

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – October 2012

Tuesday October 1, 2012



India: Mumbai

Bishop Agnelo Gracias (said he was "happy that the objectionable [anti-Christian] scenes have been deleted" from the film Kamaal Dhamaal Malamaal)

Joseph Dias (**UPDATE:** pointed out that movies such as Kamaal Dhamaal Malamaal where Christians and the faith are being grossly and vulgarly portrayed, "trivializes the faith and stereotypes the community as drunkards and criminals, besides painting the clergy in bad light. Our women are shown as those of cheap virtue and loose morals. This image is then used by fundamentalists, who persecute and target us")

<http://in.christiantoday.com/articles/catholics-withdraw-protest-against-hindi-film/7623.htm>



Pakistan: Islamabad

Rimsha Bibi Masih (aged 11 or 14, has Down's Syndrome, arrested on a charge of blasphemy on August 18, 2012 for burning pages of the Quran; **UPDATE:** juvenile court hearing postponed to October 17 2012 after three Muslim witnesses who had charged fabrication of the evidence against her withdrew their statements, a fourth witness still maintains his story)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3817>



Iran

Pastor Behnam Irani (**UPDATE**: health problems continue in prison but his "faith remains strong. He continues to be positive in his confession and to stand firm no matter what his circumstances.")

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17570.html>



Nigeria: Wuro Fatuje suburb, Mubi city, Adamawa state

Forty-three students are murdered by Boko Haram gunmen at Adamwa State University, the Federal Polytechnic State University, the School of Health Technology, and the University of Maiduguri

Albert Samuel (survived the Boko Haram attack on the Federal Polytechnic)

Ayo (electrical engineering major at the Federal Polytechnic, **murdered** by Boko Haram gunmen in student housing)

Chimonbi Festus (civil engineering major at the Federal Polytechnic, **murdered** by Boko Haram gunmen in student housing)

Dije Mamman (survived the attack)

Elias Pwanidi (president of the Federal Polytechnic Student Union, described the murder of)

Elkanah Sardauna (injured in the attack on student housing at Federal Polytechnic State University)

Emmanuel (Electrical engineering major at the Federal Polytechnic, **murdered** by Boko Haram gunmen in student housing)

Ishaku Ibrahim (mass communication major at the Federal Polytechnic, **murdered** by Boko Haram gunmen in student housing)

Lucky Emmanuel (mass communication major at the Federal Polytechnic, **murdered** by Boko Haram gunmen in student housing)

Manasseh (injured in the attack on student housing at Federal Polytechnic State University)

Matthew Ilifu (survived the attack)

Maxwell Iliya (local minister, stated "We are only living by the grace of God. The weapons recovered by the search team in Mubi are enough to eliminate every single Christian in Mubi and the entire Adamawa state. Boko Haram is out to eliminate us. The city has become very dangerous. The government is no longer interested in protecting us. The attackers spent two hours killing and destroying, and to date not a single government official has come to sympathize with us.")

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/news/gunmen-kill-43-students/>

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/news/hoodlums-hit-students-again/>

Wednesday October 2, 2012



India: Kanthapada, Balasore district, Orissa state

Jayaram Marandi (beaten by a mob then arrested by police for attempting to baptize 10 catechumens who were also arrested)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa:-20-Christians-arrested-while-celebrating-a-baptism-26017.html>



Pakistan: Mardan

Bishop Peter Majeed (**UPDATE:** described the [September 21 2012](#) attack on St Paul's Church "...More than three thousand Muslims attacked the Church, they were fully equipped with kerosene oil that they had brought with them - this was pre-meditated and not a riot that descended into violence...")

Jimmy Mathew (St Paul Church secretary, said of the [September 21 2012](#) attack on St Paul's Church "...All the Christian community living here feel insecure and uncertain about their future...")

Saadia Manwer (St Paul Church Sunday school teacher, said of the [September 21 2012](#) attack on the church "...We have provided healthcare, education and substantial support to the local community, regardless of peoples religious affiliation since independence - this is a slap in the face. Now we find we are under threat of attacks all the time...")

