

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – August 2014

Friday August 1, 2014



China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Zhu Jiahao (summoned by police, has yet to return)

Wang Bo (detained by police)

China: Cao county, Shandong province

UPDATE: two Christians detained at a [June 25, 2014](#) worship service and accused of being a member of the Total Scope Church aka the Born Again Movement cult will now be charged with "using a cult organization to undermine law enforcement"

Zhao Weiling (husband of Liu Cuiping)

Cheng Hongpeng

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/summons-notices-increase-with-zhejiang.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/wenzhou-christians-detained-others.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/update-in-cao-county-shandong-case.html>



Lebanon: Jdeideh neighborhood al-Zaitriyeh

Iraqi refugee family driven out of their home in Qaraqosh by ISIL

Khalil Atallah (husband of Haifa, father of Lara, Diana, Larita, and Behnam)

Haifa (wife of Khalil Atallah, mother of Lara, Diana, Larita, and Behnam)

Lara (aged 7, daughter of Khalil Atallah and Haifa, suffers from systemic lupus erythematosus)

Diana (aged 5, daughter of Khalil Atallah and Haifa)

Larita (aged 4, daughter of Khalil Atallah and Haifa)

Behnam (aged 2, son of Khalil Atallah and Haifa)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140801181653.htm>



Sweden

Mona Walters (convert from Islam, threatened with death, has gone into hiding with a new identity)

<http://www.dagen.se/nyheter/gar-under-jorden-efter-islamkritik/>

Saturday August 2, 2014



China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Zhang Zhi (**UPDATE:** taken by police)

Pastor Huang Yizi (taken into custody)

China: Hong Kong

Liu Zhixiong (organized a demonstration in support of the Christians of Zhejiang province)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/summons-notices-increase-with-zhejiang.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/wenzhou-christians-detained-others.html>



Pakistan: Lahore

Muqadas (aged 12, maid, daughter of Liaqat Masih, sister of Asma, abducted and raped by two men)

Asma (daughter of Liaqat Masih, sister of Muqadas, witnessed her sister's abduction)

Liaqat Masih (father of Muqadas and Asma, said "We are being threatened by the one rapist who is on bail to withdraw the case")

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4942>



Uzbekistan: Chirchik, Tashkent region

Pastor Stanislav Kim (father of Valeri Kim, home raided by police during a volleyball game, 15 friends detained for four hours, may face charges)

Valeri Kim (son of Pastor Stanislav Kim, may face charges)

Stanislav Pak (detained by police during a raid on the home of Pastor Stanislav Kim, held for four hours)

Vladimir Kovalchuk (detained by police during a raid on the home of Pastor Stanislav Kim, held for four hours)

Igor Li (detained by police during a raid on the home of Pastor Stanislav Kim, held for four hours)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1991



Iran: Karaj Central Prison

UPDATE: Christian prisoners have been separated from each other

Behnam Irani

Hossein Saketi Aramsari aka Stephen

Silas Reza Rabbani

Abdollahreza Haghnejad

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9000:iranian-christian-prisoners-separated-into-different-wards-in-karaj-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Lebanon: Tripoli

Fr Samir Hajjar (pro-ISIL graffiti scrawled on his church)

Fr Ibrahim Surouj (library torched on January 3, 2014 after a pamphlet allegedly insulting Islam was found, two-thirds of the 80,000 books and manuscripts were destroyed; **UPDATE:** remarked about ISIL designs on his country “If we say that Christians are not worrying, we wouldn’t be telling the truth”)

Michel Akari (said "Christians are facing a real threat")

Bassam (Security Forces member, said “There are a lot of people who are standing with them [ISIL]”)

Joseph Yarouck (Catholic school director, said “Many Muslims are worried about these guys [ISIL]. There is no tolerance with them”)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/73351.htm>



Egypt: Ezbat Yacoub, Samalout, Minya province

Fr Mettaous (told how Christians were attacked while engaged in church construction)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56072#.U-L2OMLwsfg>



