

# Manual for searching for incidents Violent Incidents Database World Watch Research / Open Doors International

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## 1. Purpose

The **Violent Incidents Database** (VID) is a service, designed to collect, record and analyze violent incidents of persecution of Christians. There is always room for improvement, however, if possible, we would like to keep the connection with the structure of the WWL questionnaire. The database is meant for use by all organizations and can be accessed here: [www.violentincidents.com](http://www.violentincidents.com).

## 2. Methodology

The VID follows basic elements of the methodology of the World Watch List (WWL) of Open Doors<sup>1</sup>.

### (a) Definitions

The WWL methodology uses the following definitions:

- **Christian:** *A Christian is 'anyone who self-identifies as a Christian and/or someone belonging to a Christian community as defined by the church's historic creeds'.*
- **Persecution:** *Persecution is 'any hostility experienced as a result of one's identification with Christ. This can include hostile attitudes, words and actions towards Christians'.*

### (b) Persecution categories

The categorizations used in the VID follow the questions of block 6 (violence block) of the WWL questionnaire:

- 6.1 How many Christians have been killed for faith-related reasons (including state sanctioned executions)?
- 6.2 How many churches or Christian buildings (schools, hospitals, cemeteries, etc.) have been attacked, damaged, bombed, looted, destroyed, burned down, closed or confiscated for faith-related reasons?
- 6.3 How many Christians have been detained without trial for faith-related reasons?
- 6.4 How many Christians have been sentenced to jail, labor camp, sent to psychiatric hospital as punishment, or similar things for faith-related reasons?
- 6.5 How many Christians have been abducted for faith-related reasons?
- 6.6 How many Christians have been raped or otherwise sexually harassed for faith-related reasons?
- 6.7 How many cases have there been of forced marriages of Christians to non-Christians?
- 6.8 How many Christians have been otherwise physically or mentally abused for faith-related reasons (including torture and mistreatment)?
- 6.9 How many houses of Christians or other property (excluding shops) have been attacked, damaged, bombed, looted, destroyed, burned down or confiscated for faith-related reasons?
- 6.10 How many shops or businesses of Christians have been attacked, damaged, bombed, looted, destroyed, burned down, closed or confiscated for faith-related reasons?
- 6.11 How many Christians have been forced to leave their homes or go into hiding in-country for faith-related reasons?
- 6.12 How many Christians have been forced to leave their country for faith-related reasons?

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<sup>1</sup> The complete World Watch List methodology can be accessed here: <http://theanalytical.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/WWL-methodology-edition-December-2015.pdf>.

### (c) Persecution drivers

The drivers of persecution engines are people and/or groups embodying the main sources of pressure and violence. The WWL methodology studies who they are, and which are involved in hostilities against Christians in a particular country. The WWL methodology distinguishes the following drivers of persecution:

<b>Drivers of persecution</b>	
<i>Government</i>	Government officials at any level from local to national
<i>Society</i>	Ethnic group leaders
	Non-Christian religious leaders at any level from local to national
	Religious leaders of other churches at any level from local to national
	Fanatical movements
	Normal citizens (people from the broader society), including mobs
	Extended family
	Political parties at any level from local to national
	Revolutionaries or paramilitary groups
	Organized crime cartels or networks
Multilateral organizations	

### (d) Persecution engines

The persecution engines are the basic elements for scoring the WWL questionnaires and for the analysis of the persecution of Christians and their communities. The WWL methodology has defined eight different persecution engines:

