

## Today's Martyrs – September 2013

Sunday September 1, 2013



### Sri Lanka

Fr Veerasan Yogeswaran SJ (aged 60, detained in his residence by police from midnight until dawn, interrogated about his meeting with the UN Human Rights High Commissioner)

Fr Nandana Mantunga (said that it has become common for the government to silence critics and human rights activists)

Fr Reid Shelton Fernando (said of the interrogation of Fr Veerasan Yogeswaran "Already the interrogation is itself a violation. Secondly, why did the authorities come at night, when they had a whole day to summon and interrogate? Does this mean that the government has something to hide from the UN High Commissioner?")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Tamil-priest-who-met-UN-High-Commissioner-detained-by-police-28934.html>



### India: Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore North, Karnataka state

Pastor William John (church meeting disrupted by Hindu extremists, beaten along with another parishioner, managed to escape in his automobile)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/persecution-of-christians-rockets-in-karnataka-india/>



### Kazakhstan: Tuymbayev

Fr Sofrony aka Pyotr Yevtikheyev (aged 44, Russian citizen, children from his orphanage refused from the local school on "order from on high")

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1880](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1880)



### **Somalia: Beledweyne, Hiran province**

Fatuma Isak Elmi (aged 35, wife of Mumin Omar Abdi, **killed** in her home by al-Qaeda linked Al Shabaab militants)

Mumin Omar Abdi (aged 36, widower of Fatuma Isak Elmi, fled his home after his wife's murder to an undisclosed location with their 4 year old son)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/christian-mother-killed-boy-kidnapped-in-somalia/>



### **Egypt: El-Arish**

Hani Samir Kamel (aged 37, **shot to death**)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130902012317.htm>



### **Nigeria: Adu village, Kaduna state**

Gabriel Anthony (aged 25, son of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, escaped from his home through a window as Fulani Muslims shot into it a 5 AM)

Anthony Nkom (aged 60, husband of Asabe Anthony, **shot dead** in his home by Fulani Muslims)

Asabe Anthony (aged 45, wife of Asabe Anthony, **shot dead** in her home by Fulani Muslims)

James Anthony (aged 35, son of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, **shot dead** in his home by Fulani Muslims)

Andrew Anthony. aged 37, son of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, **shot dead** in his home by Fulani Muslims)

Meshack Aaron (aged 5, grandson of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, **shot dead** in his home by Fulani Muslims)

Bulus James Anthony (aged 12, grandson of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, **shot dead** in his home by Fulani Muslims)

Happiness Anthony (aged 15, grandson of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, **shot dead** in his home by Fulani Muslims)

Godiya Andrew (aged 9, grandchild of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, shot by Fulani Muslims, hospitalized)

Shenyan Andrew (aged 3, grandchild of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, shot by Fulani Muslims, hospitalized)

Kawot (aged 5, grandchild of Anthony Nkom and Asabe Anthony, shot by Fulani Muslims, hospitalized)

Joseph Abwoi (aged 50, husband of Asabat Abwoi, **shot dead** by Fulani Muslims)

Asabat Abwoi (aged 40, wife of Joseph Abwoi, **shot dead** by Fulani Muslims)

Rev Yakubu Gandu Nkut (said that these attacks continue despite promises by the Fulani leaders)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/armed-muslims-in-nigeria-kill-christians-in-their-homes/>

### Saturday September 2, 2013



#### **Kazakhstan: Almaty**

Pastor Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev (convert from Islam, has suffered a heart attack; arrested on [May 17, 2013](#) on charges of 'harming health', ordered held for two months' pretrial detention on [May 19, 2013](#); still detained as of [July 30, 2013](#), has been transferred to a prison for 'psychological evaluation'; **UPDATE**: discharged from the psychiatric prison and taken "by convoy" to an undisclosed location)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1871](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1871)



#### **Morocco: Ain Aicha, Taounate region**

Mohamed El Baladi (aged 34, convert, arrested and sentenced to 2.5 years in prison and fined US\$600 for evangelism and shaking the faith of a Muslim, **UPDATE**: reportedly has been abused and that the authorities have been inciting prisoners to abuse him)

<http://www.persecution.org/2013/09/12/moroccan-christian-arrested-appeal-under-way/>

### Tuesday September 3, 2013



#### **China**

Liu Fenggang (under house arrest in Beijing since [March 2012](#) for travelling to the China-Burma border and aiding some of the tens of thousands of Kachin Christians who have fled from the civil war into China; car forced off a Xianghe, Hebei highway on [October 17, 2012](#) 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; **UPDATE:** requires emergency cardiac surgery)

### **China**

Fr Song Wanjun (aged 39, underground priest, pulled from his automobile at 4 AM on [August 7, 2013](#) in [Qiaodong district, Hebei province](#), arrested and taken to an undisclosed location; **UPDATE:** whereabouts still unknown)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/09/house-church-pastor-in-need-of.html>

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/tension-rises-again-between-church-and-china/69167>



### **Pakistan: near Lahore**

Pastor Sattar Masih (aged 37, accused of blasphemy for allegedly saying that Muhammed was cruel and killed innocents, denied the allegation and told that he only said "that the Bible is still in its original form", fled the village, **UPDATE:** Christian students at the village school were then questioned about his religious teachings with the result that more than 100 students were sent home and many of their families then fled the village)

[http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/article\\_2700036.html/](http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/article_2700036.html/)



### **Somalia: Marka district, Qoryoley town, Lower Shebelle region**

Mustaf Hassan (aged 13, son of Hassan Mohammed and Farhio Omar, nephew of Fartun Omar and Ahmed Ali Jimale [both killed], abducted by armed masked men, whereabouts unknown)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/christian-mother-killed-boy-kidnapped-in-somalia/>



### **Cameroon: Yaounde and Bamenda**

Pastor Naida Lazare (explained that many churches have waited more than ten years for government recognition, and now are being forced to close)

Bishop Dieudonné Abogo (President of the Pentecostal Union of Cameroon, admitted that some churches are rowdy: "The use of loud music during services may cause real disturbance to neighborhoods in some areas")

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/2683079/>



**Nigeria: Gura Dabwam village, Gyel district, Plateau state**

Dauda Dalyop (aged 42, husband of Kangyang Dauda Dalyop, **shot dead** by Muslim gunmen in his home)

Kangyang Dauda Dalyop (aged 35, wife of Dauda Dalyop, shot by Muslim gunmen in her home, hospitalized in critical condition)

Bitrus Dauda Dalyop (aged 17, son of Dauda Dalyop and Kangyang Dauda Dalyop, **shot dead** by Muslim gunmen in his home)

Daniel Dauda Dalyop (aged 15, son of Dauda Dalyop and Kangyang Dauda Dalyop, **shot dead** by Muslim gunmen in his home)

Musa Pam (aged 59, uncle of Dauda Dalyop, described the attack in which his nephew and grand-nephews were killed)

Pastor Davou Pam (aged 52, described how his church is trying to aid Kangyang Dauda Dalyop after her shooting and her 5 year old son who was uninjured in the attack)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/muslim-herdsmen-soldiers-in-nigeria-kill-three-christian-family-members-wound-mother/>

**Wednesday September 4, 2013**



**Vietnam: Vinh, Nghe An province**

Bishop Paul Nguyen Thai Hop (wrote that the government-owned media is publishing "false articles and stories, which distort the truth, and offend the reputation and honor of the bishop and the entire community")

**Vietnam: Nghi Phuong**

Nguyen Van Hai (aged 43, arrested for "disturbing the public order"; **UPDATE**: demonstration for his release ended with 15 arrested and over 40 injured by police)

Ngo Van Khoi (aged 53, arrested for "disturbing the public order"; **UPDATE**: demonstration for his release ended with 15 arrested and over 40 injured by police)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Vinh:-Church-against-government-media-for-slandering-and-manipulating-the-facts-28956.html>

[http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/article\\_2704318.html/](http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/article_2704318.html/)



**China: Bijie city, Jinsha county, Guizhou province**

Li Guisheng (attorney, has taken the case of Li Fengfei, who was forced by the local government to undergo a second trimester abortion which left her in critical condition and which then charged her with embezzlement after she told her story on the internet)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/09/li-fengfei-arrested-after-exposing.html>



**Philippines: Mabitac, Laguna**

Pastor June Ver Mangao (under military surveillance and harassment for alleged communist ties)

Rev Joel Tintero (noted that other pastors from their church had been under military surveillance prior to their killing or abduction)

Fr Rex Reyes Jr (said that attempts to defame church groups working with the poor are "deplorable, irresponsible, and lack moral decency")

Nardy Sabino

**Philippines: Lantawan, Basilan province**

Frederick Banot (church literacy worker, abducted by gunmen believed to be from the al-Qaeda affiliate Abu Sayyaf)

Cherden Masong (church literacy worker, abducted by gunmen believed to be from the al-Qaeda affiliate Abu Sayyaf)

Fr Eduardo Apungan (reported on the abduction of Frederick Banot and Cherden Masong)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/philippine-pastor-under-army-surveillance/69177>

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/church-workers-snatched-in-philippines/69186>

**Friday September 6, 2013**



### **Syria: Damascus**

Patriarch Gregorios III Laham (**UPDATE**: described the rebel attack on the Christian village of Maaloula "80% of the terrified population of the village have fled to Damascus.

Yesterday refugees, came crying to the Greek Catholic and then went to the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate. We tried in every way to comfort them. Maaloula is a sacred place for all of us, but first of all its inhabitants are sacred: man is the holy temple of God.