Liberia: Monrovia

Br Patrick Nshamdze (aged 52, hospital director, **died** from Ebola)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/catholic-religious-brother-dies-of-ebola-in-liberia-59651/>

Sunday August 3, 2014



India: Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu state

Rev Simon Stanley (beaten by 10 Hindu nationalists in the home of Mr Bagavathi)

Mr Bagavathi (beaten in his home along with his family and the Rev Simon Stanley, who he had invited to pray for his injured 12 year old daughter)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Tamil-Nadu:-Hindu-radicals-beat-up-women-and-children-of-a-Pentecostal-community-31835.html>

Monday August 4, 2014



China: Dandong, Manchuria

Canadian missionary couple detained on spy charges after Canada complained about Chinese internet hackers

Kevin Garratt (husband of Juila Garratt)

Julia Garratt (wife of Kevin Garratt)

Peter Garratt (aged 21, son of Kevin and Julia Garratt, reported on the detention of his parents)

<http://www.charismanews.com/world/44960-china-detains-canadian-missionaries-on-spying-charges>



Iraq: Telkef

Lujaim Hikmat Franci (**killed** in an ISIL bombardment of his church)

Iraq: Bagdad

Rev Andrew White (**UPDATE**: described the murder of a Christian family of eight by the ISIL after their refusal to convert to Islam, wrote "It is as if hell has broken out here and nobody cares, that is, apart from you, our supporters, who never leave us and keep supporting us in every way")

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

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Sinjar,-Islamic-State-militia-massacre-Yazidis-and-impose-tax-on-Christians-31813.html>

<http://www.christiantoday.com/article/isis.free.to.kill.as.world.focuses.on.gaza.vicar.warns.as.family.of.8.murdered.next.to.open.bible/39316.htm>



Libya: Tripoli

Archbishop Giovanni Innocenzo Martinelli (**UPDATE**: said "in Cyrenaica there are no nuns while the majority of Filipinos are leaving the region, who are the heart of the Christian community in Libya. In Tripoli, there is still a good presence of Filipinos but even here many of them are leaving...Fighting seems to have ended, but the situation remains precarious. The airport is closed and people start boarding ships. Even the journey overland to the Tunisian border has become impossible...I cannot leave the few remaining Christians")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36188->

[AFRICA LIBYA Even if only one Christian remains I will stay here says the Apostolic Vicar of Tripoli#U-BJA8Lwsfg](#)



United States - Oklahoma

Archbishop Paul Coakley (criticized Oklahoma City on [July 2, 2014](#) for allowing a Black Mass at the Civic Center; **UPDATE**: condemned the advertised use of a purportedly consecrated communion host, wrote “Using a consecrated Host obtained illicitly from a Catholic church and desecrating it in the vilest ways imaginable, the practitioners offer it in sacrifice to Satan. This terrible sacrilege is a deliberate attack on the Catholic Mass as well as the foundational beliefs of all Christians”)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/prayers-urged-as-black-mass-organizer-claims-consecrated-host-42864/>

Tuesday August 5, 2014



Pakistan: Faisalabad, Punjab

Maria Bibi (aged 19, forced into an Islamic marriage, escaped three days later)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pakistan:-Forced-to-marry-and-convert-to-Islam-by-force,-a-young-Christian-girl's-struggle-for-justice-32486.html>



Uzbekistan: Samarkand

Aleksei Meshkov (husband of Diana Meshkov, home raided by police, religious books seized, raid appears to have been retribution for their attempt to re-register their church)

Diana Meshkov (wife of Aleksei Meshkov)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1998



Nigeria: Guduf, Borno state

Pastor Musa Ayuba (**killed** in a Boko Haram attack)

Peter Biye (Member of Parliament; **UPDATE**: reported on the murder of Pastor Musa Ayuba, added "Actually, in our region, the army is losing the ground. Residents are very disappointed and have lost hope. The situation is so bad that is you see them [insurgents] coming, and the army are running, and the villagers are running either. Then who is going to protect us?")