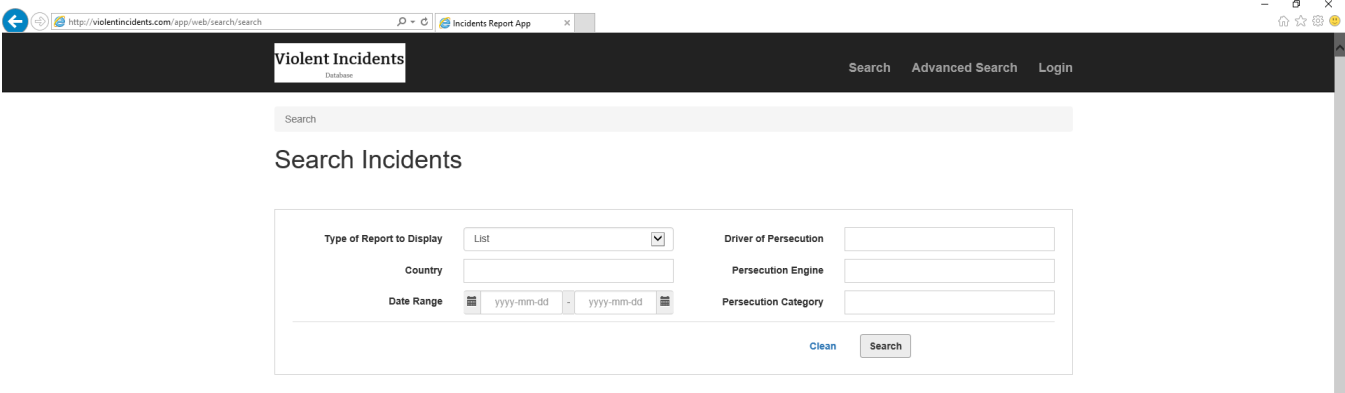
<b>Persecution engine</b>	<b>Description</b>
Islamic oppression (previously: Islamic extremism)	Tries to bring the country or the world under the 'House of Islam' through violent or non-violent actions.
Religious nationalism	Tries to conquer the nation for one's religion. Mainly Hinduism and Buddhism, but also orthodox Judaism or other religions.
Ethnic antagonism (previously: Tribal antagonism)	Tries to force the continuing influence of age-old norms and values shaped in tribal context. Often comes in the form of traditional religion or something similar.
Denominational protectionism	Tries to maintain one's Christian denomination as the only legitimate or dominant expression of Christianity in the country. In most cases this Christian denomination is the majority Christian denomination.
Communist and post-	Tries to maintain Communism as a prescriptive ideology and/or controls the

Persecution engine	Description
Communist oppression	Church through a system of registration and oversight that has come from Communism.
Secular intolerance	Tries to eradicate religion from the public domain, if possible even out of the hearts of people, and imposes an atheistic form of secularism as a new governing ideology.
Dictatorial paranoia	Does everything to maintain power, not specifically focused on realizing a vision.
Organized corruption and crime	Tries to create a climate of impunity, anarchy and corruption as a means for self-enrichment

### 3. How to search for incidents

This section will provide a step-by-step explanation on how to search the violent incidents database and (b) how to add incidents. (If needed, virtual mini-workshops can be organized to explain the functioning of the database to the RLP members.)

1. Go to [www.violentincidents.com](http://www.violentincidents.com) and click on “the [DATABASE](#) button in the menu at the top of this page to be directed to the search function of the VID.



2. Specify the criteria of your search query:

- Select the Type of Report to Display (List or Table). If you select 'List', you will get an enumeration of all the incidents that match the filters of your search query. If you select 'Table', you will get a matrix displaying the number of incidents by country and persecution category.

Select one or more countries by clicking on them. (Note: To select ALL countries automatically, leave all blank.)

- Select the Date Range. Leave open if you do not want to specify a date range.

- Select the Persecution Engine(s) and the Persecution Driver(s). Leave all blank if you wish to select all.
- Select the Persecution Category/Categories you are searching for. Leave all blank if you wish to select all.

3. Click 'Submit'. You will be taken to a new page with the results of your query. This will be a List or a Table depending on the Type of Report to Display.

List display:


Showing 1-20 of 3,076 items.

