

Bahrain

 win1040.org/prayercalendar/bahrain/

Prathap Samuel

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Day 19

NOVEMBER | 2022

PRAYER FOR THIS COUNTRY

On the first-ever papal visit to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Pope Francis will meet with the grand imam of al-Azhar and pray at a new Catholic cathedral. The theme of the visit to the Muslim island nation in the Persian Gulf is Peace on earth to people of goodwill. After a meeting with the king of Bahrain, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Francis will address members of the government and civil society. Bahrain has a population of 1.7 million. The population is nearly 70% Muslim, with the majority belonging to the Shiite branch of Islam, the country's state religion. Christians, at approximately 210,000 people, make up 14% of the overall population, followed by Hindus at 10%. Pray that the Churches benefit through this event. Pray for the Christian Believers to inspire the Bahrainis to search for God and ways of receiving Christ (The Bible, [Ezra 4:15](#)).

Source:

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/252483/pope-francis-to-meet-muslim-leaders-small-christian-community-in-bahrain>

MORE ABOUT THIS COUNTRY

Bahrain is not ranked in the World Watch list because it is relatively religiously tolerant compared to its neighbors in the Persian Gulf. It is a majority Islamic country mainly with Shia Muslims, but the ruling family is Sunni Muslim. Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa is King of Bahrain since 14 February 2002. The Kingdom of Bahrain is the most open island country in the Gulf region and has opened its doors to some Christian influence. The constitution of Bahrain officially grants freedom of religion, but a provision also states that this freedom cannot violate established customs, policies or morals, all of which are influenced by Islam. Only a few expatriate Christians in the country experience relative freedom to worship but are under close surveillance by the government and security forces. Converts from Islam experience the most severe persecution, as family members and local communities pressure them to recant their Christian faith.



CHIEF OF STATE

King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

HEAD OF GOV.

PM Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

POPULATION

1,347,000

CHRISTIANS

8.2%

EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS

2.3%

DOMINANT RELIGION

Shia Islam

PERSECUTION RANKING

Not Ranked

REFUGEES

353

LIFE EXPECTANCY

78.73 yrs

LITERACY RATE

94.6%

POPULATION BELOW POVERTY LINE

Unknown