



# Sharia Watch UK

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Boris Johnson will highlight plight of persecuted Christians across the world in his Christmas message



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## Country:

United Kingdom (UK)

## News Date:

23/12/2019

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## Summary:

In May [a report ordered by former foreign secretary Jeremy Hunt found that the persecution of Christians in parts of the world](#) [8] was at near "genocide" levels. The review, led by the Bishop of Truro, the Right Reverend Philip Mounstephen, estimated that one in three people suffered from religious persecution, with Christians the most persecuted group. It stated that the main impact of "genocidal acts against Christians is exodus" and warned Christianity faced being "wiped out" from parts of the Middle East.

Figures show Christians in Palestine represent less than 1.5 per cent of the population, while in Iraq their numbers have fallen from 1.5 million before 2003 to less than 120,000. "Evidence shows not only the geographic spread of anti-Christian persecution, but also its increasing severity," the Bishop wrote.

"In some regions, the level and nature of persecution is arguably coming close to meeting the international definition of genocide, according to that adopted by the UN."

The Truro review suggested imposing sanctions on regimes found to have committed "serious human rights abuses" against religious minorities, and creating a Magna Carta Fund dedicated to their protection. It also recommended establishing a UN security council resolution urging Middle East and northern African countries to do more to protect Christians.

Open Doors, which monitors Christian persecution around the world, has estimated that on average each month 345 Christians are killed for faith-related issues. On Easter Sunday this year three churches in Sri Lanka and three luxury hotels in the commercial capital Colombo were targeted **by Islamic terrorists** in a series of coordinated suicide bombings, killing 259 including eight Britons.

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**Source URL (modified on 15/03/2020):**

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