Title	Country	State/Province	City	Other Address	Security Level	Incident Date	Summary	Driver Name	Driver of Persecution	Persecution Engine	Actions
Pastor in Cuba Sentenced to One Year of House Arrest	Cuba	Las Tunas	Tunas		Public	2016-10-22	A civil court in Cuba sentenced the pastor of a ho...	Court	Government officials	Communist Oppression	
American Aid Worker Kidnapped in Niger Said to Work with YWAM	Niger	*Other Address	*Other Address	unkown	Public	2016-10-15	An American Christian aid worker was kidnapped in ...	Unknown	Fanatical movements	Islamic Extremism	
Muslim militia kill Christians and destroy Bible training center in Central African Republic	Central African Republic	*Other Address	*Other Address	Ndomete	Public	2016-09-23	Muslim Seleka militants murdered up to 26 Christa...	Seleka militants	Fanatical movements	Islamic Extremism	
Several Copts arrested for holding a religious service at home	Egypt	Asyut	Asyut		Public	2016-08-27	The police in the village of Children of Abraham l...	Egyptian government	Government officials	Islamic Extremism	
8 Christians killed in Nigeria	Nigeria	*Other Address	*Other Address	Northern Nigeria	Public	2016-08-25	Radical Muslims Kill 8 People in Nigeria, Vandaliz...	unknown movement	Fanatical movements	Islamic Extremism	
Egypt discriminates against Coptic athletes	Egypt	Al Qā`Ahira	Cairo		Public	2016-08-25	Non-profit organization Coptic Solidarity has file...	Egyptian government	Government officials	Islamic Extremism	
Afghan Christian Attacked by Four Muslim Refugees	Germany	Berlin	Berlin		Public	2016-08-17	An Afghan refugee (31) who converted from Islam L...	Unknown	Normal citizens	Islamic Extremism	
Turkey bans Orthodox Christian Liturgy	Turkey	Trabzon	Trabzon		Public	2016-08-12	The doors of the Sumela historic Monastery reopene...	Turkish government	Government officials	Islamic Extremism	
Algerian christian man sentenced five years	Algeria	Algeria	*Other Address	Kabylie region	Public	2016-08-07	Algerian christian man arrested and sentenced 5	Algerian government	Government officials	Islamic Extremism	

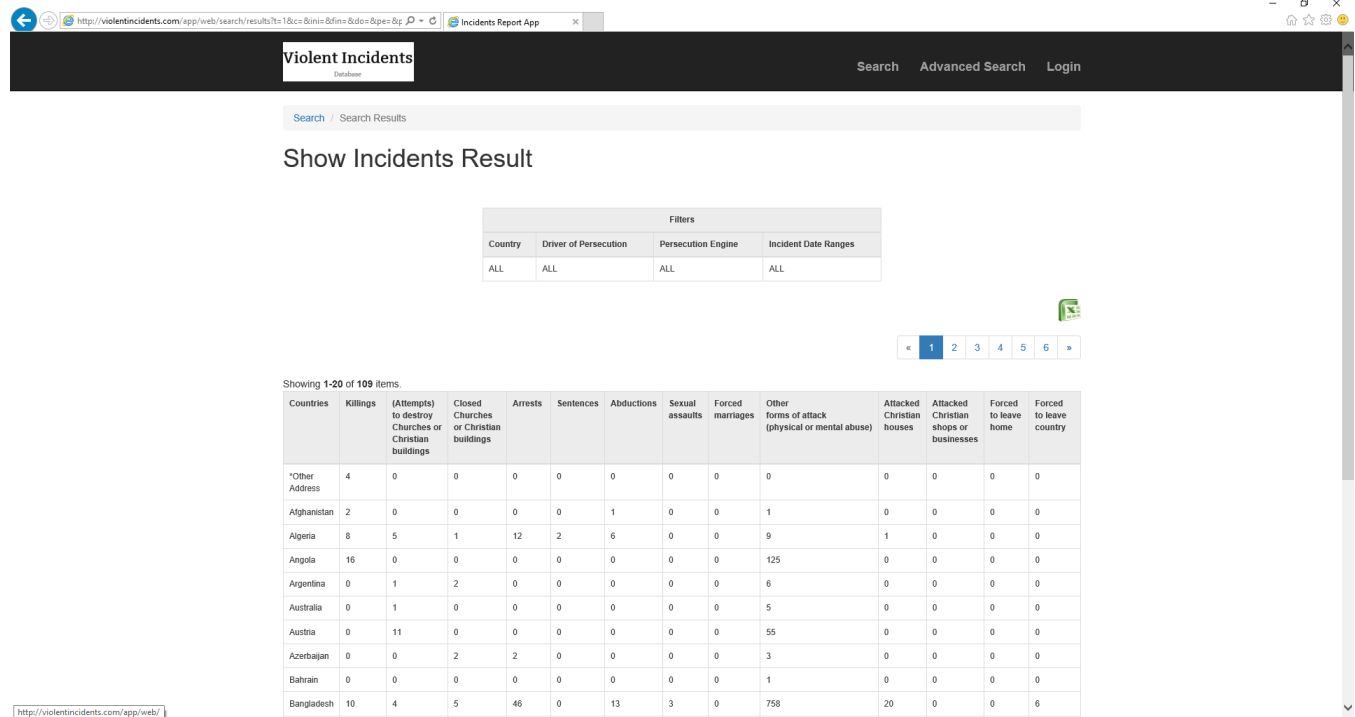
You can click 'View Details' (the icon) on each incident to view the complete information that has been registered with this incident.

