

Today's Martyrs – August 2012

Wednesday August 1, 2012



China: Zhongxinbu hamlet, Shumugou village, Horqin Right Front Banner, Ulanhot city
Six Christians arrested for evangelization efforts

Chen Hong

Liu Di

Pan Wenwen

Ren Zhimin

Sun Yuefen

Yinhua

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/11/police-detain-nine-christians-send-one.html>



India: New Delhi

Alwan Masih (general secretary of the Church of North India stated "The very Constitution that must protect us appears to be against us")

Prof Mary John (chairman of the National Council of Dalit Christians NCDC, stated that the government promises to Christian Dalits were dishonest)

Archbishop Vincent Concessao (spoke against the discrimination against Christian and Muslim Dalits [untouchables])

<http://in.christiantoday.com/articles/dalit-christians-losing-patience-protest-demands-restoration-of-rights/7511.htm>



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

Allah Ditta Masih (father of Shera Masih, agreed to pardon his landlord for his son's murder after the landlord threatened to have another son killed)

Allah Ditta Masih (father of Shera Masih, agreed to pardon his landlord for his son's murder after the landlord threatened to have another son killed)

Asif aka Shera Masih (aged 26, on [July 7, 2012](#) was tied to and dragged by his landlord's jeep, then **shot dead** in Kot Ghulam Muhammad town, Sindh state; **UPDATE**: report issued on the incident by the Pakistan Minority Rights Commission in [Hyderabad](#))

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

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3663>

Pakistan: Rawalpindi

Zafar Bhatti (aged 42, unemployed due to health reasons, illiterate, arrested on blasphemy charges on [July 23, 2012](#) in [Rawalpindi](#) for allegedly sending 3 blasphemous text messages to extremist Islamic cleric Molvi Abrar Ahmed; **UPDATE**: defense investigation underway)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3662>



Syria: Damascus

Patriarch Gregorios III Laham (**UPDATE**: asked that Christians fast and pray during the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, which coincides with the end of Ramadan: "Together we shall be praying especially for the safety of all Syrians and for the cessation of the violence that sows fear in quiet districts and has caused the displacement and flight of thousands who have left their homes and properties")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Gregory-III-Laham:-Christians-and-Muslims-pray-and-fast-together-for-an-end-to-violence-25469.html>



Egypt: Cairo

Bishop Paul (will tell Copts to emigrate from Egypt if religious autonomy is not added to the new constitution)

Egypt: Sohag

Bishop Kamel Gergis (teacher, arrested for posting defamatory cartoons of Islam and Muhammad on his Facebook page, he claims the account was hacked; **UPDATE**: detention has been renewed for 15 days)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/08/01/bishop-to-tell-copts-to-immigrate/>

<http://www.egyptindependent.com/news/court-orders-detention-coptic-man-accused-defaming-islam>



Algeria

Mustapha Krim (President of the Protestant Church of Algeria aka EPA, **UPDATE**: commented on a 2006 law that prohibits Christians from holding services without government authorization and outlaws religious practices that conflict with the government's interpretation of Islamic law: "We are continuing efforts to repeal, or at least revise, the 2006 law. We expect the new legislation granted to the EPA to be favorable to our cause")

email from www.persecution.org

Thursday August 2, 2012



Pakistan: Karachi

Dr. Nazir S. Bhatti (**UPDATE**: condemned the inaction of the state and national governments on the third anniversary of the Gojra massacre in which seven Christians died, and also in the investigation of the poisoning of the Christian nurses)

Rita James (**UPDATE**: nurse poisoned during Ramadan, now off ventilator, blood pressure still low)

Fr Thomas Gulfam (visited the poisoned nurses who remained in the hospital)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3665>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3667>

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/02/christian-nurses-say-they-were-poisoned/>



Iran: Shiraz

Fariba Nazemian (**UPDATE**: informed that detention will continue at least 2 more months, and that Quran desecration and foreign contacts charges may be lodged)

Homayoun Shokouhi-Gholamzadeh (**UPDATE**: informed that detention will continue at least 2 more months, and that Quran desecration and foreign contacts charges may be lodged)

Mohammad-Reza Partoei Kourosh (**UPDATE**: informed that detention will continue at least 2 more months, and that Quran desecration and foreign contacts charges may be lodged)

Mojtaba Hosseini (**UPDATE**: informed that detention will continue at least 2 more months, and that Quran desecration and foreign contacts charges may be lodged)

Vahid Hakkani (**UPDATE**: informed that detention will continue at least 2 more months, and that Quran desecration and foreign contacts charges may be lodged)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5076:unsubstantiated-charges-raised-against-five-detained-christians-in-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Poland: Kostrzyn

Mariusz Dzierzawski (arrested at a pro-life demonstration for possession of 'obscene' material)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/policemen-jailed-after-wrongful-arrest-of-polish-pro-lifers-during-demonstr>

Friday August 3, 2012



China

Fr John Baptist (**UPDATE**: stated “The CPA’s [Catholic Patriotic Association's] function has gone far beyond its claim as a bridge between the Church and the government. In fact, it became a tool to control the Church without revealing the ruling authority is the real executioner.”)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/03/priests-lambast-state-comments-on-religion/>

China: Hotan, Xinjiang

Tai Runlian (given a 10 day detention and fine of 500 yuan for attending Pastor Zhong Shuguang's religious service, was ordered to cease attending religious services)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/08/attorneys-memoir-on-2012-church.html>



Pakistan: Lahore

Augustine George (receiving death threats to convert to Islam)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/02/death-threats-for-family-who-tried-to-save-church-property/>



Saudi Arabia

Helen Tamene Gebre (Ethiopian worker, arrested with 28 other women and 6 men for attending a Christian service in a private home on [December 15, 2011](#); **UPDATE**: deported)
email from <http://www.persecution.org/>



Mauritania: the desert

Abd Rahman (alias, convert, in hiding)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/08/03/the-reality-of-jesus-in-mauritania/>

Saturday August 4, 2012



Egypt: Alexandria

Bishop Morcos (**UPDATE**: said “The general climate is turning against Christians. Assaults on Christians have increased”)

Bishop Pachomius (**UPDATE**: expressed unhappiness over Christian representation in the new cabinet and with the government response to the recent anti-Christian riots in which police were “standing with their arms crossed”)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/08/04/egypts-copts-unhappy-over-smaller-cabinet-presence/>

Sunday August 5, 2012



Egypt: Dahshur, Giza, Cairo

Fadi Joseph (founder of the Coalition of Egypt's Copts, stated that President Morsi is going back on his promises to protect the Copts)

Georgette Qellini (law professor, stated that Mubarak's critics blamed him for sectarian strife, but they have no explanation as to why the strife continues)

Karam Gabriel (lawyer, **UPDATE**: said that President Morsi cares more about events in Gaza than about events in Egypt)

Rev Dr Safwat El-Bayadi (**UPDATE**: stated that collective punishment of Christians is prevailing in the absence of a true system of justice)

Bishop Theodosius (is sending clergy to meet with President Morsi for restitution to Christians injured in the Dahshur riots: "Is it possible that just because of a torched shirt, the whole village is to burn down?")