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/08/article_3270328.html/



United States – Massachusetts: Wenham

Prof Adam J MacLeod (criticized the New England Association of Schools and Colleges announcement to review the accreditation of Gordon College after the school filed for a waiver on religious grounds to President Obama's homosexual rights executive order)

http://www.lifesitenews.com/opinion/gordon-college-vs.-the-sexual-identity-juggernaut?utm_source=LifeSiteNews.com+Daily+Newsletter&utm_campaign=6e533c4a00-LifeSiteNews.com+Intl+Headlines+06+19+2013&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0caba610ac-6e533c4a00-326196590

Wednesday August 6, 2014



Laos: Savannakhet province

Five Christian leaders detained on **June 22, 2014** after praying with a dying Christian, accused of murder; **UPDATE: murder charges dropped, still in detention**

Ms Kaithong

Mr Puphet

Mr Muk

Mr Hasadee

Mr Tiang

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/laos-christians-acquitted-of-murdering-a-convert/71622>



Nepal

Jaya (beaten by 20 Hindu women for her evangelization efforts)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue24319.html>



India: Bangalore

Archbishop Bernard Moras (**UPDATE:** expressed his embarrassment after the postulant who said she was drugged and raped in Bangalore admitted that she had fabricated the story after being sexually abused by an acquaintance)

Sr Margaret (described the questioning by church officials and police which uncovered the hoax)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/indian-novice-affiliate-jailed-for-gang-rape-hoax/71642>



Kazakhstan

Vitaly Nikitenko (cited for sharing his faith on a street on [March 3, 2014](#) in [Saumalkol](#), fined on [July 11, 2014](#), fine upheld on appeal)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2026



Iran: Tehran

Fatemeh Torkajouri (tried in absentia for "action against national security" due to her activities with the Church of Iran, had fled the country in 2011)

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/33617-iran-p pressures-detained-pastor-to-confess-wrongdoing-christians-family-pressure>



Iraq: Kirkuk

Archbishop Yousif Thoma (described the ISIL conquest of Qaraqosh and the flight of its 50,000 mostly Christian residents)

Iraq: Qaraqosh

Ghadir Yussef (aged 34, widower, father of three, Iraqi refugee, fled his home)

Tofee Alabdal (aged 27, teacher, fled his home from ISIL)

Evan Faraj-Tobea (aged 31, English teacher, fled his home with his wife after an ISIL shell killed two children and a woman "I saw when they took their bodies to the church. It was like hell that day. We felt afraid because it was a huge sound. We couldn't stay in that situation")

Mukhlis Yusef Yacoub (aged 37, father of Mark, beaten by ISIL fighters when he refused to convert to Islam, blinded in one eye, escaped)

Mark (aged 9, son of Mukhlis Yusef Yacoub, tied and dragged behind a car by ISIL fighters when his father refused to convert to Islam, survived, escaped)

David Adeeb (**killed**)

Anaam Ishoa Alkiss Eleya (**killed**)

Milad Mazin Shamys (**killed**)

Hanaa (wife of Khalid, mother of seven, fled with her children)

Khalid (husband of Hanaa, father of seven, told his wife to flee with their children)

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

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140914180157.htm>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140922122916.htm>

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/media-news-events/opinion/3222-it-s-a-black-christmas-for-the-christians-of-the-middle-east>

<http://www.misna.org/en/other/they-are-destroying-karakosh-the-christian-city-says-bishop-07-08-2014-813.html>

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2014/08/29/comment-there-will-be-no-christians-iraq-ten-years>

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2016/10/4679918/>



Egypt: Komboha village, Dayrout, Assiut province

Dr Walid Malid Saeed (aged 35, abducted)

Egypt: Cairo

Rev Dr Ekram Lamie (professor of Comparative Religion at the Faculty of Theology, said “A unified law for building churches is the most important demand for Copts. I expect that it will be discussed tomorrow at the meeting held between the President and the church leaders”)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56079#.U-L1msLwsfg>
<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56077#.U-L23sLwsfg>



