

TO HOANG CHUONG

Vietnam

Though Vietnam made significant progress in the area of religious freedom from 2000-2019, its authoritarian governance and state control over social activities show worrying signs of regression. For Christians (both Roman Catholic and Protestants), persecution remains prevalent as crackdowns on house churches continue to intensify and accusations are constantly made against Christian ministries for “sabotaging national unity” –especially those with leaders who unapologetically proselytize. For example, in spring of this year, a Protestant missionary was sentenced to 13 years in prison for work in his Christian ministry, and just last year, an Evangelical pastor was threatened to renounce his faith in Christ before eventually being killed.

As terrible as it can be for Vietnamese Christians, it is not just our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer for their faith there. Many ethnoreligious minority groups across the country also suffer, with acts of surveillance, arbitrary detainments, and even campaigns to eradicate certain groups taking place.

Buddhists are one persecuted group suffering alongside Christians, and in particular, Khmer Krom Buddhists. To Hoang Chuong is from this ethnic faith community and is currently imprisoned for his religious freedom advocacy there. To Hoang was arrested last year for advocating for the rights of his community – and others – to practice their faith independent from state interference or harassment. Reports indicate he has been tortured while imprisoned as his community continues to face serious restrictions on their fundamental freedoms, including religious expression.

Pray with us for To Hoang Chuong and his community today.



Ethnoreligious identity: Khmer Krom Buddhist

Sentence: 4 years imprisonment (with reports of torture)

Motive for arrest: Advocacy for the rights of ethnoreligious communities in Vietnam.

Read more about Vietnam’s recent crackdowns [here](#) & the effects on local churches [here](#).

Read and share our CAAP Prayer Guide on Vietnam [here](#).

See the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom’s Victims List [here](#) and pray with us for all who suffer for their beliefs.

