

Today's Martyrs – May 2014

Thursday May 1, 2014



Kenya: Mogotio

Hassan Hussein Mohammed (recent convert, beaten unconscious in a mosque when he admitted that he had become a Christian, received threatening text messages, **UPDATE**: arrested without charge, whereabouts unknown, fellow Christians suspect that the Muslims told police that he converted fraudulently for terroristic purposes)

Pastor Victor Kurui (converted Hassan Hussein Mohammed, **UPDATE**: arrested without charge, released)

Pastor Johana Cheruiyot (sheltered Hassan Hussein Mohammed in his home after he was beaten, **UPDATE**: arrested without charge, released)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/convert-from-islam-in-kenya-beaten-arrested/>



United Kingdom: London

Victoria Weissman (final year medical student, condemned a new government rule that would prevent the issuance of a specialist diploma to anyone who refuses to dispense abortion inducing drugs)

Dr Peter Saunders (chief executive of the Christian Medical Fellowship, said that the new rule constitutes illegal religious discrimination and will likely bring about a legal challenge and a parliamentary inquiry)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/uk-rules-exclude-pro-life-medical-professionals-from-specialist-diploma/>

Friday May 2, 2014



India

Three Christian families of Dalit [untouchable] background totaling 16 persons have had their well poisoned with garbage and waste by their neighbors, who also are threatening to have the local government seize their land

Manasida Barla (head of family)

Masid das Lugun (head of family)

Lodha Barla (head of family)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ostracised,-Christians-in-Orissa-again-see-their-homes-destroyed-and-water-wells-poisoned-30971.html>



Iran: Adel-Abad prison, Shiraz

Vahid Hakkani (**UPDATE**: hunger strike still underway, had been placed in solitary confinement but has been returned to the 'edification' ward, has been banned from contact with his family)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8552:iranian-christin-prisoner-remains-on-hunger-strike&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Sudan: South Kordofan

Bishop Emeritus Macram Max Gassis (**UPDATE**: denounced the bombing of the only functioning hospital in the Nubian Mountains "I wish to appeal to President Omar EI Bashir, whose air force carried out this bombing, to ensure that our hospital is protected from further bombing. The Mother of Mercy hospital is a Catholic Church health institution which offers life-saving services without distinction based on religion, tribe, or political affiliation. By bombing our hospital, you hit our brothers and sisters, Muslims and Christians")

http://www.fides.org/en/news/35670-AFRICA_SUDAN_The_complaint_of_the_Bishop_Gassis_Catholic_hospital_bombed_in_the_Nuba_Mountains#.U2rwx8LQcfg



Egypt: Giza

Abanob Ashaiah Rawy Akhnoukh (aged 5, disappeared, **UPDATE: found murdered**)

Egypt: Bahgoura village

Kerllios Rziqi (junior high school student, abducted, US\$ 142,633 ransom demanded)

Egypt: Sohag

Mr Marcos (aged 52, pharmacy owner, abducted in a hail of gunfire at his pharmacy)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=53933#.U2RMWMLQcfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=53943#.U2RM98LQcfg>

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/cs-releases/2629-more-copts-continue-to-be-attacked-and-abducted>



Vatican City

Pope Francis aka Jorge Mario Bergoglio SJ (**UPDATE: said that he wept when he heard reports of Christians being crucified "in a certain country"**)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pope:-I-weep-for-the-Christians-crucified-in-Syria-30973.html>

Saturday May 3, 2014



Vietnam

Fr Anton Le Ngoc Thanh CSSR (named by Reporters Without Borders as one of its "100 information heroes", has several times been in trouble with the government)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/vietnam-priest-named-information-hero-for-fearless-reporting/70896>



China: Liushi, Yueqing county, Wenzhou

Mr Tan (described the demolition of a Catholic church)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/more-zhejiang-churches-report-threats.html>



Pakistan: Toba Tek Singh district, Punjab

Shahzad Fateh (son of Bashiran Bibi, subjected to extortion, shot at when he attempted to rescue his mother from the extortionists)

Bashiran Bibi (mother of Shahzad Fateh, home invaded by extortionists, beaten, dragged outside and subjected to public nudity)

Sadaf Saddique (shot at when he attempted to rescue Bashiran Bibi from the extortionists)

Asim Saddique (shot at when he attempted to rescue Bashiran Bibi from the extortionists)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4844>



United States – Texas: Harris county

Pastor Magnus "Mike" Scott Hjalmarson (aged 53, **shot dead** in his garage)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/texas-ministry-leader-found-murdered-in-his-garage-119124/>

Monday May 5, 2014



Pakistan: Faisalabad, Punjab

Philip Masih (aged 19 in 2013, son of Saira Liaquat, accused of blasphemy on [April 13, 2013](#) for removing a poster of a Muslim conference from his store in Daudnagar, Faisalabad, Punjab, taken by police with his family to a safe house, charges dropped, went into hiding along with his family; **UPDATE**: has reopened his electric parts business thanks to the help of a foreign benefactor)

Saira Liaquat (mother of Philip Masih)

[http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Faisalabad:-Christian-blasphemy-victim-rebuilds-life-thanks-to-benefactor-\(and-AsiaNews\)-30987.html](http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Faisalabad:-Christian-blasphemy-victim-rebuilds-life-thanks-to-benefactor-(and-AsiaNews)-30987.html)



Iran: Karaj

Silas Rabbani (husband of Ester, father of two, home raided by security forces on [December 15, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: arrested)

Ester Rabbani (wife of Silas Rabbani, mother of two)

<http://presenttruthmn.com/blog/iran/pastor-silas-rabbani-from-karaj-iran-arrested/>



Iraq: Nineveh province

Noel Youssef (abducted, **UPDATE**: released)

Gawad Habib (abducted, **UPDATE**: released)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54027#.U2h1AsLQcfg>



Tanzania: Mwanza

Rogart Mollel (described the bombing of a church rest house that critically injured a church employee in the legs and face)

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/News-analysis/Church-premises-in-Tanzania-targeted-in-two-separate-attacks.html>



Egypt: Minya

Yasser Aziz (implicated by mistake in last year's Muslim Brotherhood uprising, sentenced to death)

Ashraf Lewis (**UPDATE**: given 48 hours to retract a police complaint or 'leave' his home with his family)

Said Fayeze (attorney and human rights activist, said that the abduction, rape, and forced conversion to Islam of Christian women and girls "have grown into the thousands")

Fr Boulos Nasif (operated a safe house for Coptic girls who have escaped abduction)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54026#.U2hlW8LQcfg>
<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54012#.U2hnJcLQcfh>
<http://members4.boardhost.com/acnaus/msg/1399260705.html>



Austria: Vienna

Dr Veronika Gudrun Kugler-Lang (Director of the Observatory on intolerance and discrimination against Christians in Europe, issued a report documenting 241 cases in 2013 in law, politics, the arts and in the media, said "The increasingly secularized society in Europe has less and less space for Christianity. Some governments and civil society actors seek to exclude instead of welcoming")

http://www.fides.org/en/news/35727-EUROPE_AUSTRIA_Intolerance_and_discrimination_against_Christians_in_Europe_are_on_the_rise_241_cases_in_2013#.U3bDLMLQcfg



United Nations: Geneva

Archbishop Silvano M Tomasi (**UPDATE**: rebutted an accusation by a UN representative that opposition to abortion can be a form of torture)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/un-official-says-catholic-opposition-to-abortion-for-rape-incest-may-be-a-f>



Nigeria: Warabe village, Gwoza area

Lazarus Musa (described the Boko Haram abduction of 8 girls aged 12 to 15)

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/eight-girls-abducted/>



Argentina: Río Tercero, Cordoba province

Pastor Marcelo Nieva (aged 34, husband of Janet, father of Marta, subjected to death threats, church vandalized by police)

Janet (aged 23, wife of Pastor Marcelo Nieva, mother of Marta, subjected to death threats)
Marta (aged 1 month, daughter of Pastor Marcelo and Janet Nieva, subjected to death threats)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3125918.html/



