

Today's Martyrs – July 2013

Monday July 1, 2013



United Kingdom: London

Tony Miano (aged 49, U.S. citizen, arrested for public preaching on traditional Christian morality)

Andrea Minichiello Williams (chief executive of the Christian Legal Centre, **UPDATE**: said "If we continue on the current trajectory, Tony [Miano]'s arrest will simply be the first of many. No assurances that the government gives will be enough. It is ridiculous to think that if the same sex marriage Bill goes through these kinds of incidents will magically cease. It's clear that there is already a clampdown on freedom of speech where people publicly express mainstream Christian views on sexual ethics")

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/religious-freedom/street-preacher-arrested-in-london-for-%E2%80%99Chomophobic%E2%80%9D-language>

Tuesday July 2, 2013



Indonesia: Rejoso village, Jogonalan sub-district, Klaten regency, central Java

Fr Gregorius Utomo (celebration of the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood threatened by Islamists)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Central-Java,-Islamic-extremists-against-celebrations-for-Fr.-Utomo's-50th-anniversary-of-priesthood-28344.html>



Kazakhstan: Karabalyk, Kostanai region

Andrei Moiseyenko (fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration')

Ivan Vengelevsky (fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration')

Eduard Malykhin (religious service with 40 persons in his home raided by police on [April 6, 2013](#), personal library seized; **UPDATE**: fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration')

Irina Malykhina (fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration')

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1870



Iran

Rashin Soodmand (described how her father Hossein Soodmand converted to Christianity, entered the ministry, ignored orders from the government to stop, and was hanged on [December 3, 1990](#))

Iran: Tehran

Pastor Robert Asseriyian (arrested on [May 21, 2013](#) in the middle of a Tehran church service, taken to an undisclosed location; **UPDATE**: conditionally released from jail, conditions appear to include a promise that he will not disclose his treatment while in captivity)

<http://blog.godreports.com/2013/07/daughter-of-martyred-iranian-carries-her-fathers-zeal/>
http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7098:pastor-of-aog-church-conditionally-released-from-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Syria: Qusair

Mariam (aged 15, forced into multiple serial Islamic marriages and divorces by militants, became mentally unstable, **killed**)

Fr Issam (reported on the torture and murder of Mariam)

Fr Elias (reported on the torture and murder of Mariam)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/33906-ASIA_SYRIA_Rape_and_atrocities_on_a_young_Christian_in_Qusair#.UdOR-ozD8fg

Wednesday July 3, 2013



Indonesia: Kranggan sub-district, Bekasi regency, West Java province

Agung Dewabrata (said that the permit process for the construction of St Stanislaus Kotska Church has been underway since 2003 with final approval on [December 17 2012](#), but now Muslim extremists are trying to stop construction)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hundreds-of-Muslim-extremists-against-the-construction-of-a-Catholic-church-in-Bekasi-28367.html>



China

Ni Yulan (civil rights attorney, unable to walk without crutches due to police torture, disbarred, currently serving a 2.5 year sentence for "causing trouble" after forced to live in a tent, denied a medical parole to treat a thyroid tumor)

<http://dynamic.csw.org.uk/article.asp?t=press&id=1552>



Syria

Patriarch Gregorios III Laham (**UPDATE:** pleaded with European Union leaders in [Brussels, Belgium](#) to oppose member countries sending more arms to Syria: "more weapons will mean more widows and orphans")

<http://members4.boardhost.com/acnaus/msg/1372896022.html>



Egypt: Cairo

Shenoda Danil (taxi driver, supported the uprising against the Muslim Brotherhood, said "The Brotherhood are thinking only of themselves. They do not know and do not do anything for the people. They divided our society into Muslim and Christian")

Hebatalla Safwat Ghali (French professor, supported the uprising against the Muslim Brotherhood, said "The Brotherhood is trying to kidnap our country")

Fr Mekheel Aziz Karyakos (supported the uprising against the Muslim Brotherhood)

Shady Abdel Massieh (aged 27, surveyor, supported the uprising against the Muslim Brotherhood, said "Morsi does not do anything...He and the Brotherhood have divided the country")

Manal Selim (supported the uprising against the Muslim Brotherhood)

Egypt: Delga, Deir Mawas, Minya province

Fr Ayub Saleh (rectory and church torched, smuggled across rooftops by neighbors, said that supporters of former President Morsi are breaking into Christian homes at gunpoint, terrorizing the inhabitants and looting the contents)

Mariam Ragy (activist, **UPDATE:** reported on how many Christian homes are torched after they are looted, with the Christian residents waiting outside the village)

Egypt: Delgia

Bishop Botros Fahim Awad Hanna (**UPDATE:** described the attack on St George church in which the rectory and church were burned down following the removal of President Morsi by the military: "Thank God there were no victims and injuries but the alarm continues. The fundamentalists have closed the roads at the entrance to the village. They shout slogans against Christians, they say they want to destroy everything and now they are trying again to storm the church. The local police are helpless, I called Cairo to ask for the intervention of the army")

Egypt: Marsa Matruh

Fr Bijimi Anba-Boula (church attacked: "I heard gunshots outside between Salafis and the armed forces at around 10:30pm. Two hours later, an unknown group was throwing stones violently on the Holy Virgin church. I ran there and called the army for help. They broke windows with stones and burnt down the security guard quarters. I think Islamists are putting us in the same bag with liberals and other Morsi opponents. They simply persecute everybody who is not sharing their ideas")

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/07/2592966/>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130706133116.htm>

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/33924->

[AFRICA EGYPT After the deposition of Morsi reprisals against Christians#.UdeOmozD8fg](#)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/1678-attacks-increase-against-egypt-s-coptic-christians>



Macedonia: Skopje

Archbishop Jovan of Ohrid aka Zoran Vraniskovski (aged 47, sentenced to three years in prison and church property seized for alleged money laundering, charges widely viewed as resulting from his efforts to reunify the Serbian and Macedonian Orthodox Churches)

Bishop Marko aka Goran Kimev (sentenced to two years suspended for alleged money laundering, charges widely viewed as resulting from Archbishop Jovan's efforts to reunify the Serbian and Macedonian Orthodox Churches)

Bishop David Ninov (sentenced to two years suspended for alleged money laundering, charges widely viewed as resulting from Archbishop Jovan's efforts to reunify the Serbian and Macedonian Orthodox Churches)

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/29287-breaking-news-macedonia-sentences-orthodox-archbishop-to-3-years-jail>