Pakistan: Hyderabad

Rebecca Masih (aged 22, nurse, abducted while on the way to work by armed men in the employ of the son of a member of parliament, forcibly converted to Islam and married to a Muslim)

<http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/2012/10/mardan-church-and-trail-of-destruction.html>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/viewnews.php?newsid=1859>

Thursday October 3, 2012



India

Rev Richard Howell (called for repeal of the so-called Freedom of Religion legislation in several states which effectively ban religious conversion and an end to legal discrimination against Christian Dalits [untouchables])

<http://in.christiantoday.com/articles/efi-urges-india-to-fulfill-international-obligations-on-human-rights/7629.htm>



Turkmenistan

Oleg Piyashev (prohibited on [September 23, 2012](#) from returning to Russia from Ashgabad due to his presence at a Dashoguz religious service and possession of a recorded interview with Begjan Shirmedov concerning Christian poetry, fined 750 manats; **UPDATE:** allowed to return home to Russia)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17588.html>



Kazakhstan

Lazzat Almenova (confined to a mental institute due to her membership in Grace Church)

Viktor Sorokin (member of Grace Church, volunteered for drug testing during a police raid to prove that the church did not abuse drugs)

Tatyana Zhukova (member of Grace Church)

Shakindyk Uysimbayev (member of Grace Church)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1756



Egypt: Abbaseya

Bishop Anba Pachomius (acting Patriarch of Coptic Church; **UPDATE:** led a liturgy commemorating the deaths one year ago of 28 Copts who were run over by armored vehicles in a demonstration "We meet today to remember our children who have died and walked in faith. We remember them with our loved ones in Kosheh, Samalout, Imbaba,

Al-Amraneya, and Nag Hammadi [other incidents involving the death of innocent Christians]. They are martyrs of the era and we can not forget them. We live in a new era of martyrdom")

Egypt: Ezbet Marco village, Beni Suef province

Nabil Nagy Rizk (aged 10, arrested and jailed on charges of Quran desecration)

Mina Nady al-Farag (aged 9, arrested and jailed on charges of Quran desecration)

<http://www.bikyamasr.com/79087/egypt-christian-boys-9-and-10-taken-from-parents-arrested-after-accused-of-desecrating-quran/#.UGwfSeVQqMA.twitter>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20121003192233.htm>

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/871-copts-remember-maspero-victims-at-cathedral>

Friday October 4, 2012



China

Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin (**UPDATE**: still in government-mandated "retreat" at Sheshan Seminary following his resignation from the Catholic Patriotic Association on the day of his ordination, all priests and religious of his diocese have been forced to attend 3 days of classes at the Shanghai Institute of Socialism)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/10/04/shanghai-religious-undergo-re-education/>



Pakistan: Lahore

Khurram Masih (arrested on blasphemy charges; **UPDATE**: granted a bail hearing for October 8, 2012)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenews.php?hnewsid=3828>



Kazakhstan: Astana

Pastor Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev (Grace Church, questioned by police on church activities, has suffered a heart attack)

Pastor Igor Zuyev (Grace Church, questioned by police on church activities)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1756



Egypt: Ezbet Marco village, Beni Suef province

Mina Nady al-Farag (aged 9, arrested and jailed on charges of Quran desecration; **UPDATE:** released from juvenile detention but remains under investigation)

Nabil Nagy Rizk (aged 10, arrested and jailed on charges of Quran desecration; **UPDATE:** released from juvenile detention but remains under investigation)

Egypt: Alexandria

Bishop Botros Fahim Awad Hanna (described the arrest of two boys aged 9 and 10 in Ezbet Marco village, Beni Suef province for Quran desecration as a manifestation of a "growing hatred toward Egyptian Christians that is expressed in many ways.")

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32358&lan=eng>

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32364&lan=eng>

Saturday October 5, 2012



Bangladesh: Chittagong

Bishop Moses M. Costa (**UPDATE:** stated that hundreds of Christian children are taken from their families, Islamized in madrassas, and often sold abroad as slaves, and that 105 such children escaped their captors in the last few months alone)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32368&lan=eng>



Egypt: Cairo

Magda Kaiser (still searching for her daughter 5 years after her abduction and forced conversion to Islam)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20121005185154.htm>



Nigeria: Jos, Plateau state

Hannatu Dantong (widow of Senator Gyang Dantong, states that little is known about the Boko Haram attack on the funeral that resulted in his death)

Grace Dantong (daughter of Senator Gyang Dantong)

Dan Dantong (son of Senator Gyang Dantong)

http://www.compassdirect.org/english/country/nigeria/article_1843024.html

Tuesday October 8, 2012



China

Wang Xiao (detained for 10 days)