Armed groups are now holed up in the village, made up of houses built on the rocks. And any act of force to throw them out could mean the destruction of the place")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34244->

[ASIA SYRIA The Melkite Patriarch appeal to save Maaloula a holy place for the Syrians#.Ui02 IzD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34244-ASIA_SYRIA_The_Melkite_Patriarch_appeal_to_save_Maaloula_a_holy_place_for_the_Syrians#.Ui02_IzD8fg)



### **Russia: Moscow**

Pastor Vasili Romanyuk (**UPDATE**: described how his congregation has split into three separate groups to meet since the illegal 2012 demolition of their church)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1874](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1874)



### **Egypt: Delga, Minya province**

Fr Yoannis (described the Muslim Brotherhood takeover of his town "The fire in the monastery burned intermittently for three days. The looting continued for a week. At the end, not a wire or an electric switch is left...Even the remains of ancient and revered saints were disturbed and thrown around")

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML\\_EGYPT\\_TOWN\\_IN\\_PERIL?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML_EGYPT_TOWN_IN_PERIL?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)



### **Nigeria: Port Harcourt, Rivers state**

Most Rev Ignatius Ogboru Kattey (aged 65, husband of Beatrice Kattey, abducted by unidentified gunmen)

Beatrice Kattey (wife of Archbishop Ignatius Ogboru Kattey, abducted by unidentified gunmen, released)

Rev Godwin Ollor (said that local youth are angered over the abduction of Archbishop Ignatius Ogboru Kattey)

<http://pmnewsnigeria.com/2013/09/07/archbishop-kattey-kidnapped-by-gunmen/>

<http://pmnewsnigeria.com/2013/09/08/kidnapped-bishop-kattey-clergy-council-vows-not-to-pay-ransom/>

**Saturday September 7, 2013**



#### **Pakistan: Pakpattan, Punjab**

Zubair Salamat (aged 8, abducted by a Muslim man while on the way to school and sodomized in a cattle shed, left unconscious, hospitalized)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4469>



#### **Iran: Tehran**

Rev Vruir Avanesian (aged 60, held in Evin prison in Tehran without charge, taken to a hospital for dialysis on [December 29, 2012](#), had been in critical condition; released on bail on [January 10, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: reportedly tried on charges of "action against national security" and "proselytizing Farsi-speaking citizens" in a court behind closed doors, no verdict announced)

[http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=7475:vruir-avanesian-iranian-armenian-pastor-stood-trial&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279](http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7475:vruir-avanesian-iranian-armenian-pastor-stood-trial&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279)



#### **Syria: Maalula**

Mikhael Taalab (cousin of Antoun Taalab and grandfather of Sarkis el Zakhm, **killed** by rebels after he refused to convert to Islam)

Antoun Taalab (cousin of Mikhael Taalab, **killed** by rebels after he refused to convert to Islam)



Sarkis el Zakhm (grandson of Mikhael Taalab, **killed** by rebels after he refused to convert to Islam, had told the rebels "I am a Christian and if you want to kill me because I am a Christian, do it")

"A" (relative of Mikhael and Antoun Taalab and Sarkis el Zakhm, wounded by rebels after she refused to convert to Islam, hospitalized)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/34283-ASIA SYRIA Maalula land of martyrs death in odium fidei of the young Sarkis#.UjJqLYzD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34283-ASIA_SYRIA_Maalula_land_of_martyrs_death_in_odium_fidei_of_the_young_Sarkis#.UjJqLYzD8fg)

**Sunday September 8, 2013**



**Laos: Nongsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province**

**Christian families threatened with expulsion from their village for refusing to participate in animist rituals**

Achan family (15 Christians in family)

Asing family (6 Christians in family)

Khammorn family (8 Christians in family)

Lachorm family (9 Christians in family)

Kuey family (6 Christians in family)

Aked family (3 Christians in family)

Sunya family (6 Christians in family)

<http://www.hrwlr.net/pages/Authorities-Coercing-Lao-Christians-to-Participate-in-Animist-Rituals-of-Oath-taking.html>



**Central African Republic: Bohong**

Fr Aurelio Gazzera (**UPDATE**: reported that Seleka fighters have burned down 3,500 homes, of them not one belonged to a Muslim)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/09/13/thousands-flee-as-clashes-erupt-in-central-african-republic/>

**Monday September 9, 2013**



**Philippines: Zamboanga City**

Fr Michael Ufana (abducted from his parents' home by Moro National Liberation Front gunman, parents and a sister also abducted, as was a Protestant pastor, a second priest was trapped in his church with refugees without food and water)

Msgr Chris Manongas (described the abduction of Fr Michael Ufana)

Juan Santander Morte (taken hostage by Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] fighters because he admitted he was a Christian, escaped)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/catholic-priest-among-philippines-hostages-snatched-by-rebels/69223>

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/whats-it-like-to-be-a-hostage/69580>



**Vietnam: Vinh, Nghe An province**

Bishop Paul Nguyen Thai Hop (**UPDATE**: called for prayers for the release of Peter Ngo Van Khoi and Anthony Nguyen Van Hai from jail, and called for an end to government violence against the hundreds of Catholics who demonstrated in favor of their release)

Peter Ngo Van Khoi (held since June 2013 without charge)

Anthony Nguyen Van Hai (held since June 2013 without charge)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Vinh:-Church-against-government-media-for-slandering-and-manipulating-the-facts-28956.html>



**Indonesia: West Aceh**

Pastor Hendri Budi Kusumo (arrested a week ago with four others for proselytism)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/West-Aceh,-Protestant-pastor-and-four-Christians-arrested-for-proselytizing-28957.html>



**Pakistan: Mohallah Farooq Nagar, Gloria Colony, Sheikhpura**

Nadeem Masih (aged 24, beaten by four armed men while returning home with supplies for his family, hit in the head with an axe, mother bitten when she tried to protect him, attackers bragged they had burned down the family business in 2011 and threatened the family because they were Christians who were 'showing well' [i.e., not abjectly poor])

Waseem Masih (older brother of Nadeem Masih, took his brother to file a police report against his attackers)

**Pakistan: Gloria Colony Farooq nagar, Sheikpura**

Salem Masih (caterer, warehouse firebombed, suspects arrested and agreed to compensation after admitting guilt, **UPDATE:** home then invaded by a mob which beat and shot family members and threatened to burn the homes of the 400 Christians living in their village, family members severely injured, Christian neighbors are fleeing)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4479>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4473>



**Egypt: Delga, Minya province**

Fr Yunis Shawqi (described how the Muslim Brotherhood has imposed the jizya tax upon all Christians "without exception" in his town to the amount of "200 Egyptian pounds per day, others 500 Egyptian pounds per day" with those unable to pay seeing their wives and children beaten or abducted)

<http://www.aina.org/news/2013099132313.htm>



**Belarus: Minsk**

**Fr Vladislav Lazar, arrested on May 31, 2013, continued to be held in a secret KGB detention center without charge, rumored to be considered to be a spy**

Fr Yury Sanko (Bishop's conference spokesman, had no comment on the detention of Fr Vladislav Lazar due to a lack of information)

Papal Nuncio Claudio Gugerotti (declined to comment on the detention of Fr Vladislav Lazar)

Fr Yuri Barok (commented on the detention of Fr Vladislav Lazar "Parishioners are asking why the priest was detained. But the Catholic Church on the official level doesn't give any

comments or information, saying nothing or defending him. This is a strange situation which scares and astonishes people...Maybe tomorrow I'll disappear like this and my family will worry and have no information about my whereabouts")

Aleksei Shein (reported on efforts to free Fr Vladislav Lazar)

Yanina (sister of Fr Vladislav Lazar, said that he has been denied a Bible and rosary in prison, and that the family has been shadowed by government agents)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1873](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1873)



### **United States – California: Los Angeles**

Diana Jimenez (nursing student at evangelical Biola University, threatened with expulsion for showing graphic photos of abortions, teachers ordered by her department head to not give her letters of recommendation, university president apologized and the department head retired)

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/biola-apologizes-for-actions-against-pro-life-student-22430>

**Tuesday September 10, 2013**



### **Pakistan: Toba Tek Singh**

Iqra Saddique (aged 22, arrested by four male policemen on [August 7, 2013](#), tortured, held five days without charge; **UPDATE**: police falsely charged her with involvement in an unrelated robbery case after her attorney protested, court refused to order a medical exam for sexual assault, judge removed and destroyed important evidence from her file)

Sadaf Saddique Khokhar (attorney for Iqra Saddique, request for a medical exam for sexual assault denied by the court, has filed a case against the judge for professional and criminal misconduct after the judge removed and destroyed important evidence from Iqra Saddique's file)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4471>



## **Kazakhstan**

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', had been transferred to a prison in [Almaty](#) for 'psychological evaluation', discharged from the [Almaty](#) psychiatric prison on [September 2, 2013](#) and taken "by convoy" to an undisclosed location; **UPDATE:** has been ordered held until October 17, 2013)

[http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/article\\_2717992.html/](http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/article_2717992.html/)



## **Iraq: Bagdad**

Fatin Yousef (mother of Lorita, has fled the country after 10 years of persecution in which she was forced to leave her job and abandon her home, uncle was abducted and murdered, brother-in-law abducted and disappeared, daughter forced to attend Islamic classes at university that denigrated Christianity, of sixty relatives only one is now left in the country)

Lorita (daughter of Fatin Yousef, forced to attend Islamic classes at university that denigrated Christianity, has now fled the country with her mother)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130910112355.htm>



## **United States – Texas: Lackand Air Force Base, San Antonio**

Senior Master Sergeant Phillip Monk (fired after he refused to answer an order from his homosexual superior officer as to whether or not he agreed that expressing opposition to same-sex marriage was discriminatory, filed a religious discrimination complaint in response, in illegal retaliation has been read his Miranda rights and told he is under investigation for making false official statements)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/air-force-sergeant-claims-he-was-fired-for-refusing-to-endorse-gay-marriage>

