

**World Evangelical Alliance**  
**Human Rights Council - 43<sup>rd</sup> Session**  
**Item 4: General Debate**



**10&11 March 2020**

**Speaker: Albert Hengelaar**

Thank you Mr. / Madam President.

In India, the World Evangelical Alliance and the Evangelical Fellowship of India are gravely worried by the reprehensible and lethal violence targeting the Muslim community following the enforcement of the Citizenship Amendment Act. We call on India to provide for the security of vulnerable citizens, and to hold accountable those who committed, and those who provoked violence.

Freedom in India is gravely curtailed by the denial of affirmative action to Christian and Muslim Dalits. A Constitutional Order of 1950 continues to discriminate against and disempower Dalits belonging to minority faiths. We urge India to amend the classification for Dalits in order to remove all religious references to the application of the Constitutional Order of 1950, so that it applies equally to all, including those who change their faith.

Also we appeal to India to repeal the anti-conversion laws, enacted by eight Indian states, in order to guarantee the fundamental right to freedom of religion or belief.

Finally, in Malaysia, we remain concerned that despite the findings of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia truth and justice have yet to be delivered for the abduction of Pastor Raymond Koh, Amri Che Mat, and Joshua and Ruth Sitepu.

Thank you.