United States – Iowa: Des Moines

Bob Eschliman (newspaper editor, fired for criticizing the 'Queen James Bible' which attempts to rewrite the Bible into a homosexual-friendly text, has brought a religious discrimination lawsuit)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/newspaper-editor-fired-for-criticizing-pro-gay-bible-files-federal-complaint-against-former-employer-123815/>

Sunday May 4, 2014



Papua New Guinea: Kunimaipa Valley

Fr Gerry Maria Inau (**murdered**, possibly in inter-tribal violence)

Benedict (Eucharistic minister, **murdered**, possibly in inter-tribal violence)

Fr George Licini PIME (reported on the murder of Fr Gerry Maria Inau and Eucharistic minister Benedict)

Fr Casmiro Kito MSC (said of Fr Gerry: "He was a priest of great faith. He had a big heart for his people and served them with love. May his death be a sacrifice for peace between the tribes")

http://www.fides.org/en/news/35700-OCEANIA_PAPUA_NEW_GUINEA_A_priest_and_a_lay_extraordinary_Minister_of_the_Eucharist_have_been_killed#.U3Lw0sLQcfg



China: Beijing

Thirty Shouwang Church members arrested for “disturbing order in a public place”, all but three released

Chen Youwei (sentenced to five days' detention)

Lan Shunfang (sentenced to five days' detention)

Dai Liying (sentenced to five days' detention)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/incarceration-time-increases-for-three-members-of-shouwang-church-in-china/>



Turkmenistan: Seydi

Bahram Shamuradov (aged 42 in 2014, **UPDATE**: arrested, refused to renounce his faith under police pressure, beaten in prison)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1981



Kazakhstan: Ualikhan, North Kazakhstan region

Roman Pugachev (husband of Yekaterina Pugachev, father of nine, arrested on **January 20, 2013** during a **Kishkenekol, North Kazakhstan** region religious service, charged with "leading, participating in, or financing an unregistered, halted, or banned social or religious organization", fined at his **January 28, 2013** trial at least two months income; **UPDATE**: a restraining order has been placed on his automobile and kitchen appliances as a prelude to their sale to pay his fine)

Yekaterina Pugachev (wife of Roman Pugachev, mother of nine, will lose her automobile despite her not being implicated in her husband's prosecution)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1970



Iraq: Hawaigat Hosan, Nineveh province

Noel Youssef (abducted)

Gawad Habib (abducted)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=53997#.U2hnpMLQcfg>



Egypt

Demiana Ebeid Abdel Nour (aged 24 in 2013, detained on or before [May 10, 2013](#) due to accusations of insulting Islam and proselytizing among her Luxor primary school students; found guilty and fined US\$14,300 on [June 10, 2013](#), sentence is being protested by Islamists who are demanding more severe punishments; **UPDATE**: fled to France prior to the end of her trial, appeal underway)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/news/2623-christian-teacher-in-exile-awaiting-appeal-of-her-blasphemy-case-in-egypt>



Nigeria: Chibok, Borno state

Rev Matthew Owjaiye (wrote that the village from which the 234 schoolgirls were abducted by Boko Haram is 90% Christian, and implied that the attack was religiously motivated)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3129079.html/

Tuesday May 6, 2014



Sri Lanka

Fr Emmanuel Sebamalai (criticized the formation of a special religious police unit, since the government supports the Buddhist groups that are responsible for most attacks)

Fr Marimuttu Sathivel (**UPDATE**: questioned whether the law permits the creation of a religious police unit)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Sri-Lanka-Christians-criticise-the-creation-of-a-religious-police-31005.html>



Iraq: Bagdad

Rev Andrew White (**UPDATE**: said that 1,276 of his parishioners have been killed in the last ten years, out of a total congregation of 6,500)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140506133931.htm>



Azerbaijan

Pastor Ilya Zenchenko (**UPDATE**: wrote to the government on [November 26, 2013](#) to request permission to print Azeri translations of the New Testament, to date no reply has been given, also expressed concern and outrage over the inclusion of the Azeri translation of the Old Testament on the banned book list)

Kamran Shikhaliyev (convicted of "fraudulently evading military service", **UPDATE**: sentenced to one year in a disciplinary military unit, has filed an appeal)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1955

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1956

Wednesday May 7, 2014



Iran

Amin Khaki (church employee, beaten and arrested on [March 5, 2014](#) during a picnic in [Shush](#); **UPDATE**: transferred to Ahwaz Prison, beaten)

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/33006-breaking-news-iran-intelligence-authority-summons-evangelical-pastor-amid-crackdown>



Azerbaijan

Tarana Huseynova (**UPDATE**: convicted of attending an illegal religious meeting, fined US\$1,900)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1964



Egypt: Helwan

Deputy Bishop Eshak Ghali (said that the government has refused to issue building permits for two churches in his diocese for 27 years)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54079#.U2r7YsLQcfg>

Thursday May 8, 2014



Egypt: Cairo

Karam Shehata Zachary (son of Teresa Shehata, abducted and assaulted on April 27, 2014, arrested on a motorcycle theft charge in el-Marg, Cairo when he attempted to file a police report on his abduction; **UPDATE:** still in custody)

Teresa Shehata (mother of Karam Shehata Zachary, accused police of colluding with her son's abductors, said that the object of the abduction was actually her daughter-in-law)

Egypt: Minya

Rev Milad Shehata (said that his congregation's church has been closed since 2008)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54113#.U2w9isLQcfg>

http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54114#.U2w_CcLQcfg



Ukraine: road between Druzhkivka and Kostiantinivka, Donetsk region

Fr Paul Zhuchenko (aged 40, **shot dead** in his automobile by persons unknown)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/70624.htm>



United States – Massachusetts: Cambridge

Fr Michael Drea (senior chaplain at the Harvard Catholic Student Association, protested the decision of the Harvard Extension Cultural Studies Club to host a Black Mass led by a Satanist, said the decision showed “a complete lack of respect...It’s a matter of hatred. It’s an affront to our Catholic sensibilities. For anyone to try to veil this under the guise of academic freedom is sadly mistaken and misinformed”, also said that he will lead a prayer vigil to coincide with the Black Mass)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/priest-sees-deluge-of-support-against-harvard-black-mass/>



Canada: Ottawa, Ontario

Cardinal Gerald Lacroix (attacked at a National March for Life rally by two topless Femen members, protected by RCMP officers)

Cardinal Thomas Collins (**UPDATE:** spoke after the attack on Cardinal Gerald Lacroix, said “Sometimes we face angry people who are very, very troubled by the message which we proclaim, but it is a message that brings peace. It is based upon the reality that is the treasure of each person. Each person is not an object to be treated with disdain, but a person to be loved from the first moment of existence until natural death, and as they come into the home of the heavenly Father. So we pray for them”)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/topless-protesters-interrupt-archbishop-of-quebec-at-march-for-life-as-he-r>

Friday May 9, 2014



China: Longwan district, Wenzhou city, Zhejiang province

Zhang Mingxuan (president of the China House Church Alliance; **UPDATE:** received photos of two more churches being demolished, including the 146 year old Shangwan Church)

China: Liupanshui, Guizhou province

Xiang Youquan (church leader, detained along with eleven other Christians - including his wife, daughter and son-in-law - from a house church after police found that their hymnal was also used by the Born Again Movement cult)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/more-zhejiang-demolitions-overseas.html>
<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/guizhou-believers-submit-administrative.html>



Pakistan: Lahore

Fr Anwar John OMI (condemned the assassination of civil rights attorney Rashid Rehman)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pakistani-Christian-and-Muslim-leaders-condemn-Rashid-Rehman's-assassination-31035.html>



Nigeria: Chibok, Borno state

Rev Samuel Dante Dali (**UPDATE**: said of the families of the abducted schoolgirls “We believe they have realized that they are not alone in this difficult circumstances as many around the world support them”)

Nigeria: Lagos

Pastor Ejimozor Williams (aged 46, husband of Chinyere Williams, arrested when counterfeit currency was found in his home [allegedly in the possession of his houseboy], tortured, blinded from a blow to the head which caused a stroke)

Chinyere Williams (wife of Pastor Ejimozor Williams, said “We have been married for 18 years and seeing him [blind] like this is like hell. Since he came out from the DSS cell, it has been one sickness after another. I had to carry him on my back several times from the house to hospitals”)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/_05/article_3133261.html/
<http://punchng.com/lagos-pastor-goes-blind-after-dss-torture/>

