



Egypt

Copts

Copts, indigenous Egyptian Christians, are the largest religious minority in Egypt. Copts from all denominations—the traditional Coptic Orthodox Church as well as Coptic Catholic, Evangelical, and more—are subject to harassment and repression by government officials. State security, prosecutors and judges have targeted Copts for speaking out about anti-Coptic discrimination and for alleged insults against Islam (i.e., blasphemy).



Marco Girgis

RELIGION OR BELIEF:
Christian
ARRESTED:
June 14, 2021
SENTENCE:
5 Years' Imprisonment
REASON FOR PERSECUTION:
Accused of insulting Islam



Nour Fayez

RELIGION OR BELIEF:
Unspecified
ARRESTED:
November 1, 2021
REASON FOR PERSECUTION:
Discussing religion and religious conversion on social media

Muslims: Non-Sunnis & Theological Dissenters

Muslims from non-Sunni branches of Islam (e.g., Shi'a and Qur'anist Muslims), as well as Sunni Muslims whose views diverge from state-approved interpretations of Sunni Islam are vulnerable to state harassment and prosecution for perceived insults to Islam (i.e., blasphemy) and, in some cases, unfounded accusations of belonging to a terrorist group.



Ahmed Mohamed Ahmed Khalifa

RELIGION OR BELIEF:
Unspecified
ARRESTED:
May 9, 2022
HEALTH CONCERNS:
Denied psychiatric evaluation
REASON FOR PERSECUTION:
Accused of desecrating religious symbols

Converts from Islam to Other Religions

Government actors have used the blasphemy statute and other laws to detain converts from Islam to other religions, usually Christianity, as well as people who provide information or support to those considering religious conversion.



Abdulbaqi Saeed Abdo

RELIGION OR BELIEF:
Christian
ARRESTED:
December 15, 2021
HEALTH CONCERNS:
Heart and liver conditions
REPORTS OF MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE: Yes
REASON FOR PERSECUTION:
Publicizing his conversion to Christianity

FoRB Victims List Stats 18 out of 2,282

| Religion or Belief | # of Victims |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Christian | 14 |
| Unspecified | 3 |
| Qur'anist Muslim | 1 |
| Total | 18 |

| Type of Abuse | # of Victims |
|---------------|--------------|
| Detained | 15 |
| Imprisoned | 3 |
| Total | 18 |

| Reports of | # of Victims |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Torture | 2 |
| Medical Neglect | 3 |
| Total | 5 |

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Frank R. Wolf FoRB Victims List Background

The International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA), as amended by the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2016, requires USCIRF to:

make publicly available, to the extent practicable...lists of persons it determines are imprisoned or detained, have disappeared, been placed under house arrest, been tortured, or subjected to forced renunciation of faith for their religious activity or religious freedom advocacy by the government of a foreign country that the Commission recommends for designation as a country of particular concern [CPC]...or by a nonstate actor that the Commission recommends for designation as an entity of particular concern [EPC].

USCIRF developed the Frank R. Wolf Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) Victims List—an online public database—to implement this provision for countries USCIRF recommends for Country of Particular Concern (CPC) or Special Watch List (SWL) status. The list also includes such victims located in the de facto territories of nonstate actors that USCIRF recommends for Entity of Particular Concern (EPC) status, according to the same criteria.

Due to limited resources, USCIRF is unable to identify and document all victims that meet the statutory requirement to be included on the FoRB Victims List and generally relies on receiving submissions from outside individuals and organizations. As such, the information contained in the database does not reflect country, regional, or global trends. Furthermore, percentages highlighted in this section should not be used for extrapolation purposes nor interpreted as a particular group experiencing greater violations than another or a particular country committing violations at a greater rate than others. To support this project, USCIRF invites those with credible information on victims to submit information using the Victims List Intake Form at www.uscirtf.gov/form/uscirtf-victims-list-intake-form.

FoRB Victims List Stats Overall

| Perpetrator | Victims Documented |
|---|--------------------|
| Algeria | 5 |
| Azerbaijan | 11 |
| Burma | 5 |
| China | 798 |
| Cuba | 11 |
| Egypt | 18 |
| Eritrea | 61 |
| Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) | 2 |
| Houthis | 3 |
| India | 55 |
| Indonesia | 9 |
| Iran | 351 |
| Iraq | 2 |
| Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) | 1 |
| Kazakhstan | 16 |
| Malaysia | 4 |
| Nicaragua | 68 |
| Nigeria | 9 |
| North Korea | 11 |
| Pakistan | 87 |
| Russia | 488 |
| Saudi Arabia | 50 |
| Sri Lanka | 1 |
| Tajikistan | 16 |
| Turkmenistan | 31 |
| Uzbekistan | 88 |
| Vietnam | 81 |
| Total | 2,282 |

| Religion or Belief | Victims Documented |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Adivasi | 1 |
| Ahmadi Religion of Peace and Light | 3 |
| Baha'i | 169 |
| Bon | 1 |
| Buddhist – Hoa Hao | 6 |
| Buddhist – Theravada | 3 |
| Buddhist – Tibetan | 93 |
| Buddhist – Unspecified/Other | 32 |
| Christian – Catholic | 79 |
| Christian – Church of Almighty God | 240 |
| Christian – Jehovah's Witness | 283 |
| Christian – Orthodox | 21 |
| Christian – Protestant | 150 |
| Christian – Unspecified/Other | 65 |
| Duong Van Minh | 4 |
| ECKist (Eckankar) | 1 |
| Erfan-e Halgheh Practitioner | 3 |
| Falun Gong | 217 |
| Hindu | 10 |
| Humanist | 1 |
| Jewish | 1 |
| Muslim – Ahmadiyya | 20 |
| Muslim – Qur'anist | 1 |
| Muslim – Shi'a | 40 |
| Muslim – Sufi | 64 |
| Muslim – Sunni | 412 |
| Muslim – Unspecified/Other | 233 |
| Santeria | 5 |
| Scientologist | 1 |
| Shaman | 1 |
| Sikh | 1 |
| Yarsani | 38 |
| Unknown/Unspecified | 83 |
| Total | 2,282 |

Egypt



Not Released

Abdulbaqi Saeed Abdo
Ahmed Mohamed
Nour Fayez
Marco Girgis

Released

Abanoub Magdy Semaan
Girgis Samir Girgis
Hani Gilbran
Jayid Saad Zekry
Milad Mahrous Tawfik
Milad Reda Tawfik Ayyad
Mina Salib Hosni
Mounir Samir Mounir
Ramy Kamel
Raymond Mamdouh William
Reda Abdel Rahman
Shenouda Salib Hosni
Patrick George Zaki

Unknown

Anas Hassan