Ireland: Dublin

Terence Flanagan (expelled from the governing Fine Gael party after voting against the new abortion bill)

Peter Matthews (expelled from the governing Fine Gael party after voting against the new abortion bill)

Billy Timmins (expelled from the governing Fine Gael party after voting against the new abortion bill)

Brian Walsh (expelled from the governing Fine Gael party after voting against the new abortion bill)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/07/03/irish-politicians-expelled-from-their-party-after-opposing-abortion-bill/>

Thursday July 4, 2013



North Korea

Kenneth Bae (aged 44 [2012], father of three, U.S. citizen, arrested in [Rajin](#) on [November 3, 2012](#) for preaching Christianity; sentenced to 15 years hard labor on [May 5, 2013](#) in [Pyongyang](#) for “anti-government activities”; **UPDATE**: has appeared in a prison video in which he states that his health is declining)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/kenneth-bae-us-christian-jailed-in-north-korea-pleas-for-freedom-in-new-video-99298/>



China: Baihe, Nanyang, Henan

Rev Zhang Mingxuan (**UPDATE**: at the 8th anniversary conference of the China House Church Alliance described persecutions, means of mutual support, and methods to legally protect their right to freedom of religion)

Rev Jingxiang Lu (from Anhui shared his experiences of being persecuted by the local police at the 8th anniversary conference of the China House Church Alliance)

Rev Wu (from Wuhan, who served many years in a Three-Self church, claimed at the 8th anniversary conference of the China House Church Alliance that the police expelled him from the church he built with his congregants and then occupied the church)

Sister Xu (**UPDATE**: told the 8th anniversary conference of the China House Church Alliance of her story of Xinjiang police shutting down her church)

Rev Tieling Zhang (from Fanxian, Henan, experienced persistent persecution ranging from forced closure of his home to his wife's being beaten and arrested, as told at the 8th anniversary conference of the China House Church Alliance)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/07/china-house-church-alliance-celebrates.html>



Syria: Qara

Fr Daniel Maes (aged 74, under threat by anti-government Islamists, is staying in St James monastery)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/33923-ASIA_SYRIA_A_Catholic_Belgian_priest_and_a_monastery_are_in_the_sights_of_the_jihadists#.UdePqYzD8fg

Friday July 5, 2013



Pakistan: Peshawar

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (**UPDATE**: expressed concerns over the lack of police action in the attack on an Assembly of God church in which a security guard was killed, and over Taliban threats to enforce Ramadan fasting on non-Muslims)

Pakistan: Shibli town, Gulshan Ravi, Lahore

Farhad Masih (aged 16, arrested for attempting to date a Muslim girl, threatened with death unless he converts to Islam, an attempt was made to loot and burn his home)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4384>
<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/3-christian-boys-were-killed-by-police-due-to-love-affair-with-muslim-girls/>



Eritrea

Helen Berhane (locked with 17 other Christian women in a shipping container filled with fleas and lice, given one bathroom break a day in an open field, beaten for singing hymns, freed, now residing in Denmark)

Eritrea: Medefera

Yosief Kebedom Gelai (aged 41, convert, teacher, **died** in a secret incarceration center after a long illness, arrested in **December 2012** after his conversion came to the attention of members of the Eritrean People's Front for Democracy and Justice (EPRDF) at the school)

http://grandlakenews.com/commentary/columns/article_a7b0f479-6aa4-572a-9c9b-4501ea2632a9.html
<http://www.mnnonline.org/article/18764>



Egypt

Pastor Fawzi Wahib (said "I feel we pay the price of freedom" after supporters of former President Morsi began killing opponents)

Egypt: Al Dabaya village, Luxor

Fr Barsilious (described his attempts to save the lives of the four Christians killed in the recent riot: "The attack went on for 18 hours, and there was not a door on which I did not knock: police, army, local leaders, the Central Security Forces, the Governorate. Nothing was done")

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/07/muslim-brotherhood-supporters-attack-christian-targets-in-egypt-after-morsi-removed-as-president/>
<http://www.aina.org/news/20130723122347.htm>

Saturday July 6, 2013



China

Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin (ordained as bishop in Shanghai on [July 7, 2012](#), then disappeared after stating in his first homily that he would resign from the state-sponsored church;

UPDATE: is now beginning his second year of house arrest, continues limited blogging)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/After-one-year-of-house-arrest,-Chinese-Catholics-pray-for-Mgr-Ma-Daqin,-bishop-of-Shanghai-28402.html>



Pakistan

Reginald Walter Fazal Khan (arrested in 2007 after a servant planted burnt Quran pages in his home, released on bail, continues to be threatened by vigilantes, now living in hiding)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/an-old-pakistani-christian-man-requests-for-prayers-and-support/>



Iran: Robot Karim

Ebrahim Firouzi (convert, aged 28, disappeared on the way to work on [March 7, 2013](#);

UPDATE: trial begun but then postponed after he objected to the charges as made up by his interrogators and the judge ruled the indictment to be defective)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7188:another-christian-convert-ebrahim-firouzi-tried-in-iran&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Egypt: Al Dabaya village, Luxor

Emil Naseem Saroufeem (aged 42, **bludgeoned to death** by a mob who blamed him for the murder of an anti-Morsi Muslim, three others seriously injured and twenty homes destroyed)

Mouhareb Noushy Habib (aged 38, beaten and **stabbed to death** by a mob for hiding Emil Naseem Saroufeem, three others seriously injured and twenty homes destroyed)

Romany Noushy (aged 33, beaten and **stabbed to death** by a mob for hiding Emil Naseem Saroufeem, three others seriously injured and twenty homes destroyed)

Rasem Tawadrous Aqladios (aged 56, **bludgeoned to death** by a mob for hiding Emil Naseem Saroufeem, three others seriously injured and twenty homes destroyed)

Egypt: el-Arish, Sinai

Fr Mina Haroan Abboud aka Mina Cheroubim (aged 39, **shot dead** at point blank range while walking on the street, attackers are likely Islamists taking revenge for the ouster of Muslim Brotherhood-backed President Morsi)

Egypt: Cairo

Pope Tawadros II (**UPDATE**: expressed his support for the removal of President Morsi by the military, joined by Grand Imam of al-Azhar Ahmed el-Tayyib)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/07/christians-in-egypt-fearful-after-five-copts-killed/>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orthodox-Coptic-priest-killed-in-Sinai-28404.html>

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/egyptian-coptic-pope-supports-ousting-of-morsi-22324>