Saturday May 10, 2014



Kazakhstan: Akmola region

Two Christians arrested for distributing religious literature without state permission

Vyacheslav Cherkasov (shoe repairman)

Zhasulan Alzhanov (plumber)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2005



Russia: Butovo suburb, Moscow

Fr Kirill Kaleda (prior of the Church of New Martyrs and Confessors, which has been built on the site of a NKVD firing range where 20,760 people were executed between August 1937 and October 1938, since 2000 the Russian Orthodox Church has glorified over 300 martyrs who died there, annual memorial liturgy to be held)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/05/mass-grave-in-moscow-suburbs-is-among-russias-holiest-sites/>

Sunday May 11, 2014



Pakistan: Multan jail, Punjab

Asia Bibi (mother of five still incarcerated on blasphemy charges after death sentence;
UPDATE: reported to have been the target of a planned terrorist attack, authorities have arrested five men linked to the Tehreek-e-Taliban group who were in possession of multiple weapons and explosives and maps and plans of her prison and cell)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/attack-on-blasphemy-accused-thwarted/>



Sudan: Khartoum

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (wife of Daniel Wani, mother of Martin Wani, arrested and jailed in February 2014 on a charge of apostasy for being a Muslim woman - her father is Muslim, though she has been a practicing Christian her entire life - who married a Christian and adultery since Islamic law does not recognize their marriage, pregnant, beaten, denied medical care; **UPDATE:** has been formally convicted and sentenced to 100 lashes and death, has been told by the court that she has until [May 15, 2014](#) to 'revert' to Islam to escape punishment)

Martin Wani (aged 20 months, son of Daniel Wani and Meriam Yahia Ibrahim, incarcerated with his mother in Khartoum since February 2014 because Islamic law prohibits his Christian father from having custody, the U.S. Embassy will not assist him without a DNA test proving that he is the son of Daniel Wani but the jail will not allow the testing;

UPDATE: will pass into the Sudanese foster system since the law will no longer allow his mother custody now that she has been convicted of apostasy and adultery)

<http://www.persecution.org/2014/05/11/pregnant-mother-found-guilty-sentenced-to-death-by-sudanese-court-as-u-s-celebrates-mothers-day/>



Nigeria: Abuja

Rev Stephen Omale (led prayers for the abducted schoolgirls)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/kidnapped-nigerian-girls-tell-stories-of-escape-over-200-others-sighted-119525/>



United States – Michigan: Grandville

Christine Weick (hit in the face with a slushie after demonstrating in favor of traditional families)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/angry-protester-throws-slushie-in-the-face-of-pro-family-protester-on-mothe>

Monday May 12, 2014



China: Jianhu county, Yancheng city, Jiangsu province

Pastor Zhang Mingxuan (president of the Chinese Association of Christian Family Churches;
UPDATE: prevented by the authorities from delivering a sermon, denied a hotel room)

Pastor Zeng Zhengliang (invited Pastor Zhang Mingxuan to speak at his house church, ordered by the authorities to not allow him to speak)

China: Nanle county, Henan

Ms Li (said that the authorities prevented Christians from entering their church and photographed them, nine church members still in detention)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/china-house-church-alliance-president.html>



India

Christian Dalits - the word 'Dalit' means 'trampled upon' and is used to describe the untouchable castes - have formed their own political party, the Christian Secular Party

Sleeva Galilee (one of the founders of the new Christian Secular Party, which is fielding 66 candidates - mostly Dalit Christians - in the election)

Rev Raj Bharat Patta (said that the new party may have little impact since it is so new, said "The number of Dalit Christians is much higher than what is projected in the census")

Franklin Caesar (**UPDATE:** noted that his court challenge to government discrimination against Dalit Christians has been delayed before the Supreme Court for 10 years by government evasions)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3135634.html/



Pakistan: Faisalabad

Lala Robin Daniel (Chairman National Minorities Alliance, said that religious minority quotas for government jobs are not being followed, including in the hiring of police officers)

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/707610/job-quota-christians-protest-at-rpos-office/>



Israel: Jerusalem

Latin Patriarch Fouad Twal (**UPDATE:** condemned so-called "Price Tag" vandalism of Christian churches and other sites by Israeli settlers, including death threats, which have been increasing in recent days with the approach of Pope Francis' visit)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Patriarch-of-Jerusalem:-The-Pope's-visit-poisoned-by-hate-speech-31047.html>



Egypt: Cairo

Ibrahim Girgis (aged 54, husband of Josephine Morris Hanna, disappeared during the August 2013 government crackdown on the Muslim Brotherhood)

Josephine Morris Hanna (wife of Ibrahim Girgis, has appealed to President Adli Mansour to locate the whereabouts of her husband)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54210#.U3GPCsLQcfg>



Nigeria: Chibok, Borno state

Rev Enoch Mark (two daughters among the over 200 abducted schoolgirls, **UPDATE**: alleged that they were held in a camp only 30 kilometers away for 11 days)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/kidnapped-nigerian-girls-tell-stories-of-escape-over-200-others-sighted-119525/>

Tuesday May 13, 2014



Azerbaijan: Lankaran

Klara Shirinova (**UPDATE**: convicted of attending an illegal religious meeting, fined US\$1,900)

Fatmakhanim Huseynli (**UPDATE**: convicted of attending an illegal religious meeting, issued an official warning)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1964



Syria

Zeinat Akhras (aged 49, sister of Ayman Akhras, has survived the entire siege of Homs, weighs 75 pounds)

Ayman Akhras (brother of Zeinat Akhras, home invaded by rebels on 30 occasions, threatened with death, food taken, survived on leaves from a tree in a cemetery)

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/05/13/world/meast/syria-homs-survivors-stories/>



Kenya: Nairobi

Cardinal John Njue (**UPDATE:** said "In the past few weeks we have lost many Kenyans through terrorist attacks, road accidents, robberies, suicide and illicit brews and in some cases famine. The influx of guns and other dangerous weapons in the Country is alarming. A Country that has been called an oasis of peace in the region has become a terrorist playground")

Archbishop Zacchaeus Okoth (said "We are full of fear, even when we are praying in the church there are police officers outside to offer security. Even in the buses now... today people are feeling insecure")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/35706->

[AFRICA KENYA Kenya oasis of peace has become a terrorist playground We need to act said Cardinal Njue#.U3LyOsLQcfg](#)

Wednesday May 14, 2014



Malaysia: Seremban

Sr Julianna Lim (aged 68, beaten with a motorcycle helmet in an apparent robbery attempt while walking to morning prayers)

Sr Marie-Rose Teng (aged 80, beaten with a motorcycle helmet in an apparent robbery attempt while walking to morning prayers, hospitalized with bruises, released)

Fr John Gnanapiragasam (described the attack on the two nuns, which was videotaped via a security camera)

<http://directory.ucanews.com/news/nun-attacked-by-robber-dies/1201>



China: Wuhan

Pastor Wu Qixi (reported to have been beaten into a coma)

China: Liupanshui, Guizhou province

Zhang Peihong (attorney, defending Xiang Youquan, twice stopped by police)

<http://www.persecution.org/2014/05/14/house-church-pastor-beaten-into-a-coma-by-state-church-staffs-in-wuhan-china/>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/guizhou-believers-submit-administrative.html>



Egypt: Minya province

Bishoy Armiya aka Mohammed Hegazy (Egypt's 'most famous' convert, arrested before December 5, 2013 and charged with "inciting sedition by communicating to a US-based [Coptic] channel unfounded information on Copts persecution in Egypt"; **UPDATE**: has begun a hunger strike to protest his unjust arrest, torture, and death threats)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54251#.U3Q1v8LQcfg>

Thursday May 15, 2014



India: Karnataka state

Pericho Prabhu (Christian activist, said of BJP candidate Narendra Modi's denial of knowledge of attacks on Christians "This is an utter lie, and what can we expect from a man who claims to be a Hindu Nationalist in front of television cameras; it is a danger for a country to have a person of this stature, as a choice for the Prime Minister")