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5091:muslims-burn-christian-homes-and-businesses-in-egypt&catid=81:regions&Itemid=278)

Monday August 6, 2012



Laos: Nahoukou village church, Utumpon district, Savannakhet province

Tongkoun Keohavong (ordered by village authorities to renounce his faith, replied "God is real. When we believe, we are healed from sickness and immediately delivered from the possession of evil spirits. We cannot deny the reality of God's power", along with 40 others was threatened with violence and eviction)

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/News-analysis/Lao-Christians-threatened-with-violence-and- eviction-unless-they-recant.html>



Turkmenistan: Ashgabad

Begench Nabatov (sentenced to a 2 year suspended sentence for refusing military service)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1733



Uzbekistan: Tashkent

Natalya Pleshakova (aged 26, disabled, beaten along with her mother by six men in her yard while being video recorded by a policeman, when police arrived they were beaten again and taken to the police station where she was ordered to convert to Islam - she refused - and then signed a false confession to storing religious books and items - total ordeal lasted 22 hours, later fined 20 times the minimum monthly wage)

http://www.uznews.net/news_single.php?lng=en&sub=hot&cid=3&nid=20659



Kazakhstan: Astana

Tamara Kim (Bethel Protestant Church deacon, charges of engaging in illegal missionary activity dismissed in court)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1792



Armenia: Yerevan

Maksim Khudoyan (sentenced to 30 months imprisonment for refusing military service)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1745



Nigeria: Okene, Kogi state

Approximately 10 gunmen attack on the Deeper Life Church, 20 killed and dozens wounded

Alice Obada (killed)

Aminat Dauda (killed)

Ebenezer Sumaila (aged 11, survived the attack but his older brother did not)

Pastor Emmanuel Lambe (Physics teacher and former Head of Department of Preliminary Studies at the Kogi State Polytechnic, **killed**)

Grace Isiyaka (youth, **killed**)

Grace Yusuf (**killed**)

Mrs Isaiah Yusuf (**killed**)

Ismaila Jana (aged 17, **killed**)

James Ibrahim (**killed**)

Mrs Johnson (sister of Maimunatu, survived the attack)

Joshua Sule (**killed**)

Joy Nyamida (survived the attack)

Lawal Saliu (wounded)

Lydia Michael (**killed**)

Maimunatu ("little girl", **killed**)

Martha Jimoh (**killed**)

Mary Ibrahim (**killed**)

Matthew Yusuf (**killed**)

Precious Dayo (youth, **killed**)

Ruth Imagejor (**killed**)

Samuel Nyamida (cousin of Ismaila Jana, son in hospital with a bullet in his neck)

Toyin Adurewa (**killed**)

Nigeria: Mafoni, Maiduguri

Samari (evangelist, **shot dead** at his home by two suspected Boko Haram gunmen)

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news/56794-death-toll-rises-to-20-in-deeper-life-church-attack.html>

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news/57100-gunmen-in-church%3A-we%E2%80%99re-here-to-finish-all-of-you.html>

<http://www.waohnaija.com/news-features/suspected-boko-haram-gunmen-kill-evangelist-in-maidugurinigeria/>

Tuesday August 7, 2012



Indonesia: Tulang Kuning, Waru village, Parung district, Bogor regency, West Java

Fr Gaib Pr (pastor of St. John the Baptist church, plans to hold regular services at the church despite the closing of the church by authorities for lack of permits)

Gatot Wotoseputro (described how authorities have denied his St John the Baptist Church permission to use a large tent for their religious services - the tent has been in use since 2006 while the authorities have dragged on issuing building permits for a permanent church)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/West-Java:-Catholics-targeted-by-Bogor-authorities,-house-of-prayer-closed-down-25494.html>

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/News-analysis/Two-more-churches-in-West-Java-Indonesia-sealed-off.html>



India: Baliguda, Kandhamal district, Orissa state

Michael Nayak (church leader, his July 2011 **death has been reclassified** from a road accident **to murder** by Hindu extremists)

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/News-analysis/Indian-court-reopens-church-leader-murder-case-dismissed-by-police.html>



Azerbaijan: Lokbatan

Amid Zohrabov (conscripted into the army on **July 23, 2012** despite being a conscientious objector, **UPDATE**: sent home)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1730



Uganda

Pastor Umar Mulinde (attacked with acid on **December 24, 2011**, blinded in right eye, now undergoing gratis eye and reconstructive surgery in Israel; **UPDATE**: stated “My message to my attackers is simple; I hold no grudge against them. They wished me death but I wish them life today and forever in Christ Jesus our Lord”)

email from International Christian Concern www.persecution.org

Wednesday August 8, 2012



Nigeria

Jerry Asemota (Secretary of the Deeper Life Church)

Kenny Ashaka (assistant to the president of the Christian Association of Nigeria stated "[CAN president Ayo] Oritsejafor believes that from this attack in Okene [on the Deeper Life Church on [August 6 2012](#)], the enemies of Christians and Christianity in Nigeria have changed tactics from their Sunday attacks on Churches to an everyday onslaught. He, therefore, urges the leadership of the various churches in Nigeria to step up security around their churches as they hold their daily devotions, crusades and night vigils while also being security conscious at all times.")

