

# Uzbekistan



## Independent Muslim Activists

The government continues to imprison an estimated 2,000 Muslims who practice Islam independently of state controls or who express religious views that authorities find objectionable. Individuals including social media users who discuss their beliefs, share or distribute religious content, or criticize official policies related to religion face detention, arrest, and lengthy prison sentences.



### Oybek Khamidov

RELIGION OR BELIEF: Sunni Muslim  
 ARRESTED: January 17, 2022  
 SENTENCE: 5 Years' Imprisonment  
 REASON FOR PERSECUTION:  
 Sharing religious materials on social media



### Alimardon Sultanov

RELIGION OR BELIEF: Sunni Muslim  
 ARRESTED: January 18, 2022  
 SENTENCE: 7 Years' Imprisonment  
 REPORTS OF TORTURE: Yes  
 REASON FOR PERSECUTION:  
 Criticizing religious freedom conditions

## Religious Dissidents in Exile

The government utilizes methods of transnational repression to pursue individuals who previously fled abroad because of their religious activity or religious affiliations. In some cases, authorities have reportedly encouraged Muslims to return to Uzbekistan in order to arrest and charge them.



### Alijon Mirganiyev

RELIGION OR BELIEF: Sunni Muslim  
 ARRESTED: June 22, 2022  
 SENTENCE: 6 Years, 6 Months' Imprisonment  
 REASON FOR PERSECUTION:  
 Adherence to a Religious Figure, Religious Activity, Travel Abroad



### Muhsinjon Ahmedov

RELIGION OR BELIEF:  
 Sunni Muslim  
 ARRESTED:  
 November 14, 2023  
 REASON FOR PERSECUTION:  
 Religious activities

## Followers of Said Nursi

Authorities routinely detain and arrest Muslims for the illegal possession or distribution of religious literature and other materials deemed "extremist," such as the writings of Sunni Muslim theologian Said Nursi.



### Bobirjon Tukhtamurodov

RELIGION OR BELIEF: Sunni Muslim  
 ARRESTED: April 11, 2022  
 SENTENCE: 5 Years, 1 Months' Imprisonment  
 REASON FOR PERSECUTION:  
 Attending a Religious Gathering or Meeting,  
 Discussing Religion and Religious Texts

For more background on Uzbekistan's religious and political prisoners, see [USCIRF's report](#).

## FoRB Victims List Stats 88 out of 2,282

Religion or Belief	# of Victims
Sunni	87
Unspecified Christian	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>

Type of Abuse	# of Victims
Imprisoned	85
Detained	2
House Arrest	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>

## Average Prison Sentence 18 Years, 10 Months

Reports of	# of Victims
Torture	29
Medical Neglect	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>

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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](http://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
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,282</b>

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,282</b>

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## Not Released

Muhsinjon Ahmedov  
 Umar Badalov  
 Fazilhoja Arifhojaev  
 Alijon Mirganiyev  
 Oybek Khamidov  
 Alimardon Sultanov  
 Tulkun Astanov  
 Bobirjon Tukhtamurodov  
 Feruz Shodiev  
 Ibrohim Asronkulov  
 Sodikjon Abdullaev  
 Mirrakhim Mirsultonov  
 Ulugbek Nasimov  
 Nurmukhammad Mamadjonov  
 Zukhriddin Madmarov  
 Ibrokhimjon Isaboev  
 Ikromjon Akhmajonov  
 Dilmurod Tuleev  
 Abduvohid Ishmuratov  
 Umid Boltaboev  
 Ravshan Ochilov  
 Mukhammadjon Ibadullaev  
 Bakhtiyor Sharipov  
 Abdulkhomid Allaberdiev  
 Bakhromjon Inogomov  
 Nomoz Normurodov  
 Murod Muminov  
 Turnazar Boymatov  
 Kadyr Yusupov  
 Mukhitdin Irgashev  
 Abdulbosit Akhmajonov  
 Akrom Zokirov  
 Muhammadamin Abdurazzokov  
 Olim Mirzaev  
 Rakhmatjon Ernazarov  
 Dilrukh Isakov  
 Abror Akhmedov  
 Rustam Nosirov  
 Jamshidbek Atabekov  
 Miraziz Mirzakhmedov  
 Akbar Ikramov  
 Murodjon Khayitov  
 Fariduddin Abduvokhidov  
 Akbar Absalov  
 Bakhtiyor Tursunov  
 Azimjon Abdusamatov  
 Ubaydulla Murtazoyev  
 Shakhzodjon Zokirov  
 Alisher Kasymov  
 Fayzulla Agzamov

## Released

Jahongir Ulugmurodov  
 Khasan Abdirakhimov  
 Shavkat Khakimov  
 Ahmadjon Madumarov  
 Avazjon Umurzakov  
 Husnitdin Umaraliev  
 Kobiljon Zokirov  
 Odilkhoja Dadakhojaev  
 Azizjon Bannopov  
 Ismon Usinbaev  
 Jamoliddin Khaidarov  
 Umar Nishonbaev  
 Shukhrat Usmanov  
 Mashrap Rabiev  
 Otabek Irgashev  
 Sardorbek Irgashev  
 Otabek Madaminov  
 Mukhiddin Jalolov  
 Erkinjon Oripov  
 Zabikhullo Muminov  
 Shamsiddin Giyasov  
 Ravshan Karimov  
 Muhamadjon Akhmadjonov  
 Farrukh Yuldashev  
 Iskandar Iskandarov  
 Alisher Muminov  
 Ibrohim Kholmatov  
 Jahongir Kamolov  
 Sanat Salimov  
 Muhammad Rashidov  
 Nematullo Ibragimov  
 Avaz Tokhtakhodjaev  
 Ravshan Kosimov  
 Tohir Djumanov  
 Usman Darvyshov  
 Khayrullo Tursunov  
 Ruhiddin Fahriddinov  
 Aramais Avakian