

PASTOR LORENZO ROSALES FAJARDO

Cuba

While you might not think of Cuba as a place of persecution, the Cuban Communist government has become increasingly hostile toward people of faith, especially Christians, regulating all religious activity on the island and even co-opting certain faiths for political purposes. One small example of difficulties Christians face to practice their faith is that Bibles often need to be smuggled or hidden away in order to read or share as Christian communities are under constant, and intense, surveillance by controlling authorities.

Lorenzo Fajardo, a Cuban Christian Pastor, is one example of many hundreds of faith leaders affected in recent years. A husband and father, Pastor Fajardo was imprisoned due to his religious leadership role, now detained since 2021, and has been held incommunicado in a maximum-security prison since his arrest. His story is like many other Cuban pastors persecuted for their faith and work to help their neighbors on the island who suffer from lack of food or extreme poverty, among other mistreatments by government officials.

The Cuban government ultimately sentenced Pastor Fajardo to 7-8 years in prison on charges of “disrespect, incitement, and public disorder,” though in reality, it was because of his work as a pastor. His family has also been denied contact with him at times and there are recent reports he has been severely beaten, abused, and tortured by guards while in detention. Even his wife has been allegedly threatened with imprisonment herself if she continues to advocate for his release.

Pray with us today for the nation of Cuba, for Pastor Fajardo’s safe return home and for all those suffering in Cuba on account of their beliefs.



Religion: Christian - Protestant

Sentence: 7 years

Charges: “Unlawful disobedience” related to his role as a religious leader.

Read more about Cuba’s growing hostility and control of religion [here](#) and [here](#).

Read and share our CAAP Prayer Guide on Cuba, which highlights other victims, [here](#).

See the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom’s Victims List [here](#) and pray with us for all who suffer for their beliefs.