Pastor William Kumuyi (described the [August 6 2012](#) armed attack on the Deeper Life Church [in Okene] in which 20 died as “not only wicked, but utterly premeditated...In times like these, when there is so much fear across the land, all Christians must see it as an opportunity to serve God more fervently”)

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news/56966-three-deeper-life-church-attack-suspects-held-in-edo.html>

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news-update/56958-canada-can-condemn-attack-on-deeper-life-church-worshippers.html>

Thursday August 9, 2012



China: Liushuzhuang village, Yangmaogong township, Midong district, Urumqi, Xinjiang

Bao Ling (house church Sunday school teacher, detained on [July 24, 2012](#) along with 28 children who were later released; electricity turned off in her home for 10 days, beaten, **UPDATE:** released)

Luo Qinqin (house church Sunday school teacher, detained on [July 24, 2012](#) along with 28 children who were later released, beaten; **UPDATE:** released)

Wang Xingxing (house church Sunday school teacher; detained on [July 24, 2012](#) along with 28 children who were later released, beaten; **UPDATE:** released)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/09/report-in-depth-public-security-bureau.html>



Pakistan: Karachi

Fr Abid Habib (stated that the nurses who were poisoned are now being pressured by the hospital to not pursue an investigation, and that the hospital is threatening to accuse them of using drugs)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/09/priest-says-poisoned-nurses-are-being-threatened/>



Nigeria: Okene, Kogi state

Ayo Oritsejafor (president of the Christian Association of Nigeria, **UPDATE:** stated that the recently released U.S. State Department 2011 International Religious Freedom Report is full of omissions regarding Christian persecution)

Caroline Oluremi Lambe (widow of Pastor Emmanuel Lambe, stated "My husband died a martyr for Christ [on August 6, 2012]")

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news/57096-%E2%80%98my-husband-died-a-martyr-for-christ%E2%80%99.html>

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news/57097-can-demands-%E2%80%98truth-based%E2%80%99-terror-reports-from-us.html>

Friday August 10, 2012



Laos: Nongpong village, Khamkerd District, Borikhamxai province

Bountheung (evicted from his home)

<http://www.hrwlr.net/pages/Lao-Authorities-Arrested-Lao-Christian-Leader-for-Embracing-Christian-Faith.html>



India: Mumbai

Msgr Anthonisamy Neethinathan (spoke on Black Day, which marks the constitutional discrimination against Christian and Muslim Dalits [untouchables])

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Christian-and-Muslim-Dalits-observe-Black-Day-against-discrimination-25528.html>



Syria: Aleppo

Fr Nawras Sammour SJ (operates Jesuit Refugee Services)

Syria: Damascus

Fr Isadore Battikha ("We have been leading a life that has been the envy of many. But today fear is a reality")

Syria: Maalula

Alexander Haddad (stated "Jesus was from just to the south. St. Paul came to Maalula. Christianity is very strong here.")

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10000872396390443537404577579473069060742.html>



Nigeria

Pastor Audu D. Gadzama (home and church set afire, son shot in the leg, escaped with entire family into the brush)

Thomas Gadzama (shot in the leg during the attack on his father's home and church, recovering)

<http://www.persecution.net/ng-2012-08-30.htm>

Saturday August 11, 2012



Colombia: Los Patios, Cucuta

Bishop Julio Cesar Vidal Ortiz (presided at the funeral Mass of Fr Pablo Emilio Sanchez Albarracín)

Fr Pablo Emilio Sanchez Albarracín (**died** "in agony" three days after sustaining injuries during a robbery in his rectory)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32064&lan=eng>

Sunday August 12, 2012



China: Prison No. 3, Xinjiang

Alimujiang Yimiti (serving a 15 year prison sentence since 2009 for 'illegally providing state secrets to a foreigner', illegally denied access to his attorney)

Gulinuer (wife of Alimujiang Yimiti)

Dr Li Baiguang (head of the law firm representing Alimujiang Yimiti)

Wuxiuerhan (mother of Alimujiang Yimiti)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/08/beijing-christian-attorney-went-to.html>



Laos: Nongpong village, Khamkerd District, Borikhamxai province

Bountheung (evicted from his home, **UPDATE**: arrested and imprisoned)

<http://www.hrwlrf.net/pages/Lao-Authorities-Arrested-Lao-Christian-Leader-for-Embracing-Christian-Faith.html>



Pakistan: Chak No 371 village, Nankana Sahib district, Punjab province

Angel (daughter of abducted Pastor Kelvin)

Anmol (daughter of abducted Pastor Kelvin)

Daniel (son of abducted Pastor Kelvin)

Ismail (son of abducted Pastor Kelvin)

Pastor Kelvin (abducted)

Roma (daughter of abducted Pastor Kelvin)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3685>



Nigeria: Kanoyel, Gombe State

Rev Abare Kalla (local chair of the Christian Association of Nigeria, said that the attackers of All Saints Catholic Church could not get into the church due to a fence and closed gate)

Fr Williams Ochai (pastor of All Saints Catholic Church, described the armed attack on his church that left a policeman dead and another wounded)

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news-update/57381-gumen-kill-policeman-in-gombe-church-attack.html>

Monday August 13, 2012



Vietnam: Dak Pnan village, Mang Yang district, Gia Lai province

Bishop Michael Hoang Duc Oanh (**UPDATE**: visited with and encouraged villagers who were forced to remove a crucifix and a religious painting from their chapel and replace them with portraits of Ho Chi Minh)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/16/ho-chi-minh-portrait-replaces-chapel-cross/>



China: Liushuzhuang village, Yangmaogong township, Midong district, Urumqi, Xinjiang

Bao Ling (house church Sunday school teacher, detained on [July 24, 2012](#) along with 28 children who were later released; electricity turned off in her home for 10 days, beaten, released [August 9, 2012](#), has filed a lawsuit against the authorities)

Fu Yajuan (house church Sunday school teacher, detained on [July 24, 2012](#) along with 28 children who were later released) Lu Xia (house church Sunday school teacher, detained on [July 24, 2012](#) along with 28 children who were later released; **UPDATE**: has filed a lawsuit against the authorities)

Luo Qinqin (house church Sunday school teacher, detained on July 24, 2012 along with 28 children who were later released, beaten; released August 9, 2012, **UPDATE**: has filed a lawsuit against the authorities)

Wang Xingxing (house church Sunday school teacher; detained on July 24, 2012 along with 28 children who were later released, beaten; released August 9, 2012, **UPDATE**: has filed a lawsuit against the authorities)

