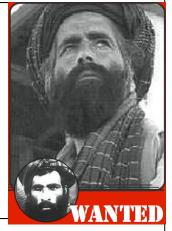
# PRAYER LETTER SUNDAY, 09 NOV 2008 IDOP: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

### High Value Prayer Focus: Mullah Omar

Identified on the public Defense Intelligence Agency Web Site (2006) www.dia.mil/site6\_images/cards/index.htm

Senior leader of the Taliban with close ties to Osama bin Laden. He provided safe haven to Al Qaida, allowing them to establish terrorist training camps in Afghanistan prior to 9-11.

Ask God to give Mullah Omar dreams and visions that will lead him to understanding the true character and nature of God. Ask that his bondage to Satan will be broken. Ask that his terrorism sponsorship will cease. Ask that he will repent of his sins and become an advocate for reconciliation and peace.



#### **Prayer Requests from Mosul, Iraq:**

**SITUATON**: Some Christian leaders want a kind of "reservation" set aside as a "safe" homeland for Iraq's minority Christians. Some Kurdish leaders, who want a homeland for Kurds, also support the homeland idea for Christians. Other Christian leaders perceive that having a Christian homeland will reduce religious freedom elsewhere in the country and that it will be a way for one particular Christian denomination to dominate the religious landscape. In order to undercut being represented as "modern day Crusaders," the American military must tread very carefully with respect to the way it treats Christians in Iraq. Capitalizing on Iraqi Christian vulnerability by terrorizing them helps to advance the agenda of those who are calling the Americans "modern Crusaders" by creating an international demand for Americans to be more directly involved in protecting the Christians. Exaggerating the persecution helps to advance the agenda of those who are calling for a homeland. Minimizing the persecution helps Americans distance themselves from involvement and reduces the propaganda value of terrorizing the Christians. Truth amidst all the agendas and distortions is hard to find.

**REQUEST**: Ask God to grant wisdom to American military leaders and protection to Iraqi Christians in spite of the pragmatic distance that soldiers must keep from the situation. Ask God to give those who are persecuted a vibrant testimony to their watching neighbors.

## **Proverbs 21:1**

"The heart of the king is in the hand of the Lord, and like a river of water he turns it wherever he pleases."

## **Devotional Thought on Presidential Elections**

The proverb does not say that the Lord "is" or "is not" in the king's heart. Elsewhere the Scriptures affirm that the heart is deceitful, wicked, and unknowable (Jer. 17:9). Like water flowing downhill, that doesn't mean the heart is unpredictable; especially the heart of a powerful ruler. About Pharaoh through Moses God said, "But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth" (Ex. 9:16). About the Persian king Cyrus through Isaiah God said, "He is my shepherd and will accomplish all that I please" (Is. 44:28) Whether or not our Presidents are "men of God," they cannot prevent the will of God. However you feel about the election, rejoice in the goodness of God.

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