

## Today's Martyrs – July 2012

Sunday July 1, 2012



### **Vietnam: Yen Khe village, Con Cuong district, Nghe An province**

Maria Ngo Thi Thanh (hospitalized with a skull fracture after the attack on the Mass presided over by Fr John Baptist Nguyen Dinh Thuc)

Fr John Baptist Nguyen Dinh Thuc (Mass attacked by a mob likely sent by provincial authorities, physically hit, 20 parishioners and 2 nuns beaten)



### **India: Vijayapura, Karnataka state**

Rev Kantharaj Hanumanthappa (prayer service in his home interrupted by 20 Hindu activists)



### **Kenya: Garissa**

Daniel Muge (shot twice by suspected al-Shabaab militants, underwent six hours of cardiothoracic surgery in Nairobi, is expected to recover)

Francis Omondi (arranged for the transfer of Daniel Muge to Nairobi for surgery)

Pastor Ibrahim Magunyi (described coordinated small arms and grenade attacks on two churches that left 17 dead and 'many' injured)

Bishop Paul Darmanin (described Sunday's attack: "around 10:30 am, local time, two hand grenades were thrown at the church of Our Lady of Consolation, only one exploded just in front of the building, not inside, causing some slight injuries. At the African Inland Church the attack was terrible. The assailants, after killing two soldiers who stood guard at the place of worship, threw some hand grenades into the building where the faithful gathered for church service. The aim was to make them escape outside, where they were hit with the AK-47s taken from the soldiers. It was a well organized attack in which at least 16 people died and several were seriously wounded." - the toll is now 17 dead, including 3 children, and over 75 wounded)

**Monday July 2, 2012**



**China: Urumqi, Sha district, Xinjiang region**

Bao Ling (house church Sunday school teacher, rounded up by police along with 70 children, still being held)

Lu Xia (house church Sunday school teacher, rounded up by police along with 70 children, still being held)

Luo Qinqin (house church Sunday school teacher, rounded up by police along with 70 children, still being held)

Wang Xingxing (house church Sunday school teacher, rounded up by police along with 70 children, still being held)



**Kenya: Nairobi**

Cardinal John Njue (condemned the Sunday [July 1, 2012](#) Islamist attack on two churches in Garissa)

**Tuesday July 3, 2012**



**Philippines: St Domingo village, Angeles City, Pampanga province, Luzon**

Wilhelm Geertman (Dutch NGO worker and missionary, **shot dead** in front of his office)



**Uzbekistan: Shahrizabz city, Kashkadarya region**

**Christians fined after a police raid on an unregistered church**

Farhod Kosimov (fined 40 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Gavkhar Kholikova (fined 30 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Ibrahim Khomidov (fined 40 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Khomid Rahmonov (fined 40 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Mukhabbat Ahmedova (fined 30 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Rafik Murodov (fined 30 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Utkir Choriyev (fined 40 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Vakhop Babayev (fined 40 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Valizhon Boboyev (fined 40 times the minimum monthly wage)  
Ziyadulla Rahmonov (fined 40 times the minimum monthly wage)  
[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1746](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1746)



**Iran: Tehran**

Farshid Malayeri Fathi (in jail since [December 2010](#); sentenced to six years imprisonment for "being the chief agent of foreign organizations in Iran and of administrating funds for foreign organizations."; **UPDATE**: sentence upheld on appeal)

**Wednesday July 4, 2012**



**Vietnam: Yen Khe village, Con Cuong district, Nghe An province**

Maria Ngo Thi Thanh (hospitalized with a skull fracture after the attack on the [July 1, 2012](#) Mass; **UPDATE**: remains in critical condition)



**China: Harbin**

Fr Giuseppe Zhao Hongchun ("invited" to a meal with the government's religious affairs department, he then called his parish assistant priest to say that "the talk would take several days" - his whereabouts are now unknown - he had previously asked his

parishioners to pray for Fr Yue Fusheng, who is scheduled for episcopal ordination on July 6, 2012 in the Open church without Vatican approval)

Bishop Wei Jingyi



### **Pakistan: Islamabad**

Fr Rehmat Hakim Michael (has been accused of leading a "gang" which in 2001 kidnapped and killed Afghan refugees after they refused to convert to Christianity - the most likely reason for the filing of the police report is Fr Rehmat's efforts to obtain the return of two church properties that have been occupied by a powerful family since 1999)

### **Pakistan: Bahawalpur, Punjab state**

Bishop Andrew Francis (**UPDATE:** condemned the lynching of a mentally ill young Muslim accused of Quran desecration, who was dragged from a police station by a mob summoned by mosque loudspeakers and set afire: ""We condemn the unspeakable and macabre gesture, like all forms of brutal violence. I am ashamed to think that it happened in my diocese. As a local Church let us continue to pay close attention and follow the story and its implications, with prudence and with prayer")

Bishop Rufin Anthony (**UPDATE:** stated "We strongly condemn the attack on the police station and the loss of a human life. The law enforcing agencies must act and ensure the rule of law. Taking the law into their hands is against the law. It is time for some changes in the legislation that will protect innocent lives and ensure the safety of the people accused and under trial. How much more blood do we have to endure for the authorities to realize that it is time to act. We don't want incidents like Shanti Nagar, Kasoor, Sialkot, and Gojra to be repeated. We urge them to take this as an eye opener and rescue the suffering.")

