

# **Welcome to the “Nations Wall”**

**We Pray for**

**Israel**

**Iran**

**Ukraine**

Choose one or more countries to pray for using the prayer guidelines for those countries. Take a map of the country or countries you are praying for and fill it in with a prayer, a word, a poem, or a drawing.

# Namkelekile kudonga lwezizwe



# **Welkom by die “Nasies Muur”**

**Ons bid vir**

**Israel**

**Iran**

**Oekraïne**

Kies een, of meer van die lande om voor te bid deur die gebedsriglyne te gebruik. Neem 'n kaart van die land waarvoor jy bid en skryf jou eie gebed, gedig, 'n woord, skrifgedeelte of prentjie daarin.

Iran



© WorldAtlas.com

# Pray for those in power in Iran

## The situation

The treatment of women in Iran is essentially determined by a theocratic government that is enforcing a very narrow definition of Shia Islam. It is not representative of Islam as a whole, and it is not universally held even in Iran – prior to the 1979 Islamic Revolution, women enjoyed much more freedom. If we want to see lasting change in Iran, we have to pray for the attitudes of leadership to change.

## Ways to pray

- Pray for the Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei, to have a radical encounter with Jesus.
- Ali Khamenei has been in power since 1989: pray that his successor has a different approach to women's freedoms.
- Pray for the judges in Iran – many of them support the Islamic Revolution, but occasionally one of them will make rulings that seem to support a more lenient society. Pray that the judges enforce true justice in their rulings.
- There are a few women in government positions, though they tend to be highly conservative in their views. Pray for their safety and encouragement, and pray they will help to change lawmakers' minds about the role of women.
- Pray for leaders on all levels: headteachers, employers and CEOs, local governors, local police, and fathers and grandfathers who are legally responsible for their families. Real lives can benefit when people with localised authority act with more compassion and justice – whether that's because they've met Jesus or not.

Praying into justice issues that are this huge, systemic, and overwhelming can be very disheartening. But remember: God is at work in Iran. The Iranian church is estimated to be the fastest growing underground church in the world, and as we've seen through the first-hand stories in this guide, Jesus is transforming lives and families every day.

*Thank you, God, for the ways you are moving in Iran. We pray for your justice and righteousness to be established in this nation that you love.*

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/resource/women-in-iran-prayer-guide/>

# Pray for Christians in Iran

**"The sky turned red. I prayed the war would not escalate"**

Monday, April 15, 2024

As we watch the latest crisis in the Middle East unfold, Christians in Iran are on their knees praying for peace. One Christian in western Iran, who lives near where the Iranian rockets were launched, said, "I heard each rocket being fired. It was so loud and frightening. The sky turned red for what seemed like hours. **I prayed that God would have mercy on all of us. That no one would perish and that the war would not escalate.**"

Numerous other Christians inside Iran are similarly interceding for the region. Thank you for joining in their cries to God for peace. This increase in tensions has brought another level of lament among the ordinary people of Iran.

One Christian leader said, "The common feeling is that the Iranian regime is trying to make itself look strong, but is putting the whole population at risk. Naturally, this crisis is what everyone in Iran is talking about - at home, at work, in taxis. **We must pray for all the Christians because it is actually an incredible opportunity to share the Gospel with people as they open up about their fears.**"

As we intercede together for the Middle East, please pray for:

- Restraint from all sides and for this conflict to de-escalate.
- The Lord to raise up peacemakers who can speak with wisdom, authority and clarity in this atmosphere of antagonism and aggression.
- The church in both Iran and Israel as they get on their knees to pray and as they rise to continue sharing the hope of the Gospel amid fear and uncertainty.

Thank you for praying. Whatever the future may hold, we trust that Jesus will continue to "build His church" (Matthew 16:18). And so our mission remains the same: to strengthen and expand the church in the Iran region and beyond.

<https://www.elam.com/iran-30/%22the-sky-turned-red-i-prayed-the-war-would-not-escalate%22>

Israel



# Israel – Pray for Peace

## Pause

### **Be still and welcome God's presence.**

You might like to sit somewhere comfortable and take a few deep breaths, or pray a simple, short prayer such as “God, I welcome your presence” or “Come, Holy Spirit.”