India: Rajasthan state

Rev Fr Jaswanth Rana (Chairman, Philadelphia Fellowship of Churches, said of the BJP's pending electoral victory "Narendra Modi is a Hindu fanatic influenced by RSS, Vishva Hindu Parishad [VHP] and other radical Hindu nationalist organizations. Even though Modi speaks of development and peace, we know that he is obliged to Hindu radical groups and their ideologies. Modi should not become Prime Minister. There will be riots across the country if he is elected. Radical Hindu organizations like VHP, RSS, and Bajrangdal will take full advantage of the situation and will be very aggressive against minorities")

India

Dr John Dayal (Secretary General, All India Christian Council; **UPDATE**: said "Modi is feigning ignorance, it does not work for him. It was in Gujarat region that more than two dozen Churches were destroyed in the Christmas season of 1998. Surely he knows what

happened in Kandhamal, Orissa and Mangalore, Karnataka and other places in 2007 and 2008 when more than 300 churches and more than 6,000 Christian homes were destroyed by the Hindu radical-led mobs. More than 120 Christian tribal and Dalits were killed”)

<http://www.persecution.org/2014/05/15/christian-leaders-express-outrage-over-modis-ignorance-of-attacks-on-christians-in-india/>



Pakistan: Punjab

Safia Bibi (widow of Anwar Masih, mother of nine, brick kiln worker, housed in an apartment with no toilet in the factory complex, often unpaid, beaten and tortured if she tried to leave, not permitted to attend religious services, freed by police)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/35725-ASIA_PAKISTAN_5_Christian_families_kidnapped_and_enslaved_by_employers_have_been_released#.U3V9YsLQcfg



Sudan: Khartoum

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (aged 27, wife of Daniel Wani, mother of Martin Wani, arrested and jailed in February 2014 on a charge of apostasy for being a Muslim woman - her father is Muslim, though she has been a practicing Christian her entire life - who married a Christian and adultery since Islamic law does not recognize their marriage, pregnant, beaten, denied medical care, has been formally convicted and sentenced on May 11, 2014 to 100 lashes and death; has been told by the court that she has until May 15, 2014 to 'revert' to Islam to escape punishment; **UPDATE:** told by Judge Abbas Al-Khalifa "We gave you three days to recant, but you insist on not returning to Islam -- I sentence you to be hanged")

<http://www.christianpersecution.info/index.php?view=13119>



Egypt: Adowa area, Al Minya

"B H" (aged 55, reported to have been arrested “for converting his home into a church without a permit”, held in jail for 4 days)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/cs-releases/2650-copt-using-home-as-church-arrested-after-muslim-complaints>

Friday May 16, 2014



China: Mengla county, Xishuangbanna autonomous region, Yunnan province

Rong Xiahu (home searched by DSP agents looking for church members' names and phone numbers)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/small-house-church-of-ethnic-minority.html>



Eritrea: Asmara

Patriarch Abune Antonios (disappeared, reportedly detained by the government in a darkened room, health declining, diabetic condition requires medical attention; **UPDATE**: still in house arrest, spends his time in prayer, is worried for the church and the faithful)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/05/latest-snap-and-information-on-the-detained-patriarch-abune-antonios-of-eritrea/>



Egypt: Nag Hammadi, Qena province

Bishop Kyrollos (**UPDATE**: found by police to have been the object of a Muslim Brotherhood assassination plot)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54288#.U3bZgsLQcfg>

Saturday May 17, 2014



Pakistan: Mirpurkhas district, Sindh province

Four Christians arrested for distributing religious literature, charged with 'dishonoring and disrespecting religion'

Javed Jounis Masih (husband of Nazia)

Nazia (wife of Javed Jounis Masih)

Rose Mary

Kiran

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4864>



United States – Arizona: Mesa

Pastor Mark Rice (reported Bibles twice burned on church property, 'Hail Satan' carved in a church gate)

<http://www.charismanews.com/us/44694-satanists-set-bibles-ablaze-on-church-doorsteps-in-apparent-hate-crime>

Sunday May 18, 2014



Sudan: Umserdba, South Kordofan

Sife El Deen Ibrahim (aged 40, married, father of four aged 12, 15, 17, and 20, **killed in an airstrike** that was part of the most sustained bombing campaign of the civil war so far)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/sudans-bombing-of-nuba-mountain-civilians-kills-christian/>



Egypt: Sheikh Zayed City, Giza

John Adel Milik (said that Copts protested against a land management concern's 15 year failure to develop a plot allocated for a church)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54339#.U3llAcLQcfg>



Russia: Krasnoyarsk

Aleksandr Yevdoshenko (charged with giving a man banned religious literature)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1994



Nigeria

Rev Murtala Marti (**UPDATE**: said of the latest Boko Haram suicide attack “The bomb attack occurred on Sunday night along Gold Coast Road in the Sabon Gari area here in Kano. Twenty Christians were killed in the bomb blast, but police authorities are saying only five died”)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/suicide-bombing-hits-hits-christian-pocket-of-kano-nigeria/>

Monday May 19, 2014



Iran: Adel-Abad prison, Shiraz, Fars province

Mohamad-Reza Partoei Kourosh (convert, arrested on February 8 2012; sentenced to three years and eight months in prison on June 16, 2013; **UPDATE**: conditionally released from prison)

Vahid Hakkani (convert, arrested during a home church meeting on February 8 2012, charged with “acts harmful to the Islamic Regime”; sentenced to three years and eight months in prison on June 16, 2013; **UPDATE**: has ended his hunger strike following the conditional release of Mohamad-Reza Partoei Kourosh)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8642:christian-prisoner-conditionally-released-from-adel-abad-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Eritrea

Dr Berhane Asmelash (Director of Release Eritrea, stated "It is hard to comprehend why the Eritrean government is persecuting Christians. This is so barbaric and unacceptable to keep innocent citizens in dungeons for over ten years, and should be strongly condemned by all justice and peace loving people. Please pray for prisoners as well as for the underground church workers")

<http://www.asmarino.com/press-releases/2080-eritrea-religious-persecution-continues-unabated>



Egypt: Nag Hammadi, Qena province

Hani Sameh (aged 12, abducted)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54364#.U3wSH8LQcfg>



Haiti: Port-au-Prince

George Knoop (aged 77, missionary, U.S. citizen, reported to have been **stabbed to death** in his apartment, no known motive)

<http://www.charismanews.com/world/43904-us-missionary-murdered-in-haiti-killer-on-the-loose>



United States - New York: Buffalo

Cheryl (pro-life activist, reported to have rescued a 15 year old girl from an abortion clinic, the girl was locked in an examining room and her mother was expelled from the clinic after they changed their minds about the abortion)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/15-year-old-girl-locked-inside-abortion-facility-rescued-by-pro-lifer-repor>

Tuesday May 20, 2014



Malaysia: Seremban

Sr Julianna Lim (aged 68, **beaten** with a motorcycle helmet in an apparent robbery attempt while walking to morning prayers, **UPDATE: died after six days in a coma**)

Sr Celina Wong (Infant Jesus provincial leader, was at the bedside of Sr Julianna Lim when she died)

<http://directory.ucanews.com/news/nun-attacked-by-robber-dies/1201>



Laos: Saisomboon, Atsaphangthong district

Ms Kaithong (activist, appealed a decision to prevent three schoolgirls from taking their final exams due to their being Christians)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Female-students-denied-the-right-to-take-final-exams-because-of-their-Christian-faith-31202.html>



China: Altay Prefecture, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

Liu (distributed Bibles and Christian literature in a railroad station on May 13, 2013, later summoned to a police station and detained for an entire day, literature seized, accused of "disclosing state secrets")

Yang (distributed Bibles and Christian literature in a railroad station on May 13, 2013, later summoned to a police station and detained for an entire day, literature seized, accused of "disclosing state secrets")

Hua Rongzhou (Copper Mine Church leader, described the detention of Liu and Yang)

China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Pastor Yang (commenting on the destruction of the Sangjiang Church said "When it comes to our faith, the word jiaohui [church, congregation, fellowship] is not the same as jiaotang [church building]. It may be possible to deal violently with a jiaotang, but not with the jiaohui. Christians shouldn't be so sad. Maybe this is a good time to reflect and wonder if we have put too much focus on church buildings. With this jiaotang now destroyed, we should focus our efforts on building the jiaohui")

