grew out of the children's Bible classes, and Emmanuel often visits other villages to share the Gospel among tribes that practice ancestor worship.

"He left for us a good name," Emmanuel said of his father. "He did not give us a lot of money or property, but he gave us a good name and good reputation. Whenever we go from place to place, people know him, appreciate him, respect him and love him very much. He has been a good example to follow."

**"Although he faced many challenges in his time serving God, he didn't give up and he didn't become discouraged. He served God until his last breath."**

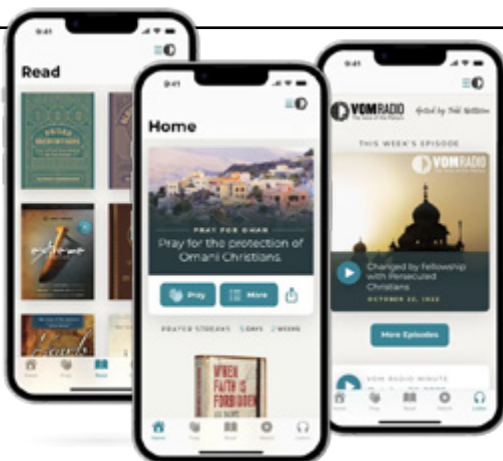
▼ Bibles are legal in Vietnam, but Communist authorities restrict evangelism and worship.



Hien continues to teach children and train others in children's ministry, which remains close to her heart. Her three daughters are also members of the church, and she enjoys spending time in prayer with other women.

"I am with you always," Hien quoted from Matthew 28:20. "That is God's promise that I hold onto. In our greatest difficulty, He is still there with us. In our flesh we feel weak, but God never changes." ■

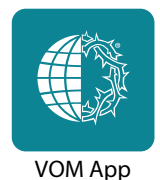
*VOM has been in fellowship with Ha Wan's family since 1996.*



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# CASTING CARES ASIDE

## To Serve



*Pauline Ayyad's husband was killed in Gaza 17 years ago because of his Christian faith. Today, Pauline serves widows in the West Bank amid a war that threatens more of her family in Gaza.*

Pauline Ayyad is not afraid to tell you how she feels. “I am not doing very well,” she said recently. “The situation that we are living in is very difficult.” Pauline fears for her extended family, who have taken refuge in a church in Gaza as fighting rages between Israeli Defense Forces and the Hamas terrorist organization.

“They are in danger” she said. “We are talking about my father, my mother and her brother and his family, as well as two of my siblings with their families. All of them are living in one room.” Her 13 family members, including her 75-year-old parents, sleep on mattresses on the floor and struggle to find food and medicine each day. They live with the continual noise of explosions, and people have been killed nearby.

As Christians, her family members could consider escaping Gaza through Egypt, but it is simply too dangerous. She said one family that left the church was killed while trying to reach the border.

“I cannot help my family with anything,” Pauline said tearfully. “All that I can do is just to pray.” Wiping tears away, Pauline said she believes prayer and the Lord’s protection are keeping her family alive.

The destruction of infrastructure and lack of electric power in Gaza have made contacting her family difficult. When Pauline does speak with them, she becomes overwhelmed by their situation. “So many times, I cannot even cook,” she said. “When I know my family doesn’t have one piece of bread, it is difficult even to cook and to see food.”

Still, Pauline has found ways to carry on, just as she did when her husband, Rami, was murdered years ago. Rami Ayyad had served as the manager of the only Christian bookstore in Gaza; the store was a ministry of the Gaza Bible Society. On the evening of 7 October, 2007, Rami was abducted as he left the bookstore. He managed to make one final phone call to Pauline shortly after he was kidnapped, but that was the last time she heard from him. His body was found the next morning.







▲ Some of Pauline's family remain in Gaza, where they are threatened by the ongoing conflict.

Rami's death devastated Pauline, who was pregnant at the time. She struggled with deep grief, but over several years the Lord helped her forgive those who had murdered her husband.

Pauline has shared her journey to forgiveness at Christian conferences and in the media, and her children have heard it many times. "They grew up with a forgiveness identity," she said of her three now-teenage children. "We are not seeking revenge. I always told them we love these people."

After Rami's death, Pauline and her children moved from Gaza to Israel's West Bank. Growing up without a father has been challenging for the children, especially Pauline's oldest child, George, who recently graduated from high school. "He felt more the death of their father because he was already almost 3 years old when Rami died," Pauline said.