### **Pray through Psalm 46**

Read the whole Psalm out loud once or twice, before using it to form the basis of your prayers.

## Pray for People

*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

### **Psalm 46:1**

Pray for the people who are being affected by this conflict:

- *For those who have their lost families, friends and loved ones.*
- *For those who have been displaced from their homes.*
- *For those who are cut off from key resources like food, water, and medical care.*
- *For those who are in danger.*

## Pray for the Problems

*Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.*

### **Psalm 46:6**

When people turn to violence, it's often because they feel that there is no other solution to their problems. As you look at this situation, what are the problems that only God can fix? Ask God to intervene – changing the circumstances that led to war breaking out and solving the problems that people are facing in the midst of the conflict. These are big prayers to pray, but we believe in God who has changed the course of history before, and who invites us to pray with confidence.

You might like to pray:

- *Where there is a history of pain, we ask for You to bring forgiveness.*
- *Where there is injustice, we ask for You to bring fairness and a just solution.*
- *Where there are differences, we ask for You to bring reconciliation.*
- *Where there is not enough (land, resources, opportunity), we ask for You to bring provision.*

These are broad categories to help prompt your prayer – you may want to be very specific about the problems that have led to the specific conflict you are praying for.

## Pray for those in Power

*He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. Psalm 46:9*

Who are the decision makers that can impact the story to bring peace?

Pray for mercy, compassion and wisdom as they deal with the situation, and pray that they would be governed by love and the desire for peace instead of hatred and fear.

- *For politicians, both for the leaders in the nations that are directly affected by the conflict and for the leaders of nations who can affect the outcome.*
- *For peacemakers working to bring resolution between forces.*
- *For the powerful businesses and stakeholders who have the ability to change the course of the conflict.*
- *For the media, both the journalists risking their lives to report on the situation and the media companies that are choosing what wars and conflicts to cover in their news.*

## Pray for the Principalities

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12*

There are spiritual realities involved in human conflicts.

Jesus has ultimate authority over every ‘spiritual force of evil’ in our world. You may want to spend some time praying against the darkness that is enflaming fear, hatred, and violence in people’s hearts. Begin to praise God for who He is and ask for the Prince of Peace to bring miraculous transformation to minds and hearts, resolving the conflict.