Father Zafar Samuel (commented on the lynching of a mentally ill young Muslim accused of Quran desecration: "This is a sad incident, we condemn it. This is an inhuman act. It must be condemned. The Punjab province has been in the limelight for the abuse of the blasphemy law. There is a strong need to spread awareness regarding blasphemy and laws associated with it. These naive people have no idea what it is all about.")



### **Algeria**

Mohamed Ibaouene (aged 36, convicted in absentia in [Tigzirt](#) court of pressuring a Muslim in [Tindouf](#) to change his religion on [July 4 2012](#) - though his accuser was not present, sentenced to one year in prison and fined 50,000 dinars, not notified of his conviction)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/algeria-upholds-conviction-of-christian-convert-from-islam-prison-sentence-rescinded-fine-increased-90068/>

**Thursday July 5, 2012**



**Pakistan: Toba Tek Singh, Punjab state**

Ashfaq Fateh (**UPDATE**: protested the refusal of the state government to distribute scholarships to Christian students)

Ayoub Anjum (protested the refusal of the state government to distribute scholarships to Christian students)

Niamat George (protested the refusal of the state government to distribute scholarships to Christian students)

Sadaqat Sardar (protested the refusal of the state government to distribute scholarships to Christian students)

Fr Simon Khurshid (on the lack of scholarships for Christian students stated "The Church organized a team to motivate and encourage the bright students from rural and urban areas to apply for the scholarships but not a single bright student have been granted scholarship. This kind of response...has created disappointment among students. Poor students whose parents are trapped in the vicious circle of bonded labor managed with great difficulties to send their children to colleges/universities.")



**Azerbaijan: Gyanja**

Rashad Niftaliev (convicted on a charge of "failure to fulfill an official's order in connection with a court decision" for being unable to pay a massive fine for worship without state registration, released with a written warning)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1730](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1730)



**Syria: Homs**

Fr Michael Naaman (**UPDATE**: reports that efforts at 'reconciliation' are bearing fruit)



### **Nigeria: Kaduna**

Paul Aminu (football manager, stated: "I did not dare go to church last Sunday. I was too afraid of another attack. But as I drove to the gas station, I passed near a church. The youths of this church had mounted road blocks all around it, and were checking every vehicle very thoroughly, irrespective of who the driver was. Now, Christians and police are working side by side to guard the churches. Seeing this makes me feel safe enough to go back to mass this coming Sunday...They [Boko Haram] used to say they were fighting against the government, but lately they seem to want an Islamization of the entire country, and to do this they're trying to discourage us from going to worship. I think Christians have been really pushed against a wall with all these attacks...)

**Friday July 6, 2012**



### **China: Qiqihar, Harbin**

Fr Joseph Zhao Hongchun (**UPDATE**: released from detention)

Bishop Wei Jingyi (told by officials to not leave his home "at this time")

Fr Zhang Xisheng (released from detention)



### **Kyrgyzstan**

Aleksandr Shumilin (**UPDATE**: commented on the new Religion Law that requires all churches register with the government and that only congregations with at least 200 members may register: "Most communities cannot possibly register and function under the conditions stipulated by the Law")



### **Iran**

Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani (in prison under a death sentence for apostasy, has rejected an offer to be released from prison if he publicly acknowledges Islam's prophet Mohammed;  
**UPDATE:** is now scheduled for a new trial on September 6, 2012 on security charges, has written in his most recent letter: "I need to remind my beloveds, though my trial due has been so long, and as in the flesh I wish these days to end, yet I have surrendered myself to God's will.")



**United States – Arizona: Phoenix**

Michael Salman (given a three year suspended sentence - with 60 days to be served in jail and a \$12,180 fine - for 67 zoning violations related to a church he constructed and operated on his residential property)

**Saturday July 7, 2012**



**Pakistan: Kachhelo, Kot Ghulam Muhammad town, Umerkot district, Sindh state**

Shera Masih (**murdered** by his landlord)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3728>

**Pakistan: Toba Tek Singh, Punjab state**

Sikander Samuel (brother of Rev Victor Samuel, abducted along with his brother by eight armed men pretending to be police officers, released on the same day)

Rev Victor Samuel (disappeared in the 'custody' of eight armed men who pretended to be police officers, whereabouts unknown)



**Kenya: Game-Loitiki**

Imam Hussein (convert and refugee, stated "Pastors and Christians are very afraid. I know people, mainly Christian converts [from Islam], who had to leave their homes and their families because of pressures from these terrorists...")

