

# “Which Countries Deny Religious Freedom?”

I understand there are six countries who deny religious freedom. I have Burma, China, Iran, Iraq, Sudan, and North Korea. Is this list correct? Are there more, or is this complete?

Your list is accurate, but I think it might be better to list the countries that deny any form of freedom to their citizens. Each year Freedom House posts a list of the countries that are free, partially free, or not free. You can see the list and the map of the world on their Web site ([www.freedomhouse.org](http://www.freedomhouse.org)).

The list of not free countries is very long. Here is the 2001-2002 list just of the countries whose names that start with the first letters of the alphabet:

Afghanistan  
Algeria  
Angola  
Bahrain  
Belarus  
Bhutan  
Brunei  
Burma  
Burundi  
Cambodia  
Cameroon  
Chad  
China  
Congo  
Cuba

As you can see, the list is very long of countries that deny freedom (religious freedom or other freedoms).

Addendum added March 25, 2015:

A better place to get a handle on religious freedom is [www.uscirf.gov](http://www.uscirf.gov) which is the site of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. The Freedom House site deals more with political freedom rather than religious freedom. From the 2015 report, we get the following summary of the nations who are particularly offensive to the ideas of religious liberty.

*The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), an independent federal advisory body the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA) created to monitor religious freedom abuses abroad, released its 2014 Annual Report, and recommended that the State Department add eight more nations to its list of “countries of particular concern,” defined under law as countries where particularly severe violations of religious freedom are tolerated or perpetrated: **Egypt, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Vietnam.***

*USCIRF also recommended that the following eight countries be re-designated as “countries of particular concern,” or CPCs: **Burma, China, Eritrea, Iran, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and Uzbekistan.***

Kerby Anderson