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/2-xinjiang-women-sentenced-to.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Zhejiang:-more-crosses-and-churches-demolished.-Domestic-and-official-Churches-persecuted-31127.html>



Iran: Karaj

Pastor Saeed Abedini (aged 32 [2013], convert; convicted on January 27, 2013 of undermining the government by spreading Christianity and sentenced to eight years in prison; recently hospitalized and tested for his chronic stomach pain - which resulted from prison beatings; **UPDATE**: severely beaten in the hospital by Revolutionary Guards, returned to prison)

<http://aclj.org/iran/pastor-saeed-abedini-beaten-forcibly-removed-from-hospital-returned-to-iranian-prison>



Sudan: near Um Serdiba village

Kimimia Calals (aged 30, nursing mother, **killed** in an air force bombing)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/christians-killed-church-buildings-destroyed-in-sudans-bombing-of-civilians/>



Egypt

Karam Shehata Zachary (son of Teresa Shehata, abducted and assaulted on April 27, 2014, arrested on a motorcycle theft charge in el-Marg, Cairo when he attempted to file a police report on his abduction, mother said that the object of the abduction was actually his wife; **UPDATE**: said in an interview that he was tortured by the police and by the Salafis who originally abducted him)

Egypt: Deir Abu Hennis village, Mallawi district, Minya province

Shenouda Radi (automobile destroyed by arson)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54383#.U3wQZsLQcfg>
<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54414#.U31ixMLQcfg>



Nigeria

Rev Samuel Dante Dali (**UPDATE**: said "Many Nigerians will tell you that they don't trust the military. Some of the military and police have sympathies with Boko Haram. Most of the police are Muslim and some of them are sympathisers with the insurgents", added that for the abducted schoolgirls' parents "The news of the international community coming has also raised their hopes, and they believe that justice will be found through the international community")

Nigeria: Jos, Plateau state

Suspected Boko Haram insurgents set off two bombs in a Christian neighborhood killing at least 118 and wounding 45

Francisca Nwafor (aged 20, daughter of Humphey Nwafor, one of seven medical students **killed in the bombing** while returning from a lecture in a passing minibus)

Humphey Nwafor (father of Francisca Nwafor, said "My daughter went for lectures as usual. After the bomb blast, I started searching in most of the hospitals but I couldn't find her until yesterday morning [May 21]. I saw her body at the university teaching hospital mortuary")

Christopher (lost three family members in the attack "My wife went to the market to buy some food. After the market, she went to visit her uncle in a nearby hospital. She was walking along the market, just after her visit when the bomb exploded, killing her and our 5-month-old baby girl, and also her sister who was with her")

Sebastine Abu (languishing in hospital will little ability to pay for his medical needs)

Audu Daman (languishing in hospital will little ability to pay for his medical needs)

Rev Dr Musa Asake (**UPDATE**: said "The perpetrators are not sensitive to human life. These women that sell tomatoes for a living, how can you just go and destroy them like that? There are some that were left with only one leg, with only one hand. We strongly condemn this barbaric act")

Rev Jerry Faruk (said "We have hope that there is a solution in sight, as we know that God answers the prayers of the just. We have been praying for the Nigerian government, asking for God's wisdom for it to enable it take measures to contain the situation. We believe that at the appointed time, this problem of insecurity shall be overcome")

Rev Alex Maisani (said "This is terrible and barbaric. The time for Nigerian Government to act to save the lives of innocent people is now. We cannot continue to have situations like these happening. God will no doubt hold our leaders accountable for not acting to check this menace that is overwhelming our nation")

Paul Gadzama (director of Relief Missions, **UPDATE**: said "The bomb attacks on Christians are an indication that these forces of evil are bent in ensuring that we no longer have peace in this country")

Rev Soja Bewarang (**UPDATE**: said "It is sad that Plateau is back on the news again after a long period of silence and peaceful co-existence...Our enemies are not happy that we are at peace")

Rev Gideon Para-Mallam (**UPDATE**: said "We resolved to go to our respective areas and try to stop anybody from organizing revenge actions as a result of the bomb blast. We resolved

to encourage people to live in peace and to rather show sympathy with those who have lost their loved ones and support them in whatever ways we can rather than anger, revenge and bitterness")

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3145639.html/

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/bombs-explode-in-mainly-christian-area-of-jos-nigeria/>

<http://thenationonline.net/new/injured-jos-blast-victims-lament-neglect/>

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3158449.html/

Wednesday May 21, 2014



Tanzania: Zanzibar

"Matthew Limo" (alias, described being harassed by Muslim neighbors while walking to church on Sunday, said of his children "At home we try to encourage and to teach them a love for Christ and the Church. But we are insecure about what others do. We often hear stories about Muslims trying to convert children. Sadly enough we need to tell our children to be careful in building friendships with Muslim children")

<http://members4.boardhost.com/acnaus/msg/1400560098.html>



Uganda: Atiak

Sr Rosemary Nyirumbe (has been assisting girls and women abducted by the warlord Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army, said she has "openly defied" Kony)

<http://www.assistnews.net/Stories/2014/s14050081.htm>



Central African Republic

Kim Pozniak (Catholic Relief Services officer, said of the fighting between Seleka and anti-balaka factions "Without feeling safe, people are afraid to live in their homes, they don't farm and they've either lost or abandoned their small businesses for fear of being killed. This has resulted in thousands of people now without food, proper shelter or a means to make a living...The situation for most people in CAR is dire. So many – nearly a quarter of the population – have been displaced by the violence and now live in unimaginable

conditions, either in displacement camps or elsewhere in the open. They lack food, shelter, healthcare and any other essentials required to survive...the clock is ticking, as the window for successful planting closes at the end of May”, added that famine is a real possibility)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/dire-situation-continues-in-central-african-republic/>



United States - New York

Chris Slattery (described efforts by the New York City government to shut down his anti-abortion pregnancy centers)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/crisis-pregnancy-centers-under-heavy-assault-by-authorities-in-abortion-cap>

Thursday May 22, 2014



Vietnam: Tan Son Nhat airport, Ho Chi Minh City

Anthony Le Thanh Tung (beaten by more than 20 policemen and in front of 300 international airline passengers, had been returning from a World Press Freedom Day conference in Washington DC)

Fr Thoai (colleague of Anthony Le Thanh Tung)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/vietnam-activist-beaten-by-police-at-airport/70980>



China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Mr Tang (house church member, said of Christians who have been trying to defend their churches from demolition by the local government “For those who have a job, they have been suspended. For those who have factories, their factories have been sealed. They will audit your tax documents. In a word, they will make you suffer greatly”)

China: Guiyang, Guizhou province

Pastor Shi Denggui (held by police under house arrest in a hotel after organizing a training program at his church)

Zhang Hualin (described the detention of Pastor Shi Denggui)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/zhejiang-house-churches-order-to-stop.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/guizhou-house-church-leader-under-house.html>



Uganda

Rev Mead Birungi (reported to have said that the U.S. government reported that Somali terrorists are planning to attack churches in the country)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3150010.html/



Sudan

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (aged 27, wife of Daniel Wani, mother of Martin Wani, arrested and jailed in Khartoum in February 2014 on a charge of apostasy for being a Muslim woman - her father is Muslim, though she has been a practicing Christian her entire life - who married a Christian and adultery since Islamic law does not recognize their marriage, pregnant, beaten, denied medical care, has been formally convicted and sentenced on May 11, 2014 to 100 lashes and death; **UPDATE**: reported to have been visited by her husband, found to be shackled and with swollen legs)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/christian-woman-in-shackles-after-apostasy-death-sentence/>



Ukraine: Khartsyzk city, Donetsk region

Fr Vladimir Ocheretyanin (reported to have been abducted from a hospital by unknown persons)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue23649.html>

Friday May 23, 2014



China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Over 40 Christians have been detained in connection with the recent demolition of the Sanjiang Church

Zhao (church elder, detained, **UPDATE**: still in detention)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/names-of-more-than-40-detained-near.html>



Eritrea: Asmara

Patriarch Abune Antonios (**UPDATE**: has begun his seventh year in detention)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/05/seven-years-of-illegal-detention-of-patriarch-abune-antonios-of-eritrea/>