China: Hotan, Xinjiang

Pastor Zhong Shuguang (arrested and released on **July 22, 2012** along with his wife and 17 other Christians after attorney Zhang Kai returned to Beijing, **UPDATE**: submitted his defense statements to the Hotan Municipal Committee for Ethnic and Religious Affairs)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/09/report-in-depth-public-security-bureau.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/08/attorneys-memoir-on-2012-church.html>



Nigeria

Sunday Oibe (Public Relations Officer for the Christian Association of Nigeria, issued a statement calling on President Jonathan Goodluck to resign after the president stated that the government cannot move against Boko Haram insurgents because they "are our brothers and we cannot use the army to wipe out your family")

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32054&lan=eng>

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news/57569-jonathan-fights-back-as-calls-for-resignation-rise.html>



United States

Raymond Ibrahim (called on Christians and others to contact their Senators in support of legislation to appoint a special envoy for religious minorities in the Middle East and Asia)

<http://www.raymondibrahim.com/2012/08/action-alert-support-bill-to-help-persecuted>

Tuesday August 14, 2012



Indonesia: Tulang Kuning, Waru village, Parung district, Bogor regency, West Java

Fr Aloysius Simbol Gaib Pratolo (**UPDATE**: protested the building permit process that allowed the village chief to force closure of St. John the Baptist Church and deny its use to six thousand parishioners)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Bogor,-after-6-years-radical-Muslims-force-closure-of-Saint-John-the-Baptist-Parish-Church-25549.html>



Nepal: Kathmandu

Christian leaders received telephoned threats

Chirendra Satyal (Catholic media official)

Fr Robin Rai (received a telephoned bomb threat)

Sundar Thapa (member of the Federation of National Christians-Nepal, ordered to leave the country)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hindu-terrorists-threaten-more-attacks-against-Christians-and-Muslims-25550.html>



Pakistan: Sahiwal, Punjab state

Ardhad Masih (uncle of Mugadas Kainat)

Mugadas Kainat (aged 12, raped and **murdered** by 5 Muslim men while her mother was having an appendectomy)

Rafique Masih (father of Mugadas Kainat)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3705>



Egypt: Asyut

Refaat Eskander (**murdered** in his shoe store, one killer seen wearing Salafi attire, attack came after calls for the eradication of the Copts)

Romani Murad al-Gawli (home attacked, gunshots fired in an attempt to extort jizya payment, neighbors forced to pay money for the return of kidnapped children, police unresponsive)

Egypt: Al Gallaweya village, Sohag

Fady Hozar (beaten after refusing to pay 'tribute' to a Muslim shoplifting from his store, attack came after calls for the eradication of the Copts)

Nageh Hozar (brother of Fady Hozar, beaten, hospitalized)

Thomas Hozar (brother of Fady Hozar, beaten)

<http://www.raymondibrahim.com/2012/08/muslim-gang-torments-christian-copts-for-jizya>

<http://www.raymondibrahim.com/2012/08/murder-of-copts-begins-after-genocide-call>

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/cs-releases/784-copts-in-upper-egypt-attacked-beat-plundered>



Nigeria: Okene, Kogi state

Pastor William Kumuyi (**UPDATE:** visited with victims of the [August 6, 2012](#) Deeper Life church shootings, stated “As a church, we are mindful of the assault of the forces of darkness against the nation and the Body of Christ.”)

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/news/57666-deeper-life-shooting-kumuyi-says-attack-is-call-to-service.html>

Wednesday August 15, 2012



Pakistan

Anthony Naveed (civil rights activist, fled from the country after receiving death threats)

Pakistan: Chak No 371 village, Nankana Sahib district, Punjab province

Gohar (collecting evidence on Pastor Kelvin's abduction)

Khurram Akhtar (collecting evidence on Pastor Kelvin's abduction)

Mehboob (collecting evidence on Pastor Kelvin's abduction)

Shahid Anthony (collecting evidence on Pastor Kelvin's abduction)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3683>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3685>



Uzbekistan: Muhayon near Hazorasp in Khorezm Region

Gulchehra Abdullayeva (pediatrician, detained on [July 15, 2012](#) after returning from a trip to Kazakhstan on suspicion of importing religious literature, forced to stand without food or water for four hours in 40 degree [104 degree Fahrenheit] heat then forced to wear a gas mask with the air tube blocked, confessed to some of her religious activities, **UPDATE:** found guilty of "Teaching religious beliefs without specialized religious education and without permission from the central organ of a [registered] religious organization, as well as teaching religious beliefs privately", fined five times the official monthly wage)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1732



Egypt: Minya and Baderman

Izzat Ibrahim Ezzat (rights activist, reported on Christians being targeted for theft and the lack of police support for them)

Kamal Iskandar Youssef (12 acres of land stolen by a fellow villager, police advised him to pay the thief for its return)

Nagy Helmy (taxi occupied, ordered at gunpoint to pay ransom for its return)

Wael Samir (taxi occupied, ordered at gunpoint to pay ransom for its return)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/cs-releases/777-the-plundering-of-egypt-s-copts>

Thursday August 16, 2012



India: Bangalore, Karnataka state, and Pune, Mumbai, and New Delhi

Daniel Renthlei (engineering student, said "We have been praying and seeking God's protection")

Rev David Ralte (described the situation as tense as 9,000 people have fled to Assam and Mizoram states following social media statements that revenge would be taken for ethnic and religious attacks in Assam)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/16/thousands-flee-amid-fears-of-attack/>



Pakistan: Lahore

Church renovation stalled by Muslim neighbors

Binyamin Masih (church committee member)

Gulzar Masih (church committee member)

Hadayyat Masih (church committee member)

Samuel Hadayyat (church committee member)

Wilson Masih (church committee member)

Yousuf Masih (church committee member)

Pakistan: Islamabad

Nathaniel Allarakha (house painter, described the flight of his family after the arrest of 11-year old Ramsha Bibi on blasphemy charges: “It was 11 at night when announcements were made on the mosque loudspeakers urging Muslims to wake up and prevent Christians from escaping...Children were crying. We stuffed our families into vehicles without salvaging anything. I have been wearing the same shirt for six days.”)