Finland: Kankaanpaa

Paivi Rasanen (aged 53, Interior Minister and chair of the Christian Democratic party, attacked abortion on the basis of her Christian faith and decried the lack of conscientious objection in the law for health care workers: "Animal protection law grants better protection to animals than the law on abortion gives to unborn children. Animals may not be slaughtered in a painful manner, but it's not permitted to even discuss the painfulness of abortion")

Pastor Halvar Sandell (supported Paivi Rasanen's comments, wrote "If someone comes with the actual Christian creed hysteria results in some quarters. Many people put no value on clergy and church workers; but they are happy that there are so many liberal priests who think as they themselves do")

Rev Timo Keskitalo (accused the critics of Paivi Rasanen to be hypocritical "The Green party has officially stated as a party line, that one cannot always obey the law. Now when a Christian politician states the same principle, it is found to be unacceptable")

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/finnish-interior-minister-causes-stir-over-faith-based-abortion-views-22342>



United Kingdom: London

Tony Miano (aged 49, U.S. citizen, arrested for public preaching on traditional Christian morality; **UPDATE**: released without charge, returned to jail to donate ten Bibles after he found there was only one in the building)

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/religious-freedom/the-impact-of-tony-mianos-case-on-free-speech>



Ireland: Dublin

Declan Ganley (spoke at a rally of 60,000 people who marched against the pending abortion liberalization bill, called for a referendum as allowed under the constitution if it passes)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/60000-rally-against-abortion-bill-in-dublin-as-minister-offers-meaningless>

Sunday July 7, 2013



Iraq: Bagdad

Rev Andrew White (described in [London, United Kingdom](#) how in the 10 years since Saddam Hussein was toppled 1,026 members of his congregation have been killed)

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/07/2600123/>



Egypt: Alexandria

Patriarch Theodore (expressed concern over the country's future)

Egypt: Cairo

Fr Michael Selim Zaki (said "We're nervous. You never know what the Islamists are planning...The Church is growing as its faith deepens. It's an old law that the Church grows when it experiences difficulties. The blood of the martyrs is the seed of Christians...While reading the Holy Scripture they experience how the Lord shows us that he is close even today")

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2013/07/patriarch-of-alexandria-pray-for-all/>

<http://members4.boardhost.com/acnaus/msg/1373602065.html>

Monday July 8, 2013



Iraq: Betnaya

Salem Dawood Coca (aged 62, abducted [May 27 2013](#); **UPDATE:** **found dead** in his truck, the truck had been wired with explosives which led to speculation that he was killed when he refused to be forced into a bombing)

<http://www.aina.org/news/2013079163548.htm>



Uganda

Pastor Umar Mulinde (convert from Islam, attacked with acid on [December 24, 2011](#), blinded in right eye; **UPDATE:** has undergone six surgeries in [Tel Hashomer near Tel Aviv, Israel](#) and told to expect three more through January or March of 2014, wrote “Keep praying for me, my head has been bandaged for the last 18 months.”)

Uganda: Mbale

Hassan Muwanguzi (abandoned by his family, beaten, and fired from his teaching position for converting to Christianity; **UPDATE:** threatened with death for pressing a case against three Muslims who were convicted of burning down his home, may be forced to leave the area)

Uganda: Kangado village, Pallisa district

Aisha Logose Jenifer (aged 45, mother of seven, beaten by her husband with a blunt object and then strangled when he learned of her conversion from Islam, hospitalized for a month, needs medication, sleeps with her three youngest children in a small kitchen)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/07/mulinde-other-converts-from-islam-in-uganda-struggle-to-recover/>

Tuesday July 9, 2013



Philippines: Manila

Archbishop Socrates Villegas (spoke out against the Reproductive Health law that is currently under review by the Supreme Court)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Filipino-Church-to-continue-fight-against-Reproductive-Health-law-28425.html>



Pakistan

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 after crowds threatened police that they would burn the homes of Christians; granted asylum in Canada; **UPDATE**: despite her residency in Canada prosecutors are set to petition the court to overturn her acquittal and reopen her trial)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4382>



Kazakhstan: Borovoe village, Burabai district, Akmola region

Pastor Vyacheslav Li (aged 34, husband of Bota Li, father of two, deported for several administrative convictions, will not be allowed re-entry for five years)

Bota Li (wife of Pastor VyacheslavLi, mother of two, Kazakh citizen, is appealing her husband's deportation, is certain he was deported for his religious activities)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1883



Iran: Tehran

Mostafa Bordbar (aged 26 [2012], convert, arrested while celebrating Christmas in 2012, **UPDATE**: trial held, verdict not rendered)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7122:christian-convert-tried-in-tehran&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Iraq: Al Tarmeya, Bagdad

Salem Dawood Coca (**killed**)

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



Egypt: Rafah

Fr Youssef Sobhi (stated that Christians in the Sinai are being attacked and abducted, and clergy are being spat upon and threatened with death)

<http://www.aina.org/news/2013079005234.htm>

Wednesday July 10, 2013



Pakistan

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 after crowds threatened police that they would burn the homes of Christians; granted asylum in Canada; **UPDATE**: prosecutorial petition to overturn her acquittal and reopen her trial rejected by the Supreme Court)

Pakistan: Karachi

Archbishop Joseph Coutts (**UPDATE**: urged Christians to highlight hate material against non-Muslims in school textbooks)

Peter Jacob (**UPDATE**: issued a report stating that Punjab provincial textbooks contained 45 hate references against non-Muslims in 2009 and 122 such references in 2012, and that Sindh provincial textbooks showed a similar doubling in the same years)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4383>

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/bishop-speaks-out-against-hate-material-in-textbooks/68727>



Turkmenistan: Turkmenabad

Amirlan Tolkachev (aged 20, sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for conscientious objection to military service)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1869



Egypt: Cairo

Bishop Botros Fahim Awad Hanna (**UPDATE**: objected to the interim Constitution, in which Article 1 refers to Sharia [Islamic law] as a basic source of legislation: "We are concerned. We are ridiculed. The provisions that in the old Constitution seemed bad in the eyes of Christians are highlighted in the new text. If we do not speak now, we will not be able to say anything")

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/33954-AFRICA EGYPT Coptic disapproval concerning the Provisional Constitution#.Ud4flIzD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/33954-<u>AFRICA EGYPT Coptic disapproval concerning the Provisional Constitution#.Ud4flIzD8fg</u>)