Egypt: Kasr village, Nag Hammadi, Qena

Amgad Elisha (farmer, son of Elisha Habib, prevented from farming due to threats)

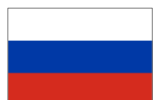
Elisha Habib (farmer, father of Amgad Elisha, prevented from farming due to threats)

Egypt

Bishoy Armiya aka Mohammed Hegazy (Egypt's 'most famous' convert, arrested before [December 5, 2013](#) in Minya province and charged with "inciting sedition by communicating to a US-based [Coptic] channel unfounded information on Copts persecution in Egypt"; **UPDATE**: attorney stated that the court has no intention of releasing him)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54470#.U4AjccLQcfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54471#.U4Ak4cLQcfg>



Russia: Yekaterinburg, Sverdlovsk oblast

Maksim Gusev (church press secretary, criticized the local government's decision to not return a church seized in the 1930's but to instead place it on public auction)

Russia: Vyborg, St Petersburg region

Rector Vladimir Dorodny (is making another attempt to secure the return of a parish house / rectory that had been seized in the 1940's, has been told that the structure serves no religious purpose, the nearby church has already been returned)

Pastor Aleksandr Kudryavtsev (said that the parish house may be auctioned off)

Russia: Barnaul, Altai region

Bishop Jozef Werth (has been working on the return of a church seized in 1932)

Fr Bogdan Kalecki (said that the local government has given written confirmation that the church will be returned in 2017)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1961



Nigeria: Jos, Plateau state

Archbishop Ignatius Ayau Kaigama (**UPDATE**: called on the international community to unite to defeat Boko Haram after the [May 20, 2014](#) bombing that killed over 118, said “People were beginning to move freely from one end of the town to another without fear. We thought we had moved beyond all this [violence] and so to wake up to this is very demoralizing”)

Nigeria: Sokoto

Archbishop Matthew Hassah Kukah (**UPDATE**: said that the abduction of over 200 schoolgirls in Chibok has united the country)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/nigerian-bishop-calls-on-global-community-to-fight-boko-haram/>

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/35779-AFRICA NIGERIA The kidnapping of the girls in Chibok has united the Country said the Bishop of Sokoto#.U4AbS8LQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/35779-<u>AFRICA NIGERIA The kidnapping of the girls in Chibok has united the Country said the Bishop of Sokoto#.U4AbS8LQcfg</u>)



United Kingdom: London

Pastor Ade Omooba (said at a vigil of 400 worshipers “I want to emphasize that what we are seeing playing out in Nigeria with the abduction of our schoolgirls, is part of a much wider threat to the free world, from a militant form of Islam that seeks to destroy Christianity and freedom of expression. Nations are sleepwalking if they think they are free from a faraway threat of Islamic ideologues. These people are out to destroy the freedoms that Christian democracies have provided – freedom of thought, freedom of

expression and freedom to follow beliefs without fear of persecution, torture, rape and death. Militant Islamism will destroy the lives of those who join it, as well as the lives of their families and communities. Just look at the mutations of this radical Islamist virus – across the world we have al-Qaeda, Al-Shabbab, the Army of Islam, Hezbollah, Harkat-ul-Mujahideen and of course in Nigeria, Boko Haram. They are all part of a worldwide ideology, which is bent on imposing a sharia regime in every land")

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/islam/radical-islam-is-a-virus-in-the-atmosphere-says-christian-concern-co-founder-ade->



United States - Alabama

Ke'Ontai (beaten while handing out pro-life literature, nose broken, asked for people to pray for his attacker and his wife)

Kristan Hawkins (president of Students for Life America, reported on the attack on Ke'Ontai)

United States – Wisconsin: Milwaukee

Cary Bogue (CEO of Project Wildfire, is fighting Facebook's reinstatement of a site called “Virgin Mary Should’ve Aborted”, has received death threats and Facebook attacks on his family, wife has been followed and photographed)

<http://www.charismanews.com/us/43963-pro-life-student-punched-lands-in-er-with-broken-nose-for-protesting-abortion>

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/facebook-reinstates-offensive-virgin-mary-shouldve-aborted-page-christian-a>

Sunday May 25, 2014



Laos: Donpalai

Rev Phupet (prayer service with 80 people raided by police, 53 Bibles seized)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Female-students-denied-the-right-to-take-final-exams-because-of-their-Christian-faith-31202.html>



India: Warangal, Andhra Pradesh state

Sajan K George (President of the Global Council of Indian Christians; **UPDATE**: reported on the desecration of the stations of the cross in the Cristu Jyothi ashram)

India: Dherubada village, Orissa state

Nimmaka Laxmaya (aged 50, **murdered** by mistake by Hindu extremists while returning from his youngest son's baptism - the son was the actual target of their attack, when he found his father's body one attacker said "We killed your father because he refused to deny Jesus Christ", has received additional death threats after the arrest of the perpetrators)

Rev Ben Christom (baptized 29 people including the youngest son of Nimmaka Laxmaya, threatened with death after the murder of Nimmaka Laxmaya)

India: Kaliyaganj village, Bihar state

Sadanandan Singh (beaten by a Hindu mob for receiving Rev P G Vergis in his home, daughters and younger children also attacked)

Rev P G Vergis (visited the home of Sadanandan Singh prior to an attack by a Hindu mob)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Andhra-Pradesh:-Via-Crucis-desecration-at-Catholic-ashram-31206.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Radical-Hindus-target-Christian-communities:-murder-and-torture-31326.html>



Pakistan

Tariq Yousaf (aged 24-25, fireworks maker, charged in the week previous to October 30, 2013 with blasphemy for allegedly using paper with Arabic writing for his fireworks, fled and in hiding; **UPDATE**: has fled the country)

Waris Yousaf (aged 22, brother of Tariq Yousaf, arrested after Tariq was charged with blasphemy; **UPDATE**: still in custody)

Younis Masih (uncle of Tariq Yousaf, arrested after Tariq was charged with blasphemy, still in custody)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4868>



Iran: Tehran

Ehsan Sadeghi (Afghan citizen, arrested in a raid on a house church during an Easter service on April 18, 2014; **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown)

Nazi Asadi (homeowner, arrested in a raid on a house church during an Easter service on April 18, 2014; **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown)

Maryam Asadi (homeowner, arrested in a raid on a house church during an Easter service on April 18, 2014; **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown)

Vahid Safi (Afghan citizen, arrested in a raid on a house church during an Easter service on April 18, 2014; **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown)

Amin Mazloomi (arrested in a raid on a house church during an Easter service on April 18, 2014; **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown, family did 'have a brief conversation' with him)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8673:uncertain-fate-of-six-christian-detainees-in-southern-tehran-&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Eritrea: Asmara, Barentu, Keren, and Segeneiti

Four bishops issued a report declaring the oppressive conditions in the country as “truly shameful and unacceptable” and "desolate" with no one left to care for the elderly because so many are imprisoned, conscripted, or in exile in "peaceful countries, countries of justice, of work, where one expresses himself loudly, a country where one works and earns”, added that “There is no need for a land of milk and honey if you are already in one”

Bishop Mengsteab Tesfamariam

Bishop Tomas Osman

Bishop Kidane Yeabio

Bishop Feqremariam Hagos

<http://barnabasfund.org/US/News/News-analysis/Church-leaders-condemn-truly-shameful-conditions-in-Eritrea.html>

<http://awate.com/eritrean-catholic-bishops-ask-where-is-your-brother/>



Ukraine: Gorlovka, Donetsk region

Andrew Zhuravlev (church seized during a worship service for use as a Russian military headquarters, given three hours to remove religious items, told "that any denominations apart from the Eastern Orthodox [Moscow Patriarchate] are illegal on this territory")

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/06/article_3177378.html/



Nigeria: Gwoza town

Rev Moses Thliza (**UPDATE**: reported on the killing of 21 Christians at a worship service by Boko Haram gunmen, said “We have continued to receive disturbing reports about continued attacks and killings of Christians in Gwoza area. All EYN churches in the area have been destroyed, and we have been forced to relocate the few surviving pastors there to other parts of the country. In a sense, our ministry in that area has completely been destroyed”)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/boko-haram-kills-at-least-29-christians-in-gwoza-area-nigeria/>