George regularly acted out in anger at school, especially after seeing other students interact with their fathers. And he could also be difficult at the Christian conferences where she regularly spoke. "I found out later that they do not enjoy attending the conferences," Pauline said of the children. "They don't enjoy being around families because they feel that there is something lacking — one part of the family is lacking."

More recently, Pauline said God has been healing her children's hearts. "I always prayed for my children," she said, "and God has dealt with each of them with a special touch and helped each one with their own challenges."

George's heart was deeply touched two years ago during a youth conference. At the event, he fully devoted his life to Christ after sensing the Lord calling him into ministry. "We could see the miracle that happened in his life, especially in his studies," Pauline said. "His calling has made a change and brought a healing in his life."

But Pauline worries about George every time he walks out their front door. While the West Bank is safer than Gaza, only Pauline and her two younger children, Wissam and Sama,

**"We are not seeking revenge. I always told them we love these people."**

have residency permits from the Israeli government. George, who was older and in a different legal category by the time their paperwork was processed, did not receive a West Bank residency permit. Without it, Israeli authorities could send George back to Gaza, despite the ongoing war. The Israeli government has also denied George permission to attend a Bible school abroad, which is his heart's desire.

Pauline asked for prayer that George will receive his residency permit and permission to travel, and that all of her children will walk with the Lord and fulfill His purposes for them.

She also requested prayer for the 19 widows she meets with at her local church. "There are so many challenges as I am ministering to widows," she said. "The situation that we are

living in, it is a war situation, and many of the ladies that I am serving lost their jobs. Their children lost their jobs.”

Pauline prays with the women and listens compassionately as they share their stories. “They have tears,” she said. “They have the Spirit of God touch them, and they go home a little bit encouraged.”

She acknowledges, however, that serving requires personal sacrifice. “I have an extra burden,” she said. “But I have to minister despite what I am going through. Sometimes I tell them, ‘I cannot serve you,’ but I do not want to stop. When we meet, God blesses them.”

Pauline never expected to become a minister to widows, but the Lord placed them on her heart just a year after her husband was murdered. On 6 October, 2008, her sister called to tell her that the husband of a childhood friend had died.

“In that moment, I put all the burden of my suffering and all my pain ... on the side,” Pauline said. “I just went immediately to my friend.” During their meeting, she shared the Gospel and did what she could to comfort her friend, even though Pauline was still grieving herself and was not yet ready to forgive Rami’s killers.

“I took my little children,” she recalled, “and I went to visit her; she also had small children. I didn’t know that God was preparing me for the ministry of widows.”

Pauline hopes to one day help widows in Gaza and to share with them the story of how Christ led her and her son George to forgiveness and peace.

“My faith in Christ and God has not changed,” she said. “Until today, I still believe the verse that God has given me: ‘All things work together for good for those who love the Lord and are called for his purposes.’”

Pauline requests that the global body of Christ pray for peace in Israel, including the West Bank and Gaza. “Pray that there will be a just peace and a righteous peace for all, because we need that kind of peace,” she said.

As the fighting continues and her family members in Gaza remain in danger, Pauline said she struggles at times with fear. But her worries will not prevent her from ministering to others.

“I try to put aside the situation of my family to serve those women,” she said. “Despite all the pain and all the injustices that we see around us, I trust that God has a purpose for each one of His children.” ■

*VOM began serving Pauline in 2013, and we first told her story that same year.*

▼ Pauline led her children to forgive those who killed their father, and she now helps other widows find peace through forgiveness.



## YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

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# Welcoming

## STRANGERS AND SERVING ENEMIES

*After more than three decades of ministry together, Pastor Morris and his wife, Cabina, continue to share the love of Christ and provide care to Sudan's growing population of internally displaced people.*

**W**alking through a camp crowded with more than 24,000 displaced Sudanese, Morris is welcomed like a beloved uncle who hasn't been seen in years. As women and children emerge from their tiny straw and stick homes, the pastor greets them warmly, telling them about upcoming aid distributions. Then, in an explosion of chatty excitement, a woman suddenly appears to renew their old friendship.

"Ah, she remembers me from before," Morris said laughing. "Before" refers to a time when the woman visited Morris and his wife, Cabina, in their nearby home, seeking help. Morris and Cabina have been helping people in Sudan's Nuba Mountains region for three decades. Located mostly in South Kordofan state along the border with South Sudan, the Nuba Mountains are home to several Christian tribal groups in a country that is 90% Sunni Muslim.