Ukraine: Kharkiv-Zaporizhia

Bishop Stanislav Szyrokoradiuk (said "there is a hunt for Catholic priests")

Ukraine: Lugansk

Archpriest Alexander Ponomarev (church damaged by government shelling)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ukraine-facing-religious-war-as-Moscow-Patriarchate-attacks-Greek-Catholics-31823.html>
<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/74046.htm>



Libya: Tripoli

Fr Allan Arcebuche (said “People are frightened — there’s no visible law and order, and absolutely no police or military protection for our churches. But we’re resolved to stay, along with our bishops, as long as there are still Christians here”)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/08/08/church-leaders-remain-in-libya-in-solidarity-with-those-working-for-peace/>



Nigeria: Taraba state

Rt Rev Timothy Yahaya (reported on Boko Haram attacks that have killed at least 76 Christians in his state in the past four months, said “They were saying, ‘We have killed and destroyed these infidels, and we must take possession of their lands; here we shall establish an Islamic state,’ and this is evidence that we are facing a genocide against Christians in this state and in northern Nigeria”)

Nigeria: Saha village, Borno state

Pirda Tada (described a Boko Haram attack that killed six Christians “I thank God for sparing my life, but three of my neighbors and members of our church were killed during the attack. These Christians in our village had their throats slit with knives while their hands were tied behind their backs. Some houses were bombed as the Boko Haram gunmen were chanting, ‘God is great!’”)

Nigeria: Gwoza, Borno state

John Gula (said that 42 Christians were killed at Attagara village, 24 in Agajara, 4 in Angurva, 20 in Agapalwa, 1 in Amuda, 3 in Alavawa, 13 in Chinene, 3 in Arboko, 1 in Ashigashiya, and 1 in Ngoshe, all by Boko Haram)

Francis Mbala (confirmed the Boko Haram attack)

Rev Joel Y Ndirmbita (signed a petition calling for the protection of Christians)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/more-than-76-christians-killed-in-taraba-state-nigeria-in-last-four-months/>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/massacre-in-predominantly-christian-gwoza-nigeria-said-to-leave-100-dead/>



Liberia: Monrovia

Three missionaries have contracted Ebola

Fr Miguel Pajares (aged 75, Spanish citizen, flown to Spain for treatment)

Pascaline Mutwamene (Congoese citizen)

Paciencia Melgar (Equatorial Guinean citizen)

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/spain-to-accept-europes-first-confirmed-ebola-case/>

Thursday August 7, 2014



China

Gao Zhisheng (aged 50, husband of Geng He, **UPDATE**: has been released from prison, banned from making public comments for one year)

Geng He (wife of Gao Zhisheng, U.S. resident, **UPDATE**: not allowed to speak with her husband after his release from prison)

China: Tumen, Jilin province

Peter Hahn (U.S. citizen, operator of a Christian NGO specializing in aid to North Koreans, under investigation for the previous three weeks, bank accounts frozen by the authorities, prohibited from leaving the country)

China: Dongkou and Longhui counties, Hunan province

Authorities detained 14 Christians in a crackdown on unregistered churches following the stabbing death of a woman in a McDonalds by members of the Church of the Almighty God cult

Luo Chungui

Ouyang Xinxiong

Fan Tianying (released on US\$1,300 bail)

Li Fenge (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Hu Tousheng (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Sun Jue (released on bail)

Hu Qingxi (released on bail)

Luo Longyu (released on bail)

Liu Manxiu (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Deng Xuexiang (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Long Shijiang (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Zeng Weiqing (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Zeng Weigang (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Yin Shiting (released on US\$1,630 bail)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/rfa-lawyer-gao-zhisheng-has-been.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/reuters-china-police-investigate-us.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/more-than-dozen-hunan-believers.html>



India: New Delhi

Archbishop Anil JT Couto (**UPDATE:** condemned reports that Sangh Parivar Hindu nationalist groups are collecting information on people who have converted to Christianity and Islam)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/delhi-archbishop-calls-for-justice-after-new-attacks-on-christians/71640>