Nida Nazir (All Pakistan Minority Alliance member, gave food aid to displaced Christians)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3688>

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/23/activist-seeks-release-of-girl-jailed-for-blasphemy/>



Saudi Arabia: Al-Khobar

Henna Sarkees (Lebanese expatriate, reportedly will face trial September 15 2012 for converting a young woman to Christianity and helping her to escape the country, may face the death penalty)

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/News-analysis/Two-men-to-stand-trial-over-conversion-of-Saudi-woman.html>

Friday August 17, 2012



China: Nongdao district, Yunnan province

Fr Stephen Zaw Min Latt (stated that Chinese authorities are pressuring predominately Christian Kachin refugees to return to Myanmar / Burma)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/17/kachin-refugees-fear-ouster-from-china/>



India

Sajan K George (President of the Global Council of Indian Christians; **UPDATE:** expressed concern that the recent influx of Hindu refugees fleeing Pakistani religious persecution will result in adoption of a refugee law - none currently exists - which would discriminate against Christian refugees)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Persecuted-in-Pakistan,-Hindu-and-Christian-minorities-find-little-protection-in-India-25572.html>



Turkmenistan

Navruz Nasyrlaev (sentenced to two years in a labor camp on [May 1, 2012](#) for refusing military service; **UPDATE:** still in prison)

Zafar Abdullaev (sentenced to two years on [March 6, 2012](#) for refusing military service; **UPDATE:** still in prison)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1733



Syria: Aleppo

Archbishop Jean Clement Jeanbart (called on the West to not arm groups in Syria but rather to push all sides to negotiate)

<http://www.zenit.org/article-35384?l=english>



Turkey: Istanbul

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I (opposed the proposed conversion of the Saint Sophia from a museum to a mosque)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/08/18/bartholomew-i-do-not-transform-hagia-sophia-in-trabzon-into-a-mosque/>

Saturday August 18, 2012



Pakistan: Meherabadi, Islamabad

Arshad Bibi (mother of Rimsha Bibi, now in hiding)

Farrukh H Saif (World Vision in Progress Foundation)

Misrak Masih (parent of Ramisha Bibi)

Napoleon Qayyum (World Vision in Progress Foundation, **UPDATE:** found that 1000 Christian families had fled from their homes after the arrest of Rimsha Bibi)

Ramisha Bibi (aged 11, mentally disabled, arrested on a charge of blasphemy for burning pages of the Quran after crowds threatened police that they would burn the homes of Christians)

Shamim Masih (human rights activist, reported on the arrest of Ramisha Bibi)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3687>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3690>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3691>



Tanzania: Bagamoyo

Eva Abdullah (aged 17, converted to Christianity at age 14, parents disowned her, falsely accused of Quran desecration after she refused to renounce her faith, reported to have been tried and sentenced to 2 years imprisonment)

www.persecution.net

Sunday August 19, 2012



China: Linquan county, Anhui province

Lu Gensheng (beaten by police during the forcible closing of a religious summer school)

<http://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/church-08222012145818.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/08/an-exclusive-report-from-radio-free.html>

Monday August 20, 2012



Somalia

Maria Grazia Krawczyk (head of Caritas Somalia, commented favorably on the first meeting of the Somali parliament in 21 years)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32076&lan=eng>



Sudan: Khartoum and other locations

Agnes (one of hundreds of thousands of Christians who have been stripped of their citizenship due to the partition of the country and ordered to leave but who are unable to do so due to poverty)

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/Latest-emergencies/Exodus-2000-Christian-Women-and-Children-need-to-escape-Sudan.html>

Tuesday August 21, 2012



Pakistan: Islamabad

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (**UPDATE**: condemned that actions of the police in the arrest of 11 year old Down's Syndrome victim Ramisha Bibi on blasphemy charges - the police changed her

age to 14 on the arrest report, presumably to invoke the death penalty, he also described how mobs gathered at the police station after Friday Ramadan prayers to seize and burn Ramisha, and after they failed they torched abandoned Christian homes)

Pakistan: Faisalabad, Punjab province

Joel Aamir Sohotra (member of the state parliament, stated that the murder of Samuel Masih called into question any freedom of Pakistan's religious minorities)

Kamal Chughtai (lawyer, stated that the murder of Samuel Masih was an "atrocious" that he had never seen "such a thing, with this level of cruelty in my entire life")

Fr Nisar Barkat (**UPDATE**: called on the police to swiftly bring the murderers of Samuel Masih to justice, said that Christians and Hindus are "living in fear")

Samuel aka Suneel Masih (aged 11 or 14 [accounts differ], **body found** with organs removed and his face disfigured with acid, sexual attack suspected)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3695>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Faisalabad,-brutal-murder-of-14-year-old-Christian-boy,-his-body-dismembered-and-face-disfigured-25617.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/pakistan/9495451/Christian-boy-tortured-and-killed-in-Pakistan.html>



Syria: Aleppo

Metropolitan Gregorius Yohanna Ibrahim (**UPDATE**: called for prayers for a peaceful outcome in Syria)

<http://www.zenit.org/article-35404?l=english>



Egypt

Clare Lopez (Center for Security Policy Senior Fellow in the [United States](#), commented on reports that the Muslim Brotherhood has begun to crucify opponents of President Morsi: "The Copts must get out of Egypt as soon as possible, for the many millions who will not be able to get out, I expect things will continue to deteriorate, just as they did for Germany's and Europe's Jews from the 1930s onward")

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/08/21/christians-in-egypt-endure-crucifixions-more-blood-will-be-shed/#ixzz24KtiFGaT>



Cyprus

Archbishop Chrysostomos II (told how 120 churches in the Turkish occupied part of the island have been desecrated and turned into warehouses, museums, and mosques, their artwork confiscated and sold, and that Christians have been attacked)

<http://www.zenit.org/article-35405?l=english>

Wednesday August 22, 2012



China: Shanghai

Sr Agnes Liu Shujing (removed from office as superior general of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Presentation)

Bishop Aloysius Jin Luxian (announced that the seminaries in his diocese will not open in September)

Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin (still under house arrest for refusing to rejoin the Catholic Patriotic Association)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Diocese-of-Shanghai-under-siege-after-Ma-Daqin's-big-blow-25608.html>



Syria: Damascus

Patriarch Gregorios III Laham (**UPDATE**: called for prayers for a peaceful outcome in Syria)

Syria: Rableh

Elias Tahch Semaan (father of 4, **shot dead** by sniper, 12,000 Christians trapped by encircling rebels, food and medicine declining)

George Azar (**shot dead** by sniper, 12,000 Christians trapped by encircling rebels, food and medicine declining)

Syria: Qara

Mother Agnès-Mariam de la Croix (**UPDATE**: St. James Monastery bombed by a helicopter)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32078&lan=eng>