Pastor Joseph Lokuruku (Evangelical Victory Church partially demolished by an armed mob)

email from International Christian Concern [www.persecution.org](http://www.persecution.org)



**Nigeria: Jos, Plateau state**

Mark Lipdo (Stefanos Foundation, **UPDATE**: described an attack by "hundreds" of Boko Haram insurgents on 13 villages which killed 52 Christians and wounded over 300 - the terrorists wore police uniforms, some with ballistic armor)

**Sunday July 8, 2012**



**China: Beijing**

Du Yiliang (husband of Guo Yanling)

Guo Yanling (subjected to a forced abortion, went into hiding for several years with her family, repeatedly forced to pay a fine for her second live child, finally fled to Thailand in August 2011, published her ordeal in support of other women in China)

Zhang Kai (now legally representing two couples, Deng Jiyuan and Feng Jianmei, and Wu Liangjie and his wife, in their desire for justice after their forced abortions)

**China: Shanghai**

Anthony Lam Sui-ki (condemned the disappearance of Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin)

Fr Joseph Gu Zhangjun (visibly upset over the disappearance of Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin)

Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin (**UPDATE**: ordained as bishop, then disappeared after stating in his first homily that he would resign from the state-sponsored church, reportedly is being held at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sheshan)



**Nepal: Nuwakot**

Pastor Chari Gahatraj (protested the widening of a road that threatened a church with landslides)

Pastor Govinda Khadga (protested the widening of a road that threatened a church with landslides)





**India: Bangalore, Karnataka state**

Archbishop Bernard Moras (**UPDATE**: accused the state government of illegally changing the definition of a minority school to "persecute, intimidate and harass" the Christian schools)

**India**

Pastor Samuel Ramachandran (commented on the anti-Christian riot on [June 23, 2012](#) in [Vanagiri Menavar village, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu state](#))



**Pakistan: Kot Ghulam Muhammad town, Sindh state**

Asif aka Shera Masih (aged 26, tied to and dragged by his landlord's jeep, then **shot dead**)



**Sudan**

Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul (commented in [Juba, South Sudan](#) in a joint statement on the destruction of churches in Sudan: "We are particularly saddened by the attacks on the evangelical Presbyterian church complex, for the demolition of the Episcopal church of the parish of St. John in Hai Baraka in Khartoum, for the destruction of the structures of the Episcopal Church of Sudan and the Catholic school of the Comboni Kadugli, for the confiscation of Catholic schools in Khartoum and Omdurman, the closure of the offices of the Sudan Council of Churches and Sudanaid in Nyala, Darfur, and for the attacks against unarmed civilians in other parts of Sudan")

Archbishop Paulino Lukudu Loro (**UPDATE**: commented in [Juba, South Sudan](#) in a joint statement on the destruction of churches in Sudan: "We are saddened by the developments in the Republic of Sudan, which appear to threaten the ethnic, religious and cultural diversity.")



**Nigeria: Plateau state**

Dr Gyang Dantong (Federal Senator, **killed** in a Muslim insurgent attack on a funeral for victims of the [July 7 2012 Jos attack](#))

Gyang Fulani (state assembly leader, **killed** in a Muslim insurgent attack on a funeral for victims of the [July 7 2012 Jos attack](#))

**Monday July 9, 2012**



**Uzbekistan: Navoi**

Roman Nizamutdinov (fined US\$1,300 for illegally storing religious books in his home)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1729](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1729)



**Syria: Homs**

Fr Michel Naaman (**UPDATE**: has managed - along with others - to persuade 300 young anti-government fighters to surrender with guarantees of safety)



**Nigeria: Jos, Plateau state**

Daniel Dem (state assemblyman; **UPDATE**: stated “I can authoritatively confirm to you that as I am talking to you now, the same gunmen from top of the mountain have attacked two more villages...The two villages, Tse and Shong, have been reduced to rubble, with no house standing. Forty-five houses were burnt. The gunmen came in their usual style, with sporadic shooting. The villagers were scared and they ran out of their houses. The gunmen set the houses ablaze and the residents have added up to the number of displaced people in the area...Because, as I am talking to you now, those 140 bodies are still lying there without burial; we are still afraid of going back there”)

**Tuesday July 10, 2012**



### **Turkmenistan: Dashoguz**

Jamshid Kurbanov (sentenced to a 2 year suspended sentence and fined 20 percent of his income for refusing military service)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1733](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1733)

**Wednesday July 11, 2012**



### **China: Hong Kong**

Cardinal Emeritus Joseph Zen (**UPDATE**: led demonstrators in a protest against the continued confinement of newly ordained bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin in Sheshan)

**Thursday July 12, 2012**



### **Pakistan: Choki Dina Nath Chak No 66, Tehsil Pattoki, Kasur district, Punjab state**

Ashiq Masih (along with Kushi Masih inherited 40 acres of farmland, refused to sell to local Muslims, who responded by bribing the police to beat female members of the family)

Kushi Masih (along with Ashiq Masih inherited 40 acres of farmland, refused to sell to local Muslims, who responded by bribing the police to beat female members of the family)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3643>



### **Uzbekistan**

Tereza Rusanova (**UPDATE**: fined US\$980 for not possessing a required exit visa to visit Turkey)

**Friday July 13, 2012**



**China: Chengguan, Baihe county, Shaanxi province**

Xia Changzhi (five boxes of Bibles seized from home)



**Pakistan: Sindh state**

Saleem Khursheed Khokhar (**UPDATE:** condemned the murder of Shera Masih by his employer, and stated that he will raise the lack of police action on the floor of the provincial assembly despite the recent increase in death threats against him)



**Syria: Damascus**

Fr Romualdo Fernandez OFM (**UPDATE:** stated after mention of recent massacres that "we are next to the population who is suffering, Christians and Muslims, and will never leave this country. We will stay in Syria, at the service of the Gospel.")