Iraq: Mosul

Elias Boulus Samaan Kerio (**killed**)

Iraq: Qaraqosh

Ramy Yohanna Sheetw (**killed**)

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



Kenya: Mogotio

Hussein Hassan Mohammed (aged 30, recent convert, beaten unconscious in a mosque on [April 10, 2014](#) when he admitted that he had become a Christian, received threatening text messages, arrested without charge on [May 1, 2014](#), whereabouts unknown, fellow Christians suspect that the Muslims told police that he converted fraudulently for terroristic purposes; **UPDATE**: beaten by police until unable to walk, denied food, hospitalized, father attempted to poison him in the hospital, terror charges dropped but sentenced to one months' imprisonment for lack of an ID card, released)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/convert-from-islam-in-kenya-released-from-prison-after-beatings-attempted-poisoning/>



Egypt: Komboha village, Dayrout, Assiut province

Dr Walid Malid Saeed (aged 35, abducted; **UPDATE**: ransom of US\$280,000 demanded)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56107#.U-RKc8Lwsfg>



Belarus: Drogichi, Brest region

Two Christians arrested for handing out religious literature on a public street

Olga Shulepova (Ukrainian citizen)

Yulia Prokhopova (Ukrainian citizen)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2040



Congo, Democratic Republic

UPDATE: Three Assumptionist priests abducted on [October 19, 2012](#) are reported to have been executed 'in the past two weeks' by Ugandan rebels for refusing to convert to Islam, report is based on recent large-scale executions by the rebels

Fr Anselme Wasikundi AA (reportedly **executed**)

Fr Edmond Bamutute AA (reportedly **executed**)

Fr Jean-Pierre Ndulani AA (reportedly **executed**)

http://afrique.kongotimes.info/rdc/echos_provinces/7948-rdc-execution-sommaire-trois-pretres-nord-kivu-enleves-mbau-adf-nalu-executes-chef-rebelle-jamil-mukulu.html



Canada: Toronto, Ontario province

Linda Gibbons (arrested for violating an injunction against protesting at an abortion clinic, still in jail)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/opinion/why-ive-spent-ten-of-the-last-20-years-in-prison-for-defending-the-unborn>

Friday August 8, 2014



China: Dalian, Liaoning province

Pastor Li Guohong (detained for questioning after his group gave a man a religious tract in a public square, released)

Zhou Jinxia (church staff member, detained for questioning after his group gave a man a religious tract in a public square which until 2009 was the site of his home, released)

Shi Xinhong (church staff member, attended the religious service in a public square at which Pastor Li Guohong and Zhou Jinxia were detained)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/liaoning-police-disperse-outdoor.html>



Pakistan: Faisalabad, Punjab

Maria Bibi (aged 19, forced into an Islamic marriage, **UPDATE**: escaped)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pakistan:-Forced-to-marry-and-convert-to-Islam-by-force,-a-young-Christian-girl's-struggle-for-justice-32486.html>



Iraq: Batnaya

Bahaa Somo (Iraqi refugee, married, father of four, wife expecting their fifth child, family fled their home)

Iraq: Qaraqosh

Andrew (aged 5, brother of George, **killed** by ISIL fighters)

George (brother of Andrew)

Rev Andrew White (**UPDATE**: reported on the death of Andrew "I'm almost in tears because I've just had somebody in my room whose little child was cut in half. I baptized his child in my church in Baghdad. This little boy, they named him after me – he was called Andrew")

Rwaa (fled her home after the ISIL takeover, said "We fled last night, actually at 3 a.m. in the morning. We were at home when someone came and told us to, 'Leave! Leave!' We left with our clothes only. We didn't even take our passports. And we have no place to go because no one wants us here. They took everything from us... They took the women. They raped them. They are selling them. For God Sakes, they are selling them! What century are we?")

