

Prayer Diary: Eritrea

27 July-2 August 2025



‘There is nowhere truly safe for Eritrean refugees.’ - Elsa Chyrum (Director of Human Rights Concern Eritrea)

The level of repression in Eritrea has generated a significant refugee exodus. By the end of 2023, over 623,000 Eritreans were registered refugees or asylum-seekers – that’s around 17% of the population. Among many other dangers, they risk a shoot-to-kill border policy to flee their country.

Find out more at csw.org.uk/eritrea

Sunday 27 July

The Eritrean regime continues its relentless crackdown on Christians in Eritrea. So far over 200 Christians have been arrested this year, many leaving behind families with no one to support them. Pray for God’s provision and the unconditional release of those who were detained.

Monday 28 July

Those who are imprisoned face inhumane, and often life-threatening conditions. In one case, medical treatment for aggressive cancer was withheld. Ask God to move the authorities’ hearts towards compassion. Pray that they would respect the human dignity of detainees.

Tuesday 29 July

Today we remember the Eritreans who have fled the comprehensive repression and are seeking refuge across the world. They risk kidnapping, detention, torture, sexual violence, forced return or even being killed. Pray for their protection, and that they would find a welcoming and safe place to call home.

Wednesday 30 July

‘The regime does not just persecute Christians in Eritrea; it doesn’t just persecute Eritreans in Eritrea. The persecution is in fact transnational. It has crossed borders.’ (Selam Kidane, Release Eritrea) Raise your voice for those enduring persecution beyond the borders of Eritrea. Pray for their wellbeing and safety, and for host governments to take urgent steps to protect them.

Thursday 31 July

Take a moment to reflect on Romans 12:12 and its call for persistent prayer. Then pray for the release of six senior church leaders who are marking 21 years in incommunicado detention in 2025, and a seventh who is marking his 20th year. All are held without charge or trial. We will continue praying until all prisoners of conscience are free.

Friday 1 August

Since 1991 the Eritrean government has been committing crimes against humanity, including religious persecution. Boldly pray for the regime to cease its human rights violations and be held accountable.

Saturday 2 August

God of justice, we lift up the nation of Eritrea with its many challenges – many of which have been continuing for decades. We long for freedom, reconciliation, and healing for all who are suffering the brutality of the regime. We will not lose hope or confidence in your justice and deliverance. Amen.