**Wednesday September 11, 2013**



**Pakistan: Mohallah Farooq Nagar, Gloria Colony, Sheikhpura**

Jamil Masih (friend of Nadeem Masih, employee of Waseem Masih, beaten by the same men who had attacked Nadeem Masih two days earlier, told to retract the police report filed against them by Nadeem Masih)

**Pakistan: Lahore**

Shama Nasir (aged 15, daughter of Nasir Masih, abducted and forced into Islamic marriage, **UPDATE:** at her first chance publicly stated she had been forced to put her thumbprint on the legal documents and that she had been raped and tortured, threatened after rejoining her father, now in hiding)

Nasir Masih (father of Shama Nasir, approached to embrace Islam and refused, daughter abducted a few days later, threatened with arrest when he tried to file a police report on the abduction, **UPDATE:** was able to arrange a public meeting with her in which she denounced her abductors, threatened after regaining his daughter, now in hiding)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4479>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130913125657.htm>



**Armenia: Arabkir district, Yerevan**

Pastor Levon Bardakjian (threatened with death by a man with a knife)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1904](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1904)



**Hungary**

Fr Andras Szarvas (aged 73, **murdered**)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/35218->

[VATICAN Another priest among the pastoral workers killed in 2013#.Uv7jd8KYY5s](http://www.fides.org/en/news/35218-VATICAN_Another_priest_among_the_pastoral_workers_killed_in_2013#.Uv7jd8KYY5s)



**Belarus: Aleksandrovka village, Grodno region**

Aleksei Shchedrov (aged 28, as of [June 27, 2013](#) faces a possible maximum sentence of two years imprisonment for operating an unregistered religious organization because he took homeless people into his home for food and prayer; **UPDATE:** criminal charges dropped)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1886](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1886)



### **United Kingdom: Southwark**

Archbishop Peter Smith (**UPDATE:** criticized Crown Prosecutors for refusing to prosecute two doctors who agreed to abort babies based on their gender, said "The existing law should be enforced, but what is needed above all is a soul searching and honest debate about how our culture and society needs to change...")

<http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/uk-bishop-laments-decision-to-ignore-sex-selective-abortions>

**Thursday September 12, 2013**



### **Philippines: Zamboanga City**

Fr Sebastiano D'Ambra (organized a Christian-Muslim prayer gathering for the end of fighting and the return of about 200 hostages including Fr Michael Ufana)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34278->

[ASIA PHILIPPINES Violence in Zamboanga Christians and Muslims in prayer with the displaced A priest among the kidnapped#.UjJsFozD8fg](#)



### **China**

Li Caihong (wife of Li Wenxi, said on **July 19, 2013** that her husband's conviction for operating an illegal business [a Christian bookstore] and sentencing to two years in prison would be appealed; **UPDATE:** posted on her blog that she was concerned that her husband's attorney Xia Jun would be detained or punished due to an unusual summons to appear in court, blog account was then suspended for one hour)

Xia Jun (attorney, received an unusual summons to appear in court in the case of his client Li Wenxi which may be a prelude to some punitive action, disregarded the concern of Li Caihong because he believed that a non-appearance would hurt his client, took with him materials to help him for up to two years detention including 10 Bibles for other inmates, outcome of the court appearance is expected soon)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/09/wife-of-li-wenxi-fears-for-safety-of.html>



**Pakistan: Toba Tek Singh**

Zareef Shahzad (husband of Zarqa Zareef, school janitor, fired from his job on [November 27, 2012](#) because he expressed his anger when he came home and found his wife standing in the street and the school headmaster and two other men in his wife's bedroom calling to her, still has been unable to secure employment)

Zarqa Zareef (wife of Zareef Shahzad)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4477>



**Kazakhstan: Kyzylsai village, Zhaksy district, Akmola region**

**Four Christians arrested for passing out religious literature without permission**

Yury Bekker

Svetlana Tsuba

Andrei Leven

David Leven

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1970](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1970)



**Egypt: Sahel Selim village, Assuit province**

Emad Damian (aged 50, brother of Dr Samy Damian, cousin of Medhat Damian, **shot dead** for refusing to pay jizya, the tax imposed on infidels until their conversion)

Medhat Damian (aged 37, cousin of Emad Damian, **shot dead** for refusing to pay jizya, the tax imposed on infidels until their conversion)

Dr Samy Damian (brother of Emad Damian)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130913143703.htm>



**Friday September 13, 2013**



**Philippines: Zamboanga City**

Fr Michael Ufana (abducted on [September 9, 2013](#) from his parents' home by Moro National Liberation Front gunmen; parents and a sister also abducted, as was a Protestant pastor; **UPDATE:** released to deliver the MNLF demands to the government, parents and sister still held hostage)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/zamboanga-rebels-release-catholic-priest/69255>



**Indonesia: Bekasi, West Java**

Rev Palti Panjaitan (**UPDATE:** the Muslim cleric who had threatened him with beheading was found guilty and sentenced to two months imprisonment, suspended to six months' probation, said of the Muslim cleric "I don't mind whether the sentence is light or tough. I just want people to know that he is guilty")

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/muslim-cleric-found-guilty-of-threatening-pastor/69254>



**India: Nirayanpalya village, Chamrajnagar district, Karnataka state**

Sannamma (aged 50, wife of Shidda Naik, beaten by a mob of 40 Hindu nationalists for over six hours in an attempt to convert her back to Hinduism, hospitalized with internal injuries and multiple contusions)

Shidda Naik (husband of Sannamma)

Pastor Vincent Dass (described the attack on Sannamma)

**India: New Delhi**

Pastor Obaid S Christ (convert, Afghan refugee, fled to India with his wife in 2007, has no legal status to stay as a refugee but faces certain death if he should return, the Afghan government has threatened to arrest him through Interpol for apostasy, says he knows of at least 22 Christians who have disappeared and are likely dead or imprisoned, said "Today I know that the world is really evil. And I know that even if I suffer as a refugee in India, God put me here for a purpose to learn. There is no justice. The world is

against Christ and Christianity, so I don't expect the world to give me something. I am here to give them something, and that is the love of Christ")

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/persecution-of-christians-rockets-in-karnataka-india/>  
<http://www.persecution.org/2013/09/13/afghani-christians-in-india-search-for-a-place-to-call-home/>



**Armenia: Arabkir district, Yerevan**

Pastor Levon Bardakjian (threatened with death by a man with a knife on September 11, 2013;

**UPDATE:** church secretary victim of an attempted abduction)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1904](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1904)



**Tanzania: Zanzibar**

Fr Joseph Amselmo Mwangamba (burned with acid on his face, chest, and arms)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-24088096>



**Egypt: Delga**

Fr Ayoub (confirmed that the Muslim Brotherhood is threatening Christians to pay the jizya tax, Brotherhood members are also forcing Christians to tell Al Jazeera television crews that there is no danger and no jizya demands)

<http://www.raymondibrahim.com/muslim-persecution-of-christians/brotherhood-al-jazeera-threaten-christians-to-repudiate-jizya-reports/>

**Saturday September 14, 2013**



**Bangladesh: Bilbathuagani village, Tangail district**

Mokrom Ali (aged 32, forced to revert to Islam against his will: “The chairman and the imams of the mosques interrogated me for accepting Christianity. They asked me why I had become a Christian. It is a great sin to become a Christian from Islam. If I did not accept Islam, they would beat me, burn my house, and evict me from the society...Their threats chilled me to the bone. That is why I pretended to accept Islam, but faith in Christ is the wellspring of my life. Now I am no longer a Muslim; I am a Christian”)

Mojnu Mia (aged 31, forced to revert to Islam against his will: “The chairman and the imams asked me what my religion is. I said I was a Christian. Then they threatened to beat me and evict me from the village unless I recanted my faith in Christianity...They had browbeaten me into accepting Islam. I accepted it only to get out from that predicament. But later, I embraced Christianity by swearing a confession in the court”)

Rev Mrinal Kanti Baroi (tried to defend converts to Christianity by citing the religious freedom clause in the country's constitution to the local authorities, was ignored)

<http://www.charismanews.com/world/41264-bangladeshi-christians-told-to-close-church-convert-to-islam>



### **Pakistan: Liaquatabad**

Boota Masih (aged 50, scrap collector, father of George Masih, **throat slit**, killer shouted "God is greater. I have killed an infidel blasphemer")

George Masih (son of Boota Masih)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4482>



### **Nigeria: Alode Eleme**

Most Rev Ignatius Ogboru Kattey (aged 65, husband of Beatrice Kattey; **UPDATE**: released from captivity after being abducted by unidentified gunmen on September 6, 2013 in Port Harcourt, Rivers state)

<http://pmnewsnigeria.com/2013/09/15/kidnapped-archbishop-kattey-freed/>

**Sunday September 15, 2013**



### **Vietnam: Vinh**

Bishop Paul Nguyen Thai Hop (**UPDATE**: accused during a ten minute program on state television of having "in an interview with foreign journalists...manipulated the truth, made false accusations against the government of Vietnam in order to transform what is a normal procedure into a case of persecution against the Church", the program also stated "no one is above the law" and there will be " more arrests" if the rebellion continues)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Vietnamese-Government-and-State-TV-launch-fresh-attacks-on-Bishop-of-Vinh-29019.html>



### **Turkmenistan**

Pastor Ilmurad Nurliev (husband of Maya Nurliev, questioned by police, extended family and fellow congregants also questioned, one relative told that an officer would tear her head off if she joined "their faith")

Maya Nurlieva (wife of Pastor Ilmurad Nurliev, said "We've got no peace" thanks to the police questioning)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1877](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1877)



### **Kazakhstan: Sergeevka**

Denis Yenko (aged 31, married and father of three, home raided during a religious service)

Sergei Lantsov (present in the home of Denis Yenko when it was raided during a religious service)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1950](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1950)