**United States – Texas: Houston**

Julie Aftab (aged 26, accounting student, suffered an acid attack in Pakistan ten years ago by two men angered when she acknowledged she was a Christian, parents home was burned down after the attack, came to the U.S. for a total of 31 surgeries after most local hospitals refused to treat her because of her faith, now says that she wants to become a pastor and that "Those people, they think they did a bad thing to me, but they brought me closer to God")

**Saturday July 14, 2012**



**India: Patli Dabar village, Haryana state**

Pastor Aliyakim Jena (complained about the demolition of a church)

Jitender (convert, complained about the demolition of a church)



**Pakistan: Karachi**

Nazir Bhatti (**UPDATE**: called for the issuance of a presidential pardon for Asia Bibi's conviction on blasphemy due to her deteriorating condition)



**Iraq: Al Dura, Bagdad**

Selwan Adeeb Dawood (**killed**)

<http://indefenseofchristians.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Genocide-report.pdf>

**Sunday July 15, 2012**



**Philippines: Tumahubong village, Basilan province**

Fr Elmer Cantular (narrowly missed an ambush by suspected Abu Sayyaf militants)

John Luis Guades (theology student, narrowly missed an ambush by suspected Abu Sayyaf militants)

Fr Julius Boado (narrowly missed an ambush by suspected Abu Sayyaf militants)

Bishop Martin Jumoad (reported on the attempted ambush by suspected Abu Sayyaf militants)



**India: Sainagara village, Hubil district, Karnataka state**

Pastor Nathaniel Shubas (beaten by Hindu activists and then arrested for "forcibly and fraudulently" converting people to Christianity)

Siddamma (home invaded by 20 Hindu activists during a prayer meeting led by Pastor Nathaniel Shubas)



**Egypt: Cairo**

Naguib Sawiris (**UPDATE**: refused to meet jointly with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Islamist leaders due to alleged recent U.S. support for Islamists over other parties in Egyptian politics)

Bishop Morcos (refused to meet jointly with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Islamist leaders due to alleged recent U.S. support for Islamists over other parties in Egyptian politics)

Safwat al Bayadi (Evangelical church leader, refused to meet jointly with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Islamist leaders due to alleged recent U.S. support for Islamists over other parties in Egyptian politics)

Yousef Sidhom (**UPDATE**: stated "There is a Brotherhood [political] strategy to work toward building an Islamic country")

**Monday July 16, 2012**



**China: Shanghai**

Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin (**UPDATE**: is still being held at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sheshan, has restarted his blog with poems citing loneliness from Fr Wu Yushan SJ, aka Wu Li [1632-1718], one of China's first native Catholic priests)

**China: Chengguan, Baihe county, Shaanxi province**

Xia Changzhi (five boxes of Bibles seized from home on [July 13, 2015](#), **UPDATE**: threatened with further questioning by police)



**India: Pimpri Liasina, Yavatmal district, Maharashtra state**

Nitin Sardar (described an attack by 20 men on the dormitory of an English-language school allegedly for converting children of the Pardhi tribe, who have long faced discrimination, to Christianity)



**Iran: Ahwaz**

Noorullah Ghobayti (in jail since [December 2010](#); **UPDATE**: released from prison)



**Palestine: Gaza**

Hiba Abu Dawoud (reportedly forced to convert to Islam)

Huda Al-Amash (mother of Ramez Al-Amash, said "If things remain like this, there'll be no Christians left...Today it's Ramez. Then who, and who will be next?...People are locking up their sons and daughters")

Ramez Al-Amash (reportedly forced to convert to Islam)

**Tuesday July 17, 2012**



**China: Hong Kong**

Patrick Poon (**UPDATE**: organized a Rosary prayer vigil for the benefit of detained Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin that was attended by over 300 worshippers and a Special Mass attended by over 1000)



**Iran: Tehran**

Pastor Behnam Irani (**UPDATE**: hospitalized after losing consciousness from internal bleeding after being beaten by fellow inmates)



**Syria: Damascus**

Archbishop Samir Nassar (**UPDATE**: commented on the increasing number of abductions of Christians)

**Wednesday July 18, 2012**



**China: Hong Kong**

Cardinal John Tong Hon (criticized the Chinese government for interfering with Church affairs due to its detainment of newly ordained Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin)



**Azerbaijan: Gyanja**

Asim Mammadov (convicted on a charge of "failure to fulfill an official's order in connection with a court decision" for being unable to pay a massive fine for worship without state registration, sentenced to three days' imprisonment, released)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1730](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1730)



**Egypt: Aswan**



Magdi Habib Yacoub (cardiothoracic surgeon and founder of a children's clinic which is under pressure by Islamists to close due to his religion)

**Thursday July 19, 2012**



**Iraq: Kirkuk**

Samy Aziz Aazar (**killed**)

<http://indefenseofchristians.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Genocide-report.pdf>



**Turkey: Tur Abdin**

Kuryakos Ergun (member of the Mor Gabriel Monastery, which is under threat from a government lawsuit)



**Italy: Rome**

Benjamin Harnwell (speaking at the 'Save the Christians' rally, which drew only 300 persons:

"[The saints] are great when they're dead because we can say nice things about them, but when they're being persecuted in our time, we don't want to know.")

