

Along the Way

Into “Closed” Countries

Rami Ayyad was the director of the only Christian bookstore in Gaza City. This store happened to be situated within the building of a church that was frequently threatened and even bombed on two occasions. Although Rami himself had also been threatened several times, he was not flustered when a local sheikh came into the shop insisting that the Christian bookstore director convert to Islam. Calmly, yet firmly, Rami refused to forsake his faith.

While mentioning the confrontation he encountered to his wife that night, Rami’s attitude reflected peace and a willingness to risk his life for the Gospel. His wife Pauline struggled to understand how he could be so serene when facing life-threatening danger. “He was speaking like he was ready to die for his faith,” she recalls. God was preparing him for eternity, and Rami was clearly ready.

One evening in 2007, as he was closing shop for the day, Rami sensed trouble brewing from some bearded men who were lingering around the store. He called his family, warning them that he may be delayed. That was the last they heard from him. The next morning, Rami’s lifeless body was found in a field, with evidence revealing that he had been shot and stabbed numerous times. Pauline, who was four months pregnant with their third child at the time, was devastated. Ten years passed before any arrests were made of the attackers. A previously recorded interview that Greg Musselman had with Pauline is available at www.vomcanada.com/pauline.

Artist: Mariave Jaddou

Artwork Title: Holy Land Map

Medium: Glass, Glass Paint



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His Way "... some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree...." Romans 11:17 ESV

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ERITREA Pray for the families of Christian prisoners who have fled to other countries.	KYRGYZSTAN Pray that churches will minister to those who are unable to find jobs.	TANZANIA Pray for Mama G., the widow of a martyred pastor, using Psalm 23 as a guide.	MALI Pray that believers will encourage and support one another amid pressure from militant Islamists.	ALGERIA Pray for Berber Christians who are sharing the Gospel with those of the Arab Muslim majority.	MYANMAR (BURMA) Pray for continued church growth despite persecution, and the effective discipling of new believers.	COLOMBIA Pray that God will provide for the needs of Christian workers serving in the country's dangerous "red zones."
UGANDA Pray for effective print and audio Bible distributions to take place rurally and in areas of persecution.	COMOROS Pray that those receiving audio Bibles will be receptive to the Gospel and come to faith in Christ.	NEPAL Pray that Bibles will remain legal so believers can be strengthened and spiritual seekers may be reached.	LAOS Pray that the Holy Spirit will empower evangelists as they proclaim the Gospel of Christ.	QATAR Pray for Qatar's few Christians, who must exercise caution when gathering for worship.	MALAYSIA Pray that more ethnic Malays will be able to receive a translation of the Bible in their own language.	KAZAKHSTAN Pray that ethnic Kazakh Christians will become firmly established in their faith.
INDONESIA Pray that ministry workers will find ways to distribute Bibles to those in remote areas.	IRAQ Pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal the reality of Christ to Iraqis in need of salvation.	MOROCCO Pray for the body of Christ in this North African nation, using John 17:20-26 as a guide.	AFGHANISTAN Pray for displaced Afghan Christians who have fled to neighbouring restricted nations.	CUBA Pray that every Cuban believer in need of God's Word will have an opportunity to receive their own Bible.	BANGLADESH Pray for Christians who are learning how to reach their Muslim neighbours with the Gospel.	INDIA Pray that Christians will remain steadfast in their faith amid familial and governmental opposition.
DJIBOUTI Pray that God will call more labourers to the harvest field and then fully equip them for ministry.	TURKMENISTAN Pray for evangelists seeking creative ways to share the Gospel with those in need of salvation.	LIBYA Pray that government officials will no longer attempt to close and demolish churches.	YEMEN Pray for ministry workers who stayed in Yemen to maintain a Christian witness during the civil war.	JORDAN Pray that God will provide for Christians who have lost their jobs, reputations and/or properties due to their faith.	MOZAMBIQUE Pray for Christians who have lost everything in recent attacks by militant Islamists.	LEBANON Pray that new governing leaders will recognize churches as shining lights in their communities.
UZBEKISTAN Pray for the spread of the Gospel amid an increase in Islamic fundamentalism.	SOMALIA Pray for the protection of evangelists who are risking their lives to minister in the country.	SUDAN Pray that new believers will be effectively disciplined so they can become firmly grounded in their faith.				