Monday May 26, 2014



China: Sihong county, Suqian, Jiangsu

Chen Zhenfu (leader of a house church under pressure to join a government sanctioned church)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/06/jiangsu-house-church-told-to-allow.html>



India: Balwanazir, Kaliyanganj, Bihar state

Shri Lal Khatiyani (husband of Asha Devi, home invaded by Hindu nationalists, beaten, hospitalized)

Asha Devi (wife of Shri Lal Khatiyani, home invaded by Hindu nationalists, beaten, hospitalized)

Pastor Ajayan (reported on the attack on Shri Lal Khatiyani and Asha Devi “Asha sustained a deep cut on her head, and Lal has pain in his chest”)

Pastor Laxmi Prasad (reported on the attack on Shri Lal Khatiyani and Asha Devi, said that Hindu nationalists threatened Christians with death if they should file a police report)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/09/hindu-extremists-resolve-to-kill-christians-they-beat-in-bihar-india/>



Ukraine: Sloviansk

Fr Tikhon Fomenko (stated that government artillery fell 10 meters from his church and killed a woman standing near his church, several others also died in their homes)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/71075.htm>



Nigeria: Chinene village, Borno state

Seven Christians killed by Boko Haram gunmen

Bitrus Kurma (killed)

Bulama Dajiba (killed)

Bulama John (killed)

Haruna Kwatha (killed)

Haruna Wadda (killed)

Haruna Waruda (killed)

Shaibu Galva (killed)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/boko-haram-kills-at-least-29-christians-in-gwoza-area-nigeria/>

Tuesday May 27, 2014



China: Mingguang, Chuzhou, Anhui province

Pastor Lu (described government pressure on unregistered churches to register)

China: Fengyang County, Chuzhou, Anhui province

Sister Xing (described government pressure on unregistered churches to register)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/05/anhui-house-churches-forced-to-register.html>



Pakistan: Mirpurkhas district, Sindh province

Javed Jounis Masih (husband of Nazia, arrested on May 17, 2014 for distributing religious literature, charged with 'dishonoring and disrespecting religion', **UPDATE**: still in jail)

Nazia (wife of Javed Jounis Masih, arrested on May 17, 2014 for distributing religious literature, charged with 'dishonoring and disrespecting religion', **UPDATE**: released on bail)

Rose Mary (arrested on May 17, 2014 for distributing religious literature, charged with 'dishonoring and disrespecting religion', **UPDATE**: released on bail)

Kiran (arrested on May 17, 2014 for distributing religious literature, charged with 'dishonoring and disrespecting religion', **UPDATE**: released on bail)

Pakistan: Lahore

Asia Noreen Bibi (mother of five still incarcerated jail on blasphemy charges after death sentence, in solitary; **UPDATE**: appellate court hearing cancelled for the fifth time, no new date set)

Naeem Shakir (civil rights lawyer; **UPDATE**: described how the appellate court hearing for Asia Noreen Bibi was cancelled "The case was in the list of hearings scheduled for today. Then it suddenly disappeared. We do not know why. I can only say that what is happening is not normal")

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3156846.html/

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/35794->

[ASIA_PAKISTAN_Asia_Bibi_s_case_disappears_from_the_list_of_hearings_the_possibility_of_an_appeal_diminishes#.U4VZg8LQc5s](http://www.fides.org/en/news/35794-ASIA_PAKISTAN_Asia_Bibi_s_case_disappears_from_the_list_of_hearings_the_possibility_of_an_appeal_diminishes#.U4VZg8LQc5s)



Kazakhstan: Semel, East Kazakhstan

Viktor Kandyba (**UPDATE**: began a 10 day prison term for refusing to pay his 2013 fine)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1963



Azerbaijan: Gakh

Three women detained for door-to-door evangelization with the banned Old Testament

Tarana Khususshvili (mother of Luka Khususshvili, detained for possession of an Old Testament, no case filed)

Luka Khususshvili (aged 14, daughter of Tarana Khususshvili, detained for possession of an Old Testament, no case filed)

Gulara Huseynova (aged 47, detained for possession of an Old Testament, case dismissed)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1964



Sudan: Khartoum

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (aged 27, wife of Daniel Wani, mother of Martin Wani, arrested and jailed in February 2014 on a charge of apostasy for being a Muslim woman - her father is Muslim, though she has been a practicing Christian her entire life - who married a Christian and adultery since Islamic law does not recognize their marriage, pregnant, beaten, denied medical care, has been formally convicted and sentenced on May 11, 2014 to 100 lashes and death; **UPDATE**: has given birth to a daughter named Maya in the prison clinic)

Maya Wani (daughter of Meriam Yahia Ibrahim and Daniel Wani, born in prison, said to be healthy)

Daniel Wani (U.S. citizen, husband of Meriam Yahia Ibrahim, father of Martin and Maya Wani, biochemist, suffers from muscular dystrophy; **UPDATE**: said that his wife gave birth to their daughter in "appalling" conditions including shackles)

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2640367/Sudanese-doctor-facing-execution-marrying-U-S-Christian-gives-birth-baby-girl-squalid-jail.html>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2642088/Joy-amid-nightmare-Exclusive-picture-baby-Maya-born-barbaric-Sudanese-jail-mother-sentenced-hang-marrying-Christian-U-S-citizen.html>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54628#.U4gGAcLQc5s>



United Kingdom: Bradford and London

Nissar Hussain (convert from Islam, shunned by his extended family, has been labelled a "Christian Jew dog", wife has been sworn and spat at, children have been ostracized at school, automobile firebombed, will chair a new organization - tentatively named 'Converts to Jesus' - that will offer protection to converts to Christianity, said "it tells us in the New Testament that trials and tribulations are part of the Christian world")

Andrea Minichiello Williams (Chief Executive of Christian Concerns; **UPDATE**: explained the need to create the 'Converts to Jesus' organization "We are motivated by a deep sense of love and compassion for those that feel trapped in a situation from which they cannot escape. The penalty for them at best is to be cut off from their family; at worst they face

death. This is happening not just in Sudan and Nigeria but in east London. The government has failed to deal with the rise in anti-Christian sentiment. We need more churches and Christians sacrificially to offer welcome, support and safety for those Muslims who want to embrace Jesus Christ")

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/islam/christian-concern-backs-safe-refuge-for-muslim-converts>

Wednesday May 28, 2014



China: Suzhou, Anhui province

Wang Xuexia (home raided during a worship service, nephew beaten and detained with two others, fainted and taken away by ambulance, personal items valued at US\$16,100 seized)

Yue Wenmei (detained in a raid in the home of Wang Xuexia)

Wang Jie (detained in a raid in the home of Wang Xuexia)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/christian-gathering-place-in-anhui.html>



Syria: outside Um Gahrgan village

Sheem Hormiz Sheeba (aged 17, son of Hormiz Sheeba, **shot dead** while riding his motorcycle)

Hormiz Sheeba (father of Sheem Hormiz Sheeba)

Sargon (aged 17, wounded in the shooting of Sheem Hormiz Sheeba)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140601170221.htm>



Egypt: Delga village, Deir Mawas, Minya province

Fr Ayoub Saleh (said "The Muslim Brotherhood threw stones at Copts while they were heading to the polling stations. They burnt tires in front of the church after a march, mostly comprised of boys, gathered to demonstrate in front of the church")

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54606#.U4as38LQc5s>



Ukraine: Donetsk

Fr Pawel Witek (Polish citizen, abducted by pro-Russian rebels)

Bishop Marian Buczek (described the abduction of Fr Pawel Witek, added “Local Catholics are living in conditions of great danger — the terrorists are doing what they like and shooting at people indiscriminately...In places where there’s shooting, the Catholic and Orthodox churches have simply stopped functioning...Kramatorsk, where our chapel was machine-gunned by separatists last week, and Sloviansk, where the whole town is blocked”)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/05/29/eastern-ukraine-bishop-catholics-are-too-frightened-to-attend-mass/>