Many Nuba Christians have come to know Christ through the legacy of Christian missionaries who arrived in the area in the early 1900s. Today, the region is predominantly Christian

and mostly autonomous; it has its own government and defense force. Regional forces have been fighting Sudanese government forces since the 1980s, as the oppressive Islamic government has sought to eradicate Christians from the region.

On 15 April, 2023, two Islamist generals vying for control of the country started a vicious civil war in the country's capital, Khartoum. As battles raged in the city, Christians were specifically targeted. "There has been an increase in the opportunistic killing of Christians," a Christian leader said.

Hundreds of thousands of Sudanese, including many Christians, have fled Khartoum and other parts of Sudan, taking refuge from the fighting in the Nuba Mountains. Local officials say more than 700,000 people have flooded into camps for internally displaced people (IDP) in a region about the size of the U.S. state of Georgia. Thousands have erected flimsy huts in the field behind Pastor Morris's home, and more arrive on a daily basis.

A Christian woman named Halima fled Khartoum with her three children after her brother was killed by one of the warring factions. She now struggles to survive, and starvation is a real threat because of the war and a recent drought. "We don't have anything," she said. "We were eating these leaves."

When displaced people arrive at the camp, they often seek help at Morris and Cabina's nearby home. "There are many, many more people who are coming to our house," Cabina said. "We don't have much, but the little that we have we share with them." A cup of water is sometimes the only thing



▲ Hundreds of thousands of Sudanese have taken refuge in camps for internally displaced people since 2023, when civil war erupted in Khartoum.

she can give those who appear at her door.

But Cabina also tries to point people toward eternal hope. “I tell them: ‘I don’t have enough to give to you, but I want to tell you to depend on God,’” she said. “God is what they need. God is faithful. He will give to you, as he says in the Bible, even giving food to the birds of the sky.”

Morris and Cabina have helped others throughout their 33-year marriage. Sometimes that has meant comforting those who have lost family members in bombings by the Islamist Sudanese government. Over the decades, Cabina has opened her home and her heart to numerous orphans who lost their parents that way. And Morris saw

several friends die when his school was bombed as a child, so he understands the emotions many of his new neighbours are experiencing.

Despite the suffering and death caused by the bombings, which still occasionally target Nuba villages, Morris reaches out to Muslim Sudanese soldiers who are captured by the region’s defence forces. His ministry work among the enemy fighters is controversial, however, and even one of his sons disapproves. “Why do you help these people who are bombing us?” his son asked.

“I tell him because of the love of Jesus,” Morris explained. “He has commanded us to help the people who are persecuting us, also to love them.”

Morris also serves as lead chaplain at a nearby Christian hospital that often cares for those wounded in the fighting. But the most urgent need he and Cabina see is in the sprawling IDP camp that stretches for miles beyond their backyard. The camp has just one water

well, and people wait hours, sometimes all night long, to fill their plastic jugs.

“They are just really looking for what they can eat and what they can drink,” Cabina said. “We also give them the message of hope and tell them about the love of God.”

Cabina said their work is emotionally and physically draining. “When I want to try to serve but my house is full and I am tired of these people that come all the time, ... I ask God to renew my heart with love,” she said.

God has been faithful to restore the couple’s compassion for strangers and to provide them with strength to continue their ministry, but the work can be overwhelming and fraught with heartache. Just days earlier, several shacks in the camp had caught fire, killing two young children.

“Everyone will be traumatized because of what is happening,” Morris said. “There are people who have been crying, sometimes even asking, ‘What is happening here, God?’”



**“I know that God has protected us until we came this way. The Bible helps me to leave these bad thoughts and puts the Word of God in my heart.”**

pray,” she said. “I know that God has protected us until we came this way, but up to now my mind is not settled. The Bible helps me to leave these bad thoughts and puts the Word of God in my heart.”

Morris and Cabina are committed to distributing God’s Word and proclaiming his Good News. They ask Christians around the world to pray that their strength will be renewed,

that peace will come to Sudan, and that God will provide for the multitude of displaced Christians they serve.

“I know that God has given me this job,” Cabina said, “and I am with Him. He is helping me to fulfill the work.” ■

*VOM has been in fellowship with Morris and Cabina for many years. We first told their story in 2015.*

The couple tries to provide comfort where they can. “We are telling people that God is in control, God knows everything,” Morris said. “God is loving us even though we are receiving this.”