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



Egypt: Rashid, Beheira

Fr Maximos (stopped a prosecutor from demolishing St Mary's Church, life threatened by the prosecutor and his two sons)

Fr Luke Asaad (stopped a prosecutor from demolishing St Mary's Church, life threatened by the prosecutor and his two sons)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20121008001210.htm>

Wednesday October 9, 2012



Iran: Mashhad city, Khorasan-Razavi province

Vahid Zarday (convert, artist, arrested in a house church on [May 26, 2012](#) with his wife and a number of other new Christians; **UPDATE**: released from prison pending trial)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5514:christian-artist-released-after-136-days-in-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



United Kingdom - Scotland

John Deighan (parliamentary officer of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, reported in [Brussels, Belgium](#) that his 12 year old child has been branded a 'Nazi' for refusing to support same-sex marriage)

http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/scottish-children-called-nazis-for-opposing-gay-marriage-says-bishops-offic?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+LifesitenewscomLatestHeadlines+%28LifeSiteNews.com+Latest+Headlines%29&utm_content=Google+Reader

Thursday October 10, 2012



Pakistan

Bishop Rufin Anthony (condemned the Taliban shooting of Malala Yousafzai, a 14-year-old female Muslim activist)

Rev Samuel Gill (takes care of 50 Christian families in the Swat Valley and another 50 in Malakand, both of which are Taliban strongholds)

Pakistan: Karachi

Perevz Janni (held in a private jail by his Muslim employers)

Majeed Masih (father of Perevz Janni, has yet to secure his son's freedom)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3936>
<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32400&lan=eng>

Friday October 11, 2012



China: Baoshi town, Huquan county, Hinngan League

Zhai Fuling (detained for 10 days)

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



India: Kannur village, Karnataka state

Pastor Samuel Kim (beaten unconscious by Hindu extremists, hospitalized)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue18091.html>



Pakistan: Sui Gas Colony [ghetto], Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi

Ryan Stanten (aged 16, accused of blasphemy for forwarding text messages which he had not read, home attacked by mob, furniture set afire, whereabouts unknown)

Rubina Staten (mother of Ryan Staten, whereabouts unknown)

Pakistan: Karachi

Saleem Khurshid Khokhar (Member Sindh Provincial Assembly, **UPDATE**: condemned the mob vandalism of St Francis of Assisi Parish)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3851>

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jimu2qbrcYSrft3TRp9M8ZRF0_AA?docId=CNG.a85a397b526efddeb2ac973d3385a3bd.6c1

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3856>



Syria: Damascus

Pascal Kateb (Secretary General of Caritas Syria, is assisting thousands of families displaced by the civil war)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32395&lan=eng>



Canada: Ontario

Bishop Michael Mulhall (challenged plans of the provincial government to force Catholic schools to teach that abortion is not wrong under new anti-bullying legislation)

http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/ontario-bishop-mulhall-we-wont-let-the-gvmt-define-catholic-teaching?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+LifesitenewscomLatestHeadlines+%28LifeSiteNews.com+Latest+Headlines%29



Mexico: Mexico City

Sister Ines (has rescued 200 disabled children found abandoned in landfills)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32402&lan=eng>

Saturday October 12, 2012



India: Kannur village, Karnataka state

Pastor Samuel Kim (beaten unconscious by Hindu extremists on [October 11, 2012](#), hospitalized,
UPDATE: the extremists attempted to slit his throat while he lay in his hospital bed)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue18091.html>



Pakistan: Karachi

Fr Albert Jamil OFM (concerned about another mob attack on St Francis Church)

Fr Victor Mohan OFM (concerned about another mob attack on St Francis Church)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32451&lan=eng>

<http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/2012/10/update-on-teenage-blasphemy-victim-ryan.html>



Kazakhstan: Oral

Maxim Maximov (New Life Church leader, reported on a 7 hour police raid in which 607 religious books were confiscated)

Gulnara Utebayeva (New Life Church assistant pastor, reported that the two complainants in the raid possessed military passes)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1756



Iran: Shiraz

A government crackdown may have detained between 100 and 400 Christians

Bijan Haghighi (detained)

Eskandar Rezaie (detained)

Mehdi Ameruni (detained)

Mohammad Roghangir (detained)

Roxana Forughi (detained)

Shahin Lahooti (detained)

Suroush Saraie (detained)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17860.html>

