

PASTOR RAYMOND KOH

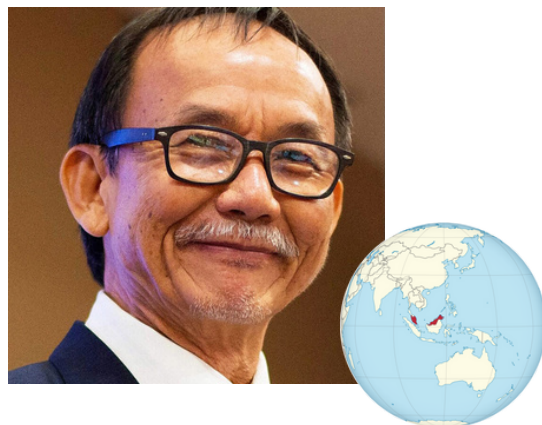
Malaysia

Pastor Raymond Koh is a Protestant pastor from Malaysia who was forcibly disappeared by government security forces in February 2017 for his religious and humanitarian work and for his evangelism. His whereabouts remain unknown today. Malaysia, a Southeast Asian country near Singapore with Malay, Chinese, and Indian cultural influences, has seen increasing religious persecution in recent years.

Reports indicate Pastor Koh was abducted by Islamic authorities because of the endeavors of his NGO, which focused on social and charitable work while also sharing the gospel of Christ with Muslims. In Malaysia, however, Christian converts from a Muslim-Malay background face high levels of persecution as converting to Christianity is seen as an act not only against one's ethnicity but their nation as well.

But persecution is also prevalent among non-Christians in Malaysia as the government compels Muslim citizens, for example, to obey government-approved interpretations of Sunni Islam. Citizens across the country are also forced to register their religion with the state, and all ethnic Malays are forced to register as Muslims (and assumed to be so) regardless of their beliefs. Blasphemy laws there similarly criminalize apostasy with fines, prison, or even forced placement in "rehabilitation" centers. Forced conversions are also common, too. Thus, Christians, Hindus, and certain non-traditional Muslims are all groups targeted and exposed to punishments and government harassment due to their distinct faiths and practices.

Pastor Koh is just one example of numerous forced disappearances of Christians over the past several years. Pray with us today for Pastor Koh's safe return home and for all those suffering in Malaysia for their faith, both believers and their non-Christian neighbors.



Religion: Christian - Protestant

Currently: Forcibly disappeared for his religious and humanitarian work; his family is praying for his safe return despite lack of attention or help from authorities.

Motives: Allegations against his ministry's evangelism to Muslims.

Read more about religious persecution in Malaysia [here](#) and [here](#).

Read updates on Pastor Koh's case [here](#).

