

## Embrace your sisters



### Do you have a heart for the women of the persecuted church?

The Women's Ministry of The Voice of the Martyrs Canada serves women who are suffering for their Christian witness in nations hostile to Christ. Some are incarcerated in prison cells, without their basic needs being met. Others are forced to labour under great duress. Still, many are subordinated and sexually abused, discriminated against and mistreated.


The Women's Ministry connects women of all ages in Canada with our sisters who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ. We serve and encourage our sisters in bonds through prayer and hands-on projects while being inspired and challenged by their testimonies of overcoming faith in the face of imprisonment, brutality and even death for Christ's sake.





#### VOLUNTEER


Contact VOM and let us know that you wish to be His hands and feet by becoming a Women's Ministry volunteer. Experience is not a prerequisite; all you need to have is a heart for the women of the persecuted Church. Time commitment is flexible depending on your availability. You will be supported with prayer and resources.

Send an e-mail to [volunteer@vomcanada.org](mailto:volunteer@vomcanada.org) to get started.

 Become an advocate for the persecuted at your local or home church.

 Invite a Voice of the Martyrs speaker to your church.

 Study the theology of persecution in your Bible Study or Women's Group. We have resources available from beginner to advanced levels. The "Kids of Courage" VBS curriculum is also available.

 Start a book club about the persecuted.

This is a simple way to raise the profile and awareness of persecution and have God show you what and how to pray for our brothers and sisters. (Official VOM Canada Volunteers receive a 25% discount on books.)



## The Voice of the Martyrs ministry is based on Hebrews 13:3

#### **Help:**

*We help Christians who are, or have been, persecuted for their involvement in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We provide medical assistance, food, clothing and other forms of aid.*

#### **Love:**

*We support Christians who are willing to invite others, even their persecutors, to Jesus Christ through faithful deeds of love in a hostile environment. We supply Bibles, literature, radios and other evangelistic tools.*

#### **Encourage:**

*We encourage persecuted Christians by giving their testimony a voice, informing believers in Canada on how to help. We believe that the lives and testimony of persecuted Christians is a vital part of the fellowship of all believers, serving to challenge and strengthen the faith of Christians everywhere.*

The Voice of the Martyrs newsletter is the flagship publication of The Voice of the Martyrs Inc. (Canada). Published monthly, it is available free of charge and without obligation in one-year subscriptions to anyone in Canada who requests it. Spending of funds is confined to board-approved programs and projects. Each restricted contribution designated towards a board-approved program or project will be used as designated with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining restricted contributions designated for such program or project will be used where needed most. Gifts from individual donors of \$10 and more are acknowledged and receipted with an official receipt for income tax purposes.





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I would like to invite you, sisters across Canada, to join with our sisters overseas who daily must choose whether or not they will follow Christ, a choice that comes at a great price. They are our “grandmothers” and “mothers”; our “aunts,” “sisters” and “daughters.” They are our family, and we have the great privilege of being Christ’s hands and feet to bring them comfort, help and encouragement.

You can make a difference. You can let them know that they are not alone or forgotten.

May the following information stir you into prayerful action! “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds” (Hebrews 10:24).

For our sisters in bonds,

*Ingrid*



## Be His hands and feet

There are several simple and effective ways that you can be Christ’s hands and feet to our suffering sisters.

### ✿ PRAY (Hebrews 13:3)

Everywhere The Voice of the Martyrs ministers, the first request of persecuted Christians is often: “Pray for us.”

- ✿ Commit to remember and pray for them.
- ✿ Start a prayer group with women in your church or small group that specifically lifts up the needs that women face in nations hostile to Christ (Ephesians 6:18).
- ✿ Request a free prayer booklet from VOM Canada.



### ✿ WRITE

Visit our website to download a PDF of “Doing Time for God,” a letter-writing guide that contains names and addresses of prisoners of faith worldwide, sample letters, writing tips and other helpful links.

### ✿ SUPPORT

VOM’s **Women’s Fund** addresses the unique needs of Christian women who suffer for their faith by providing medical treatment and supplies.

VOM also empowers women to start their own businesses so they can support their families after they have lost their husbands or while their husbands are in prison for their faith.



Through our **Children of Martyrs Fund**, VOM also supports kids at the Stephen Centre, which provides a home and education for those who have lost one or both parents in anti-Christian violence.

✿ ORGANIZE a conference at your church or attend a Voice of the Martyrs women’s conference. Our conferences include teaching on biblical persecution, first-hand accounts from our sisters, prayer, worship, practical ways to help our sisters, and fellowship with other Christian women.

This is what one of the attendees wrote after attending a conference:

*“The conference was amazing. As we were singing worship songs, I became so convicted of my hatred against the Muslim persecutors. How can I pray for the families of martyrs to forgive their persecutors when I can’t forgive them, not being the actual one suffering the loss? Then along came Takoosh Hovsepian who shared her story of how God led her to forgive. Let me tell you, I was a weeping mess! I so needed to be here today. I almost didn’t come because I thought I was too busy. I thank the Spirit for nudging me to go. I know He will help me to truly love the persecutors.”*

### ✿ CREATE - Crafts, sewing or knitting?

- ✿ Make cards or bookmarks. These are used at conferences for attendees to write encouraging notes to Christians facing persecution.
- ✿ Make bracelets. The gift of a card or a bracelet in a cold dark cell can bring the beauty of Christ and His compassion to a sister suffering for His sake.
- ✿ Knit or crochet ponchos or baby toques for Christian women and children who live in countries where the weather is cold.



### Contact and link information

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