

# Urgent prayer need! Imprisoned missionaries in Senegal - religious oppression

**Rev. Bill & Aletha Green**  
**Missionaries - Costa Rica**



*Presbyterian church leaders in Brazil  
kneel to pray for imprisoned missionaries*

Aletha and I are in São Paulo, Brazil, at the annual business meeting of the Brazilian Presbyterian Church (IPB), with about 130 church leaders present representing 78 synods and many agencies. It is an impressive model of organization and work accomplished. The IPB continues to grow at a rate of over 4% annually, and presently totals over 1.2 million members. As we are participating in the meetings of reports and coordination, we can see why the Lord is blessing this church. There is a fervor for evangelism and missions, excellent organization throughout all Brazil, prayers lifted up with an urgency that God does not despise, and the use of the latest technology to promote the Gospel. Indeed, it is an edifying experience for us!

However, one announcement from the Missions Agency saddened our hearts, and we want to pass along an urgent prayer request.

José Dilson is a missionary from the Presbyterian Church of Brasil, and has worked in Senegal for many years with abandoned children on the street in a

ministry that involves 7 Brazilian missionary families, as well as other missionaries from other denominations. The ministry involves attending to physical and spiritual needs of hundreds of children. **Four months ago the muslim controlled majority government imprisoned Jose Dilson and another female missionary, Ms. Seneida, for "disturbing the peace".** All attempts possible have been made to free them to



no avail. The Brazilian Consulate has intervened, as well as church functionaries. Lawyers have been hired. But so far there has been no indication that they will be released. Apparently the final decision can take up to six months.

The wife of Jose Dilson has moved into a rented house close to the prison to help attend her husband's needs. The Brazilian Presbyterian church has made extra funds available for the family in this crisis.

Not only is the future of these missionaries in the balance, but the entire missionary project with the street children. If the judge condemns Dilson, then all the missionaries will be automatically "illegal", and also in peril. Furthermore, the good work that they have been doing will be closed.

PLEASE PRAY FOR JOSE DILSON, FOR MS. SENEIDA, AND FOR THE FAMILIES AND MINISTRY IN SENEGAL. PRAY FOR LIBERATION FROM PRISON, AND THAT GOD PROTECT THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IN THIS COUNTRY.

May God bless each one!

Rev. Bill & Aletha Green