Thursday July 11, 2013



India: Lamtaput, Kandhamal district, Orissa state

Rev Jaisankar (pastor and medical doctor, **found dead** alongside a flood-swollen river, police ruled his death an accident, local and national Christians say his injuries indicate torture and murder)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Christian-clergyman's-death-in-Orissa-ruled-an-accident-by-police-28472.html>



Kazakhstan: Astrakhan district, Akmola region

Tatyana Degterenko (fined one month's average salary after she allowed her son David to give two religious audio CDs to his teachers)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1868



Iran

Hamid-Reza Ghadiri (Afghan convert, arrested during a [May 29, 2013](#) worship service in his [Esfahan](#) home along with two others; **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown)

Mohammad-Reza Farid (Afghan convert, arrested during a [May 29, 2013](#) worship service in the [Esfahan](#) home of Hamid-Reza Ghadiri; **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown)

Saeed Safi (Afghan convert, arrested during a [May 29, 2013](#) worship service in the [Esfahan](#) home of Hamid-Reza Ghadiri; **UPDATE** whereabouts still unknown)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7149:concerns-over-condition-of-three-christian-detainees-in-esfahan&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Egypt: Cairo

Bishop Kyrillos William (**UPDATE**: called on all Christians to support the Coptic Orthodox Church's new commission on the new provisional Constitution)

Amir Ramzi (Criminal Court judge; **UPDATE**: has been appointed to the Coptic Orthodox Church's new commission on the new provisional Constitution)

Susie Adly (former member of parliament, has been appointed to the Coptic Orthodox Church's new commission on the new provisional Constitution)

Egypt: Sheikh Zweid, Sinai

Magdy Lamei Habashi (aged 60, shopkeeper, abducted and **beheaded**)

Fr Youssef Soubi Zaky (**UPDATE**: commented on the murder of businessman Magdy Lamei [Habashi]: “He was a committed Christian, and he used to serve in the church, and he was active in his prayers and his ministry – he used to open his home for prayers. It was obvious they didn’t kill him for the money. They didn’t wait for the money, they just killed him. They killed him to terrorize the Christians”)

Egypt: Sinai

“Philip” (Eritrean refugee, tortured with molten plastic, stated “In some cases, we were tortured simply because we were Christians”)

Segen (aged 35, Eritrean refugee, expectant mother, said "They are asking for money every minute and they hit us and they put us — they will make us lie down on the floor and you know their feet would be up and they would hit their feet and melt with melted plastic bags. And so that way they cannot stand because they will torture their feet, and every

day they hang them the way they hang Jesus Christ...They hang us the way He was hanged and they take off their clothes. While they are naked they will hang them. And they will just hit them with big bats like all day for hours")

Sr Azziza (said of the torture survivors "People are destroyed physically, psychologically because of what they know they did to their family, how they are living [after the blackmail is paid]")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/33957->

[AFRICA EGYPT A Coptic commission to outline the criticisms concerning the Provisional Constitution#.Ud9yNIzD8fg](#)

http://www.adnkronos.com/IGN/Aki/English/Security/Egypt-Second-Christian-killed-in-Sinai-by-suspected-Muslim-extremists_32385647705.html

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/07/christians-flee-villages-in-egypts-north-sinai-after-terrifying-murders/>

http://www.adnkronos.com/IGN/Aki/English/Security/Egypt-Second-Christian-killed-in-Sinai-by-suspected-Muslim-extremists_32385647705.html

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2013/07/tortured-in-the-sinai-i-was-hanged-for-days/>



Nigeria: Abuja

Ayo Oritsejafor (president of the Christian Association of Nigeria; **UPDATE:** stated doubts that the ceasefire plan between the government and Boko Haram will hold due to factionalization: "Which Boko Haram? There have been all kinds of people that claim to be Boko Haram; now there are two groups—the Shekau group and Ansaru group")

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/news/oritsejafor-boko-haram-ceasefire-doubtful/>



United Kingdom: York

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby (**UPDATE:** stated "It's absolutely clear that Christians in Syria are being persecuted...I would encourage people to pray very strongly, continue to pray and to support this kind of campaign and to write to MPs asking them to think very carefully about the wisdom of supplying further weapons to an area of such complex and extreme violence")

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2013/07/archbishop-decries-persecution-of-syrian-christians/>

Friday July 12, 2013



Malaysia: Kuala Lumpur

Archbishop Joseph Marino (Vatican ambassador, subject of demands for expulsion by Muslim groups for his support of local Christians)

http://www.malaysia-chronicle.com/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=127941:right-wing-groups-risk-diplomatic-row-demands-expulsion-of-vatican-envoy&Itemid=2#axzz2YvSiE1HL



Pakistan: Lahore

Sardar Mushtaq Gill (attorney, stopped at gunpoint and threatened with death while returning home after representing Christians who were paraded naked in public and then arrested when they filed a criminal complaint against their attackers; **UPDATE**: denied police protection despite continuing death threats, is now considering relocating his home)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/police-denies-security-to-lead-chief/>



Iran: Tehran

Nasim Zanjani (convert, arrested in his father's home)

<http://www.irandailybrief.com/2013/07/17/christian-convert-arrested/>



Ireland: Dublin

Lucinda Creighton (minister for European Affairs, voted against the final version of the new abortion bill on July 12, 2013; **UPDATE**: removed as party whip and as minister for European Affairs)

Peadar Toibín (voted against the final version of the new abortion bill, no word as to any retribution from the Sinn Fein Party, which also supported the bill)

http://www.thejournal.ie/taoiseach-asked-me-to-resign-lucinda-creighton-989485-Jul2013/?utm_source=twitter_self

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/07/12/ireland-abortion-legislation-is-passed/>

Saturday July 13, 2013



Pakistan: Islamabad

Rafique Masih (aged 50, father of Mehboob and Iram Masih and five others, beaten by his employer's nephews during a home invasion after he asked them to not harass his daughters, head injured and arm broken)

Iram Masih (aged 17, daughter of Rafique Masih, sister of Mehboob Masih, harassed by her father's employer's nephews, slapped during their invasion of her home along with her three sisters, an attempt to drag them into the street to 'humiliate' them failed when neighbors came to their aid, in response they were held captive in their home for 'a few days' until their captors left)

Mehboob Masih (aged 23, son of Rafique Masih, brother of Iram Masih, beaten along with his father during the invasion of their home by his father's employer's nephews)

Pakistan: Lahore

Humera (aged 14, abducted from her home at gunpoint and raped by two Muslim men, rescued after several hours by her father and other relatives)

