

OSJ PRAYERS

Friday, November 25, 2011

Violence in Egypt

Protests have led to violent clashes with security forces in Egypt as tens of thousands of protesters have converged on Tahrir Square to demand an end to the transitional military rule. In the third day of violence, over 23 people died and over 1,500 more were injured. Parliamentary elections are scheduled for next week, but are severely threatened by the growing violence and tensions. Please pray for Egypt. Uplift the many people who have died or are injured. Pray for the Christians in Egypt, including those there on behalf of the CRC, that they will remain safe and be a voice for peace. Pray that God's hand will lead the way in bringing about peace and reconciliation.

U.S. Congressional debt panel fails to reach deal

Leaders of the Congressional committee charged with finding at least \$1.2 trillion in deficit reductions have given up hope of reaching an agreement. As a result, automatic cuts to a broad range of military and domestic programs are set to go into effect starting in 2013. The result is likely a year-long battle between both parties of Congress over how to avoid those cuts. The outlook is not good for many domestic and international poverty-focused programs, as they are now subject to being cut along with every other program. Pray for the leadership of the U.S. Pray that decisions they make will not result in suffering for the poor and vulnerable, here in the U.S. and overseas. Pray for our church leaders, that they will lead the way in speaking on behalf of the poor and vulnerable.

Tensions and violence escalate in Syria

Tensions continue to rise in Syria after deserters from the Syrian Army carried out attacks on the Syrian government last week. As international pressure mounts for a peaceful resolution, some observers suggest there is a civil war in the making. The attacks come in response to a violent crackdown by the Assad regime in which over 3,500 people have been killed. Please pray for peace in this country and the region. Uplift the many people who have lost family and friends in the violence. Pray that both Syrian and world leaders will strive for a lasting peace.

Democracy in Myanmar

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's most prominent democracy campaigner, announced last week that she would rejoin the political system of the military-backed government that persecuted her for more than two decades. The announcement demonstrates the significant steps of reconciliation efforts between the military leadership and the country's democracy movement whose members were jailed and repressed by authoritarian rule. Praise God for this peaceful movement towards democracy. Pray for Myanmar, that democracy and freedom will continue to grow. Uplift the country's leaders that they will lead with wisdom towards a government that meets the needs of its people.

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