



DEFENDING  
**LIFE & LIBERTY**



ADF INDIA



*ADF India advocates for religious freedom and the sanctity of life, and provides pro-bono legal support to protect the right of Indians to freely live out their faith.*

## A Darkening Reality

For centuries, Christian values—including religious freedom, the sanctity of life, and the legal protection of marriage and family—have given strength and support to societies around the world. But today, in many places, these values are under aggressive assault.

Despite a rich tradition and legal framework that supports freedom of conscience and the right to practice, profess, and promote the religion of one's choice, religious minorities, especially Christians in India find themselves frequent victims of targeted violence.



## An Effective Advocate

ADF India was established in 2012 as an alliance building human rights organization that advocates for religious freedom and the sanctity of human life. We are shaping an India in which human dignity and fundamental freedoms are robustly protected and culturally embraced by achieving lasting, positive change in the legal system and culture.

The world's most populous democracy requires an expansive presence to respond quickly. ADF India has a registered office in Delhi, and regional Legal Aid Centres in 10 states: Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh.

## How We Respond

ADF India partners with allied lawyers across the country to secure victories for religious freedom. We do this by gathering evidence and coordinating with the victims of religious discrimination. ADF India represents each person at no cost to the client.

In January 2015, we, along with our allied organisations, launched a toll-free helpline (1800 208 4545) to assist callers in filing complaints, demand necessary action from higher police officials, and pursue all such cases with the judicial, political, and administrative authorities. Since its inception, ADF India has responded to over 5,000 calls for help.



### Vanishing Girls: Stopping Female Foeticide

ADF India launched the Vanishing Girls campaign in order to eliminate the practice of sex selective abortions in India, where an estimated 12 million girls have gone missing in the last three decades. The Vanishing Girls campaign:

- Trains college students, law students, and allied lawyers on the importance of gender parity in broader society, and how to provide legal protection for women
- Maintains an active social media presence focused on eliminating sex selective abortions. So far, over 3,000 people have signed our online pledge to stop female foeticide
- Partners with governments and civil society organisations to enforce the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act

Through these and other efforts, the Vanishing Girls campaign has impacted close to 15,000 people so far.

# Empowering Leaders—Today and Tomorrow

For human dignity to be effectively protected and the constitutional values of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity to flourish, it is imperative that men and women stand up and speak out for the vulnerable and marginalized.

ADF India trains and equips lawyers, law students, and leaders to promote religious liberty and the sanctity of life. The trained lawyers understand the rights and legal remedies available to victims of religious discrimination and violence. Since 2014 we have:

- Conducted 200+ trainings at our regional Legal Aid Centres
- Trained 25,000+ people in Constitutional law and the rights of religious minorities
- Mobilized 800+ allied lawyers and law students to respond to issues relating to religious freedom, life, and the family

In the coming year, our network of allied lawyers will grow to 1,000 lawyers and law students dedicated to religious freedom, equality, liberty and fraternity. We are working to equip the next generation to assume positions of legal and cultural leadership, and form a broad coalition of active and vocal allies that advocate for constitutional and biblical values.

This expansive network of allied lawyers and partners will be key to eliminating discriminatory laws and violence against Christians and other religious minorities.





## A Winning Record

In just six years, ADF India has been blessed to win over 70 cases, including 4 Supreme Court cases and 33 cases at various High Courts. These wins include:

- Successful prosecutions of over 250 people for their role in violence against Christians in the Kandhamal violence
- Withdrawal of a law in Chhattisgarh that prevented non-Hindus from preaching in villages
- Striking down of the provision in the Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act which required a person intending to convert his religion to give prior notice of such intention to government officials

To practice one's faith is a fundamental human right and integral to a flourishing society. ADF India will continue to work diligently to protect religious freedom for the most vulnerable citizens in the world's largest democracy.



## Our Commitment

ADF India is cultivating a future in which truth and justice are upheld ... where religious minorities do not fear violence for practicing their faith ... and where human dignity is affirmed for all people—men and women.

We are committed to achieving lasting, positive change in India's legal system and its culture through an equipped alliance of lawyers, law students, and regular citizens dedicated to preserving the right for everyone to freely live out their faith.

### *Four Ways to Get Involved:*

#### **Pray**

*PRAY* for religious freedom, the sanctity of life, and marriage and family in India.

#### **Learn**

*LEARN* about the issues facing Christians and religious minorities in India at [ADFindia.org](http://ADFindia.org).

#### **Give**

*GIVE* a financial contribution to support our advocacy efforts.

#### **Train**

*CONTACT* us at [askme@ADFindia.org](mailto:askme@ADFindia.org) for a training programme.



**NEW DELHI** (*Registered Office*)

**ASSAM**

**CHHATTISGARH**

**JHARKHAND**

**KARNATAKA**

**MADHYA PRADESH**

**MAHARASHTRA**

**ODISHA**

**TAMIL NADU**

**TELANGANA**

**UTTAR PRADESH**

(Legal Aid Centres)



**ADF INDIA**

**ADFIndia.org**

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