

Christians celebrate Christmas around the world on Wed., even in the face of brutal persecution



Hundreds of millions of Christians around the world will celebrate the birth of Christ on Wednesday, with Christmas again reminding the faith of the message of peace and the love of God.

The annual Christmas celebration, nevertheless, comes as Christianity and Christians remain the most persecuted religious faith and faithful around the planet, exclusively in parts of the third world and developing world.

In more than 100 countries, Christians are persecuted by totalitarian and strictly atheist regimes, such as North Korea, along with Islamist terrorists and all types of religious fanatics.

Even in parts of the developed world, such as the United States, a type of anti-Christian movement have been developing over recent years, threatening true religious freedom, according to a report by Fox News.

In many countries, thousands of Christians celebrate the birth of Christ in private, often in basements and residences, away from official scrutiny.

According to the NGO Open Doors USA, more than 245 million Christians, roughly one in nine globally, have experienced some form of persecution for their faith and religious affiliation. 245 εκατομμύρια χριστιανοί, ή 1 στους 9 παγκοσμίως, διώχτηκαν για την πίστη τους.

In China, the world's second leading economic power, more than 1,000 Christians were jailed without trial in 2018.

Elsewhere, in northern Iraq, remnants to the Islamist terrorist group ISIS continue to threaten the remaining Christian communities with unspeakable violence.

The same terrorist violence is present in northern Nigeria and neighboring Cameroon, where the Islamist terror group Boko Haram remains active. In Nigeria, where half the population is Christian, persecution is reaching genocidal dimensions.

Even in multi-national, multi-lingual and multi-confessional India, a democracy, 65 million Christians remain at risk from religious extremists, with Churches set on fire, violence on the street and even unofficial exclusion from occupations.