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/24042-breaking-news-iran-launching-massive-arrests-of-evangelicals>

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5529:a-number-of-non-trinitarian-christians-arrested-in-iran&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Senegal: Dakar

Cardinal Theodore Adrien Sarr (expressed outrage over the desecration of Christian cemeteries)

Fr Roger Gomis (described the details of the desecration of Christian cemeteries)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32414&lan=eng>

Saturday October 13, 2012



Pakistan: Sanghia Hill, Punjab

Pastor Karama Patras (accused of blasphemy for praying for the good health of Muslims, beaten by a mob, arrested)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3904>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3858>



Lebanon: Beirut

Rodrigue Khoury (protested the Turkish movie "Fetih 1453" which depicts Christianity as evil)

Fr Abdo Abou Kassem (protested the Turkish movie "Fetih 1453" which depicts Christianity as corrupt and distorts the historical record)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Lebanese-Christians-against-a-Turkish-film-that-incites-religious-hatred-26079.html>



Egypt: Abdelmassih village, Deir Mawas

Hiyam Zaki Zaher (aged 25, mother of 2, object of kidnapping attempt, 2 relatives shot dead and 3 injured in the attempt)

Ephrem (relative of Hiyam Zaki Zaher, **shot dead** when he refused to cooperate with her abductors, mourners at his funeral threatened with death)

Ibrahim Marzouk (father of Hiyam Zaki Zaher, **shot dead** when he refused to cooperate with her abductors, mourners at his funeral threatened with death)

Reda Marzouk (relative of Hiyam Zaki Zaher, blamed the inaction of security forces for the deaths in the family)

Nader Shukry (activist, wrote that the inaction of security forces emboldened the men who attempted to kidnap Hiyam Zaki Zaher)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/913-muslim-gang-attempts-to-kidnap-egyptian-christian-mother-4-dead>



Chad: N'Djamena

Bishop Michael Russo (expelled from the country for his criticism of oil revenue mismanagement)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32560&lan=eng>

Monday October 15, 2012



Pakistan: Arifwala, Punjab province

Niamat Masih (**tortured to death** by police)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3865>



Iran: Ahwaz, Khuzestan province

Farhad Sabokrouh (**UPDATE**: sentenced for 4 years' imprisonment)

Shahnaz Jeizan (**UPDATE**: sentenced for 4 years' imprisonment)

Naser Zamen Dezfuli (**UPDATE**: sentenced for 4 years' imprisonment)

Davoud Alijani (**UPDATE**: sentenced for 4 years' imprisonment)

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**: trial rescheduled to October 25, released on temporary bail)

Nima Shokoohi (son of Homayoon Shokoohi-Gholamzadeh and Fariba Nazemian; **UPDATE:** suffered an epileptic seizure in the courthouse when his parents were not produced for trial, reunited with his mother when she was released on temporary bail as a result of his seizure)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5643:the-aog-pastor-and-three-church-ministers-sentenced-to-four-years-in-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5565:one-christian-prisoner-released-on-extraordinary-bail-others-still-in-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Azerbaijan: Gyanja

Fakhraddin Mirzayev (sentenced to one year in prison for refusing military conscription, has appealed)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1755



Syria: Aleppo

Sam Ghannoum (aged 28, composer and singer, taken allegedly by the secret police)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32577&lan=eng>

Tuesday October 16, 2012



Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek

Pastor Almaz Ryskulov (complained that the Religion Law makes it difficult to bury non-Muslims in communal graveyards with non-Muslim services)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1784

Wednesday October 17, 2012



China: Xianghe, Hebei

Liu Fenggang (**UPDATE**: car forced off a highway by an SUV with a covered license plate shortly after passing an unmanned police checkpoint, the SUV driver then smashed the car's windshield with a club causing minor cuts)

China: Beijing

Brent Johnson (husband of Serena Johnson, founded China Little Flower, a foster care agency that has saved 1400 children)

Serena Johnson (wife of Brent Johnson, founded China Little Flower, a foster care agency that has saved 1400 children)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/10/unidentified-motorist-bashes-pastor-liu.html>

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/catholic-couple-rescues-1400-chinese-orphans/>

Thursday October 18, 2012



China

Bishop James Su Zhimin (disappeared while in police custody in 1997; has spent 40 total years in captivity; **UPDATE**: family continues to press the government for information on his whereabouts and condition)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Msg-r-James-Su-Zhimi-n:-15-years-in-police-custody-in-a-secret-location-26122.html>