**Monday September 16, 2013**



### **Tanzania: Dar es Salaam**

Fr Joseph Amselmo Mwangamba (has been transferred to the National Hospital for more advanced treatment for the wounds resulting from his acid attack)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34288->

[AFRICA TANZANIA The priest attacked with acid in Zanzibar transferred to Dar es Salaam#.Uje6oYzD85s](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34288-)



### **Central African Republic**

Fr Aurelio Gazzera OCD (**UPDATE**: entered a Seleka rebel military base to plead for the release of prisoners and to protest assaults, tortures, and murders, threatened by rebel leaders with death at gunpoint, struck in the face)

<http://members4.boardhost.com/acnaus/msg/1379460207.html>

**Tuesday September 17, 2013**



### **Philippines: central Luzon**

Sr Patricia Fox (arrested along with a Congressman and attorneys while investigating land redistribution on a sugar cane estate owned by the Aquino family, slapped and punched by police)

Bishop Broderick Pabillo (**UPDATE**: said of the arrest of Sr Patricia Fox “Why are [the police] preventing people who only want to see whether the government is doing its job properly?”)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/outcry-over-arrest-of-nun-in-philippines/69293>



### **China**

Zhu Yufu (charged with subverting the state upon publication of a poem, sentenced to 7 years imprisonment, appealing sentence; aged 60, as of April 11, 2013 is still forced to do hard physical labor in Prison No. 4, Zhejiang province despite suffering from coronary heart disease, severe high blood pressure and a coronary artery tumor, prison authorities continue to deny him treatment; **UPDATE**: seen during a recent family visit, some of the

festering sores on his body have started to scab over, "mental status is very bad and his mood is low", cannot walk without supporting himself on a wall)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2013/09/china-16-member-zhu-yufu-faces-poor.html>



### **Iran: Tehran**

Maryam Jalili (arrested in the summer of 2011 and sentenced to 2.5 years in prison for evangelizing, proselytizing Muslims and membership in so called "illegal groups";  
**UPDATE:** released from prison)

Mitra Zahmati (arrested in the summer of 2011 and sentenced to 2.5 years in prison for evangelizing, proselytizing Muslims and membership in so called "illegal groups";  
**UPDATE:** released from prison)

[http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=7509:two-christian-woman-prisoners-released-from-evin&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279](http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7509:two-christian-woman-prisoners-released-from-evin&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279)



### **Egypt: Delga, Minya province**

Bishop Aghabious (wrote that "Despite the intervention of security forces in Delga, Christians are still harassed by some fanatics; where they throw stones at Christians saying, 'the army and the police will not protect you from us'")

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/2717415/>



### **Nigeria**

Archbishop Ignatius Ayau Kaigama (**UPDATE:** stated after Boko Haram killed at least 87 people "Boko Haram makes absolutely no qualms about killing innocent non-combatants...We are no longer in front of, like a few years ago, a group of guerrillas armed only with bows and arrows, but we have to face a well-funded organization. Among the members of Boko Haram there are people who know how to use the Internet very well, well-trained guerrillas and managers of efficient logistics and intelligence")

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/34333-AFRICA\\_NIGERIA\\_Boko\\_Haram\\_has\\_no\\_qualms\\_in\\_killing\\_innocent\\_people\\_said\\_Mgr\\_Kaigama#.Uj0KdIzD-pp](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34333-AFRICA_NIGERIA_Boko_Haram_has_no_qualms_in_killing_innocent_people_said_Mgr_Kaigama#.Uj0KdIzD-pp)

**Wednesday September 18, 2013**



**India: Mumbai**

Auxiliary Bishop John Rodrigues (celebrated a Mass of reparation at St Joseph church after burglars desecrated the church and tabernacle)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mumbai,-Catholic-church-desecrated-29051.html>



**Pakistan: Toba Tek Singh**

Iqra Saddique (aged 22, arrested by four male policemen on [August 7, 2013](#), tortured and stripped in public, held five days without charge; police falsely charged her with involvement in an unrelated robbery case after her attorney protested, not allowed to be visited by her mother, court refused to order a medical exam for sexual assault, judge removed and destroyed important evidence from her file; **UPDATE**: released on bail)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4484>



**Armenia: Arabkir district, Yerevan**

Pastor Levon Bardakjian (threatened with death by a man with a knife on [September 11, 2013](#), church secretary victim of an attempted abduction on [September 13, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: an automobile owned by a charity of the church shot at while the driver was inside)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1904](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1904)



**United Kingdom - Scotland**

Rev Josh Williamson (arrested for "breach of the peace" for handing out literature and street preaching, released with a warning)

Andrea Minichiello Williams (CEO of Christian Legal Centre; **UPDATE**: said "This is the third arrest in as many months. These street preachers are not breaking any laws and are perfectly within their rights. The police are overreaching their authority and misapplying the law. Their actions show an increasing hostility towards Christianity")

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/religious-freedom/christian-street-preacher-arrested-in-scotland>

**Friday September 20, 2013**



**Pakistan: Lahore**

Shakeel Maqbool Malik (photojournalist, rights activist, escaped an assassination attempt when two men on a motorcycle shot at him at a bus stand, now in hiding with his wife)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/a-christian-rights-activist-receives-death-threats/>



**Syria: Aleppo**

Archbishop Jean Clement Jeanbart (**UPDATE**: reported that the archbishopric was hit with two mortar shells overnight)

**Syria**

Bishop Boutros Melki (said in [Jerusalem](#) that foreign jihadists in the civil war are targeting Christians)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34332->

[ASIA SYRIA Mortar shells against the Melkite Archbishopric of Aleppo Bishop Jeanbart Yes to the truce#.Uj0KmYzD-po](#)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/09/20/syrian-christians-targeted-by-outsiders-says-bishop/>



**Egypt: Delga, Minya province**



Fr Abraam Abu El-Yameen (told how 150 Christian families had fled the village before the military re-established order)

Fr Ayoub Youssef (**UPDATE**: requested an investigation into the murders of Hani Iskandar Thomas and Shafik Zakher)

Bishop Macarius (advised Christian students returning to school to not be bitter toward their Muslim classmates)

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/2717415/>

**Saturday September 21, 2013**



**Azerbaijan: Aliabad**

Aziz Aliyev (husband of Havva Aliyeva, father of Jeyhun Aliyev, home raided by police during a worship service while he was away)

Havva Aliyeva (wife of Aziz Aliyev, mother of Jeyhun Aliyev, home raided by police during a worship service, arm twisted when police took her house key, religious literature seized, suffered an epileptic seizure while on the way to police detention, hospitalized)

Jeyhun Aliyev (son of Aziz Aliyev and Havva Aliyeva, home raided by police during a worship service, detained several hours by police, threatened by police with sexual assault)

Rauf Agayev (husband of Samira Agayeva, present during the police raid at the home of Havva Aliyeva, detained several hours by police)

Samira Agayeva (wife of Rauf Agayev, present during the police raid at the home of Havva Aliyeva, detained several hours by police)

Vaguf Aliyev (husband of Gamar Aliyev, present during the police raid at the home of Havva Aliyeva, detained several hours by police)

Gamar Aliyeva (wife of Vaguf Aliyev, present during the police raid at the home of Havva Aliyeva, detained several hours by police, threatened by police with the loss of her teaching position)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1906](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1906)



**Syria: Tabqa, al-Raqqah province**

Ninar Odisho (aged 26, **UPDATE**: beaten to death by rebel fighters who burned a cross into his face, Muslim friends spared, the last three Christian families have now fled from the town)

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/10/2741210/>

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/09/27/disease-has-captured-us-says-jesuit-priest-in-homs/>



### **Central African Republic: Bossangoa**

Fr Frederic Tonfio (described the discovery of two grenades in the diocesan cathedral)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34342->

[AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICA Two grenades found in the cathedral of Bossangoa#.Uj5TfYzD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34342-)



### **United Kingdom: Perth, Scotland**

Rev Josh Williamson (arrested for "breach of the peace" on [September 18, 2013](#) for handing out literature and street preaching, released with a warning; **UPDATE**: arrested a second time, released without charge after five hours)

Andrea Minichiello Williams (**UPDATE**: said "The arrest of street preachers is happening with alarming regularity. There is no law against what Rev Williamson was doing and he has now been wrongly arrested twice")

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/religious-freedom/christian-street-preacher-arrested-for-second-time-in-a-week>

**Sunday September 22, 2013**



### **India: Taragaon, Chhattisgarh state**

Mitko Kashyap (aged 60, beaten by her nephew when she refused to deny her faith, daughter-in-law also attacked but escaped, hospitalized with a head injury, police refused to file a report until hospital management insisted the injury was serious)

**India: Dhanora, Kondagoan district, Chhattisgarh state**

Mankuram Singh (brother of Mankumar Singh, convert, beaten by Hindu extremists in an attempt to convert him back to Hinduism, home destroyed, expelled from the village with his family)

Mankumar Singh (brother of Mankuram Singh, convert, beaten by Hindu extremists in an attempt to convert him back to Hinduism, home destroyed, expelled from the village with his family)

**India: Tarikere, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka state**

Pastor Hemachandra Hebal (aged 39, husband of Elizabeth, father of three, prayer service interrupted by Hindu fundamentalists)

Elizabeth Hebal (aged 35, wife of Pastor Hemachandra Hebal, mother of three)

[http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/10/article\\_2748705.html/](http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/10/article_2748705.html/)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/10/police-in-india-rebuke-pastor-for-reporting-vicious-beating/>

<http://www.churchinchains.ie/node/660>



**Pakistan: Peshawar**

**Two suicide bombers detonated their bombs as the Sunday School and Mass were ending at All Saints Church and the parishioners were gathering for a food distribution, killing 127 (official count) or over 200 (highest unofficial count)**

Sonny Samson (Sunday school teacher, **killed**)