Gianni Alemanno (Mayor of Rome, stated at the 'Save the Christians' rally that people need to stop treating religious freedom as of less importance than political freedom)

Magdi Cristiano Allam (convert from Islam, television commentator, called on governments to grant Christians refugee status in cases of persecution at the 'Save the Christians' rally)

Roberto de Mattei (spoke at the 'Save the Christians' rally in favor of the beatification of Shahbaz Bhatti)

**Friday July 20, 2012**



## Syria

Archbishop Samir Nassar (**UPDATE**: stated that "Since Tuesday fighting has been raging in Damascus with heavy weapons, tanks and helicopters, in a city full of civilians. The destruction is enormous...we are short of bread, vegetables, cooking gas and fuel for the furnaces. The population is terrified and does not know where to take shelter")

**Saturday July 21, 2012**



## Nepal: Kathmandu

Sister Brigid Ann (convent superior, stated that her sisters had only two days' notice of the demolition of their convent chapel and the playroom of their 30 orphans for a traffic project, and that their order must pay to repair any other damage)

Rajan Rai (protested the demolition of the largest and oldest Protestant church for a traffic project)

**Sunday July 22, 2012**



## China: Hotan, Xinjiang

Zhang Kai (human rights lawyer; **UPDATE**: has been working with local authorities in defense of Pastor Zhong Shuguang's March 2012 arrest)

Pastor Zhong Shuguang (detained for 15 days in [March-April 2012](#) for leading an "illegal" church service; **UPDATE**: arrested and released along with his wife and 17 other Christians after attorney Zhang Kai returned to Beijing, church books confiscated)



## Cuba

Harold Cepero Escalante (**died in a car accident under suspicious circumstances** along with Oswaldo Paya Sardinias)

Oswaldo Paya Sardinias (founder of the Christian Liberation Movement, **died in a car accident under suspicious circumstances** along with Harold Cepero Escalante)

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/heartbreak-in-havana/>

**Monday July 23, 2012**



## Pakistan: Rawalpindi

Zafar Bhatti (aged 42, unemployed due to health reasons, illiterate, arrested on blasphemy charges for allegedly sending 3 blasphemous text messages to extremist Islamic cleric Molvi Abrar Ahmed)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3650>



## Turkmenistan: Ashgabad

Juma Nazarov (arrested on [May 8, 2012](#) for refusing military service: **UPDATE**: sentenced to 18 months imprisonment)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1761](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1761)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1733](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1733)



## Azerbaijan: Lokbatan

Amid Zohrabov (conscripted into the army despite being a conscientious objector)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1730](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1730)



**Syria: Bab Touma suburb, Damascus**

George Zoreb (son of Nabil Zoreb, **shot dead** by members of The Brigade of Islam)

Jimmy Zoreb (son of Nabil Zoreb, **shot dead** by members of The Brigade of Islam)

Nabil Zoreb (**shot dead** by members of The Brigade of Islam)

Violet Zoreb (wife of Nabil Zoreb, **shot dead** by members of The Brigade of Islam)

**Syria: Aleppo**

Bishop Antoine Audo SJ (**UPDATE**: stated "What we need is your prayers for all of us. This is a very dangerous time. People are very fearful.")



**France**

Mohammed Christophe Bilek (has publicized his conversion from Islam, stated "Leaving Islam is dangerous. It is done at the risk of one's life...Jesus has come to save all men, Muslims included.")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/A-Muslim-convert-talks-about-Christ-25395.html>

**Tuesday July 24, 2012**



**China: Sandaoba, Urumqi, Midong District, Xinjiang region**

Bao Yun (house church Sunday school teacher, detained along with 28 children who were later released, still in custody)

Chen (husband of Bao Yun, detained during Sunday school raid, interrogated and released, returned home to find valuables taken and electricity off)

Luo Qinqin (house church Sunday school teacher, **UPDATE**: detained along with 28 children who were later released, still in custody)

Wang Xinxin (house church Sunday school teacher, **UPDATE**: detained along with 28 children who were later released, still in custody)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/07/two-house-churches-in-xinjiang.html>



### **India: Bongaigaon, Chirang and Kokrajhar districts, Assam state**

Bishop Thomas Pulloppillil (called for an end to Tribal-Muslim violence: "Many Catholics in my diocese are in the middle of the mayhem")