Laos

Pastor Adang (arrested on [September 11, 2012](#) in Kengsainoy, Phin District, Savannakhet Province, held in handcuffs; **UPDATE**: ordered by authorities to participate in animist rituals, refused to do so)

Pastor Bounlerd (arrested on [September 11, 2012](#) in Alowmai, Phin District, Savannakhet Province, held in handcuffs; **UPDATE**: ordered by authorities to participate in animist rituals, refused to do so)

Pastor Onlaew (arrested on [September 11, 2012](#) in Kapang, Phin District, Savannakhet Province, held in handcuffs and footstock; **UPDATE**: ordered by authorities to participate in animist rituals, refused to do so)

<http://www.hrwlrf.net/pages/LAO-AUTHORITIES-RESORT-TO-THE-USE-OF-LOCAL-SPIRIT-CULT-CUSTOM.html>



Pakistan: Essa Nagri, Karachi

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (**UPDATE**: condemned a Taliban attack on Philadelphia Pentecostal Church in which Christians were intimidated with gunfire, Bibles and hymnals desecrated, donations stolen and windows broken)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3880>



Iran: Shiraz

Afshar Bahmani (arrested)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17860.html>



Syria: Aleppo

Bishop Antoine Audo SJ (**UPDATE**: stated of the civil war "Aleppo, the city I love so much and where I have been bishop this past 20 years, is now devastated - much of it in ruins")

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2012/10/18/bishop-of-aleppo-the-city-i-love-is-in-ruins/>

Friday October 19, 2012



China: Ye County, Henan province

Hu Linpo (charged with engaging in cult activities and membership in the 'Shouters', a charge he denies)

Han Hai (charged with engaging in cult activities and membership in the 'Shouters', a charge he denies)

Yang Lianbing (charged with engaging in cult activities and membership in the 'Shouters', a charge he denies)

Wang En (charged with engaging in cult activities and membership in the 'Shouters', a charge she denies)

Li Dan (charged with engaging in cult activities and membership in the 'Shouters', a charge she denies)

Zhang Mian (charged with engaging in cult activities and membership in the 'Shouters', a charge she denies)

Cao Xia (charged with engaging in cult activities and membership in the 'Shouters', a charge she denies)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/11/seven-house-church-christians-in-henan.html>



Maldives

Jathish Bisvas (Bangladeshi expatriate, arrested in [Male](#) on [September 27, 2012](#) for possession of Christian books; **UPDATE**: deported after 23 days in jail)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue18168.html>



Iran: Shiraz

Afshar Bahmani (arrested, **UPDATE**: released one day after her arrest, apparently on health grounds)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17860.html>



Syria: Aleppo

Elias Abdel Nour (**killed** in fighting)

Fadi Samir Haddad (**killed** in fighting)

Fr Imad Daher (injured in fighting)

Joelle Fahmeh ("young", **killed** in fighting)

Maria Fahmeh (**killed** in fighting)

Nichan Vartanian (**killed** in fighting)

Vartan Karbedjian (**killed** in fighting)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32478&lan=eng>



Congo, Democratic Republic: Mbau

Fr Jean-Pierre Ndulani AA (abducted)

Fr Anselme Wasikundi AA (abducted)

Fr Edmond Bamutute AA (abducted)

Bishop Sikuli Paluku (appealed for the release of the 3 priests by their abductors)

Bishop Nicolas Djomo (condemned the abduction of the 3 priests)

<http://www.zenit.org/article-35799?l=english>

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32496&lan=eng>

Monday October 22, 2012



Indonesia: Banda Aceh

Rev Nico Tarigan (Indonesian Bethel Church, protested closure of the church)

<http://www.ucanews.com/2012/10/22/authorities-shut-down-nine-churches/>



Pakistan: Islamabad

Timar Shahzadi (aged 14, abducted by Muslim men while returning from school, parents fear she will be forcibly married)

Amjid Masih (father of Timar Shahzadi)

Pakistan: Sukkur, Sindh province

Rebecca Masih (aged 22, nurse, abducted on [October 2, 2012](#) while on the way to work in Hyderabad by armed men in the employ of the son of a member of parliament, forcibly converted to Islam and married to a Muslim; **UPDATE**: appeared in court but did not challenge her abductors' account, appeared "to have been so frightened and terrorized that she continued to mince her lips in helpless manner", the judge remanded her over to her 'husband')