Riaz Khokhar (aged 60, brother of Ayaz Khohar, **killed**)

William Ghulam (school principal, **killed** along with his son Noel and daughter Merab, his widow has been hospitalized in critical condition)

Merab William (**killed** along with her father and brother, mother has been hospitalized in critical condition)

Noel William (aged 22 or 23, son of William Ghulam, medical student, **killed** along with his father and sister, mother has been hospitalized in critical condition)

Fehmida William (wounded in the bombing of All Saints Church, husband and two children killed)

Khalid (**killed**)

Naiher (aged 8, sister of Eshan, **killed** along with her brother and grandmother)

Eshan (aged 11, brother of Naiher, **killed** along with his sister and grandmother)

Sania 'Anjee' Haroon (aged 27, wife of Haroon Shareef, sister of Sanobar Younas, **killed**)

Haroon 'Goodoo' Shareef (aged 32, husband of Sania Haroon, **killed**)

Shazia (sister of Samson Shareef, Haroon Shareef, and Sapna, **killed**)

Sapna (sister of Samson Shareef, Haroon Shareef, and Shazia, **killed**)

Robin Bhatti (hospitalized after the bombing of All Saints Church [later **died**])

Khurram Yaqoob (aged 28, lost his right eye in the bombing of All Saints Church)

Mrs Sajad (aged 62, both legs injured in the suicide bombing of All Saint's Church, cannot walk)

Ayaz Khohar (brother of Riaz Khokhar, took victims injured in the bombing to the hospital despite the death of his brother)

Shalom Nazir (teenager, attended All Saints Church with his family when it was attacked by two suicide bombers, said "I came in the morning with my whole family for prayers and worship but returned home with no-one. My mum took her last breath in my arms; my dad and sister died")

Salman John (aged 12, tearfully described the bombing at a religious service: "We came out of Sunday school and there was a huge explosion. I cannot believe I lost my friends. I will never be able to see them again")

Shaleem Junaid (aged 13, witnessed the bombing, Sunday school teacher killed: "After church, everyone was eating and I was playing with a few other children. We heard two blasts and then lots of screaming. I was terrified!")

Waqas (aged 25, mother and two sisters killed)

Danish Younis (aged 32, wife and two small children killed)

Zaveria (aged 22, suffered a severe head, mother is in serious condition)

Shyam Emmanuel (aged 7, hospitalized, both parents killed)

Salman (Sunday school teacher, wounded, hospitalized)

Norman Latif (aged 12, , leg broken, arm and one side of his face severely burned, ball bearings embedded in his chest, liver possibly damaged)

Kashmala Munawar (first year high school student, legs injured in the bombing of All Saints Church; on leg later amputated)

Nazir Khan (aged 50, schoolteacher, said of the attack: "A huge blast threw me on the floor and as soon as I regained my senses, a second blast took place and I saw wounded people everywhere")

Margrette (described the attack on All Saints Church "I heard two explosions. People started to run. Human remains were strewn all over the church")

Imran Gulfam (said of the attack: "I was behind a pillar so remained safe and after the blasts saw only dust, blood and body parts everywhere")

Shaukat Ghulam (brother William Ghulam, nephew Noel William, and niece Merab William, all killed in the bombing of All Saints Church)

Sanobar Younas (aged 36, wife of Younas Benjamin, lost five relatives in the attack, including her sister Sania Haroon and her brother-in-law Haroon Shareef)

Younas Benjamin (husband of Sanobar Younas)

Shahzada Saleem (brother of Sania Haroon)

Sharoon Saleem (brother of Sania Haroon)

Samson Shareef (aged 31, brother of Haroon Shareef, Shazia, and Sapna, father also killed)

Arif Latif (father of Norman Latif, rescued his son after the attack)

George Maggs (mother and father in critical condition following the attack, eight year old brother also hospitalized)

Sajid Masih (eyewitness to the attack: "On visiting different people there I found that many injured victims could have been saved. Many died due to the lack of emergency treatment being provided without upfront fees and a lack of available staff at hospitals that were manned poorly due to Sunday being a 'day off' for many staff", he also reported that two injured survivors had been placed alive in coffins and were saved by their families near the graveyard)

Frederic Azeem Ghauri (lawmaker, said that the All Saints Church was the largest in the province, described the attack on the church "As soon as the service finished and the food was being distributed, all of a sudden we heard one explosion, followed by another"; also said "Now after this attack Christians across Pakistan will fear for their lives")

Paul Bhatti (former Minister for National Harmony, **UPDATE**: rushed to All Saints Church after an attack left over 100 dead and over 150 injured out of almost 700 present at the end of Sunday service)

Shamim Masih (journalist and human rights activist, **UPDATE**: said after bombing "This is a security lapse since the Church has received threats of the attack and informed the local authority who did not provide any security. The local government has failed to protect minorities and has even been involved in hate speeches against minorities")

Shemiah Parshad (stated on Facebook "Peaceful coexistence in Pakistan doesn't seem like an option anymore")

Rt Rev Sarfarz Humphrey Peters (**UPDATE**: proclaimed three days of mourning, said that the government had been warned of an attack)

Bishop Dr Alexander John Malik (**UPDATE**: said that the government must increase security for all places of worship)

Wilson Saraj (project manager at Barnabas Aid in London, United Kingdom, several relatives injured in the double suicide bombing of All Saints Church)

Wilson Chowdhry (Chairman of the British Pakistani Christian Association, said in [Paris, France](#) of the bombing of All Saints Church: "My wife lost 13 members of her family in this tragic incident, spanning three generations. Communication with Urdu Fellowships across the UK has confirmed that every parish has a member that has suffered human loss in this - the worst tragedy to hit Pakistani Christians in recent times... This act of violence has created huge anxiety and a sense of hopelessness amongst Christians in Pakistan who already suffer severe intolerance and prejudice. Their perceived value in a society of weak government and immense extremism has reached a nadir. Unless Pakistan's

Government takes seriously its responsibility to protect this vulnerable minority, the continued attacks will lead to the eventual extermination of Christians living there")

[http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/2013/10/many-victims-of-peshawar-bomb-attacks\\_7.html](http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/2013/10/many-victims-of-peshawar-bomb-attacks_7.html)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/More-blood-in-Peshawar.-Christians-pray-for-victims-and-peace-in-the-country-29142.html>

<http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/2013/09/bpca-supports-french-christians-in.html>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/peshawar-incident-dilemma-of-the-innocent/>

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/Latest-emergencies/Personal-tragedy-behind-each-of-85-deaths-in-Pakistan-church-bombing.html>

<http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/2013/09/report-on-twin-suicide-attack-on-church.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Peshawar:-as-Christians-protest-against-violence,-prayer-held-in-the-church-where-massacre-took-place-29099.html>

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/Free-magazine/Facebook-Latest-need/Help-victims-of-deadliest-ever-attack-on-Christian-community-in-Pakistan.html>

<http://www.pakistanchristiantimes.net/78-killed-over-100-injured-in-peshawar-church-attack/>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/the-government-has-failed-to-protect-the-christian-community-christian-leaders-claim/>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Peshawar-,-two-suicide-bombers-attack-Protestant-church-:-over-one-hundred-dead-and-130-injured-29076.html>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenews.php?hnewsid=4495>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenews.php?hnewsid=4497>

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2013/09/suicide-attack-at-church-in-pakistan-kills-dozens/>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/islamic-extremists-bomb-church-in-pakistan-attack-shopping-mall-in-kenya/>

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/twin-suicide-bomb-attacks-on-pakistan-church-kill-at-least-56-22458>

<http://www.pakistanchristiantimes.net/pakistan-church-blast-kills-dozens/>

<http://www.persecution.org/2013/11/01/broken-by-the-bombs-of-the-all-saints-church-attack/>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/bleak-christmas-at-the-all-saints-church/>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/victims-of-peshawar-church-blasts-to-receive-counselling-from-specially-trained-team-of-peshawar-diocese/>

<http://britishpakistanichristian.blogspot.com/>



### **Lebanon: Bekaa valley**

Rami Sammaan (aged 36, husband of Sally Sammaan, Syrian refugee)

Sally Sammaan (wife of Rami Samman, daughter of Mousa Fahmi Issa and Ilhan Hanna, Syrian refugee)

Mousa Fahmi Issa (husband of Ilhan Hanna, father of Shames and Sally, Syrian refugee)

Shames (daughter of Mousa Fahmi Issa and Ilhan Hanna, Syrian refugee)

Ilhan Hanna (wife of Mousa Fahmi Issa, mother of Shames and Sally, Syrian refugee)

<http://fullcomment.nationalpost.com/2013/09/22/open-season-on-christians/>



### **Egypt: Delga, Minya province**

Fr Abram Taneissa (concelebrated with Fr Silwanis Lutfi the first Divine Liturgy in the church of the Virgin Mary after it was firebombed)

Fr Silwanis Lutfi (concelebrated with Fr Abram Taneissa the first Divine Liturgy in the church of the Virgin Mary after it was firebombed)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Delga:-after-Islamist-attacks,-Mass-is-back-29081.html>

**Monday September 23, 2013**



### **Vietnam: Thai Ha**

Fr Matthew Vu Khoi Phung (Redemptorist superior, protested the government's issuance of an expropriation order to seize parish land near lake Ba Giang)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hanoi,-fresh-attacks-on-Thai-Ha-Catholics'-property-29083.html>



### **Pakistan: Peshawar**

#### **Christians publicly protesting the bombing of All Saints Church were beaten by Muslims**

Griffon Pervez (father of Waqas Pervez and Fahad Pervez, brother-in-law of Johnson Yousaf, attacked while participating in a demonstration against the September 22, 2013 bombing of All Saints Church, beaten along with his wife, sons, and brother-in-law, received death threats, fled his home with his family, in hiding)

