

Remember

Those in Bonds – Hebrews 13:3

*Serving the families of those persecuted for their faith...
...Connecting the Body of Christ worldwide.*

Focus: Nigeria

As militant Islamic groups spread outward from the Middle East, using violence against any who stand against them, more and more countries are subjected to the violence that they propagate.

Nigeria is on the cutting edge of the persecution that follows the spread of Islam. Even though roughly half of Nigerian citizens claim Christianity, these believers face active persecution from the militant groups that oppose the cause of Christ. Concentrated in the northern part of the nation, these extremist groups are known for inciting riots and using those riots to destroy the lives and the property of the Christians that they come in contact with.

The persecution of these Christians goes deeper than this violence, though. Many of Nigeria's northern states adhere to the principles of Shari'a law, law governed by the Koran and Islamic tradition. Though the technical aspects of the Shari'a do not apply to non-Muslims, due to the Nigerian recognition of freedom of religion, the

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result of having Muslim laws and leaders is that persecution of Christians is tolerated, and in some cases encouraged, by government officials.

Henry Emmanuel Ogbaje was one such victim of persecution. An exceptional soccer player, he was seeking admission to university when he was attacked in Kaduna by Muslim radicals. He was targeted because a local Islamic leader called Muslims to jihad, and instructed them not to kill elderly people, who had spent their years, but “that Muslims should kill young Christians.”

At 24 years of age, Henry was beaten to death with clubs, all the while remaining faithful to his Savior.



*Henry Ogbaje,
beaten to death
for his faith.*

Picture Courtesy of Open Doors. Used by Permission.

Focus: Prayer

- Pray that Christian leaders would have the wisdom needed to stand strong against the Muslim influx without putting the lives of Christians in danger.
- Pray that the Lord would protect His saints from the evil plans of those that want to harm the church.
- Pray that God would open the door for Christians to share the Gospel of Peace in their violence-ravaged country.
- Pray that God would give strength and encouragement to each Christian, to look beyond the physical suffering and see eternity.

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persecuted church!

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persecuted brothers and sisters,
and to get up-to-date prayer
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