



WHEN FAITH IS FORBIDDEN: THE BIBLE IS THE GREATEST GIFT TO PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN ERITREA!

Dear friend,

It is estimated that as many as 3,000 believers are currently locked up in Eritrean jails, facing endless imprisonment. Many without the Word of God to give them hope.

Thousands more, meeting together in home churches throughout the country, have no Bible of their own.

“A Christian without a Bible is like a fish without water, or a bird without air. Christians are creatures of God’s Word and must have His Word to grow spiritually.” - Pastor Haralan Popov

Just like my father, Haralan, Pastor Yohan was brutally ripped away from his wife and children. He was told he would spend the next years of his life paying for his “crime” of preaching God’s Word and teaching people about the love of Jesus.

For the next three years, Pastor Yohan suffered torture and starvation. His arms and legs throbbed in pain and his hands continuously blistered and bled from hard labor. The prison’s daily diet of watery lentil gruel locked his stomach into a permanent state of cramping and convulsing.

As a pastor, the brutality of prison life was a shock to his gentle nature. Over time, the repeated torture, starvation, forced labor and the horrible living conditions became almost “normal.”

*“It was so tough in the Mai Serwa Maximum Prison.
Sometimes the roof in our cell leaked from the rain.
The floor was mud and we slept there.
There was very little food.
...But you learn to not complain.”*



ONE DAY...AN UNEXPECTED GIFT ARRIVED

While Pastor Yohan was resting in his cell, a brother came up to him and hastily placed something small in his hand and whispered,

"Pastor, we have a Bible! We don't know who is sending these to us, but we can listen to the Word of God."

Pastor Yohan looked down and couldn't believe his eyes. Thrust into his hand was a small solar powered audio Bible! Tears of joy flowed down his cheeks.

"I wanted to shout, 'I'm the one who's been distributing the Bibles in Eritrea!' But I couldn't say anything. You can't imagine my joy. The work I had been doing as a free man for my imprisoned brethren was now benefiting me!"

Before his arrest, Pastor Yohan had been secretly smuggling audio players into prisons and throughout Eritrea, on which a complete Bible is recorded in the Tigrinyan language along with testimonies, and inspirational Christian music.

Many of you played a significant part in this amazing story. The audio Bible that Pastor Yohan received that day was provided by our mission. Thank you!

Pastor Yohan's story pulls deeply at my heartstrings.



When my father was in prison in communist Bulgaria, he felt the depth of hopelessness without a Bible. He said to me, *"The years of starvation were difficult, but to be without the Word of God was more painful."*

Just like Father miraculously received a New Testament while in the Belene communist concentration camp, God miraculously provided an audio Bible for Pastor Yohan in Mai Serwa prison.

Today, a chorus made up of hundreds of persecuted Eritrean believers, are calling out in unison,

"We need more Bibles!"

I believe that God wants to use YOU and ME to answer their cries.

Our field worker, Nour, is preparing another trip into Eritrea very soon. We want to equip him with another large quantity of audio Bibles for distribution to our persecuted brothers and sisters.

We also need your support to bring financial aid to the families of imprisoned pastors and the many other Christians who are suffering for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Will you join me in ensuring that our precious brothers and sisters in Eritrea receive God's Word?

If you can, please respond quickly. Nour needs the funds before he departs for Eritrea. Please join us in prayer for Nour's safety and that this will be another successful delivery of funds and the audio Bibles.

Remember, your generous giving creates a ripple effect that extends far beyond Pastor Yohan!

Together In His Ministry,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul H. Rogers".

P.S. So far, with God's help we have successfully delivered more than 1,100 solar-powered audio Bibles to persecuted Eritrean Christians like Pastor Yohan.