Waqas Pervez (aged 26, brother of Fahad Pervez, nephew of Johnson Yousaf, attacked while participating in a demonstration against the September 22, 2013 bombing of All Saints Church, beaten along with his brother, mother, and uncle, received death threats, fled his home with his family, in hiding)

Fahad Pervez (brother of Wagas Pervez, nephew of Johnson Yousaf, attacked while participating in a demonstration against the September 22, 2013 bombing of All Saints Church, beaten along with his brother, mother, and uncle, received death threats, fled his home with his family, in hiding)

Johnson Yousaf (uncle of Fashad and Wagas Pervez, attacked while participating in a demonstration against the September 22, 2013 bombing of All Saints Church, beaten along with his sister and two nephews, received death threats, fled his home with his family, in hiding)

### **Pakistan: Iqbal Town**

Pastor Safir (beaten by masked men for joining in a demonstration against the bombing of All Saints Church, missing)

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/30875-christians-threatened-after-mourning-suicide-attack-victims-pastor-detained>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/a-christian-family-threatened-as-they-participated-in-protest-against-church-bombings/>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/christian-protestors-allegedly-beaten-by-unknown-men/>



### **Iran: diplomatic mission in New York City**

Naghmeh Shariat Panahi Abedini (wife of Saeed Abedini, who has been sentenced to eight years imprisonment; **UPDATE:** by chance met Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in the lobby of the hotel where they were both staying, asked him to release her husband and gave his petition for release to the Iranian delegation)

<http://aclj.org/iran/breaking-pastor-saeed-wife-speaks-iranian-president-hand-delivers-letter>



### **Iraq: Rafidayn, Kirkuk province, Kurdistan**

Imad Yokhana Yago (Member of Parliament; **UPDATE:** apartment car-bombed, 50 people injured including his wife and three of his sons)

### **Iraq: Amadiyah-Zakho, Kurdistan**

Bishop Rabban al-Qas (spoke on the assassination attempts on two Christian lawmakers and the bomb attacks on a Sunni mosque and a Shia funeral that killed 91 and wounded at least



221: "Foreign Islamist groups want the instability of Iraq. Their objectives are primarily political and religious. Their actions are meant to unleash chaos between communities")  
<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/For-Mgr-Rabban-al-Qas,-foreign-terrorists-against-those-who-work-for-hope-in-Iraq-29088.html>  
<http://www.aina.org/news/20130923151631.htm>  
[http://www.fides.org/en/news/34345-ASIA\\_IRAQ\\_Car\\_bombing\\_against\\_the\\_home\\_of\\_a\\_Christian\\_politician\\_50\\_wounded#.UkD-64zD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34345-ASIA_IRAQ_Car_bombing_against_the_home_of_a_Christian_politician_50_wounded#.UkD-64zD8fg)



### **Italy: Rome**

Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco (**UPDATE:** stated at the Italian bishops' conference "In too many parts of the world, violence, especially against the Christians, not only continues but it also seems to be intensifying. God does not want this, and the international community continues to be half-hearted, pretending not to see")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Card-Bagnasco:-too-much-violence-against-Christians,-the-world-should-not-pretend-it-does-not-see-29087.html>



### **Nigeria**

Archbishop Valerian Okeke (described the armed robbery of three churches in the diocese)

Fidel Onuekwusi (a Knight of Saint Mulumba, said that the robberies of the churches were due to the country's eroded value system)

#### **Nigeria: Egbo, Uruagu, Nnewi, Anambra state**

Fr Peter Ezeani (church rectory invaded by 10 armed men at 1:00 AM, forced to turn over the Sunday collection, choir bus stolen)

#### **Nigeria: Nnokwa, Idemili, South Local Government, Anambra state**

Fr. Basil Gbuzue (absent from the church rectory when 10 armed men invaded it at 3:00 AM)

<http://www.osundefender.org/?p=123889>

**Tuesday September 24, 2013**



### **Pakistan: Peshawa**

Vicar Ejaz Gill (**UPDATE**: gave more details on the double suicide bombing of All Saints Church, including the deaths of Sunday school students and their teachers)

Aneeqa Maria (attorney, head of the Christian rights organization The Voice; **UPDATE**: charged that the victims of the double suicide bombing of All Saints Church who were admitted to the children's ward at the local hospital were not treated until the second day)

### **Pakistan: Multan, Punjab**

Fr Robert Mc Culloch (criticized politicians who stated that Pakistan is 'a land only for Muslims' and Prime Minister Sharif for calling for negotiations with the Taliban: "I think his was an attempt to build peace in the country. Of course, how can one communicate with groups who want to destabilize the country with terrorism? And then, given the immense fragmentation of the Taliban galaxy, who can one dialogue with?")

Fr Gulshan Barkat (**UPDATE**: said that the government is working on security for Christian places of worship and other institutions, has invited Christian and other religious leaders to conferences)

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/2721983/>

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34363->

[ASIA\\_PAKISTAN\\_Missionaries\\_Do\\_not\\_exploit\\_the\\_attacks\\_on\\_Christians#.UkJbe4zD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34363-ASIA_PAKISTAN_Missionaries_Do_not_exploit_the_attacks_on_Christians#.UkJbe4zD8fg)



### **Syria: Maalula**

Marie (attended the funerals of five Christians killed by the rebels)

Atef (fiance of Rasha, **throat slit** by Islamists rebels after he refused to convert to Islam)

Rasha (fiancee of Atef, called his cell phone and reached one of his killers who taunted her "Jesus didn't come to save him")

Adnan Nasrallah (aged 62, saw a neighbor recite the words to convert to Islam with a pistol held to his head)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/syrian-jihadist-slits-throat-of-christian-man-refusing-to-deny-christ-then-taunts-fiancee-jesus-didnt-come-to-save-him-104498/>



## **United States – Maryland: Baltimore**

Mother Loraine Marie Clare Maguire (said that her order cannot comply with the Affordable Care Act's abortion mandate, even if it means their order potentially will be fined millions of dollars in violations)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/religious-sisters-lead-first-class-action-lawsuit-against-hhs-mandate/>

**Wednesday September 25, 2013**



## **Indonesia: Lenteng Agung ward, Jakarta, Java**

Susan Jasmine Zulkifli (elected ward chief; **UPDATE:** 600 Muslim residents demonstrated in favor of her removal due to her religion, they delivered a coffin and a yellow flag to the governor, the deputy governor still supports her and has threatened legal action if the protestors turn violent)

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/news/jakarta/non-muslim-ward-chief-stays-on/>



## **Kazakhstan: Astana**

Shamurat Toktoraliev (Kyrgyz citizen. charged with acting as an unregistered missionary)

Talgat Bilbayev (**UPDATE:** charged with acting as an unregistered missionary)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1919](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1919)



## **South Sudan**

Bishop Elias Taban (escaped child soldier, engineer and theologian, said that the devil is behind Christian apathy toward persecuted Christians, also said "People are quick to jump and blame the Muslims (for terrorist acts), but if we can see beyond Islam, and we can see it is the devil who is always there for destruction")

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/south-sudan-bishop-who-won-clinton-award-devil-behind-christian-apaty-toward-third-world-plight-105322/>



## **Sudan**

Bishop Andudu Adam Elnail (**UPDATE**: sent a letter to U.S. President Barak Obama in which he called for prompt action to save those still alive in the Nuba Mountains, Blue Nile, and Dafur from genocide)

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/09/2723238/>



## **Libya: Derna district**

Waleed Saad Shaker (aged 25, Egyptian Copt, robbed and beaten, **shot dead** when he refused to convert to Islam)

Nash'at Shenouda Ishaq (aged 27, Egyptian Copt, robbed and beaten, **shot** when he refused to convert to Islam, hospitalized but **later died**)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/two-egyptian-christians-slain-in-libya/>



## **Vatican City**

Pope Francis (called on people to pray for persecuted Christians worldwide and to be “genuinely concerned about their plight, just as one would be for a family member in distress”)

<http://www.catholicerald.co.uk/news/2013/09/25/pope-asks-for-prayers-for-persecuted-christians/>



## **Argentina: Buenos Aires**

Fr Francisco Baigorria (expressed sadness over five high school students who set fire to a row of pews and the celebrant's chair in St Ignatius of Loyola parish and painted anti-Catholic graffiti including "The only church that enlightens is that which burns")

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/pastor-laments-vandalism-at-buenos-aires-parish/>

**Thursday September 26, 2013**



**Vietnam**

Le Quoc Quan (aged 41 [2012], lawyer, blogger, and human rights activist, arrested in Hanoi on [December 27, 2012](#) for tax evasion; **UPDATE:** trial has been postponed to October 2, 2013)

Rev Nguyen Cong Chinh (church closed for "undermining unity", imprisoned for two years of an 11 year sentence; **UPDATE:** police are preventing his wife and children from leaving their home to visit him)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hanoi-styled-religious-freedom-sees-Catholic-activists-on-trial,-other-Christians-segregated-at-home-29114.html>



**Pakistan: Peshawar**

Khalid Shahzad (called for the deployment of Army Rangers to protect churches)

**Pakistan: Zaman Town, Korangi area**

Babar (arrested on a charge of blasphemy during a demonstration against the bombing of All Saints Church, facing a three year sentence, allegedly threw stones at an Islamic sign)

Ilyas (arrested on a charge of blasphemy during a demonstration against the bombing of All Saints Church, facing a three year sentence, allegedly threw stones at an Islamic sign)

Robert (arrested on a charge of blasphemy during a demonstration against the bombing of All Saints Church, facing a three year sentence, allegedly threw stones at an Islamic sign)

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/609856/september-22-attack-deploy-the-army-at-churches-protect-us-or-expel-us/>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/voilent-protestors-over-peshawar-church-attack-booked-under-blasphemy-charges/>



