

SEP – OCT 2026

STAND!

by Goshen International Ministries



“When God spoke
from Mount Sinai
his voice shook
the earth, but now
he makes another
promise: “Once
again I will shake
not only the earth
but the heavens also.

(Heb 12:26)

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Dear Friends,

When misfortune strikes or hardships arise, will you let fear and worry paralyze you or let faith guide you?

It takes great courage to believe and trust that God is still hard at work when all we see is chaos, unrest, suffering, political instability and uncertainty.

Behind the physical conflict in Iran, a spiritual battle is taking place for the souls of the Iranian people.

In this issue of Stand! magazine, our Chairwoman, Rev Patricia Owyang, shares her insights on how a spiritual revival and God's redemptive work is unfolding in Iran amid the war.

In support of our Iranian brothers and sisters in Christ, we are participating in The Voice of the Martyrs' Project—Iran Persecution Fund, to support five Iranian families who have been severely persecuted because of their Christian faith.

If you feel led by the Lord to support Iranian believers, details of how you may send your gift may be found on page eight of this issue of Stand!.

Ephesians 5:30

For we are members of His body

Blessings!

How we can serve you:

We will love the opportunity to visit your church or small group to raise awareness of Persecuted Christians among those in your circle of influence. We can share in your services or meetings, run mission booths and conduct interesting activities for people of all ages. By inviting us, you may be playing an important part to support our persecuted brethren.

WhatsApp us at **9788-0457** or email: **admin@gosheninternational.org** for more information.



Scan the QR code for a soft copy of the Stand!



Give a LOVE Offering

For gifts to GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES LIMITED :

- 1) Bank Transfer to OCBC Bank Code: 7339 Account: 508-308962-001
- 2) PayNow: UEN No. 198204059M
- 3) By Cheque issued in favour of GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES LIMITED
Please mail cheque to: 170 Upper Bukit Timah Road, #03-22 Bukit Timah Shopping Centre, Singapore 588179

(For all love gifts, please e-mail admin@gosheninternational.org or message us via WhatsApp at 9788 0457 to facilitate our accountability to you. If you are giving towards a specific project or cause, please indicate the name of the project or cause in your e-mail. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions with respect to the projects that we are undertaking in support of the persecuted church. Many blessings to you in the Name of the Lord!)

News

Insights on the Iran War shared by Rev Pat Owyang
at Goshen's Fellowship Night on 14 April 2026

God is Shaking Iran to Awaken Spiritual Hunger

When we look at Iran today, the headlines are loud: war, unrest, political tension, uncertainty. Nations are watching, analysts are speaking and fear often fills the airwaves.

But God is not anxious and neither should we.

LOOK BENEATH THE NEWS.

There is another narrative unfolding beneath the surface. It is quiet, hidden, yet powerful! While the world sees conflict, **God sees harvest**. While nations tremble, **the Spirit is moving**.

This is the paradox of the Kingdom: what looks like destruction in the natural often becomes **construction in the Spirit**.

God has always used **shaking as a precursor to awakening**.

Haggai 2:6-7 tells us that the Lord will shake the nations so that **what is desired will come forth**. And in Iran, we are witnessing such a shaking. Systems are being tested. Long-held beliefs are being questioned. The promises of security, identity and control are being exposed as insufficient for the human soul.

And in that exposure, something holy is happening.

A deep spiritual hunger is emerging. Men and women – many who have inherited religion but never encountered God – are beginning to ask questions they once suppressed. In the quiet of their hearts, they are searching. Not for ideology, not for politics, but for truth. For peace. For a God who sees them.

And even as this hunger grows, another tension fills the global stage. Iran stands at a threshold, not yet possessing a nuclear weapon, yet possessing the capability to move toward one with alarming speed. The nations are watching closely. Strategies are being formed. Lines are being drawn.

Fear is rising.

But while the world is fixated on nuclear potential, **God is focused on spiritual awakening** and He calls us to align with His focus. While governments calculate timelines and capabilities, God is moving in hearts and homes. While the headlines speak of uranium and weapons, God speaks of repentance and revelation.

And in that contrast, we must not lose our discernment. Because history will not ultimately be defined by what Iran becomes militarily, but by what God is doing spiritually within her people.



God is Maturing a Pure, Powerful Underground Church

And in that hunger, Jesus is revealing Himself. Not always through traditional means. Not always through visible structures. But in ways that bypass human limitation: through dreams, visions, whispered testimonies, fragments of Scripture shared in secret.

The Lord is walking the streets of Iran – unseen, yet undeniably present. Not in buildings, but in living rooms. Not in public gatherings, but in whispered conversations. Not with programs, but with presence. This is the underground Church.

It is hidden, yet rapidly multiplying. Vulnerable, yet incredibly strong. And this is what is remarkable. Today, **Iran is widely regarded as having one of the fastest-growing underground Christian movements in the world** – not thriving in freedom, but flourishing in restriction.

What makes this even more profound is that this growth is not built on public platforms, large gatherings, or institutional strength. It is built quietly, relationally, and sacrificially, one life at a time.

And perhaps most striking of all – it is pure. Because persecution has a way of stripping away everything that is superficial. There is no room for cultural Christianity when following Jesus may cost you your freedom, your

family, even your life. What remains is something far more precious; a faith that is real, refined and resilient. Like gold tested in fire, the Iranian Church is being continually purified.

Believers gather knowing the risks. They worship knowing the cost. They share the Gospel not out of convenience, but conviction. And in so doing, they are rediscovering something the early Church knew well, that the Gospel does not need comfort to advance. It advances through surrender.

The Lord is walking the streets of Iran – unseen, yet undeniably present.