Thursday August 23, 2012



China: Nongdao district, Yunnan province

Fr Stephen Zaw Min Latt (described the forced repatriation of 730 predominately Christian Kachin refugees to Myanmar)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/23/china-repatriates-kachin-refugees-priest/>



Pakistan: Faisalabad, Punjab state

Fr Khalid Rashid Asi (expressed "outrage, sadness and pain of the whole local community" over the August 21, 2012 murder of Samuel [Sunel] Masih)

Pakistan: Kasur, Punjab state

Pastor Mustaq Gill (reported on the murder of one Christian farmer and the wounding of six others in a 'land grab')

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32082&lan=eng>



Iraq: Bagdad

Fady Anwar Matta Hamamy (killed)

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



Armenia: Yerevan

Gevorg Sahakyan (sentenced to 24 months imprisonment for refusing military service)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1745



Syria: Aleppo

Fr George Abu Khazen, OFM (**UPDATE**: sheltered Archbishop Jean Clement Jeanbart and his priests during the fighting)

Archbishop Jean Clement Jeanbart (**UPDATE**: fled office along with his priests due to the fighting, left for Lebanon, vicar returned to find the office looted)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32097&lan=eng>

Friday August 24, 2012



Vietnam: Hanoi

Bishop Paul (decried the illegal seizure of land and buildings owned by the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Paul and other church institutions, including St Paul Hospital)

Vietnam

Friends and family began a march to Hanoi to protest the continuing incarceration of several Christians

Anthony Chu Manh Son (**UPDATE**: still incarcerated)

Anthony Dau Van Voung (still incarcerated)

Francis Xavier Dang Xuan Dieu (still incarcerated)

John Nguyen Van Duyet (still incarcerated)

John Nguyen Van Oai (still incarcerated)

John Thai Van Dung (still incarcerated)

Maria Ta Phong Tan (**UPDATE**: still incarcerated)

Nong Hung Anh (still incarcerated)

Paul Ho Van Oanh (still incarcerated)

Paul Tran Minh Nhat (still incarcerated)

Paulus Le Son (still incarcerated)

Peter Ho Duc Hoa (still incarcerated)

Peter Nguyen Xuan Oanh (still incarcerated)

Peter Nguyen Dinh Cuong (still incarcerated)

Peter Tran Huu Doc (**UPDATE**: still incarcerated)

Peter Tran Vu Anh Binh (still incarcerated)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/More-violations-of-religious-freedom-by-local-Vietnamese-authorities-25635.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Relatives-of-17-jailed-Christians-go-on-pilgrimage-for-their-freedom-25713.html>



Laos: Phone Sampan village, Long district, Luang Namtha province

Jonasa Wiwatdamrong (Thai citizen, arrested on [June 16, 2012](#) after being seen in a private home teaching about Christianity, **UPDATE**: released after paying a small fine although he was never charged)

Phanthakorn Wiwatdamrong (Thai citizen, arrested on [June 16, 2012](#) after being seen in a private home teaching about Christianity, **UPDATE**: released after paying a small fine although he was never charged)

<http://www.christianpersecution.info/index.php?view=11700>



Myanmar: Man Wing county

Labya Htu (along with 1,000 other Kachin refugees was forced by the Chinese government back into Myanmar, despite the still ongoing conflict there)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/08/over-thousand-kachin-refugees-forcibly.html>



India

Fr Anand Muttungal (**UPDATE**: stated "The number of people embraced death for the sake of faith is over fifty, so we decided to commemorate this event on the last Sunday of August. It is in the month of August 2008 most number of believers faced death and suffering. Every Sunday Christians gather all over the world for prayer so it will be fitting to remember and pray for those Christians...The Indian Christian Martyrs Day is not just

to remember and pray for the believers who embraced death but also those Christians who are facing suffering and threat due to their faith in Lord Jesus Christ")

John Dayal (Christian activist and member of the National Integration Council, stated concerning the 2008 Kandhamal massacre "Just one person has been convicted of murder, and in other cases, frightened witnesses, bad investigation and shoddy court cases have meant that ringleaders have escaped the law")

<http://in.christiantoday.com/articles/remembering-victims-of-the-kandhamal-massacre/7539.htm>

Saturday August 25, 2012



Pakistan: Lahore

Fr James Channan OP (**UPDATE:** stated "The news, continually increasing, regarding violence against Christian children are really annoying, disturbing. For Christians, it seems that living in Pakistan is more and more difficult. There are many Christian girls kidnapped, raped and converted to Islam by force and even killed as in the case of Amariah Masih, the 'Maria Goretti of Pakistan'. There are children kidnapped and killed for shady dealings, as the recent case of Sunil Masih or Shazia Bashir. Now the children are also accused of blasphemy, as Rimsha Masih. If children are attacked, it means that a limit of intolerable abuse and inhumanity have been reached")

Pakistan: Islamabad

Fr Emmanuel Yousaf Mani (**UPDATE:** stated that granting bail to Ramsha Bibi [the 11 year old with Down's Syndrome accused of blasphemy] would expose her to an extrajudicial killing, so a full release is preferred as that would allow her to leave the country)

Paul Bhatti (**UPDATE:** is working to secure the release and dismissal of blasphemy charges against 11 year old Ramsha Bibi on medical grounds [Down's Syndrome])

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32086&lan=eng>

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32087&lan=eng>



India: Guwahati

Archbishop Emeritus Thomas Menampampil (spoke against ethnic violence at a prayer service organized by the Daughters of St Paul)

<http://in.christiantoday.com/articles/nuns-pray-for-peace-in-assam/7546.htm>



Uzbekistan: Muhayon near Hazorasp in Khorezm Region

Gulchehra Abdullayeva (pediatrician, detained on [July 15, 2012](#) after returning from a trip to Kazakhstan on suspicion of importing religious literature, forced to stand without food or water for four hours in 40 degree [104 degree Fahrenheit] heat then forced to wear a gas mask with the air tube blocked, confessed to some of her religious activities, **UPDATE:** found guilty of "Teaching religious beliefs without specialized religious education and without permission from the central organ of a [registered] religious organization, as well as teaching religious beliefs privately", fined five times the official monthly wage)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1732



