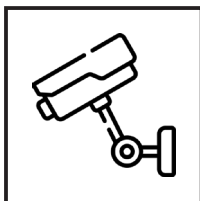
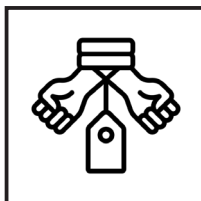
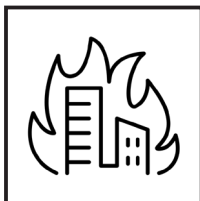




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PONTIFICAL
CHARITY





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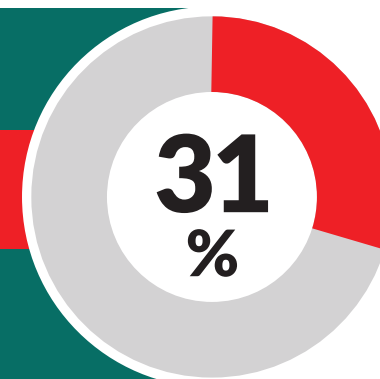
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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IS VIOLATED

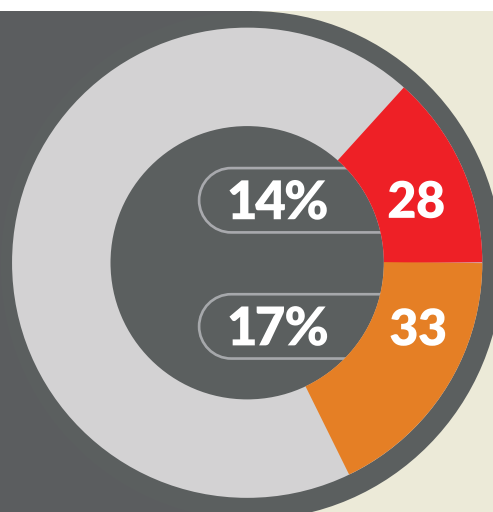
IN ALMOST
ONE THIRD

OF THE WORLD'S
COUNTRIES



61 out of **196** countries

Religious persecution
occurs in **14%** and religious
discrimination in **17%** of
the world's countries.



almost **4.9 billion people**



62.5% of the world's population live in countries
with serious or very serious violations of religious freedom*.

*Not all inhabitants of these countries are victims of religious persecution, but it is almost always religious minorities who are targeted and affected by persecution.



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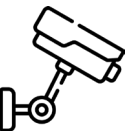
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Religious minorities increasingly suffocated by



Terrorist
attacks



Mass
surveillance



Anti-conversion
laws



Financial
restrictions



Electoral
manipulation
to reduce minority representation



Attacks on their
cultural heritage



Manipulation of
population registries



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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REPORT 2023

AFRICA

The **most violent** continent
due to jihadist activity spreading

13 countries (24%)
suffer extreme
forms of persecution

21 out of **54**
countries
[39%]
suffer dangerous
levels of
persecution

8 countries (15%)
suffer discrimination

12 countries (22%)
are under observation.
9 of those countries are
suffering from Islamic
extremism from border regions



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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REPORT

2023



Since 2021, in as many as
40 COUNTRIES

people have been **killed or abducted**
for their faith.



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2023

In **36** countries (**18%**)

perpetrators are **rarely or never** prosecuted by the justice system.



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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REPORT

2023



Since 2021, in as many as
34 COUNTRIES

places of worship or religious properties
have been **attacked or damaged.**



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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REPORT

2023

In **47** of the categorized countries, the situation of

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WORSENE

during the review period.

Only in **9** countries has the situation improved.



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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REPORT 2023

WHO ARE THE PERPETRATORS?

4

countries

Ethnoreligious Groups

Population: 1.5 billion people



21

countries

Islamic Extremists

Population: 1.1 billion people



44

countries

Authoritarian Governments

Population: 4.5 billion people



Please note: Some of these countries are included in more than one group.