### **Syria: Aleppo**

Fr George Abu Hazen, OFM (stated ""We hear gunshots. The streets are empty and among the population in the city there is great concern and tension. Many people have not gone to work today. In suburb districts, where clashes are in progress, people are fleeing to seek refuge elsewhere")



### **Lebanon: Beirut**

Fr Simon Faddoul (President of Caritas Lebanon, stated "The situation in the refugee camps on the border with Syria, is terrible and getting worse day by day. Thousands of refugees are crossing the border trying to escape from the Syrian hell. Most are women and children. The suffering of these people is enormous, wherever you go you hear cries of despair, hatred, revenge, many feel abandoned by God", most of the 47,000 refugees are Sunni Muslim - only 5% are Christian)

**Wednesday July 25, 2012**



### **Uzbekistan: Tashkent**

Yelena Tsyngalova (Russian citizen, convicted of "Illegal production, storage, or import into Uzbekistan with a purpose to distribute or distribution of religious materials by physical persons"; **UPDATE**: deported with her children, her mother Galina Poligenko-Aleshkina, a disabled pensioner, is now left to fend for herself)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1725](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1725)



### **Iran: Shiraz, Fars province**

Fariba Nazemian (convert, wife of Homayoon Shokoohi-Gholamzadeh, arrested during a home church meeting on [February 8, 2012](#), charged with “acts harmful to the Islamic Regime”; **UPDATE**: still in detention, is working long hours in the prison sewing workshop, health continues to be poor)

Helma ((aged 12, daughter of Fariba Nazemian and Homayoon Shokoohi-Gholamzadeh, spends her time with her brother)

Homayoon Shokoohi-Gholamzadeh (convert, arrested during a home church meeting on [February 8, 2012](#), charged with “acts harmful to the Islamic Regime”; **UPDATE**: still in detention)

Mohamad-Reza Partoei (convert, arrested on [February 8, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: still in detention)

Mojtaba Hosseini (convert, arrested at a house church along with up to nine others on [February 8, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: still in detention)

Nima (aged 17, son of Fariba Nazemian and Homayoon Shokoohi-Gholamzadeh, arrested with his parents on [February 8, 2012](#) but released after 36 days after posting bail of @ \$80,000, suspended from school, now working in a shoe shop as the primary support of his family, other local Christian converts are also assisting)

Vahid Hakkani (convert, arrested during a home church meeting on [February 8, 2012](#), charged with “acts harmful to the Islamic Regime”; **UPDATE**: still in detention)

[http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=5034:worrying-situation-of-detained-christian-couples-children-&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279](http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5034:worrying-situation-of-detained-christian-couples-children-&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279)



### **Lebanon: Qa**

Leila Khouri (mother of Rim Khouri, son-in-law, brother, and two nephews shot dead, fled from Syria, home destroyed by a rocket, stated "There were always Christians in Qusayr - there were around 10,000 before the war...Anyone who believes in this cross suffers")

Mansour Saad (mayor, is assisting Syrian refugees of all faiths)

Rim Khouri (daughter of Leila Khouri, fled from Syria, husband shot dead at a rebel checkpoint, stated "Last summer Salafists came to Qusayr, foreigners. They stirred the local rebels against us. They sermonized on Fridays in the mosques that it was a sacred duty to drive us away")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20120725184511.htm>

**Thursday July 26, 2012**



**Uzbekistan: Kuvasai city, Fergana region**

Viktor Kotov (fined five times the minimum monthly wage for singing Christian songs in his home)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1746](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1746)



**Russia: Chuvashia**

Aleksei Nikolaev (detained)

Andrei Martynov (detained)

Andrei Nikolaev (detained)

Igor Yefimov (detained)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1727](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1727)



**Ukraine: Kiev**

Patriarch Kirill aka Vladimir Mikhailovich Gundyayev (aged 65, Russian citizen, attacked at the airport by a half-naked FEMEN protestor who had the words 'Kill Kirill' on her back and shouted the words "Go to Hell" from the Rite of Exorcism at him)

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/07/26/patriarch-kirill-femen\\_n\\_1704921.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=world](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/07/26/patriarch-kirill-femen_n_1704921.html?utm_hp_ref=world)



**Egypt: Shubra el Khayma, Qaliubya province**

Dr Maher Ghaly (shot and blinded after he requested that Muslim neighbors cease disturbing sick persons and children in his house with Ramadan celebratory gunfire, no arrests made by police)

Mary Abdelmassih (reported on the attack on Dr Maher Ghalys and others)

Dr Naguib Gibrael (lawyer for the Coptic Church, **UPDATE:** stated "Since Morsi became President of Egypt, there is systematic persecution of the Copts...Displacement of Copts has become fashionable. Now any small melee between a Muslim and a Copt is used by Islamists, turning it into a sectarian incident, pushing for Coptic arrests, torching of their homes or enforced displacement, while not a single action is taken against the Muslim culprits.")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20120731192433.htm>



#### **Nigeria: Jos, Plateau state**

Rev Dachollom Datiri (**UPDATE:** eulogized Federal Senator Gyang Dantong, who was killed [July 8, 2012](#) in a Boko Haram attack on a funeral, for his financing of the construction of churches - one now burnt to the ground - and a hospital, and his continual work as a surgeon)

