



**W** *Majed El Shafie is a rare human being. Having survived extreme persecution and torture for his faith in Jesus, he has devoted his life to rescuing others who are also being persecuted for their faith, often putting his own life on the line to do so."*

—SID ROTH

Majed  
El Shafie

# FREEDOM FIGHTER

*One Man's Fight for One  
Free World*

Arrested, tortured, and sentenced to die in Egypt because of his Christian faith, Majed El Shafie now fights for those persecuted around the world—risking everything to give a voice to the voiceless.

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## A LITTLE BACKGROUND

*"If I tell you about my faith, it will change our friendship forever," my best friend Tamir said. But I pressured him—and then I trusted him when he gave me a Bible and told me I would find all the answers I needed in its pages. I studied this book carefully in the days and weeks to come and little by little, although it was dangerous to turn my back on Islam—the faith of my family for generations, the love of Christ began to open my heart and fill my spirit.*

ALTHOUGH THIS BOOK IS NOT about me, I was convinced by others close to me that it would be helpful if you knew a bit about me and why I feel an obligation to write this book—for all those who are suffering worldwide because of their beliefs.

I was born in Cairo, Egypt, into a prominent Muslim family of lawyers; and following in the footsteps of my father and uncles, I chose to become a lawyer as well.

But through the witness of my best friend, Tamir, I experienced the love of Christ and gave my life and service to the Lord. I began a ministry in Egypt to bring the Christian community all of the same legal rights that the Muslim community had always enjoyed. In just two years, the ministry grew to include 24,000

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Christians. Although it is illegal to build churches, the ministry built two churches inside the nearby mountains; also, a Bible school and a medical clinic were built to tend to the spiritual and physical needs of the oppressed Christians. I also established a newspaper in which I regularly requested from the Egyptian government the same equal rights for the Christian community.

The Egyptian government did not tolerate my outspokenness and work on behalf of the Christians; and after the second church was built, at the age of 21, I was arrested and sent to Abu Zaabel prison—a place I can best describe as hell on earth—in Cairo, Egypt’s capital city.

During my time in prison, I suffered severe torture from guards who always wore masks and referred to each other by numbers rather than names. As mentioned in the article quoted in the Preface, for seven days in the underground prison I experienced everything from being stripped naked and remaining that way day after day to having my head shaved and having steaming hot and then bitter cold water poured over me. My toenail was torn out causing excruciating pain, and I was hung upside down and burned over and over again with hot, lit cigarettes.

However, in the midst of the pain and darkness, when all I could smell and taste was sweat and blood, I experienced a miracle! When three large, vicious guard dogs were commanded to attack me, they went silent and didn’t lunge toward me with their sharp and bared teeth. I praised God for this miracle and thanked Him for His mercy.

During the last two and a half days in the torture chamber, I was “crucified”—my hands and feet tied tightly to a wooden cross. With a long, curved, sharp knife, my bare back was sliced open in several places. Then a mixture of salt and lemon was poured into the open, bleeding wounds. The pain was excruciating; I wished to die.

Passing out from the unbearable pain, I woke up in a hospital and eventually escaped through a whirlwind journey, fleeing to Israel, where I was jailed for over a year because the Israeli government did not know what to do with me under the circumstances. Legally I could not stay in Israel, but if I was sent back to Egypt, I would have been executed—this I knew for certain.

All of the cruel torture and subsequent death sentence was because I wouldn't reveal the names of other Christians—all because of my new faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.



Through the intervention of Amnesty International, the United Nations, and the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, I eventually obtained political asylum in Canada and became a citizen in 2006.

I have visited and spoken in hundreds of churches and congregations in both Canada and the United States to bring awareness to Christians who may not know the barbaric reality of their brothers' and sisters' lives in other parts of the world. I have also been interviewed for magazine articles and on television and radio programs—both Christian and secular—all in an effort to aid those who are suffering, those who have no voice beyond their silent screams for help.

My passion is to alleviate the pain of all those being persecuted worldwide because of their religion. My story is not only a story of violence and persecution but a story of glory and victory. It's a story about fighting the darkness with the light of Christ.



The remainder of the book shares with you modern-day, real-life stories of people suffering for their beliefs. Also, there are histories and current events presented that highlight the intolerance and

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violence perpetrated against people worldwide in countries that ignore common human rights and decency. I must expose these acts against humanity in hopes of bringing awareness to these acts and encouraging and motivating others to do what they can to help.

At the beginning of each chapter, I continue my story of religious persecution and I conclude each chapter with Neha's story—the young Pakistani child who was violently raped because her father, her family, would not convert to Islam.



Work for Christians is hard to come by in Pakistan. Neha and her parents and siblings lived together in the countryside where the children played together. Neha's father finally found work on a farm and the family felt secure—until the landowner for whom he worked began to daily pressure him to convert to Islam. He firmly refused.