Search Results / Several Copts arrested for holding a religious service at home

## Incident: Several Copts arrested for holding a religious service at home

General Information	
<b>Title:</b>	Several Copts arrested for holding a religious service at home
<b>Country:</b>	Egypt
<b>State/Province:</b>	Asyut
<b>City:</b>	Asyut
<b>Other Address:</b>	
<b>Date of Incident:</b>	2016-08-27
<b>Security Level:</b>	Public
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>The police in the village of Children of Abraham in Assiut arrested several Copts because they had a religion service in their home. In this village lives about 18,000 people, 25% of them are Coptic. There are 22 mosques in the village but not one church. Copts asked many time to have permission to build a church, but the government refused it always</p>
Persecution Category	
<b>Killings:</b>	0
<b>(Attempts) to destroy Churches or Christian buildings:</b>	0
<b>Closed Churches or Christian buildings:</b>	0
<b>Arrests:</b>	10
<b>Sentences:</b>	0
<b>Abductions:</b>	0
<b>Sexual assaults:</b>	0
<b>Forced marriages:</b>	0
<b>Other forms of attack (physical or mental abuse)</b>	0
<b>Attacked Christian houses:</b>	0
<b>Attacked Christian shops or businesses:</b>	0
<b>Forced to leave home:</b>	0
<b>Forced to leave country:</b>	0
Driver of Persecution	
<b>Driver name:</b>	Egyptian government
<b>Driver of persecution:</b>	Government officials
Persecution Engine	
<b>Persecution engine:</b>	Islamic Extremism
Additional Information	
<b>Created By:</b>	
<b>Comments:</b>	
Web Sources	
<b>Name:</b>	Several Copts arrested for holding a religious service at home
<b>Url:</b>	<a href="http://www.coptstoday.com/Copts-News/Detail.php?id=165115">http://www.coptstoday.com/Copts-News/Detail.php?id=165115</a>
<b>Image:</b>	

### Table display:



Violent Incidents

Search Advanced Search Login


Search Search Results

### Show Incidents Result

Filters			
Country	Driver of Persecution	Persecution Engine	Incident Date Ranges
ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL

Showing 1-20 of 109 items.

Countries	Killings	(Attempts) to destroy Churches or Christian buildings	Closed Churches or Christian buildings	Arrests	Sentences	Abductions	Sexual assaults	Forced marriages	Other forms of attack (physical or mental abuse)	Attacked Christian houses	Attacked Christian shops or businesses	Forced to leave home	Forced to leave country
*Other Address	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Afghanistan	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Algeria	8	5	1	12	2	6	0	0	9	1	0	0	0
Angola	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125	0	0	0	0
Argentina	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Australia	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Austria	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	0	0	0	0
Azerbaijan	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Bahrain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bangladesh	10	4	5	46	0	13	3	0	758	20	0	0	6

4. Optional: If you wish, you can download the result of your search query as an Excel document by clicking on the  icon at the top of the List or Table.

*In case you have any questions, please contact WWR at [research@od.org](mailto:research@od.org).*