God is Turning Pressure into Multiplication and Raising Iran as a Mission Force

In fact, persecution has never stopped the Church. It has always strengthened it. When the early believers were scattered, they did not retreat. They carried the message with them, and the Gospel spread even further. And so it is in Iran. Pressure is not producing silence. It is producing multiplication. The Church is not being extinguished; it is being expanded.

What the enemy intends to crush, God is using to cultivate.

And there is more. Out of this refining fire, God is not only raising believers; He is raising messengers. Iran is not merely a mission field. **It is becoming a mission force.**

Those who have encountered Christ in the midst of darkness are carrying His light beyond their borders. They are reaching neighbouring nations in the Middle East, sharing the hope they themselves discovered in secret.

This is the wisdom of God. He often chooses the most unlikely places to birth the most powerful movements. **A nation known for restriction is becoming a wellspring of revival.** A people once closed are becoming carriers of the Gospel.

And so, we must see clearly. The Iran war is not merely geopolitical. It is deeply spiritual. There is a battle, yes – but only between nations. **There is a battle for hearts, for truth, for worship.**

And in that battle, Christ is not absent. He is advancing.

The question, then, is not simply, “What is happening in Iran?” The deeper question is: **Do we have eyes to see what God is doing?**

If we only interpret through the lens of fear, we will miss the movement of grace. But if we discern by the Spirit, we will recognise this moment for what it is: A divine invitation. A sovereign work. A hidden revival.

And even now, in the midst of war, in the underground rooms of Iran, in whispered prayers and courageous faith, He is maturing a people for Himself.

The fire that was meant to destroy them is refining them. The pressure that was meant to break them is multiplying them. The darkness that surrounds them is only making His light more visible.

And one day, what is hidden will be revealed. What is whispered in secret will resound in the open. **What is now an underground movement will stand as a testimony to the faithfulness and ingenuity of God before the nations.**

Therefore, trust the Lord. His plan is unfolding – stay anchored in Him.

(Article by Rev Patricia Owyang, Chairwoman of Goshen International Ministries)



PROJECT: Iran Persecution Fund

The silent sacrifices and tears a pastor sheds to advance God's Kingdom are frequently eclipsed by public praise and recognition for their work.

In addition to relinquishing personal comforts, missing birthdays and milestones in their children's lives, pastors are usually unappreciated, undervalued, and often hurt by the very same people they are selflessly serving.

Especially so for pastors in Iran where churches are heavily monitored, evangelism is strictly prohibited and the threat of imprisonment is always looming in the background.

Therefore, Goshen is participating in The Voice of the Martyrs' Project: Iran Persecution Fund to support pastors who have suffered both social and economic persecution in Iran by providing legal fees and supporting their family members.

Over the last few years, there has been a rise in arrests and infiltration of underground churches by Iranian spies. Although many of the imprisoned pastors have been released on bail, they are forbidden to work or continue to gather in groups. And for those who remain in prison, their family members struggle to pay rent or pay bills.

Target fund: \$21,200

Beneficiaries of this project: 5 families located in Tehran, Gilan province and other cities in Iran.

If you feel led by the Lord to support these 5 Iranian families, details of how you may send your gift may be found below.

GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES LIMITED

OCBC Bank Code : 7339
Account : 508-308962-001 (for Fund Transfer)

Pay Now : UEN No. 198204059M

For a direct deposit into our bank account, please email us at **admin@gosheninternational.org** or WhatsApp **9788 0457** to facilitate our accountability to you.

(In your e-mail to us, please indicate your name and contact number and the specific project you wish to give to. In the event the target fund is reached, any excess will be channelled to the general fund which goes towards assisting persecuted Christians.)



Sponsor A Pastor

UNSEEN, UNSAFE, POWERLESS, HOPELESS

That is what trauma makes us feel.

Pastors, missionaries, field workers and their families, especially those who serve in restrictive nations, often suffer from multi-layered or complex trauma because of prolonged exposure to persecution, oppression, violence, injustice, natural disasters and severe poverty. They can become overwhelmed by the needs of the community and their inability to meet the needs.

Much of their suffering goes unnoticed, emotions are repressed and physical symptoms suppressed because the congregation and the community they serve need them to stay strong.

For this reason, Goshen is organizing a Trauma Recovery Workshop and Retreat for 12 overseas pastors, missionaries and field workers to help them restore equilibrium, healing and wholeness.

The cost for each pastor is SGD \$980.00.

If you feel led by the Lord to sponsor a pastor, missionary or field worker for this Trauma Recovery Workshop and Retreat, details of how you can give may be found below.

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GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES OUR PURPOSE

We aim to actively serve the Lord and our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ around the world by praying for them, standing with them, encouraging them, helping them in practical ways and learning lessons of true discipleship from them.

*Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively...Two people can resist an attack that would defeat one person alone. A rope made of three cords is hard to break.
(Eccl 4:9,12)*

It is a privilege to be a spiritual lifeline, providing inner strength and support, for someone in another country that you have never met and may never meet in your lifetime?

Your heartfelt prayers and financial support bring much emotional relief and comfort to those who are enduring systemic hardships as a result of persecution. The positive outcome of your prayers and financial support could result in generations and communities being transformed for Christ.

Stand with the persecuted church at our upcoming Goshen Fellowship Night.

DATE / DAY / TIME

Tuesday
7.30pm to 9.30pm
(15th Sep & 13th Oct)

VENUE

Church of Our Saviour
130 Margaret Drive
Singapore 149300

EVENT

**Goshen Fellowship
Night**

(Look out for more details and updates on Goshen's Facebook page.)

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WhatsApp 9788 0457.

This magazine is published bi-monthly and distributed free of charge by:

Goshen International Ministries Ltd
MDDI (P) 065/04/2026
Reg No. 198204059M

All mails to be directed to:
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