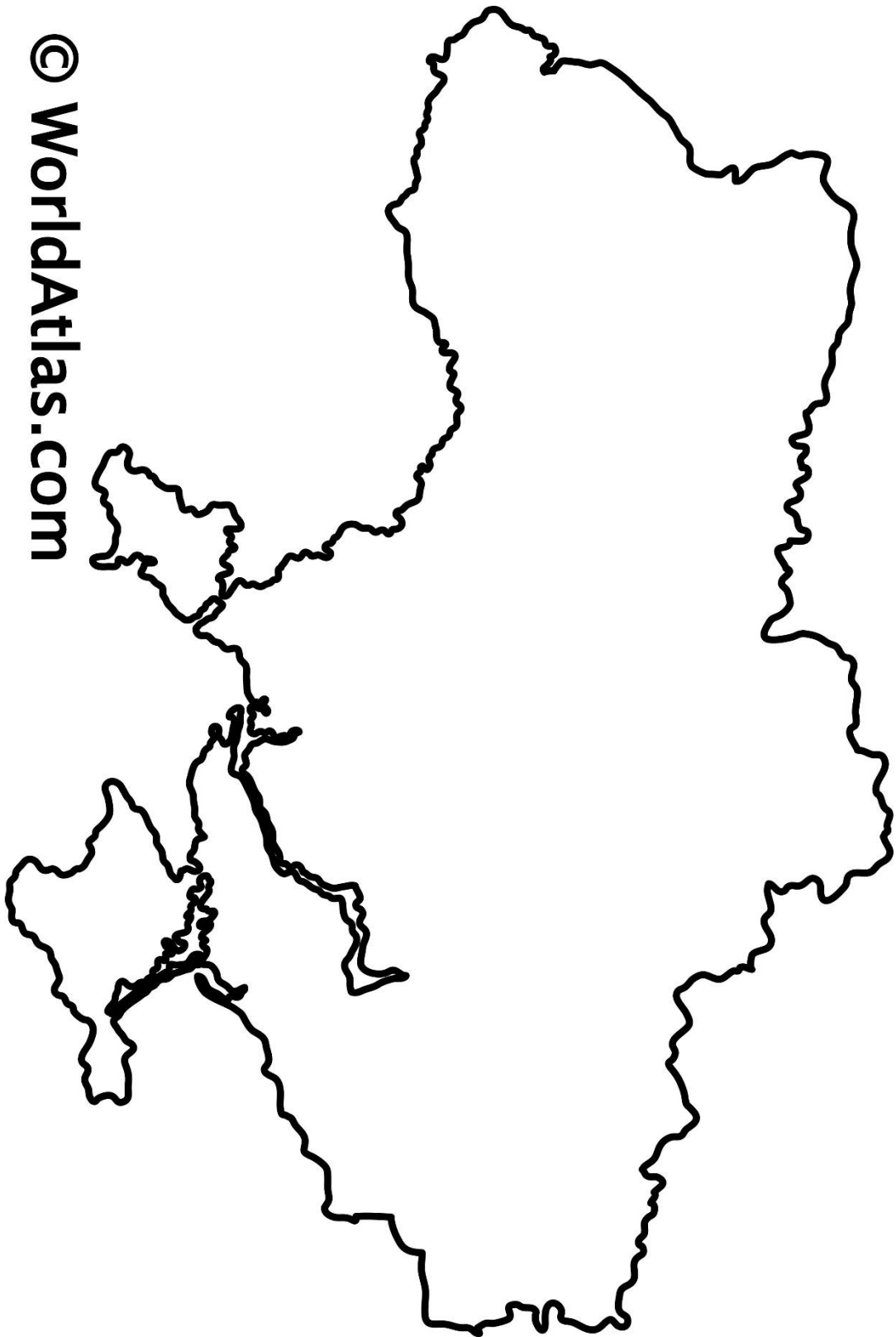
## Pray for the Church

*He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” Psalm 46:10*

Both for the members of God’s family who are caught up in conflict, and for the brothers and sisters who are able to help them. Pray for protection, comfort, and courage for the churches in nations touched by war. Pray for pastors, churches and non-government organisations; that they would be equipped with all they need in the situation to bring relief.

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/resource/pray-for-peace-and-an-end-to-war/>

# Ukraine



© WorldAtlas.com

# A Prayer for Ukraine

**Father God**, King of all nations, we cry out to you now for the people of Ukraine. We ask you to rescue those who are vulnerable from the hands of their enemies that they may live without fear before you all their days [Luke 1:74-75].

**Kyrie eleison – Lord have mercy.**

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

**Lord of lords and Prince of peace**, our politicians are predicting the biggest war in Europe since 1945, and we simply cry out to you urgently to write another story in our time. Thwart the dark machinations of evil men. Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to peacemakers seeking an equitable and less violent way. May politicians exercise the wisdom from above, which is peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, and full of mercy [James 3:17].

**Kyrie eleison – Lord have mercy.**

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

**Holy Spirit**, we pray for the church in Ukraine, a nation in which 70% of the population call themselves Christian. Give our many brothers and sisters in that nation courage in this crisis that they may proclaim the good news of your kingdom, bind up broken hearts, and bring comfort to all who mourn. [Isaiah 61:1-2].

**Kyrie eleison – Lord have mercy.**

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

**You Lord**, make wars cease to the end of the earth; you break bows, shatter spears, and burn shields with fire [Psalm 46:9]. And so we ask you now to save the lives of many people in Ukraine. Make a peace that is strong and not weak. De-escalate this crisis. We hear of wars and rumours of wars (Matt. 24:6], but you Lord are our rock, our fortress and our deliverer. Our hope is in you. And so we address the nations now. In the name of Jesus we say: "Be still and know God! He is exalted among the nations; he shall be exalted in the earth [Psalm 46:10].

**Kyrie eleison – Lord have mercy.**

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

Amen

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/a-prayer-for-the-crisis-in-ukraine/>