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5653:a-minor-christian-girl-kidnapped-in-islamabad-territory&catid=81:regions&Itemid=278

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3887>

Tuesday October 23, 2012



Indonesia: Poso, Central Sulawesi province

Rev Aben (pastor of Madele Pentecostal Church, thanked local residents for helping to put out an arson fire at the church)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Anti-Christian-violence:-extremists-set-fire-to-Protestant-church-in-Poso-26163.html>



Egypt: Maadi suburb, Cairo

Fr Makarios Morris (explained the growing worry among Egyptian Christians)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/10/23/christians-worry-over-a-future-in-egypt/>

Wednesday October 24, 2012



Philippines: Manila

Auxiliary Bishop Broderick Soncuaco Pabillo (denounced a United Nations report that called for the legalization of prostitution in the Philippines)

<http://www.zenit.org/article-35801?l=english>



Kazakhstan: Karaturyk

Pastor Zhursyn Koshkinov (described how authorities are pressuring church members to remove their signatures from church registration applications - should the churches not meet the legal minimum they will be denied registration on the October 25 2012 deadline and can be closed)

Tamara Kasymova (told by authorities to remove her signature from her church's registration application)

Dilshot Kasymov (son of Tamara Kasymova, recounted multiple instances of official harassment of their family)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1758

Thursday October 25, 2012



Pakistan: Lahore

Khurram Masih (arrested on blasphemy charges, **UPDATE:** granted bail and released from jail)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3890>



Syria: Qatana suburb, Damascus

Fr Fadi Jamil Haddad (abducted along with 2 others; **UPDATE: found dead**, had been tortured)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32518&lan=eng>



United States – Illinois: Mountain Grove

Patriarch Dinkha IV (sent a letter to the UN calling for an end to sectarian violence in the Middle East)

<http://www.aina.org/news/2012110620019.htm>

Friday October 26, 2012



Pakistan: Sahiwal, Punjab state

Javed Sahotra (attorney, threatened with death for advancing the prosecution of the five Muslims who raped and murdered 13 year old Maqadass Kainat)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3894>



Syria: Damascus

Fr Fadi Jamil Haddad (abducted along with 2 others; **found dead**, had been tortured; **UPDATE: funeral subjected to a bomb attack which killed two civilians and several soldiers**)

Fr Elias el-Baba (identified the body of Fr Fadi Jamil Haddad)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32522&lan=eng>

Saturday October 27, 2012



China: Shenzhen

Four Christians detained during evangelistic activities

Li Hailing (detained)

Du Weixiao (detained)

Huo Xiaofeng (detained)

Han Dongkui (detained)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/11/brief-report-house-church-evangelistic.html>



Syria: Deir Ezzor

Patriarch Ignatius Zakka I Iwas (confirmed a car bombing of an Orthodox church)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32532&lan=eng>

Sunday October 28, 2012



India: Narisipura village, Karnataka state

Pastor Annaiah (beaten, threatened with death)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue18091.html>



Egypt: Tala, el-Fashn, Beni Suef province

Fr Cheroubim Chehab (held captive inside St George Church by a 'huge' mob which wanted the church closed, 5 Christians hospitalized after beatings)

<http://www.maghrebchristians.com/2012/11/01/christians-under-attack-in-egypt-after-mass/>



Nigeria: Kaduna

Linus Lighthouse (survived a car bomb attack on St Rita's Church which killed at least 5 and wounded nearly 100)

Daniel Kazah (Catholic cadet [Boy Scout], witnessed the car bombing of St Rita's church)

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/news-update/suicide-bomber-hits-kaduna-church/>

Monday October 29, 2012



India: Chikkamatti village, Shimoga District, Karnataka state

Rev Prashanth (arrested for baptizing 40 converts)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Karnataka:-police-arrest-Christians-for-baptising-40-Tribals-26240.html>



Kazakhstan: Almaty

Pastor Makset Djabbarbergenov (arrested on [September 5, 2012](#), will likely be deported back to Uzbekistan despite having official refugee status; **UPDATE**: Kazakhstan has said that it considers the Uzbek illegal religious activities charges to be the equivalent of terrorism charges)

Aigul Djabbarbergenov (wife of Makset Djabbarbergenov, is expecting their fifth child; **UPDATE**: has not been allowed to see her husband)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1760