Pakistan: Gojra

Sajjad Masih (sentenced to life imprisonment for allegedly sending a blasphemous text message, the transmitting cell phone was not recovered by the police and no evidence connecting it to the accused was presented in court; the conviction and sentencing also occurred after the accuser retracted the accusation and admitted that the police had pressured him into making it)

Pakistan: Emmin Abad, Gujranwala district

Shamoun Patrus (ex-Councilor, appealed to the government to prevent lands owned by Christians, including a cemetery, from being seized by Muslims)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pakistani-Christian-violently-attacked-for-protecting-his-daughters-28506.html>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4397>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/07/christian-in-pakistan-sentenced-to-life-in-prison-for-blasphemy-in-spite-of-accusers-retraction/>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4389>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4388>

Sunday July 14, 2013



China: Deqin county, Yunnan province

Achu (banned by the local government from having fellowship in his home, then family threatened by the local Three-Self Patriotic Movement church if he made the ban public)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/09/yunnan-province-christian-threatened-by.html>



Pakistan: Kotli Mehlaan, Gujranwala district

Pavaiz Masih (aged 25, newlywed husband of Nazia Bibi, **beaten to death** at work, assailants attempted to make the death appear to be a suicide)

Nazia Bibi (widow of Pavaiz Masih)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4399>



Egypt: Rafa

Fr Youssef Soubi Zaky (**UPDATE**: left his church after it was ransacked and torched, said "Every Christian family abandoned the town because it was unsafe for us to live there. Several churches were vandalized and set alight, threats made against our families and four priests were kidnapped in the region")

Egypt

Fr Matthew Awad (in hiding after refusing to reveal the location of a Muslim woman who converted to Christianity)

Feeby (daughter of Fr Matthew Awad, threatened with death, fled to Britain)

Marco Awad (son of Fr Matthew Awad, husband of Rania Awad, arrested after his father went into hiding because his business permit was allegedly not in order, beaten in jail daily, released, now in hiding with his two oldest children, said "Muslim fundamentalists are killing our priests, kidnapping our women and burning our churches. Since the 2011 revolution, Coptics like me have lived in fear of our lives. I'm being forced to live apart

from my family because of my faith...I never thought of leaving my country but I don't feel safe here any more. I want my children to live somewhere where being a Christian does not put a target on their backs")

Rania Awad (wife of Marco Awad, fled to Britain with their four month old son)

David (aged 10, son of Marco and Rania Awad, in hiding)

Karma (aged 6, daughter of Marco and Rania Awad, in hiding)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2013/07/muslim-extremists-kill-our-priests-burn-our-churches-and-kidnap-our-women-how-egypts-arab-spring-dream-descended-into-a-nightmare-of-religious-hatred/>

Monday July 15, 2013



New Zealand: Blenheim

Dr Joseph Lee (under public criticism for refusing to prescribe contraceptives, may face charges)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/doctor-comes-under-fire-for-refusing-to-prescribe-contraceptive-pill>



Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh City

Fr Nguyen Van Hien (spoke at the annual meeting of Vietnamese catechists which was attended by 580 catechists and religious)

Vu Hoang Lam Tuan (catechist, attended the annual meeting of Vietnamese catechists)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Saigon:-course-helps-catechists-spread-the-faith-despite-intimidation-28536.html>



Pakistan: Lahore

Humera (aged 14, abducted from her home at gunpoint and raped by two Muslim men, rescued after several hours by her father and other relatives; **UPDATE:** police initially refused to file a report, the local hospital issued a medical report denying any evidence of rape, the

families of the accused are threatening to burn Christian properties and churches if the charges are not dropped)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4397>



Iran: Robot-Karim

Ebrahim Firouzi (convert, aged 28, disappeared on the way to work on [March 7, 2013](#), apparently arrested by plain-clothes police; **UPDATE**: sentenced for "evangelism activities" to one year imprisonment and two years internal exile to Sarbaz)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7373:revolutionary-court-sentenced-iranian-christian-convert-to-prison-and-exile-document&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Egypt: Sinai

Fr Mikhail Antwan (**UPDATE**: told of how Christian meetings and most Divine Liturgies have been cancelled in the Sinai: "I hope the armed forces' initiative to eliminate terrorists, which has begun two days ago, will be successful and restore peace to the region")

Fadia Abdel Sayed (fled the Sinai, said "More than 120 Christian families have left Arish city, in the wake of increased threats against Copts. Rafah and Sheikh Zowaid are now completely devoid of Copts, and a number of employees left their jobs for fear of their children's safety, especially after Magdy Lamei [Habashi] was kidnapped and murdered")

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/1677-120-coptic-families-migrate-from-arish>



Nigeria: Kaduna

Sunday Oibe (Public Relations Officer for the Christian Association of Nigeria, **UPDATE**: called for the disbanding of the government committee that announced a ceasefire agreement with Boko Haram, only to have Boko Haram leader Shekau refuse to enter into any such agreement: "Today Boko Haram's number one man has come out to speak with scorn and contempt against the ceasefire agreement and the lack of feeling of

remorse for their thirst for the blood of Christians and some Muslims who go against their interest")

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201307160189.html>

Tuesday July 16, 2013



Pakistan: Lahore

Habib Francis (attempted to extinguish the firebombing of a Church office but was unsuccessful)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/christian-leaders-anxious-over-missions-church-office-arson/>



Iran: Shiraz

Eskandar Rezaie (detained in Shiraz on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to one year in prison)

Bijan Farokhpour Haghighi (detained on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to three years in prison)

Massoud Rezaie (detained on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to five years in prison)

Mehdi Ameruni (detained on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to three years in prison)

Mohammad Vahid Roghangir (detained on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to six years in prison)

Roxana Forughi (detained on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to one year in prison)

Shahin Lahooti (detained on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to two and a half years in prison)

Suroush Saraie (detained on [October 12, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to two and a half years in prison)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/07/eight-converts-in-iran-sent-to-prison-for-threatening-national-security/>



Syria: Aleppo

Georgio Rabbat (aged 13, **killed** in a mortar attack)

Pamela Dekermanji (aged 4, wounded in the head with mortar shrapnel, in critical condition)

Syria: Damascus

Youmna (aged 14, alias, sister of Nashita, described fighting around her home and school, asked for prayers)

Nashita (aged 10, alias, sister of Youmna, described fighting around her home and school, asked for prayers)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/33987->

[ASIA SYRIA Two Christian children affected in the bombings in Aleppo#.UeYE0YzD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/33987-)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/syria-conflict-kills-over-5000-children-pray-for-syria-says-girl-survivor-100219/>