Russia: Arkhangelsk and Chelyabinsk

Vsevolod Chaplin (head of the Russian Orthodox Patriarchate's department for relations with state and society, called for the prosecution of people who desecrated four large wooden crosses with chainsaws)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Intolerance:-four-crosses-attacked-with-chainsaw-in-two-Russian-regions-25648.html>

Sunday August 26, 2012



India: Sasthancode village, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu state

Gnanamuthu (home attacked during prayer service, beaten, hospitalized)

Johnson (son of Gnanamuthu, beaten, hospitalized)

India: Nadaikavu village, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu state

Edwin Raj (aged 29, **beaten to death**)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hindu-nationalists-attack-Anglicans-in-Tamil-Nadu,-one-dead-25659.html>



Pakistan: Islamabad

Boota Masih (fled from home after the arrest of Rimsha Bibi Masih)

Irshad Bibi (fled from home after the arrest of Rimsha Bibi Masih)

Rev Dr Jamil Nasir (reported that Muslim clerics came to his home and fraudulently claimed conversion to Christianity to provoke an attack)

Manwar Masih (fled from home after the arrest of Rimsha Bibi Masih)

Sajid Masih (fled from home after the arrest of Rimsha Bibi Masih)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3767>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3720>

Monday August 27, 2012



Indonesia: Jakarta

Basuki Tjahaja Purnama aka Ahok (candidate for deputy governor, under attack by political opponents for his religion and Chinese ancestry)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Campaign-against-Chinese-Christian-candidate-in-Jakarta-gubernatorial-race-25652.html>



India: New Delhi

Rev Jacob Thomas (spoke at the funeral service of Peramangalam Porinju Job)

Metropolitan Joseph Mar Thoma (led the funeral service of Peramangalam Porinju Job)

Peramangalam Porinju Job (aged 67, lauded as 'the Billy Ghaham of India' at his funeral service)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/27/hundreds-mourn-indias-billy-graham/>



Pakistan: Islamabad

Pastor Arif Masih (serving Christians who fled from the neighborhood where Rimsha Bibi was arrested for blasphemy)

Nooran Bashir (returned to her neighborhood but told by her Muslim neighbors to not attend church)

Salim Masih (living in a forest after fleeing from the neighborhood where Rimsha Bibi was arrested for blasphemy)

Sumera Zahid (living in a forest after fleeing from the neighborhood where Rimsha Bibi was arrested for blasphemy)

Waiz Masih (aged 14, **killed** by young Muslims after a "discussion on religion")

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32092&lan=eng>

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/08/28/pakistani-christians-flee-to-forest-after-girls-blasphemy-law-arrest/>



Iran: Tehran

Pastor Behnam Irani (hospitalized in [Tehran](#) on [July 17, 2012](#) after losing consciousness from internal bleeding after being beaten by fellow inmates; as of [July 27, 2012](#) has been again denied medical treatment for internal bleeding while in prison, those close to him fear he may have only weeks to live, **UPDATE**: is reportedly close to death)

Firouz Khandjani (reported on the condition of Pastor Behnam Irani)

<http://www.christianpersecution.info/index.php?view=11702>



Kenya: Mombasa

Archbishop Boniface Lele (described an attack on four churches)

Herbert Kaduki (Salvation Army church elder, described the attack on his church “It was as if there was a war here. Stones were flying. They were specifically targeting us.”)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/09/12/kenya-church-attacks-are-latest-sign-of-tension-between-christians-muslims/#ixzz26JBdvc2d>

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32103&lan=eng>



Lebanon: Beirut

Patriarch Ignatius Ephrem Joseph III (regarding the Syrian conflict stated: "There's a lot of hypocrisy in all this. For many [Western] governments it's merely a matter of economic interests. They don't really care about the fate of the Christians in the Middle East")

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/opinion/794-eu-doesn-t-care-about-the-fate-of-christians-in-the-middle-east-says-beirut-patriarch>

Tuesday August 28, 2012



Vietnam: Hanoi

Friends and family completed a march to protest the continuing incarceration of several Christians

Anthony Chu Manh Son (**UPDATE**: still incarcerated)

Anthony Dau Van Voung (still incarcerated)

Francis Xavier Dang Xuan Dieu (still incarcerated)

John Nguyen Van Duyet (still incarcerated)

John Nguyen Van Oai (still incarcerated)

John Thai Van Dung (still incarcerated)

Maria Ta Phong Tan (**UPDATE**: still incarcerated)

Nong Hung Anh (still incarcerated)

Paul Ho Van Oanh (still incarcerated)

Paul Tran Minh Nhat (still incarcerated)

Paulus Le Son (still incarcerated)

Peter Ho Duc Hoa (still incarcerated)

Peter Nguyen Xuan Oanh (still incarcerated)

Peter Nguyen Dinh Cuong (still incarcerated)

Peter Tran Huu Doc (**UPDATE**: still incarcerated)

Peter Tran Vu Anh Binh (still incarcerated)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Relatives-of-17-jailed-Christians-go-on-pilgrimage-for-their-freedom-25713.html>



China: Gushi County, Henan Province

Wu (detained and interrogated two days after she protested a police raid on a house church, cell phone confiscated)

Yi (detained and beaten two days after he protested a police raid on a house church)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/09/a-house-church-in-gushi-county-henan-is.html>



Pakistan

Prof Mobeen Shahid (is leading a "Let us save Rimsha Masih," movement from Italy which "intends to save the life of an innocent girl but it is also an opportunity to reflect on the status of religious minorities in Pakistan, and to try to stop the actions of fanatical groups.")

Pakistan: Faisalabad, Punjab state

Khalil Tahir Sindhu (attorney, commented on the Rimsha Bibi blasphemy case "I find Rimsha's story very strange and full of facts which are rather inexplicable. Experience tells me that in these cases there is always a serious injustice: the blasphemy law is wielded as a sword needed to hit innocent people. The cases are mostly invented, I think Rimsha's case is one of them. Among other things, in this case, being a minor and mentally disabled, the police had no power to arrest her and did it for the undue pressure brought to bear. An obvious abuse has been carried out. Christian minorities feel completely insecure in Pakistan.")