Syria: Nor Kyugh, Aleppo

Zhirayr aka Jirair Reisian (reported on the destruction of St Gevorg church by rebels and the abduction of 12 Christians)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20121103174722.htm>



Belarus: Minsk

Sergei Lukanin (New Life Pentecostal church member and lawyer, stated that "There will be round-the-clock prayer in our building and special evening prayer meetings" due to the pending eviction of the church from its building)

Pastor Vyacheslav Goncharenko (New Life Pentecostal church)

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1772



United States – Texas: Forest Hill

Pastor Danny Kirk Sr (**beaten to death** in his church with an electric guitar, motive unknown because the attacker died from a police electroshock device)

<http://www.fox8live.com/story/19946994/police-pastor-killed/>

Tuesday October 30, 2012



China: Shanghai

Feng Zhenghu (illegally confined to his home for the past 8 months)

Shen Peilan (detained by police)

Jin Yuehua (detained by police)

Mao Hengfeng (sentenced to 18 months of "re-education through labor" for "disrupting public order", is in poor health with dangerously high blood pressure)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/11/shanghai-house-church-christian-and.html>



India: New Delhi

John Dayal (**UPDATE**: has accused the government of suppressing dissent by cancelling 4,300 licenses for non-government organizations, including religious charities)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32552&lan=eng>



Pakistan

Shamin aka Martha Bibi (arrested on blasphemy charges on [January 22, 2007](#) after resisting conversion to Islam by her sister-in-law; **UPDATE**: has been mistreated in jail, next trial or pretrial hearing scheduled for November 3, 2012)

Pakistan: Sanghia Hill, Punjab

Pastor Karama Patras (accused of blasphemy on [October 13, 2012](#) for praying for the good health of Muslims, beaten by a mob, arrested; **UPDATE**: denied bail)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32553&lan=eng>
<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=3904>



Syria: Homs

Elias Mansour (aged 84, refused to leave his home due to his handicapped son Adnane, **killed**)

Adnane Mansour (handicapped son of Elias Mansour, whereabouts unknown after the murder of his father)

<http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=32561&lan=eng>



Cuba

Pastor Omar Gude Perez (has been refused a permit to leave the country despite being offered asylum in the USA; **UPDATE**: has sent a letter demanding an exit permit)

<http://dynamic.csw.org.uk/article.asp?t=press&id=1442>

Wednesday October 31, 2012



China: Shenzhen

Li Hailing (detained on [October 27, 2012](#) during evangelistic activities, **UPDATE**: released)

Du Weixiao (detained on [October 27, 2012](#) during evangelistic activities, **UPDATE**: released)

Huo Xiaofeng (detained on [October 27, 2012](#) during evangelistic activities, **UPDATE**: released)

Han Dongkui (detained on [October 27, 2012](#) during evangelistic activities, **UPDATE**: released)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/11/brief-report-house-church-evangelistic.html>



Turkmenistan

Juma Nazarov (arrested on [May 8, 2012](#) in [Ashgabad](#) for refusing military service: sentenced to 18 months imprisonment on [July 23, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Mahmud Hidaybergenov (**UPDATE**: still in prison for refusing military service)

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

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

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1761



Iraq: Kirkuk

Halla (spoke in the Chaldean cathedral in memory of her brother Saad and almost 100 other Christians who have been murdered since 2003)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Msgr-Sako:-Baghdad-Cathedral-tragedy-a-reference-point-for-our-faith-26257.html>

October 2012, date unknown



Nepal

Pastor Chhedar Bhote Lhomi (arrested for eating beef)

http://www.prisoneralert.com/pprofiles/vp_prisoner_223_profile.html



Egypt: Asyut

Gameel Girgis (aged 36, pharmacist, gained asylum in the United States with his wife and two children after his father-in-law, a Coptic priest, was stabbed to death)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2013/04/refuge-from-egypt-unrest-at-a-queens-church/>



Nigeria: Maiduguri, Borno state

Rev Elisha Kabura (**shot dead** in his home, had received death threats from Boko Haram)

<http://www.assistnews.net/Stories/2012/s12110111.htm>



Canada: Edmonton

Pastor Stephen Boissoin (Alberta Appeals Court upheld his right to publicly express his views on sexual behavior, overturning his previous conviction on hate speech charges)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue17996.html>