With VOM’s help, Morris has provided tarps, audio Bibles and other supplies to people in the camp. Sokkari, a 50-year-old Christian woman with 12 children in her care, fled Khartoum just after the war broke out. A relative had been killed in the fighting, and she had heard that girls were being raped and boys were being forced to join the fighting.

Sokkari, who can’t stop thinking about the horrors she witnessed in Khartoum, is grateful for the audio Bible Morris gave her. “I used to



► Despite the hardships of their work, Morris and Cabina are committed to sharing the Good News with their displaced neighbours.

# Prayer Diary

January 2025

W	1	TOGO	Pray for Abraham, who was beaten by people who practice sorcery because he placed his faith in Christ.
T	2	CUBA	Pray for the wisdom of Christian parents, who face government restrictions against raising their children in the faith.
F	3	DJIBOUTI	Pray that Christian converts from Islam will stand firm when their families discover their new faith.
S	4	MOROCCO	Pray for the wisdom and strength of church leaders who face frequent interrogation from government officials.
S	5	GUINEA	Pray that Christians who are persecuted by their families will draw near to Christ and experience His presence.
M	6	NIGERIA	Pray for Sade and her children, who were driven from their home by militant Fulani Muslims.
T	7	BHUTAN	Pray that God's Word will reach Christians and seekers like Pema and her family despite government restrictions.
W	8	PHILIPPINES	Pray for God's peace among Christians living under threat of attack from Islamist rebels.
T	9	COLOMBIA	Pray for Gospel workers in "red zones," where Marxist guerrillas and paramilitaries exercise control through violence.
F	10	BENIN	Today is National Voodoo Day in Benin. Pray that voodooists will find new life in Christ.
S	11	MEXICO	Pray for Ruth's and Aurelio's emotional healing. They were abducted by masked gunmen because of their Gospel ministry.
S	12	IRAQ	Pray that Christians will faithfully carry out the Great Commission, even reaching those who are opposed to the Gospel.
M	13	UZBEKISTAN	Praise God that fines and detentions are now rare and Christians have greater freedom to practice their faith.
T	14	SRI LANKA	Pray that Anuradha will share her faith boldly when brought before police for her Christian witness.
W	15	AFGHANISTAN	Pray that Bible translation work will make God's Word accessible to Afghanistan's more than 40 people groups.
T	16	MAURITANIA	Praise God that Christian workers are returning to Mauritania after a long pause in missionary efforts.
F	17	SOMALIA	Pray for the advancement of the Gospel in the regions of Hargeisa, Kismayo and Jigjiga.
S	18	DRC*	Pray for the survivors of a church bombing in Kasindi that killed 15 people.
S	19	CHINA	Pray that Chinese pastors will be encouraged and stand firm in the face of government threats.
M	20	NEPAL	Pray that Christians whose churches have been attacked by Hindu mobs will reflect God's love to their persecutors.
T	21	NORTH KOREA	Pray for the wisdom of Front-Line Workers ministering to North Korean defectors in South Korea.
W	22	SUDAN	Pray for Christians affected by the fighting between Islamic factions vying for control of the country.
T	23	BRUNEI	Pray for Christian children in grades 2—5, as they are required to attend one hour per day of Islamic instruction.
F	24	TURKMENISTAN	Pray that Christians will continue to gather despite severe restrictions on Christian worship.
S	25	SYRIA	Pray that God will abundantly supply the needs of Christians who have lost jobs because of their faith.
S	26	MOZAMBIQUE	Pray for Christians who have lost family members in attacks by Islamist groups in northern Mozambique.
M	27	MALI	Pray for Kalifa and his family, who have been attacked by their community because of their faith in Christ.
T	28	AZERBAIJAN	Pray for Christians sharing the Gospel through social media.
W	29	NIGER	Pray for the effective distribution of audio Bibles among those whose hearts are ready to receive the Gospel.
T	30	ALGERIA	Pray for Bible distributors and recipients, as distributions are risky and government officials confiscate Bibles.
F	31	RUSSIA**	Pray that Christians worshipping outside the Russian Orthodox Church will boldly witness.

\*DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

\*\*RUSSIA AND AREAS UNDER ITS CONTROL



## Christian Mission International

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