

Sectarian violence escalating in Egypt

Authorities are appealing for calm after clashes between Coptic Christians and security forces erupted into full-scale riots. Tensions have risen in recent months, with the Copts accusing the governing military council of being too lenient on the perpetrators of a string of anti-Christian attacks

Oct 9, Cairo: 24 killed as violence breaks out after thousands protest against Marinab church attack



Sep 30, Marinab: Church reportedly set alight after incitement by Muslim preacher

RECENT RELIGIOUS UNREST

■ **May 8:** 12 people killed in sectarian clashes after two churches set ablaze in Cairo

■ **Mar 9:** 13 people die in clashes between Muslims and Copts in Cairo after protest against burning of church

■ **Jan 1:** Car bomb attack on church in Alexandria kills at least 21 people

■ **Nov 24, 2010:** Two Christians die in clashes with police over decision to halt construction of church in Cairo

■ **Nov 1:** Al Qaeda-linked *Islamic State of Iraq* threatens attacks on Egyptian church over alleged incarceration of two Coptic women who converted to Islam

■ **Jan 6:** Six Copts and Muslim security guard killed in drive-by shooting on eve of Coptic Christmas outside church in Nagaa Hamady