Iraq: Tellskuf, Mosul

Amer Rezhoukyarmosh (**killed**)

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

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140904184757.htm>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140915135432.htm>

<http://www.assistnews.net/Stories/2014/s14080035.htm>



Egypt

Bishoy Armiya aka Mohammed Hegazy (aged 31 in 2014, Egypt's 'most famous' convert, arrested again on [July 21, 2014](#) on 2009 charges of "defaming Islam", charges were filed after he attempted to have his religious affiliation changed on his government ID card; **UPDATE:** attorney said "The commissioner of Tora prison treats him badly. He insults and humiliates him for being a Christian convert. He incites people to beat and attack him")

Egypt: Samalout, Minya province

Fr Estefanos Shehata (assaulted by a policeman, ordered to not celebrate the Divine Liturgy and to close the church)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56131#.U-Wn-sLwsfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56169#.U-g9u8Lwsfg>



Ukraine: Donetsk

Oleg Shtein (Donetsk Christian University Vice Rector for Administrative Affairs, said "Currently, armed men are housed in the DCU dormitories. The gates have been barricaded, there are checkpoints all around, prisoners are being held on the premises, along with a lot of equipment and arms for the fighters")

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>



Belarus: Drogichi, Brest region

Two Christians arrested for handing out religious literature on a public street on [August 7, 2014](#),

UPDATE: town court found them guilty of conducting an illegal demonstration and issued an official warning

Olga Shulepova (Ukrainian citizen)

Yulia Prokhopova (Ukrainian citizen)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2040



Nigeria: Kaduna state

Emmanuel Adamu (**UPDATE**: confirmed another Fulani Muslim attack in which four Christians were killed “Yes, it is true that there was an invasion of one our villages here in Sanga Local Government Area by Muslim gunmen who are Fulani herdsmen. The attack on Gimi Dogara village began at about 11 p.m. and lasted to about 4 a.m.”)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/muslim-herdsmen-in-nigeria-kill-18-christians-in-plateau-kaduna-states/>

Saturday August 9, 2014



China: Baoding

Fr Joseph Lu Genjun (disappeared while in police custody in 2006; **UPDATE**: released from prison)

Bishop Francis An Shuxin (official church member, constantly pressured police to release Fr Joseph Lu Genjun, is now hosting him in his home)

Bishop James Su Zhimin (disappeared while in police custody in 1997, has spent over 42 total years in captivity; **UPDATE**: still missing)

Fr Liu Honggen (detained without charge since 2006; **UPDATE**: still missing)

Fr Ma Wuyong (detained without charge since 2006; **UPDATE**: still missing)

China: Wanning, Hainan

Pastor Wang Dao (**UPDATE**: reported on the disqualification of its staff of a Christian kindergarten)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Fr.-Joseph-Lu-Genjun,-episcopal-vicar-of-Baoding,-freed-after-8-years-in-prison-31872.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/authorities-shut-down-2-church-run.html>



Pakistan: Islamabad

Sardar Mushtaq Gill (civil rights attorney; **UPDATE**: brother and two others shot at by unknown assailants in front of his home, a Muslim neighbor was wounded)

Pakistan: Islamabad

Naem (son of Nazam Sajjad, married a Muslim girl who later converted to Christianity, fled the country together after receiving threats)

Nazam Sajjad (human rights activist, father of Naeem, attacked in an attempt to kill him and abduct his daughters in retaliation for his son marrying a Muslim girl)

Prof Salamat Akhtar (reported on the continued persecution of Nazam Sajjad)

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/33505-breaking-news-prominent-pakistan-activist-survives-shooting>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4939>



Iraq: Erbil

Archbishop Amel Shamon Nona (**UPDATE:** said "Our sufferings today are the prelude of those you, Europeans and Western Christians, will also suffer in the near future")

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/iraqi-bishop-warns-that-west-will-suffer-from-islamism-19159/>



Egypt: Nazla village, Fayoum

Youssef Seddik (described "continuous harassment and attacks" against Copts in his village)

Zaki Habib Zaki (appliance store owner, victim of harassment)

