



# IRTC

INTERNATIONAL REFORMED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

## Mozambique in Crisis: A Call to Prayer

*The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. — Psalm 9:9*

Since the general elections in October 2024, Mozambique has been engulfed in political turmoil, marked by allegations of fraud, violent crackdowns, and severe disruptions to daily life. The ruling party, FRELIMO, claimed a sweeping victory, but opposition groups and international observers have pointed to widespread irregularities. This has sparked nationwide protests, escalating into deadly confrontations between demonstrators and government forces.

Tragically, reports indicate that dozens of lives have been lost, including children, as security forces attempt to suppress dissent. Adding to the strain, authorities imposed internet shutdowns, lasting over 17 hours in some instances, aiming to restrict the flow of information and prevent further organization of protests. These actions have left citizens, businesses, churches and students struggling to adapt to a climate of uncertainty and fear.

We have received firsthand accounts from students and members of the IRTC community in Mozambique. To protect everyone involved, the students' names have been kept anonymous. Their testimonies shed light on the challenges they face and provide a poignant call to prayer.

### Voices from the Ground

One student described the profound disruptions to daily life:

*"The political polarization after the 2024 elections is creating a climate of uncertainty, with disputes and protests leading to the deaths of demonstrators and looting of goods in some commercial establishments. Additionally, there was an internet blockade that lasted more than 17 hours. The impact of the lack of internet access was immediate and profound. Most of the study content and interaction with colleagues and professors were compromised. Amid all this, our faith remains anchored in God, and we pray for the safety of our families. Beyond that, we pray for electoral justice, reconciliation, peace, and above all, we pray that every Mozambican may be conformed to the image and likeness of our Lord Jesus Christ."*



Another student highlighted the constant fear and instability:

*"In fact, it is a challenging time, especially for those of us with families, because you fear both the police, who should provide security, and the people around you. We have experienced and seen the Lord as our refuge and strength. Each day, we wake not knowing what will come next—whether the shops will be closed or the internet will be cut. But through it all, God has been good and has granted us peace."*

For some, the crisis has forced extreme measures:

*"With this political instability, we had to leave the country for a time. By the grace of God, we have returned, but catching up with church responsibilities and life in general has not been easy. Still, I am determined to persevere and finish my studies, even amid these struggles."*

Another student expressed the burden of juggling personal and national crises:

*"The unpredictability of internet access has made everything difficult. Beyond that, managing a household with two small children during this unrest has added to the challenge. But I am committed to making up for lost time in my studies and pray that God continues to provide strength."*

Finally, one student shared a stark portrayal of the situation:

*"I don't know if you are aware, but here in my country, we are going through a critical moment. The party that has been in power for 50 years lost the elections and committed fraud to stay in power. This sparked popular outrage, leading to something like a civil war. Protests are happening across the country, and the government is using the police to kill civilians. They even cut off the internet to hide the massacre. Please pray for us—we don't know what tomorrow holds, but we trust in the Lord."*

### Prayer Requests

In light of these circumstances, we encourage the IRTC community to unite in prayer for Mozambique, focusing on the following areas:

**God's Will and Righteousness:** Pray that God's will would be done in Mozambique, and that His righteousness would prevail over injustice, corruption, and oppression.

**Peace and Stability:** Pray for an end to violence and unrest, and for the establishment of lasting peace and stability in the nation.

**Leadership:** Pray for wisdom, integrity, and courage for Mozambique's leaders. Ask that God would raise up leaders who will seek justice, truth, and the good of all people.

**Protection:** Seek God's protection for all citizens, especially the vulnerable, including children and families, who are caught in the conflict.

**Unity, Healing and Salvation:** Pray for unity and reconciliation in Mozambique's communities and churches. Ask God to heal divisions and use this time to bring many into His Kingdom, making the Church a beacon of hope and salvation during this crisis.

**Restoration of Services:** Ask for the swift restoration of essential services, such as internet access, to enable students and professionals to resume their educational and work activities without hindrance.

As we intercede for Mozambique, let us remember that prayer is both a means by which God fulfills His purposes and a way to express our trust in His sovereignty. May God, in His perfect wisdom and timing, bring justice, peace, and healing to this nation, for His glory and the good of His people.

# MAKE AN IMPACT

### Did you know:

Over **77 million Portuguese speakers** live across the African continent. Many of them hunger for deep, biblical training, but financial challenges often stand in the way. The IRTC is committed to making theological education accessible by offering reduced tuition fees for students in Africa.

This means **your scholarship donations can empower twice as many students** to receive quality theological training! Join us in equipping the next generation of Christian leaders in Africa. Donate today using the methods below and be a part of this mission.



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