[http://www.compassdirect.org/english/country/nigeria/article\\_1642795.html](http://www.compassdirect.org/english/country/nigeria/article_1642795.html)

**Friday July 27, 2012**



#### **India: Tirumala, Andhra Pradesh state**

**Three Christians** reportedly arrested for missionary activity in a public area located near a Hindu temple

Eswaraiiah

Krishnamma

Yasodamma

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Andhra-Pradesh:-religious-freedom-can-be-violated-in-the-Tirumala-temple-area-25401.html>





### **Iran: Tehran**

Pastor Behnam Irani (**UPDATE**: has been again denied medical treatment for internal bleeding while in prison, those close to him fear he may have only weeks to live)

<http://dynamic.csw.org.uk/article.asp?t=press&id=1406&search=>



### **Russia: Chita**

Andrei Raitin (**UPDATE**: sentenced to 200 hours community service after conviction on extremism charges)

Lyutsiya Raitin (wife of Andrei Raitin, **UPDATE**: sentenced to 200 hours community service after conviction on extremism charges)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1727](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1727)



### **Egypt: Dahshur, near Cairo**

Samih Nasim (singled a Muslim man's shirt at his laundry, was attacked by the customer and defended himself, later defended his home when 20 men including the customer attacked it, then a mob of 2,000 attacked several Christian homes which were looted and set afire and their residents beaten)

<http://www.raymondibrahim.com/2012/07/egypt-christian-burns-muslim-shirt-muslims-burn>

**Saturday July 28, 2012**



### **Pakistan: Sheikhpura**

Nisar Masih (veterinary assistant, beaten by police for drinking water from a glass used by a Muslim, fears returning to work)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/discrimination-how-dare-you-drink-from-a-muslims-glass/#.UFw84o2PUf5>



**Palestine: Gaza**

Archbishop Alexios (is demanding that forced conversions to Islam cease)

Fatin Ayyad (aunt of Hiba Abu Dawoud, who allegedly converted to Islam on July 16, 2012 under duress)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/07/28/christians-say-forced-conversions-to-islam-in-gaza/>

**Sunday July 29, 2012**



**China: Zhifu village, Yihetala town, Kailu county, Inner Mongolia**

Gao Sheng (witnessed the beating and arrest of Pastor Jin Yongsheng)

Pastor Jin Yongsheng (beaten for providing public health information [blood pressure], arrested and fined)

Qi Dongmei (witnessed the beating and arrest of Pastor Jin Yongsheng)

Suo Shixia (witnessed the beating and arrest of Pastor Jin Yongsheng)

Wu Bin (witnessed the beating and arrest of Pastor Jin Yongsheng)

Zhang Ru (witnessed the beating and arrest of Pastor Jin Yongsheng)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/08/church-pastor-in-inner-mongolia-beaten.html>

**Monday July 30, 2012**



**Vietnam: Bac Lieu**

Fr Dinh Huu Thoai (is supporting the family of Maria Ta Phong Tan)

Maria Ta Phong Tan (aged 43, former policewoman, detained since [September 2011](#) after blogging against government corruption, mother committed suicide by self-immolation in protest)

<http://www.rfa.org/english/news/vietnam/selfimmolation-07302012130922.html>



**India: Karbi Anglong district, Assam state**

Ponnachan George (missionary, abducted by terrorists from his Bible school, held for seven days, released)

<http://in.christiantoday.com/articles/gfa-missionary-kidnapped-released/7505.htm>



**Pakistan: Karachi**

Anila (staff nurse at Civil Hospital, one of 11 nurses poisoned for drinking tea during Ramadan, in ICU in serious condition)

Rafia (staff nurse at Civil Hospital, one of 11 nurses poisoned for drinking tea during Ramadan, in ICU in serious condition)

Rita James (staff nurse at Civil Hospital, one of 11 nurses poisoned for drinking tea during Ramadan, in ICU on life saving equipment)

**Pakistan: Rawalpindi**

Morris Masih (has repeatedly asked the police to register a case against his daughter's abductors, but they have refused)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3656>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3659>



**Uzbekistan: Hazorasp district, Khorezm region**

Alisher Madaminov (fined one month's minimum wage for teaching religious education)

Kausar Islamova (fined half a month's minimum wage for teaching religious education)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1746](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1746)



### **Saudi Arabia: Al-Khobar**

Maryam (converted to Christianity, fled the country for Lebanon, two former male coworkers who inspired her conversion and helped her to flee the country were arrested and released on bail)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/07/30/saudi-christian-convert-criticizes-islam/>



### **Russia: Chuvashia**

Aleksei Nikolaev (detained on [July 26, 2012](#), **UPDATE**: released pending trial)

Andrei Martynov (detained on [July 26, 2012](#), **UPDATE**: released pending trial)

Andrei Nikolaev (detained on [July 26, 2012](#), **UPDATE**: being held pending trial)

Igor Yefimov (detained on [July 26, 2012](#), **UPDATE**: being held pending trial)