# ABOUT MAJED EL SHAFIE

Reverend Majed El Shafie, Founder and President of One Free World International (OFWI), was born in Egypt to a prominent Muslim family of judges and lawyers. He was detained and severely tortured by Egyptian authorities after he converted to Christianity and began advocating equal rights for Egyptian Christians. Sentenced to death, Rev. El Shafie fled Egypt by way of Israel and settled in Canada in 2002, establishing OFWI to share a message of freedom, hope, and tolerance for religious differences and to promote human rights in this area through advocacy and public education.

OFWI organizes conferences and other events which attract prominent Canadian politicians as keynote speakers. Through OFWI, Rev. El Shafie advocates on behalf of religious minorities globally, including Christians, Jews, China's Uyghur Muslims, Bahá'ís, Ahmadiyya Muslims, and Falun Gong, among others, and he has met with political and religious leaders in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Cuba, Israel, and Iraq to address minority rights. He is frequently called on to provide expert testimony in refugee and protection proceedings in Canada and the United States and has testified three times before the Sub-Committee on International Human Rights of the Canadian parliament's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development as well as the Canadian Parliamentary Coalition to Combat

Antisemitism's inquiry into antisemitism in Canada. OFWI's other activities include assisting disadvantaged communities in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia with humanitarian aid and by helping them to build schools, hospitals, and orphanages.

More information is available through:

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Rev. El Shafie's work has been featured in many leading North American news media, including magazines, newspapers, radio, and television, and has recently been the subject of a feature-length documentary. Some of the Canadian national media to cover his work since 2005 include the Whistleblower Report of CTV National News, CTV's W5 newsmagazine, Canada AM, CBC television and radio news, and The Source. In print his work has been covered in the National Post, the Globe and Mail, the Ottawa Citizen, the Toronto Star, and the Toronto Sun, among others.

**One Free World International**

You can join One Free World International's alert network by visiting our website at [www.onefreeworldinternational.org](http://www.onefreeworldinternational.org) or by sending an email to [info@onefreeworldinternational.org](mailto:info@onefreeworldinternational.org). You can also like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).

com/OneFreeWorldInternational or follow us on Twitter at @MajedElShafie.

The work of One Free World International is wholly supported through the voluntary donations of our friends and members. These donations are not tax deductible because we choose to pursue the dream free of the legal restrictions placed on charities.

U.S. residents wishing to make a significant donation and requiring a tax receipt can contact us at [info@onefreeworldinternational.org](mailto:info@onefreeworldinternational.org) for information on how to donate.

If you would like to share in the dream in this manner, you may send your contribution to:

**One Free World International**

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M4W 3T3

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## IN THE RIGHT HANDS, THIS BOOK WILL CHANGE LIVES!

Most of the people who need this message will not be looking for this book. To change their lives, you need to put a copy of this book in their hands.

*But others (seeds) fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some a hundred-fold, some sixty-fold, some thirty-fold (Matthew 13:8).*

Our ministry is constantly seeking methods to find the good ground, the people who need this anointed message to change their lives. Will you help us reach these people?

*Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop (2 Corinthians 9:6).*

**EXTEND THIS MINISTRY BY SOWING  
3 BOOKS, 5 BOOKS, 10 BOOKS, OR MORE TODAY,  
AND BECOME A LIFE CHANGER!**

Thank you,



Don Nori Sr., Founder  
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This is the *true story* of one man's continuing fight for a world free of religious persecution.

"I am pleased to commend *Freedom Fighter* and the work of all who continue to fight for justice for the oppressed."

— The Honourable Jason Kenney  
Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism

MAJED EL SHAFIE was arrested, tortured, and sentenced to die after he converted from Islam to Christianity. His dramatic story, and those of others worldwide who are suffering persecution, are told in shocking, yet sensitive detail. Especially startling is the true story of rescuing a very young Pakistani girl who experienced horrific sexual abuse—because her family would not convert to Islam.

Although hard to imagine and even harder to accept, this important truth about religious persecution is blatantly exposed. Millions of families are praying for help. They are suffering daily in China, Iran, Iraq, Egypt, and many other countries—solely because of their beliefs.

*Freedom Fighter* is Reverend El Shafie's outreach—it follows his heroic work over a four-year period as he traveled to Pakistan and Afghanistan to investigate claims of abuse, persecution, and slavery and to speak truth to governments that neglect and violate the human rights of their citizens.



**MAJED EL SHAFIE** was born in Egypt to a prominent Muslim family of judges and lawyers. After his conversion to Christianity, he experienced torture and a death sentence, prompting him to establish One Free World International, a human rights organization committed to religious freedom. Reverend El Shafie lives in Canada and continually pressures governments and challenges spiritual leaders on behalf of persecuted people worldwide. Please visit [www.onefreeworldinternational.org](http://www.onefreeworldinternational.org).

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