Palestine: Bethany

Sr Ibraxia (complained to the government about escalating acts of intimidation against her convent: thrown stones, broken glass, theft and looting)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/33985->

[ASIA HOLY LAND Greek Orthodox monastery under attack The nuns are appealing to President Abbas#.UeYDZozD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/33985-)

Wednesday July 17, 2013



Pakistan: Lahore

Jew Jurian (in hiding from vigilantes after being declared innocent in 2003 of blasphemy charges - charges arose due to government assumptions about his first name; **UPDATE**: still in hiding)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/pakistani-christian-mistakenly-declared-jew-seeks-protection/>



Kazakhstan: Karaganda [Qaraghandy] region

Anissa Tsimfer (fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration')

Lyubov Artamonova (fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration')

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1870



Sudan

Auxiliary Bishop Daniel Adwok (**UPDATE:** criticized government statements that there are no more Christians living in the country)

Rev James Par Tap (said many fear that the government is trying to eliminate Christianity: "Many people are being forced out and their property taken away. Even the churches are being taken away. We have been trying to talk to the government, but it's not easy")

Rev Barnaba Mathias (urges Christians worldwide to speak up for Christians in Sudan, said "Church freedom is so constrained, holding meetings in the open is a crime. We have to seek permission from the authorities for such meetings, which is often denied. Our children are not taught Christian education in schools, so we have to gather them somewhere on Fridays to teach them")

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/on-faith/christians-in-sudan-face-increased-hostility/2013/07/16/7c9ad0a4-ee4b-11e2-bb32-725c8351a69e_story.html



Egypt: Cairo

Pope Tawadros II (**UPDATE:** has cancelled public catechesis for the third week "for security reasons")

Fr Bishoy Helmy (stated that Pope Tawadros has been avoiding public appearances since the removal of President Morsi "not so much because he fears for his life, but because he does not want people to gather for fear that some fool could throw a few bombs. At the moment there are those who accuse Christians of being responsible of the popular uprising of 30 June")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/33998->

[AFRICA EGYPT Pope Tawadros II suspends public catechesis for security reasons
#.Ueir5IzD8fg](#)

Thursday July 18, 2013



South Korea: Daejeon

Bishop Linus Lee Seong-hyo (criticized a court for handing down suspended sentences for four abortionists who had carried out over 400 illegal abortions)

Thomas Cha Hee-jae (president of the Korean Pro-Life Doctors Association, accused the court of ignoring the law)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/korean-bishops-slam-judges-over-405-illegal-abortions/68799>



India: Gundur suburb, Trichy, Tamil Nadu state

Rev R Reuben (arrested for baptizing a 30 year old woman, is currently in jail, allegations include forcible conversion and contaminating a river [the location of the baptism])

India: Ahmedabad, Gujarat state

Fr Cedric Prakash SJ (director of the Prashant Jesuit Centre for Human Rights, Justice and Peace; **UPDATE:** wrote that Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat state, is a "threat to democracy in India" and "unstable" after Modi said that the 2002 Gujarat massacres [in which over 2000 Muslims died at the hands of Hindus] made him feel sad "as when you run over a puppy")

India: Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh state

Fr Anand Muttungal (**UPDATE:** described how Christians of all denominations are organizing to defeat a new anti-conversion law in the state parliament)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Tamil-Nadu,-a-Pentecostal-pastor-in-prison-for-baptizing-a-woman-28528.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Narendra-Modi-must-be-stopped-or-he-will-destroy-democracy-in-India-28508.html>

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/33997->

[ASIA INDIA Protests against the anti conversion law increase in Madhya Pradesh
#.UeitkYzD8fg](#)



Pakistan

Hina Milword (sister of Sylvester John, fled the country for Sri Lanka)

Prince Joseph (uncle of Sylvester John, fled the country for Sri Lanka)

Shahid Keshwan Milword (aged 3, son of Hina Milword, fled the country for Sri Lanka)

<http://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/family-of-asylum-seekers-desperately-needs-our-help>



Palestine: Gaza

Fr Peter Vasko (President of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land, stated that Catholic schools will need to close due to a new decree prohibiting coed classes for children over 10 years of age)

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/7/prweb10937904.htm?PID=4003003>



Nigeria: Kaduna

Prof Daniel Babayi (spoke on the abduction of underage Christian girls: “Right now, there are five cases we are treating; they have been kept in the houses of Emirs or Imams. When we report to the police, they tell you there is nothing they can do. The Police have become very helpless. In some instances, they are part of the conspiracy”)

Nigeria: Dinu village, Plateau state

Rev Johnson Kikem (**UPDATE:** reported on the murder of six Christians)

<http://leadership.ng/news/180713/abduction-christian-minors-worries-northern-can#sthash.TAbSKM3c.dpuf>

<http://us6.campaign-archive1.com/?u=7ec6d7eb2533a90581f839110&id=df4fd2a042&e=4dd4dd3cf1>

Friday July 19, 2013



Pakistan: Lahore

Humera (aged 14, abducted from her home at gunpoint and raped by two Muslim men, rescued after several hours by her father and other relatives, police initially refused to file a report, the local hospital issued a medical report denying any evidence of rape, the families of the accused are threatening to burn Christian properties and churches if the charges are not dropped; **UPDATE:** the victim's family in turn is threatening to commit mass suicide in front of the Prime Minister's residence if justice is thwarted)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4397>



Ireland

Denis Naughten (removed from the parliamentary committee on Health and Children after proposing amendments to the abortion bill for legal representatives for both the mother and unborn child, said “I’m disappointed that a government with the biggest majority since the foundation of the state feels that it must stamp out any scrutiny of its decisions”)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/irish-politician-reportedly-kicked-off-committee-for-proposing-changes-to-a>

Saturday July 20, 2013



Iran: Tabriz

Farshid Modares-Aval (convert, arrested)

Mohammad-Reza Pirri (convert, arrested)

Yashar Farzin-No (convert, arrested)

http://www.mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7316:three-iranian-azeri-christians-arrested-their-fate-unknown&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Syria

Rev Georges Massouh (described extensive vandalism of Christian holy sites)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2013/07/whats-become-of-syrias-christian-sites/>

Monday July 22, 2013



Kazakhstan: Kokshetau

Andrei Rakin (administrative case against him filed in court on March 18, 2013; fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration'; **UPDATE:** fine upheld on appeal)

Andrei Korolev (administrative case against him filed in court on March 18, 2013; fined US\$1,130 for 'missionary activity without registration'; **UPDATE:** fine upheld on appeal)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1870



