

# OSJ PRAYERS

Friday, January 27, 2012

## **Violence in Honduras**

The US Peace Corp has announced it is pulling out its volunteers in Honduras in the face of overwhelming crime rates. With 82 homicides per 100,000 residents last year, the vast majority of which go unresolved, Honduras has the highest violent crime rate in the world. In the midst of this violence and corruption, the faith-based [Association for a More Just Society](#) (AJS) is working to promote peace and justice in the country. Please pray for the country of Honduras and the families who have lost loved ones in the violence. Uplift AJS and the Honduran leaders as they seek to learn more about establishing peace and justice in the midst of overwhelming violence and corruption. Pray that they will be strong in their faith and commitment to justice as they speak truth to their neighbors and government in Honduras.

## **Military leader's trial in Guatemala**

Last week, we requested prayers for indigenous people in Guatemala who suffered violent repression during Guatemala's 36-year civil war. Yesterday, a judge ordered military dictator Efraim Rios Montt to appear in court and stand trial for his role in the violence. The process may lead to charges of genocide. Please continue to pray for this country as it seeks justice in holding leaders accountable. Pray that God's grace and peace will abound for the families of those who perished in the civil war. Ask that the country will experience lasting peace.

## **Bombings and gun battles in Kano, Nigeria**

At least 28 people have been killed and many more injured in attacks in Kano, northern Nigeria. Terrorist group Boko Haram has claimed responsibility for 20 explosions and gun battles that targeted police and immigration offices and residences, as well as Christian churches and buildings. Violence on Christmas day killed over 37 people and the group has threatened to carry out a 'hunt for Christians.' Please pray for Nigeria. Uplift the many Christians who are persecuted there. Ask that they will remain confident in their faith and that they will experience an overwhelming sense of God's grace and peace in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Pray for the leaders of Boko Haram, that they will come to recognize God's love for all.

## **Tension in western China**

Tension has escalated between Chinese security forces and Tibetans in a restive region of western China. At least two people were killed on Tuesday in a confrontation between security forces and protesters. The outbreak is the worst in the region since violent protests in 2008. Please pray for China and Tibet. Ask that protesters and security forces will remain peaceful. Pray that through peaceful dialogue they can resolve their differences so that God's peace and justice reign.

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