**Uzbekistan: Tashkent**

Rovza Sultanova (sister of Marina Sultanova, home raided by police while teaching "religion" to children, **UPDATE:** fined US\$3,250)

Marina Sultanova (sister of Rovza Sultanova (sister of Marina Sultanova, home raided by police while teaching "religion" to children, **UPDATE**: fined US\$3,250)

Bakhtiyor Karayev (parent of a child caught in the police raid on the home of Rovza and Marina Sultanova, **UPDATE**: fined US\$1,806)

Rozalina Abyazova (parent of a child caught in the police raid on the home of Rovza and Marina Sultanova, **UPDATE**: fined US\$1,806)

Galina Dyachenko (parent of a child caught in the police raid on the home of Rovza and Marina Sultanova, **UPDATE**: fined US\$1,806)

Natalya Kubaychuk (parent of a child caught in the police raid on the home of Rovza and Marina Sultanova, **UPDATE**: fined US\$1,444)

Olga Vlasova (parent of a child caught in the police raid on the home of Rovza and Marina Sultanova, **UPDATE**: fined US\$2,167)

Olga Kazakova (parent of a child caught in the police raid on the home of Rovza and Marina Sultanova, **UPDATE**: fined US\$1,806)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1908](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1908)



### **Syria: location unknown**

Bishop Boulos al-Yazigi (brother of Patriarch Youhanna X, abducted at gunpoint by rebels on [April 22, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: Turkish intelligence reports that he is still alive)

Bishop Yuhanna Ibrahim (abducted at gunpoint by rebels on [April 22, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: Turkish intelligence reports that he is still alive)

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/09/syria-bishops-kidnapped-alive-turkey-lebanon.html>



### **Lebanon**

Ibrahim Doushi (aged 61, Syrian refugee from Raqqah, described the desecration of two churches: “Christians are being torn from our roots. [The ISIL militants] are proud of it. They are targeting the Christians and they are publicizing it. The regime cannot protect us”)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/2011-christians-under-threat-in-syria-as-islamist-extremists-gain-influence>

<http://www.raymondibrahim.com/from-the-arab-world/two-churches-attacked-syria-crosses-broken-and-al-qaeda-flags-raised/>



### **Nigeria: Dorowa village, Yobe state**

#### **Village attacked by Boko Haram militants**

Rev Yohanna Agom (father of Dauda Yohanna and Ibrahim Yohanna, **killed**, church and home set on fire)

Dauda Yohanna (son of Rev Yohanna Agom, **killed**, church and home set on fire)

Ibrahim Yohanna (son of Rev Yohanna Agom, brother of Dauda Yohanna, described the killing of his father and brother, fled into the darkness, church and home set on fire)

Rev Garba Idi (described the attack in which Rev Yohanna Agom and his son Dauda were killed)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/muslim-herdsmen-islamic-extremists-kill-more-christians-in-nigeria/>



### **Morocco: Fes**

Mohamed El Baladi (aged 34, convert, arrested in Ain Aicha, Taounate region on [August 28, 2013](#) and sentenced on [September 2, 2013](#) to 2.5 years in prison and fined US\$600 for evangelism and shaking the faith of a Muslim, reportedly has been abused and that the authorities have been inciting prisoners to abuse him; **UPDATE**: temporarily released from prison by the Court of Appeals)

<http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2013/10/2736749/>

**Friday September 27, 2013**



### **Iran - Tehran**

Pastor Saeed Abedini (aged 32 years old, convert, US citizen, father of 2, arrested during a family visit, held in Evin Prison and threatened with death; **UPDATE**: subject of an appeal for release to Iranian President Hassan Rouhani by U.S. President Barak Obama)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/pastor-saeed-abedini-learns-that-obama-spoke-out-about-him-receives-hope-for-release-105673/>



### **Azerbaijan: Barda**

Rza Babayev (attacked by a small mob of 20, not seriously injured, religious literature torn, called police who then arrested him)

Ilham Hasanov (attacked by a small mob of 20, not seriously injured, religious literature torn, called police who then arrested him)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1894](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1894)



### **Armenia: Echmiadzin**

Father Georges Dankaye (procurator of the Armenian Catholic Church, described how the Synod of Bishops of the Armenian Apostolic Church has discussed the canonization of all of the victims of the 1914-1918 Armenian genocide)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/34413-EUROPE\\_ARMENIA\\_The\\_victims\\_of\\_the\\_Armenian\\_genocide\\_might\\_be\\_canonized#.Uk4VSozD-po](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34413-EUROPE_ARMENIA_The_victims_of_the_Armenian_genocide_might_be_canonized#.Uk4VSozD-po)



### **Nigeria: Gavva West, Gwoza district, Borno state**

Rev Filibus Gwama (said of the most recent Boko Haram attack - the 10th this year - on his community: "Five members from my village who escaped from the attackers said seven of our Christian members were killed in the attack, and two of them were children, ages 6 and 8", many others have fled to neighboring Cameroon, 75 homes were burned)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/11/boko-haram-violence-cripples-christianity-in-areas-of-nigerias-borno-state/>

**Saturday September 28, 2013**





**India: Mandya district, Karnataka state**

Pastor Ramesh Salomon (aged 32, attacked while leading a prayer service by 20 Hindu radicals)

**India: Karnataka state**

Pastor Aneef (aged 34, home set afire by Hindu extremists)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34425->

[ASIA INDIA Christian Churches and Pastors are being targeted in Karnataka#.UK-RAozD-po](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34425-ASIA_INDIA_Christian_Churches_and_Pastors_are_being_targeted_in_Karnataka#.UK-RAozD-po)



**Syria: Homs**

Fr Frans van der Lugt SJ (**UPDATE:** wrote “No food has entered our besieged region for more than 15 months. For months we were able to rely on local warehouses, but these are now empty. We are surviving on what little food remains in our homes, but we will be reduced to soon only find bulgur wheat, and then soon that will be gone, too. We thank God that each and everyone one of use still gets 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of flour a week, but we do not know how long this supply will remain available...Disease has captured some of us and is knocking on the door of others”)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2013/09/27/disease-has-captured-us-says-jesuit-priest-in-homs/>



**Kenya: Garissa**

Mary Nginya (witnessed a drive by attack on a Pentecostal church that killed a choir member and the son of an elder and wounded a woman and her two grandsons)

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/nov/06/kenya-church-grenade-attack>



**Egypt: Zakaria, Minya province**

Kirollos Sabet (aged 22, accused of having an illicit relationship with a 22 year old Muslim woman, family furniture and appliance stores looted and destroyed, Coptic homes stoned,

the military held a "reconciliation" meeting where he was fined 300,000 Egyptian pounds [US\$43,498] and the woman 150,000 pounds, was ordered to pay her fine when she claimed poverty, when he refused he and his five brothers were expelled from the village)

Thabit Sadik (father of Kirolos Sabet, son accused of having an illicit relationship with a 22 year old Muslim woman, family furniture and appliance stores looted and destroyed, Coptic homes stoned and fired upon, six Coptic homes set afire)

Rev Khalil Ibrahim (described the attacks triggered by the allegations against Kirolos Sabet, including the smashing of his own car and the burning of two taxis)

Bishop Macarius (**UPDATE:** reported on the persecution of Kirolos Sabet)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/1994-islamists-burn-houses-of-6-coptic-families-in-minya-demand-expulsion>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130929170058.htm>



### **Central African Republic: Bouar**

Fr Beniamino Gusmeroli (bound and gagged by militants with Sudanese accents, mission station looted)

Fr Martial Mengue (bound and gagged by militants with Sudanese accents, mission station looted, taken hostage but later released)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34391->

[AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICA The mission of Our Lady of Fatima in Bouar ransacked#.UkpTFozD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34391-AFRICA_CENTRAL_AFRICA_The_mission_of_Our_Lady_of_Fatima_in_Bouar_ransacked#.UkpTFozD8fg)



### **Nigeria: Zangang village, Kaduna state**

#### **Village attacked by heavily armed Fulani Muslim herdsmen**

Rev Yakubu Gandu Nkut (**UPDATE:** described the most recent attack in which 15 Christians were killed)

Christopher Bakwap (**killed**)

Benjamen Ganda (**killed**)

Ladi Madugu (**killed**)

Adam Yakubu (**killed**)

Julius Barnabas (**killed**)

Garba Kushuwah (**killed**)

Martha Musa (**killed**)

Michael Aboi (**killed**)

Gaje Lufuwai (**killed**)

Kefas Yusfu (**killed**)

Dauda Yusu (**killed**)

Joshua Bikau (**killed**)

Andrew Bikai (**killed**)

Sheying Immanuel (**killed**)

Gideon Adamu (**killed**)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/muslim-herdsmen-islamic-extremists-kill-more-christians-in-nigeria/>



### **Colombia: San Sebastian de Roldanillo**

Fr Luis Bernardo Echeverry (aged 69, **murdered** by apparent robbers)

Fr Hector Fabio Cabrera Morales (aged 27, **murdered** by apparent robbers)

Archbishop Dario de Jesus Monsalve (condemned the murders of Fr Luis Bernardo Echeverry and Fr Hector Fabio Cabrera Morale)

Bishop Jose Alejandro Castano Arbelaez (presided at the funeral of Fr Luis Bernardo Echeverry and Fr Hector Fabio Cabrera Morale)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/34392-AMERICA\\_COLOMBIA\\_Today\\_the\\_funeral\\_of\\_the\\_two\\_murdered\\_priests#.UkpT\\_IzD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34392-AMERICA_COLOMBIA_Today_the_funeral_of_the_two_murdered_priests#.UkpT_IzD8fg)

