

News and Current Events :: Pakistan--Evicted Couple Stands Strong

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Micah 5:2

" But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."

A Pakistani couple who have endured several years of persecution from villagers and local authorities remain strong in faith even after losing their home and possessions. Arif, 35, used to spend evenings in his small village visiting friends and neighbors, sharing the gospel and praying. But in 2009, several men began to harass Arif, trying to compel him to deny Christ. He was beaten seven times, and police continued the beatings for 13 days after arresting him on Sept. 27, 2009. When Arif refused to return to Islam, he was imprisoned on false robbery charges. Arif was released four months later when his wife paid his bail. But that same evening, the village leader confiscated their livestock and home and told them to leave. They left with \$2 in their pockets. Last month, a VOM staff member met with the couple for several days to pray through the events with them. Arif prayed, "O God, we thank you because you have not left us. ... But we have seen and experienced that you never leave us. ... Lord, we are ready to obey you." Praise God for the testimony of Arif and his wife.