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32109&lan=eng>



Uzbekistan: Yangikurgan village, Bostanlyk district

Igor Kuliada (fined eight times the minimum monthly wage after police seized song books and personal diaries at a Baptist camp)

Pavel Peichev (fined five times the minimum monthly wage after police seized song books and personal diaries at a Baptist camp)

Sergey Zakharov (fined five times the minimum monthly wage after police seized song books and personal diaries at a Baptist camp)

Timofei Peichev (**UPDATE**: fined eight times the minimum monthly wage after police seized song books and personal diaries at a Baptist camp)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1746



Russia: Maykop

Alexander Kravchenko (fined 10,000 rubles - US\$300 - for violating an order prohibiting meetings 'while conducting' a church service)

Konstantin Bendas (Russian Union of Christians of the Evangelical Faith, stated that an appeal of Alexander Kravchenko's fine is planned)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17364.html>

Wednesday August 29, 2012



China: Gaobu town, Dongguan, Tangxia town, and Huangjiang town

Pastor Du Yaping (water and electricity cut off from home, along with Li Peng has appealed the closure of five churches)

Pastor Li Peng (described the recent closing of several churches)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/09/rfa-christian-summer-camp-in-shaanxi.html>

Thursday August 30, 2012



Egypt

Edward Ghaleb (one of three Copts in the Constituent Assembly, is arguing against the government assuming control of the Coptic Church's finances)

Kamal Zakher (stated that the Islamist proposal to seize control of Coptic Church funds is meant to "control the imbalance in the state budget")

Fr Matthias Nasr (**UPDATE**: commenting on Islamist proposals in the Constituent Assembly to put the Coptic Church's funds under state control, stated that no public money is used to support churches while taxes paid by Christians support mosques)

Bishop Pachomius (acting Patriarch of Coptic Church, **UPDATE**: commenting on Islamist proposals in the Constituent Assembly to put the Coptic Church's funds under state control "The mere submission of such a proposal is totally unacceptable, and if it is approved, this proposal has only one meaning, that Copts are clearly persecuted.")

Ramses Naggat (stated that there is no comparison between the Coptic Church and the Muslim Brotherhood)

<http://www.aina.org/news/2012083019958.htm>

Friday August 31, 2012



China: Ulanhot, Inner Mongolia

Zhang Kai (**UPDATE**: described the detention of seven Christians on a charge of 'using a cult to undermine implementation of the law')

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/09/seven-christians-criminally-detained-in.html>



India: Mumbai

Cardinal Oswald Gracias (**UPDATE**: expressed satisfaction that the Himachal Pradesh High Court struck down parts of the state's anti-conversion law as unconstitutional)

[http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Himachal-Pradesh-\(partially\)-repeals-its-anti-conversion-law-25694.html](http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Himachal-Pradesh-(partially)-repeals-its-anti-conversion-law-25694.html)



Pakistan: Hyderabad

Sr Catherine Gill FMM (led prayer service for Rimsha Bibi)

Pakistan: Islamabad

Tahir Naveed Chaudhry (lawyer for the family of Rimsha Bibi, **UPDATE:** stated that the comments by a lawyer for the complainant were an "open threat" against the life of the 11 year old girl and also an attempt to cow the court into trying her as an adult for blasphemy, which would raise the possibility of the death penalty)

Pakistan: Karachi

Fr Mario Rodrigues (**UPDATE:** speaking on the Rimsha Bibi court case stated "We remain confident about her release, so that justice is done. We are happy for the support received from Muslim leaders who have spoken out publicly in favor of Rimsha. I believe that something is changing in public opinion, even about the blasphemy law, which for years we have criticized.")

Pakistan: Lahore

Rev Dr Jamil Nasir (reported that Muslim clerics came to his home and fraudulently claimed conversion to Christianity to provoke an attack, **UPDATE:** he also reported that Christian girls were harassed after leaving his Sunday service, that Christians were ordered by their landlords to convert or be evicted, that bullets were fired at Christian homes, that Christian homes were surrounded by crowds chanting death slogans, and that a shop owner was beaten for playing Gospel music)

Peter Jacob (**UPDATE:** reported that public school textbooks contain dozens of examples of hate messages against religious minorities and against India)

Pakistan: Sialkot

Dr Emanuel Adil Ghouri (threatened that Pakistani Christians would have to emigrate if the current persecution is not ended)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32121&lan=eng>

http://www.compassdirect.org/english/country/pakistan/article_1691420.html

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3720>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3722>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3721>

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/08/31/curriculum-research-exposes-bias/>

August 2012, date unknown



China: Heng village, Lichuan county, Jiangxi province

Pastor Zhang Mingxuan (president of the Chinese Association of Christian Family Churches; **UPDATE:** described three Christians who were detained and threatened with being sent

to a labor camp during the [week of August 5, 2012](#) unless they turned over a list of all who had been baptized in their home church)

<http://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/church-08132012171009.html>



Pakistan: Essa Nagri, Karachi

Pastor Cornelius (shot in the spine by police)

Faisal Mughal (**shot dead** while protesting the shooting of Pastor Cornelius)

Liaquat Munawar Masih (arrested after he brought charges against two Muslim armed robbers)

Raja Yousaf Bhatti (arrested after he brought charges against two Muslim armed robbers)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3715>



Syria: Daraya

Austin Bennett Tice (aged 30, U.S. journalist, abducted)

Debra Tice (mother of Austin Tice)

Marc Tice (father of Austin Tice)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/parents-of-kidnapped-journalist-grateful-for-popes-words/>



South Sudan

David (church leader, arrested on false charges driven by "tribal motivations")

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17377.html>



Egypt: Nazlet Ebeid

Essam Charlie Ghattas (abducted, robbed of 12,000 pounds, escaped)

Zahran Sorian (threatened with abduction)

Egypt: Beni Khaled

Ayman Atta (aged 19, right ear mutilated after refusing to pay a tribute of 200 pounds)

Egypt: Mallawi

Magdi Lawendi (rebar warehouse site of attempted robbery)

Reda Agaibi (paid 75,000 pounds to blackmailers)

Farrag Hanna (paid 250,000 pounds to blackmailers)

Nayer Labib (paid 200,000 pounds to regain control of his home after forged documents allowed its seizure)

Mokbel Wadi (paid 50,000 pounds to regain control of his home after forged documents allowed its seizure)

Saleh Moussa (home still under control of those who forged documents to allow its seizure)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/cs-releases/797-ngo-armed-gangs-plunder-minia-s-copts-and-impose-tributes-on-them>



Libya: Derna

Sr Celeste Biasolo (automobile stolen)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Cyrenaica,-the-friendship-of-religious-sisters-with-Libyan-Islamists-25798.html>