Mexico: Ensenada, Baja California

Fr Ignacio Cortez Alvarez (aged 57, **found dead** in his rectory with numerous injuries to his chest)

Mexico: Morelos state

Bishop Ramon Castro Castro (decried the mounting violence by criminal gangs and their threats to kill clergy)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34018->

[AMERICA_MEXICO_A_priest_has_been_killed_in_the_region_of_Baja_California#.Ue8z1ozD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34018-AMERICA_MEXICO_A_priest_has_been_killed_in_the_region_of_Baja_California#.Ue8z1ozD8fg)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34016->

[AMERICA_MEXICO_Stop_with_extortion_and_threats_to_priests_and_parishes_complaint_of_the_Bishop_of_Cuernavaca#.Ue3npYzD8fQ](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34016-AMERICA_MEXICO_Stop_with_extortion_and_threats_to_priests_and_parishes_complaint_of_the_Bishop_of_Cuernavaca#.Ue3npYzD8fQ)

Tuesday July 23, 2013



Pakistan: Sanguwali

Bagga Masih (aged 55, beaten unconscious by his employers after he developed a high fever and did not show up for work, 8 year old granddaughter kicked when she attempted to protect him, abducted to his employers' home and tortured, arm broken, hospital refused to issue a certificate describing his injuries)

Nazia (daughter of Bagga Masih)

Shazia (daughter of Bagga Masih)

Shahnaz Bibi (daughter in law of Bagga Masih)

Sabir Masih (took Bagga Masih to the hospital)

<http://www.pakistanchristiantimes.net/chaudharys-of-gujaranwala-tortured-sick-tenant-bagga-masih-ferociously-for-not-coming-to-work/>



Uzbekistan: Mironkul village, Samarkand region

Aleksandr Starosiuk (Ukrainian citizen, husband of Oksana Starosiuk, detained during a police raid on a Christian children's summer camp along with eight other adults and 22 children)

Oksana Starosiuk (Ukrainian citizen, wife of Aleksandr Starosiuk, detained during a police raid on a Christian children's summer camp along with eight other adults and 22 children)

Uzbekistan

Sardorbek Nurmetov (illegally detained on [June 14, 2013](#) in [Urgench, Khorezm region](#), beaten, denied medical treatment, water, or sanitary facilities for hours, memory stick seized, home searched and laptop and Christian books and DVD seized; **UPDATE**: fined US\$450 but not informed of the fine)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1863

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1908



Iran: Karaj

Hossein Saketi Aramsari aka Stephen (convert, arrested)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7799:iran-christian-converts-fate-unknown-in-karaj-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279

Wednesday July 24, 2013



Sri Lanka: Colombo

Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith (forgave the vandals of St Francis Xavier Church in [Angulana](#) and refused to press criminal charges)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/cardinal-ranjith-forgives-sri-lanka-church-desecrators/>



Kazakhstan

Oleg Ovchinnikov (diocesan secretary, wrote to the authorities in defense of Fr Sofrony and to plead against his deportation)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1880

Thursday July 25, 2013



China: Hohhot, Yuquan District, Inner Mongolia

A number of Christians were sentenced to prison for membership in “The Shouters”, which is treated by the authorities as a cult. Western Christian groups had also labeled the sect as a cult, but some have revoked this judgment.

Hu Gong (sentenced to nine years imprisonment for "forming and using a cult organization to undermine the implementation of the laws of the State", the criminal code specifies a maximum seven year sentence)

Wen Weihong (sentenced to eight years imprisonment for "forming and using a cult organization to undermine the implementation of the laws of the State", the criminal code specifies a maximum seven year sentence)

Liu Aiying (sentenced to eight years imprisonment for "forming and using a cult organization to undermine the implementation of the laws of the State", the criminal code specifies a maximum seven year sentence)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/10/local-government-denies-three-inner.html>



Central African Republic: Bossa, Bodalo, Kemo, Ouham Bac and Bowe villages

Fr Aurelio Gazzera (wrote of more than 1000 people fleeing from atrocities committed by Seleka fighters, including the killing of a five month old child)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34117->

[AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICA Violence of the Seleka rebels continues against civilians a missionary denounces#.UgcDRYzD8fQ](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34117-)

Saturday July 27, 2013



Pakistan: Chak (village) 375 JB, Toba Tek Singh district

Umair Masih (aged 20, son of Tufail Masih and Shehnaz Bibi, eloped with his Muslim girlfriend, police report filed alleging he participated in a gang rape of her with three other relatives)

Tufail Masih (husband of Shehnaz Bibi, father of Umair, Saba, Chanda and Mariam Masih, beaten by a mob that invaded his home after his son Umair eloped with his Muslim girlfriend, agreed that his son would no longer reside in their village after the elopement)

Shehnaz Bibi (wife of Tufail Masih, mother of Umair, Saba, Chanda and Mariam Masih, threatened with 'public humiliation' after home invaded by a mob after her son Umair eloped with his Muslim girlfriend)

Mariam Masih (daughter of Tufail Masih and Shehnaz Bibi, threatened with 'public humiliation' after home invaded by a mob after her brother Umair eloped with his Muslim girlfriend)

Saba Masih (aged 18, daughter of Tufail Masih and Shehnaz Bibi, taken by a mob to a farmhouse after her brother Umair eloped with his Muslim girlfriend, attempted sexual assault stopped by a few elderly Muslim men, held without food and water until the next day)

Chanda Masih (aged 16, daughter of Tufail Masih and Shehnaz Bibi, taken by a mob to a farmhouse after her brother Umair eloped with his Muslim girlfriend, attempted sexual assault stopped by a few elderly Muslim men, held without food and water until the next day)

Pakistan: Okara district, near Lahore, Punjab state

Ishaq Masih (aged 45, father of Saima and Irshad, beaten and **shot dead** after he discovered Muslim neighbors sowing crops on his land, family refused to bury his body until the police agreed to file a report, perform an autopsy, and arrest the killers)

Irshad (aged 15, son of Ishaq Masih, witnessed his father's shooting, beaten by his father's attackers to confess to the killing, threatened with death, released by police)

Saima (aged 12, daughter of Ishaq Masih, witnessed her father's shooting, slapped by her father's shooter when she attempted to give him water before he died)

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/08/2679948/>

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/08/2642298/>



Egypt: Alexandria

Philopater Attiya (aged 8, son of Magdi Attiya, illegally converted to Islam by his mother, father is attempting to regain custody)