### **Russia: Yoshkar-Ola, Mari-El Republic**

Maksim Kalinin (**UPDATE**: acquitted on charges of extremism, acquittal being appealed by prosecutors)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1727](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1727)



### **Egypt: Sohag**

Bishoy Kamel (teacher, arrested for posting defamatory cartoons of Islam and Muhammad on his Facebook page, he claims the account was hacked)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/07/31/egyptian-teacher-arrested-for-offending-islam-on-facebook/>



### **Zambia: Lundazi**

Bishop George Cosmas Zumaire Lungu (protested the deportation of Fr Viateur Banyangandora)

Fr Viateur Banyangandora (deported for his homily in which he mentioned cotton prices)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32022&lan=eng>

**Tuesday July 31, 2012**



**Vietnam: Gia Lai**

Pastor Nguyen Cong Chinh (appellate court upheld his sentence of 11 years for "undermining unity")

<http://www.rfa.org/english/news/vietnam/pastor-07312012173537.html>



**China: Hotan, Xinjiang**

Pastor Zhong Shuguang (**UPDATE**: arrested with a female believer and charged with illegal gathering, could be held for 15 days)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/07/two-house-churches-in-xinjiang.html>



**Bhutan: Gelephu**

Pastor Pema Sherpa (beaten and threatened with death by a local government official, who had demanded he and three other pastors cease religious meetings in their homes)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/official-beats-christian-pastor-in-buddhist-bhutan-79204/>



**Pakistan: Karachi**

Fr Nasir William (commented on the poisoning of the 11 Christian nurses "This act reveals that our society lacks tolerance. [It is scandalous that] nurses who save the lives of the people are fighting for their own lives due to some ignorant person.")

Saleem Khursheed Khokhar (Provincial Assembly member, **UPDATE**: commented on the poisoning of the 11 Christian nurses "poisoning someone for eating in Ramadan is a barbaric act and must be condemned. There are many Muslims who do not fast during Ramadan. These nurses were poisoned for eating in their cafeteria, not in public")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/In-Karachi,-11nurses-drink-tea-laced-with-poison-during-Ramadan-25430.html>



**Egypt: Dahshur, near Cairo**

Samih Nasim aka Sameh Samy (singed a Muslim man's shirt at his laundry, was attacked by the customer and defended himself, later defended his home when 20 men including the customer attacked it, **UPDATE**: arrested along with his father and brother after one attacker [or bystander, accounts vary] died)

Fr Takla (described the events following Samih Nasim's laundry accident, including an attack on his church that was stopped by 500 moderate Muslim neighbors but which prompted 120 Christian families to flee)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20120731192433.htm>

**July 2012, date unknown**



**China: Feiyuan village, Houcun**

Wu Zukui (expelled from the Communist party for converting to Christianity)

**China: Qingshuihe, Huocheng county, Ili region, Xinjiang**

Pastor Lou Yuanqi (imprisoned five times, tortured in prison, suffers from chronic hepatitis B; **UPDATE**: has been hosting legal seminars for Christians in his house church)



**India: Basappakatte**

Pastor Mounesh (church attacked, Bibles destroyed and three parishioners injured)

**India: Romagonadanahalli, Karnataka state**

Bhagyamma (widow, beaten into unconsciousness by Hindu extremists at a prayer meeting led by Pastor Mounesh, clothes torn)

Gurumoorthy (beaten into unconsciousness by Hindu extremists at a prayer meeting led by Pastor Mounesh)

Hosuramma (beaten into unconsciousness by Hindu extremists at a prayer meeting led by Pastor Mounesh)

Pastor Mounesh (home church attacked, Bibles destroyed and three parishioners injured;  
**UPDATE:** has halted ministry in the area)

Pastor Paul Praveen (stated that Pastor Mounesh "has relocated to another area for safety measure")

[http://www.compassdirect.org/english/country/india/article\\_1650052.html](http://www.compassdirect.org/english/country/india/article_1650052.html)



#### **Pakistan: Hyderabad**

Jarnil Masih (**killed**)

Saddiq Masih (injured from gunfire)

Waseem George (injured from gunfire)

Yunis Masih (**killed**)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/mainpic.php?id=1582>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/mainpic.php?id=1583>



#### **Egypt: Dahshur, near Cairo**

Samaha (aged 70, home invaded and vandalized following anti-Christian rioting [after July 27, 2012](#), forced to sleep in a barn, taken in by a Muslim neighbor after finding all other Christians in the village had fled)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/cs-releases/765-samiha-dahshur-s-only-remaining-christian>



#### **Russia**

Alexey Komov (pro-life campaigner)

Dmitry Smirnov (pro-life campaigner)

Maxim Obukhov (pro-life campaigner)



### **Slovakia**

Anna Záborska (member European parliament, pro-life campaigner)



### **United States – Colorado: Denver**

Everett Stadig (aged 69, assaulted while collecting signatures for a pro-life petition, required surgery for a broken hip, the pro-choice assailant was later linked by DNA to three sexual assaults)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/assault-of-pro-life-advocate-leads-to-arrest-of-serial-rapist/>