Central African Republic: Bangui

Rev Freddy Mboula (described an attack by Seleka rebels on Notre Dame de Fatima church, grenades thrown into the garden where over 200 Christians had taken refuge, more than 30 were killed including a priest)

http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=316722094&utm_source=2014-05-28+30+Christians+Slaughtered+in+the+CAR&utm_campaign=30+Christians+Slaughtered+in+the+CAR&utm_medium=email



United States – Arizona: Quartzsite

Pastor Mike Hobby (husband of Linda Hobby, church dedicated to service of the homeless to be foreclosed due to illegal taxes)

Linda Hobby (wife of Pastor Mike Hobby)

<http://www.charismanews.com/us/44006-with-illegal-taxes-piling-up-arizona-church-faces-foreclosure>

Thursday May 29, 2014



Indonesia: Yogyakarta, Java

Julius Felicianus (publisher, assaulted by Islamic extremists for having hosted a prayer meeting in his home, suffered a deep gash on the head, five women at the prayer meeting and a journalist also assaulted)

Archbishop Johannes Pujasumarta (**UPDATE:** demanded an investigation into the assault on Julius Felicianus)

Fr Aloysius Budi Purnomo (issued a statement saying "Bring the perpetrators to justice and protect the victims and their families")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Yogyakarta,-Islamic-extremists-attack-a-group-of-Catholics-gathered-in-prayer-31221.html>

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/catholics-injured-in-attacks-on-indonesian-prayer-service/71052>



Laos: Loynam village, Nong district, Savannakhet province

Sort (aged 40, arrested, tied by police to a pole and mocked for his faith, imprisoned)

<http://directory.ucanews.com/news/christian-arrested-for-his-faith-mocked-by-police/1233>



Pakistan: Dhaila Chatta Tehsil Wazirabad, Gujranwala district, Punjab province

Sanwal Masih (aged 17, son of Arshad Masih, sodomized by the son of his employer, **died of poisoning**)

Arshad Masih (father of Sanwal Masih, resisted threats from his son's employer to not perform an autopsy)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4874>



Iraq: Erbil, Kurdistan

Aziz Emmanuel al-Zebari (Chaldean Catholic church official, said "The West is not Christian. They destroyed us by installing a government based on Islamic sects in which we have no place")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140629035404.htm>



Ukraine: Donetsk

Fr Pawel Witek (Polish citizen, abducted on May 28, 2014 by pro-Russian rebels; **UPDATE:** hit in the knee, released, captors asked him to pray for peace, said "War is the devil's creation, but people remain people. People have a lot of bad things inside them, but also a lot of good")

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/abducted-catholic-priest-released-in-ukraine-amid-unrest/>



Canada: Toronto

Cardinal Thomas Collins (**UPDATE:** wrote a letter to Liberal Party leader Justin Trudeau asking him to reconsider his statement that the Party would require all of its candidates to be pro-abortion)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/commentandblogs/2014/05/29/the-liberal-drive-to-exclude-pro-lifers-from-public-life-in-canada/>

Friday May 30, 2014



China: Linchuan district, Fuzhou city, Jiangxi province

Bishop John Peng Weizhao (detained at an unknown location)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/china-detains-underground-catholic-administrator/71116>



Nepal: Kathmandu

Rajendra Rai (aged 49, **died from heart disease**, denied a Christian burial because the government has yet to approve a Christian cemetery, hundreds of Hindus demonstrated in support of the Christians)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Nepal,-Hindus-to-government:-Give-the-land-to-the-Christians-to-bury-their-dead-31225.html>



Egypt: Ezbet El-Nakhl, Qalyubia

Eshak Mansa Ibrahim Abadir (aged 28, **shot dead** in his cell phone store by suspected Muslim Brotherhood members)

Egypt: Mahameed Bahary village, Arment, Luxor

Kyrillos Shawki Atallah (aged 32, arrested for contempt of Islam after local extremists tried to set fire to his home)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54653#.U4k-9cLQc5s>
http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54641#.U4k_4cLQc5s



Nigeria: Maiduguri

Bishop Oliver Dashe Doeme (**UPDATE**: said "If the military knows where the kidnapped schoolgirls are, they must go and rescue them immediately! Things here are getting worse and worse. Too many Nigerians are lying. Until we do not see these girls being released, we will not believe those who say they are dealing with the problem but limit themselves to issuing statements to the press...I have spoken to the person in charge of the local Christian association. They don't have any specific information about the girls either. Some of the girls are in fact Muslim. All they told me was that the father of one of the kidnapped girls died of heartbreak")

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/nigerian-bishop-slams-inaction-over-kidnapped-girls/71047>

Saturday May 31, 2014



North Korea: Pyongyang

Kim Jeong-wook (aged 50 in 2014, missionary, entered the country from China on November 11, 2013 to determine the fate of North Koreans forcibly returned by the Chinese government, arrested as a spy; **UPDATE**: convicted of espionage, underground religious activities and offenses against the "dignity of the supreme leadership", sentenced to life at hard labor)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pyongyang,-South-Korean-Baptist-missionary-sentenced-to-hard-labor-for-life-31234.html>



China: Wenzhou

Pastor Liu Fenggang (**UPDATE**: turned away by police from attending a benefit concert for a Christian girl paralyzed in bed for 10 years)

Zhang Shengqi (founder of the Chinese Christian Journalists Association, turned away by police from attending a benefit concert for Christian girl paralyzed in bed for 10 years)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/06/house-church-leader-and-journalist.html>



Uzbekistan: Tashkent

Church operated substance abuse rehabilitation center raided by police

Pyotr Tikhomirov (vocational skills teacher, charged with illegally storing religious literature)

Vladislav Sekan (center founder, charged in abstentia with tax evasion and with not paying residents for cleaning up after themselves, had fled the country prior to the raid)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2001



Egypt: Beni Mazar district, Minya province

Faiza Fayek Anwar (store set afire)

Egypt: Monastery of Jabal al-Tair, Samalout, Minya

Marina Louis Shokrallah (daughter of Louis Shokrallah Tawadros, disappeared during a religious service)

Louis Shokrallah Tawadros (father of Marina)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=54674#.U4qqqsLQc5s>
<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55210#.U6z1TMLQcfg>



Turkey: Diyarbakir

Pastor Ahmet Guvener (convert, commented on the discovery that the government internet filters for members of parliament considered his church's web site to be pornography “They are just trying to support their own party’s politics and agendas with inflammatory and marginalizing language. This is embarrassing and outrageous and they should apologize for this...They really don’t see Turkish Christians as citizens of this country. Turkey knowingly intimidates Christians here, so in my opinion the block on our website was done knowingly”)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/05/article_3163012.html/



Nigeria

Elizabeth Salami (editor of *Light Bearer* newspaper, said “Our correspondent in Borno state has informed us about the attacks on Christians in Gwoza and other villages around there. We are awaiting further details from there, but from what we have so far gleaned from news there, it is indeed very disturbing”)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/boko-haram-kills-at-least-29-christians-in-gwoza-area-nigeria/>

May 2014, date unknown



North Korea

Jeffrey Edward Fowle (U.S. citizen, arrested in mid-May 2014 for "hostile activities" after leaving a Bible in his hotel room)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/american-tourist-arrested-in-north-korea-for-hostile-activities-after-leaving-bible-at-hotel-121089/>



Bhutan: Khapdani village, Samtse district

Pastor Mon B. Thapa aka David Lobzang (arrested on [March 5, 2014](#) for holding an unauthorized public meeting with 30 Christians but not officially charged; **UPDATE:** charged in April 2014 with attempting to screen a movie, charge dismissed in [early May 2014](#))

Pastor Tandin Wangyal (arrested on [March 5, 2014](#) for holding an unauthorized public meeting with 30 Christians but not officially charged; **UPDATE:** charged in April 2014 with attempting to screen a movie and illegally collecting funds, movie screening charge dismissed in [early May 2014](#) but the fund collection charge remains)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/05/one-of-two-pastors-arrested-in-bhutan-faces-funds-collecting-charge/>



United Kingdom: Bedford

Margaret Jones (aged 54, registrar, fired for stating that she could not in conscience officiate a same sex wedding)

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/religious-freedom/victory-for-christian-registrar-dismissed-for-refusing-to-conduct-sam>