**Sunday September 29, 2013**



### **Vietnam: Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Vinh**

Le Quoc Quan (aged 42, lawyer, blogger, and human rights activist, arrested in Hanoi on December 27, 2012 for tax evasion; **UPDATE**: thousands attended candlelight vigils for his release)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hanoi-:-thousands-hold-candlelight-vigil-for-release-of-Catholic-lawyer-Le-Quoc-Quan-29140.html>



**India: Tarikere, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka state**

Pastor Hemachandra Hebal (aged 39, husband of Elizabeth, father of three, prayer service interrupted by Hindu fundamentalists, filed a police report, **UPDATE:** 25 Hindus returned the following week and beat him and his wife, arrested by police and forced to sign a statement that they would stop preaching, would vacate the premises within 24 hours, and releasing the police of liability if something should happen to him)

Elizabeth Hebal (aged 35, wife of Pastor Hemachandra Hebal, mother of three, **UPDATE:** 25 Hindus interrupted a prayer service and beat her and her husband, arrested by police and forced to sign a statement that they would stop preaching, would vacate the premises within 24 hours, and releasing the police of liability if something should happen to her)

<http://www.churchinchains.ie/node/660>



**Pakistan: Peshawar**

Zubair Yousaf (was praying at a memorial service for the [September 22, 2013](#) suicide bombings when a car bomb exploded 300 yards from All Saints Church at a market, 18 children and 13 girls aged 13-17 are still missing after the church explosion)

George Maggs (mother and father still hospitalized in critical condition following the [September 22, 2013](#) suicide bombings of All Saints Church, eight year old brother underwent surgery)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/More-blood-in-Peshawar.-Christians-pray-for-victims-and-peace-in-the-country-29142.html>



**Iran: Tehran**

Maryam Naghash-Zargarani aka Nasim (aged 35, began serving four years imprisonment on July 15, 2013, apparently has had a heart attack in Evin prison, transferred to Modares hospital, condition unknown)

Somayeh Bakhtiari (imprisoned)

Ronak Samavat (imprisoned)

[http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=7572:iranian-christian-prisoner-in-evin-transferred-to-hospital&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279](http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7572:iranian-christian-prisoner-in-evin-transferred-to-hospital&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279)



### **Israel: Jerusalem**

Fr Raed Abusahliah (called for justice after four rabbinical students were arrested for desecrating a Christian cemetery on Mount Zion which included the location of the grave of Righteous Among Gentiles Oskar Schindler)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/34390-ASIA\\_ISRAEL\\_Anti\\_Christian\\_vandalism\\_in\\_the\\_evangelical\\_cemetery\\_Four\\_students\\_arrested#.UkpVTozD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34390-ASIA_ISRAEL_Anti_Christian_vandalism_in_the_evangelical_cemetery_Four_students_arrested#.UkpVTozD8fg)



### **Nigeria: Abuja**

Bishop Ransom Bello (**UPDATE:** said "Even though numbers have decreased tremendously... we have suffered a lot of persecutions, neglect by the government; we've suffered reduction in our membership, many have been killed, many have relocated because of fears. There's no doubt about that. Some churches have closed. When you lose a pastor, members killed, church burnt, the church closes down. But that does not mean we don't have church in Kano. We're still there")

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201309300257.html?page=1>

**Monday September 30, 2013**



### **India: Orissa state**

Sajan K George (President of the Global Council of Indian Christians; **UPDATE:** called the conviction of seven Christians for the 2008 assassination of Hindu nationalist leader Laxamananda Saraswati despite Maoist claims of responsibility, the assassination led to a pogrom in which over 100 Christians were killed)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pogrom-of-Orissa,-7-innocent-Christians-convicted-with-false-accusations-29159.html>



### **Pakistan: Gojra district, Toba Tek Singh**

#### **Double jeopardy trial dismissed**

Sajjad Masih (sentenced to life imprisonment on [July 13, 2013](#) 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 accuser had retracted the accusation and admitted that the police had pressured him into making it; **UPDATE**: second trial for the same offense begun, defense attorneys argued that this second prosecution constituted illegal double jeopardy, judge agreed and dismissed the case)



### **Iran: Tehran**

Pastor Saeed Abedini (aged 32 years old, convert, US citizen, father of 2, arrested during a family visit, held in Evin Prison and threatened with death; **UPDATE**: allowed a visitation from his Iranian family, is hopeful for eventual release)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/pastor-saeed-abedini-learns-that-obama-spoke-out-about-him-receives-hope-for-release-105673/>



### **Egypt: el-Sario, Abou Qorqas, Minya province**

#### **Assassination attempt on a bishop**

Bishop Makarios (**UPDATE**: escaped an assassination attempt when his car came under gunfire from several persons, his driver managed to escape the ambush and sought refuge at the house of a Copt, the shooters pursued them, surrounded the house, and fired into it for 90 minutes, police were called but did not arrive for three hours)

Mark Ebeid (activist; **UPDATE**: quoted the police as saying that the men who attempted to assassinate Bishop Makarios thought the bishop was going to reopen the only church in the village, which was closed ten years ago for security reasons: "In other words, Muslims were angry because of the presence of a church in the village and the police do

not want any trouble with them, and therefore Copts have to go without prayers just to appease the Muslims")

### **Egypt: Asmant, Minya province**

Dr Maged Wilson Eskander (obstetrician, husband of Afaf Abdel Malek Fahmy, abducted, ransom of \$29,000 paid but the abductors demanded more, rescued by police after 15 days in captivity)

Afaf Abdel Malek Fahmy (wife of Dr Maged Wilson Eskander, paid ransom to his abductors)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20130930173527.htm>

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/2139-egypt-s-christians-demand-action-as-kidnappings-spike>



### **Nigeria: Abuja**

Archbishop Ignatius Ayau Kaigama (**UPDATE**: spoke against Boko Haram after the Islamist militants invaded the College of Agriculture and killed over 40 students, almost all of whom were Muslim)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/34395->

[AFRICA NIGERIA Boko Haram is now composed of fanatics that affect Christians and Muslims said Bishop Kaigama#.UkpR\\_4zD8fg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/34395-)



### **United States – Texas: Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio**

#### **Intimidation of Christian military personnel**

Steve Branson (pastor of Village Parkway Baptist Church, held a meeting of over 80 airmen from Lackland Air Force Base who are being intimidated by homosexual airmen to the point where some are ordered to publicly express their opinion on same sex marriage, said “The religious persecution is happening. It’s getting bigger every day”)

Senior Master Sergeant Phillip Monk (fired from his position at [Lackand Air Force Base](#) after he refused to answer an order from his homosexual superior officer as to whether or not he agreed that expressing opposition to same-sex marriage was discriminatory, filed a religious discrimination complaint in response, in illegal retaliation has been read his Miranda rights and told he is under investigation for making false official statements; **UPDATE**: attended the meeting at Village Parkway Baptist Church)

<http://nation.foxnews.com/2013/09/30/starnes-exclusive-80-christian-airmen-say-they've-been-subjected-threats-punishment>

September 2013, date unknown



**India: Gamidi village, Dungepur district, Rajasthan state**

Rev James Dhilal (prayer meeting stopped by Hindu extremists)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/11/police-in-india-slow-to-investigate-torture-killing-of-christian-boy/>



**Pakistan**

Amelia (spurned the approach of a Muslim boy, abducted and repeatedly raped for 3 days, escaped when untied and a door was left slightly open, police told her to convert to Islam and marry her rapist)

<http://www.persecution.org/2013/09/19/despised-and-disgraced-persecution-uniquely-faced-by-christian-women-in-pakistan/>



**Tajikistan: Dushanbe**

Bahodur Yorboboyev (fined for teaching religion without state authorization)

Madamin Chariyev (fined US\$250 in late September 2013 for illegally importing unlicensed religious literature)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1903](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1903)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1897](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1897)



**Sudan**

Ayul Aguer (liberated from slavery after 19 years, returned to her home in what is now South Sudan)



<http://blog.godreports.com/2014/04/sudanese-christian-woman-enslaved-for-19-years-liberated-for-50/>



### **Central African Republic: Bodili**

Lucie Blanche Feiganzani (village razed by Seleka fighters, husband murdered along with five neighbors)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201311281409.html?viewall=1>



### **Nigeria: Kunte-Kuru village, outside Jos**

Dung Peter (aged 50, husband of Rose Peter, **shot dead** in his home by Muslim gunmen)

Rose Peter (aged 47, wife of Dung Peter, **shot dead** in her home by Muslim gunmen)

Sati Peter (aged 25, son of Dung Peter and Rose Peter, **shot dead** in her home by Muslim gunmen)

Taiye Peter (aged 17, daughter of Dung Peter and Rose Peter, **shot dead** in her home by Muslim gunmen)

Samson Peter (aged 7, son of Dung Peter and Rose Peter, **shot dead** in his home by Muslim gunmen)

David Peter (aged 20, son of Dung Peter and Rose Peter, survived the murder of his family due to his absence from their home)

Dung Dauda (aged 42, **shot dead** when passing in front of the home of Dung Peter, cell phone taken and used to make more threats against Christians)

Gyang Musa Davou (aged 42, cousin of Dung Peter, described the murder of his cousin's family)

Danladi Peter (aged 46, cousin of Dung Peter, said that the gunmen likely were in the village two days earlier)

Rev Mancha Audu Gyang (aged 64, said “As for the Peter family, they were actively involved in the various ministries of the church. For instance, Taiye was in the Girls Brigade [Girl Scouts]”)

### **Nigeria: Gavva West village**

Haruna Zanga (aged 63, farmer, grandfather of Peter Biye, shot four times in **March 2013**, hospitalized, warned by a Muslim acquaintance that the village would be attacked again, **UPDATE**: fled after another attack that killed nine)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2013/09/muslim-herdsmen-kill-six-christians-outside-jos-nigeria/>

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/women-kids-in-boko-haram-caves/>