



FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF VICTIMS

TAJIKISTAN

Introduction

These victim profiles are illustrative of those in the Frank R. Wolf Freedom of Religion or Belief Victims List database. Mandated by the amended International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, the Victims List documents individuals who are detained, imprisoned, tortured, disappeared, forced to renounce their faith, or subjected to house arrest due to their religious activity or religious freedom advocacy.

Religions of Individuals in Tajikistan on the ForB Victims List

Muslim – Sunni
Muslim – Unspecified/Other
Unspecified



Mahmadsodyk Sayidov

Religion: Muslim - Sunni
Arrested: March 5, 2021
Sentence: 5 Years' Imprisonment
Reason for Persecution: Refused to give a state-provided sermon

INDEPENDENT MUSLIMS

The government tightly controls religious activity in Tajikistan and regularly penalizes those who practice religious independently of the state, an issue that particularly impacts Muslims. Those who engage in unauthorized religious activity, such as giving or listening to sermons not provided by the state, may face fines or even imprisonment.



Nizomiddin Nasriddinov

Religion: Muslim - Sunni
Arrested: January 8, 2023
Sentence: 8 Years' and 6 Months' Imprisonment
Reason for Persecution: Religiously Based Political Activity

ISLAMIC RENAISSANCE PARTY OF TAJIKISTAN (IRPT)

In 2015, the Tajik government designated the IRPT as “extremist” and banned the organization. The IRPT operated as a popular political party and community organization based on moderate Islamic values. Since the ban, officials have targeted those affiliated with the IRPT through long prison sentences, during which some individuals have died.



Shohida Mahmadjonova

Religion: Muslim - Sunni
Arrested: February 2022
Sentence: 6 Years' Imprisonment
Reason for Persecution: Mother of a religious freedom activist living abroad

ACTIVISTS ABROAD AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS

The government regularly engages in transnational repression of human rights activists and political dissidents who criticize the government's record on human rights record, including religious freedom. Authorities also retaliate against activists' family members in Tajikistan to intimidate and persuade them to return to the country to face charges.



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NOT RELEASED

Abdugafor Rajabov
Abdulhannon Usmonov
Abdullo Shamsiddin
Aslamkhon Karimov
Bakhtiyor Akbarov
Farkhod Negmatov
Ikhtiyorhoja Kamolov
Khayriddin Dostakov
Mahmadsodyk Sayidov
Mirzoburhan Salmanzoda
Mukhammadi Mukharramov
Nizomiddin Nasriddinov
Sadriddin Mulloyev
Shohida Mamadjonova
Sirojiddin Abdurahmonov

RELEASED

Bakhrom Kholmatov
Jovidon Bobojonov
Rustamjon Norov
Shamil Khakimov

DECEASED

Muzaffar Davlatmirov