



## LAST MONTH IN PARLIAMENT

A summary of Burma-related issues  
in the British Parliament and Europe

AUG  
2014

### Burma mentioned in Members' Business Debate on Persecuted Christians in the Scottish Parliament

**6 August 2014 Patricia Fergusson:** (...) It is estimated that some 3,000 evangelical and Pentecostal Ethiopians are imprisoned in their homeland because of their religion. As we have heard, in North Korea, the Government executes and tortures Christians, and in Burma Rohingya Muslims as well as Christians are abused on a regular basis. The blasphemy laws that have been introduced in Pakistan leave Christians open to charges that are unjustified, and we must not forget the bombing of the church in Peshawar that killed 80 people and injured many more. (...)

**Kenneth Gibson:** (...) As other members have pointed out, the rate of Christian persecution is continuing to rise, and Christians in almost every country in the middle east and in north-west Africa and 23 countries in north-east Africa and south-east Asia are suffering from everything from discrimination to severe persecution. In some countries, Government policy or practice even prevents Christians from obtaining Bibles or other Christian literature. This sort of thing is happening from Belarus to Burma, Algeria to Azerbaijan and from Syria to Saudi Arabia and Sudan, and the fact that some nations that persecute Christians—Commonwealth countries such as Pakistan and Bangladesh or countries such as Saudi Arabia that are called "friends of the west"—are ostensibly allies makes things worse and adds to the sense of helplessness for Christians in those countries. (...)

**For full debate, see:** [http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9439&mode=html#iob\\_84856](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9439&mode=html#iob_84856)

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& Development in Burma**