Fadi Attiya (aged 5, son of Magdi Attiya, illegally converted to Islam by his mother, father is attempting to regain custody)

Magdi Attiya (father of Philopater and Fadi)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/2158-how-could-al-azhar-convert-minors-to-islam-says-desperate-father>

Sunday July 28, 2013



China: Beijing

Jin Shaohua (aged 42, beaten by DSPS agents while on the way to Sunday worship, mouth bloodied and tooth dislodged, thrown into a police vehicle, held in a cell despite difficulty breathing, released at 11 PM and taken to a hospital)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/08/believers-of-shouwang-church-holding.html>



Pakistan: Shad Bagh, Amir Road, Joseph Colony, Lahore

Babu Younis (father of Riaz Masih, beaten after he objected to an illegal modification of his cable service, homes of Christian neighbors and a Catholic Church attacked, windows broken)

Riaz Masih (son of Babu Younis, shot in the leg after his father objected to an illegal modification of his cable service)

Vejay Masih (son of Niamat Masih, pistol whipped after his neighbor Babu Younis objected to an illegal modification of his cable service)

<http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/2013/07/cable-operator-reacts-to-refusal-to-pay.html>

Monday July 29, 2013



Eritrea: Mai Serwa military camp

Hajer Yohans (aged 85, grandmother, arrested on or before February 9, 2013 for hosting a Bible study in her Akriya, Asmara home; **UPDATE**: is reportedly being held in a metal shipping container, is suffering from pneumonia but is refusing to renounce Christianity in exchange for medical care)

<http://www.churchinchains.ie/node/635>

Tuesday July 30, 2013



Kazakhstan

Bishop Gennady Gogolev (wrote to the authorities in defense of Fr Sofrony and to plead against his deportation)

Pastor Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev (convert from Islam, pastor of Grace Church in Astana, has suffered a heart attack; arrested on May 17, 2013 on charges of 'harming health', ordered held for two months' pretrial detention; **UPDATE**: still detained, has been transferred to a prison in Almaty for 'psychological evaluation', has stated fears that he will be forcibly subjected to mind altering drugs)

Askar (son of Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev, reports no contact with his father since he was taken to the Almaty Psychiatric Center)

Kazakhstan: Astrakhan district, Akmola region

Tatyana Degterenko (fined one month's average salary after she allowed her son David to give two religious audio CDs to his teachers; **UPDATE**: fine upheld on appeal)

Kazakhstan: Zaporozhye

Vyacheslav Flotch (home raided during a religious service; **UPDATE**: fined one month's average salary)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1880

<http://www.churchinchains.ie/node/636>

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1868



Syria: Raqqa

Fr Paolo Dall'Oglio SJ (aged 58; **UPDATE**: reportedly abducted by rebels associated with al-Qaeda and **executed** two hours after his abduction)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Fears-over-possible-kidnap-of-Jesuit-Fr.-Dall'Oglio.-Damascus-Nunciature-in-shock-28610.html>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140528124321.htm>

Wednesday July 31, 2013



Philippines: Midsayap, Cotabato

Reynaldo Aloro (**killed** by Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters during a looting raid on his village)

<http://www.christiansincrisis.net/latest-news/1807-philippines-mindanao-christian-villages-attacked.html>



Pakistan

Naseen John (mother of Sylvester John, Adnan John, Nida John, Nobility Zain John and Hina Milword, fled the country for Sri Lanka)

Nida John (sister of Sylvester John, fled the country for Sri Lanka)

Nobility Zain John (brother of Sylvester John, fled the country for Sri Lanka)

Sylvester John (son of Peter and Naseen John, shot five times on [January 22, 2012](#) after refusing the invitation to Islam, uncle killed; **UPDATE**: fled the country for Sri Lanka)

<http://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/family-of-asylum-seekers-desperately-needs-our-help>

July 2013, date unknown



Indonesia

Kasih (aged 17, convert, locked by her family in her room for three months on or before [July 18, 2013](#) following her conversion)

<http://www.mnnonline.org/article/18765>



China: Urumqi, Xinjiang

Zhu Jinfeng (aged 60, home invaded on or before [July 19, 2013](#) by police during a Bible study among elderly neighbors, briefly detained, charged with conducting "illegal" Christian activity, fined 200 yuan, attempted to file an appeal but the government would not accept it without witnesses, stated "Christianity is not a cult, and we are not criminals. We do pray for our country, too, in our gatherings")

China: Shanxi

Li Caihong (wife of Li Wenxi, **UPDATE**: said her husband's conviction for operating an illegal business [a Christian bookstore] and sentencing to two years in prison would be appealed)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/07/xinjiang-christian-desperate-after.html>



Pakistan

Alishba (daughter of Asia Bibi, who is in prison under a death sentence for blasphemy, said on or before [July 20, 2013](#) “We are praying and fasting for our mother so that she can be with us, I visit her with my father and each time I meet her, I can’t stop myself and tears pour out. My mother tries to hold my hand through the gaps between the grilled window and says, have faith in the Lord, He will bring me home one day. Every time I hear these words, I cry to the Lord to bring back my mother so that we can be with her again.”

Pakistan: Lahore

Tahir Iqbal (convert, former Air Force engine mechanic, arrested on false charges of blasphemy, denied bail for being a convert, **died in jail from poison** on or before [July 13, 2013](#))

Pakistan: Gojra, Punjab state

Shafaqat Masih (aged 35, husband of Shagufta Bibi, father of two, handicapped, arrested on or before [July 21, 2013](#) for allegedly sending a blasphemous text message)

Shagufta Bibi (aged 35, wife of Shafaqat Masih, mother of two, school worker, arrested on or before [July 21, 2013](#) for allegedly sending a blasphemous text message)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/i-am-scared-i-just-see-her-pictures-and-cant-control-my-tears-says-asia-bibis-youngest-daughter/#sthash.hNaYJHmg.dpuf>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/blasphemy-accused-poisoned-in-jail/>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4403>



Tanzania

Pastor Joyce (church destroyed by arson)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2015/09/4034845/>



Syria: Aleppo

Tamar Varvanyan-Srunyan (aged 40, mother of two, **killed** in an attack on two passenger buses on or before July 24, 2013, husband and children wounded)

http://www.armenianow.com/news/47987/war_syria_armenians_passenger_bus



Egypt: near el Minya

Manel (mother of Maryam, relocated her family to a Christian majority village on or before [July 19, 2013](#) after seeing Muslim girls attempting to entice her daughter away from the family)

Maryam (daughter of Manel)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130719152813.htm>