Egypt: Beheira

Reda Gamil Sharmoukh (beaten by two Muslim neighbors, 81-year old father beaten by police)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56145#.U-bdqslwsfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56143#.U-bejMLwsfg>



Sudan

Sam Onapa (Ugandan citizen, expelled from the country)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/09/sudan-shutters-500-member-church-in-khartoum/>



Liberia: Monrovia

Sr Pascaline Mutwamene (missionary, Congolese citizen, has contracted Ebola; **UPDATE: has died**)

Sr Paciencia Melgar (missionary, Equatorial Guinean citizen, has contracted Ebola; **UPDATE: condition causes 'great concern'**)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/36205-AFRICA_LIBERIA_A_religious_sister_has_died_due_to_the_Ebola_virus#.UmIoMLwsfg

Sunday August 10, 2014



Iran

The two children of imprisoned Pastor Saeed Abedini posted a video on YouTube asking for their father's release

Rebekkah Abedini (aged 7, said "Why does our daddy need to be in prison for loving Jesus?")

Jacob Abedini (aged 6, said he missed his father "a lot, lot, lot, a thousand lots")

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/why-does-our-daddy-need-to-be-in-prison-for-loving-jesus-asks-children-of-pastor-saeed-abedini-in-heartbreaking-plea-to-obama-124581/>



Iraq

Khalid (husband of Hanaa, father of seven including Jameel; **UPDATE: disappeared along with his father during the ISIL takeover of Qaraqosh**)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2016/10/4679918/>

Monday August 11, 2014



China: Dongzhou neighborhood, Fuyang, Hangzhou city, Zhejiang province

Zan Aizong (journalist, described a church demolition by the authorities, said “The crosses of the church may be demolished, but the crosses in the hearts of Christian can never be demolished”)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/two-hangzhou-churches-persecuted-in.html>



Iraq

Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako (**UPDATE:** said “death and sickness are grabbing the children and elderly people among the thousands of refugee families spread over the Kurdistan region...The position of the American president, Obama, only to give military assistance to protect Irbil is disappointing. The confirmation that this terrible situation will continue until the Iraqi Security Forces will fight along with Peshmerga against the ISIL militants is very depressing. At the end, perhaps, Mosul will not be liberated, neither the villages in the Nineveh Plain”, added that the refugees would be forced to stay in makeshift camps indefinitely)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/08/12/iraqi-christians-dying-in-crowded-refugee-camps/>



Syria: Sulaimaniyah, Aleppo

Yousef (shopkeeper, said “Why aren’t the moderate Muslims doing more to stop the extremists in their midst? Do they agree with their ideology and extremism? We saw hundreds of thousands of protesters on the streets against the abuses of the regime, so why are we not now seeing those thousands of protesters against what ISIL is doing? Worse, we are now seeing many people and rebel groups joining them. There are so many hundreds of these Islamic rebel groups, but they are all the same, they all have this extremist ideology against us. My conclusion is that these groups and ISIL are fully supported and backed in what they are doing by the anti-government forces”)

George (mechanic, said “Why didn’t the United States take military action when the ISIL persecuted Christians in Raqqa and Mosul? Why only now when it is Yazidis being targeted?...It is clear, look, now France is taking in all Christian refugees from Iraq, but in Mali it sent in its army to defeat the terrorists. Are they only terrorists in Iraq and Mali, but revolutionaries in Syria?”)

<http://www.persecution.org/2014/08/13/syrian-christians-living-in-fear-and-uncertainty/>



Egypt: Deir Mawas, Minya

Atta Khalifa Atta (aged 45, abducted on the week prior to July 29, 2014 while returning home from work; **UPDATE**: ransom of US\$28,000 paid, not released)

Mamdouh Samir (relative of Atta Khalifa Atta, negotiated for his ransom and release)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56198#.U-mMPcLwsfg>



Russia: Orel

Pastor Pavel Pilipchuk (fined US\$557 for illegally organizing an outdoor Palm Sunday worship service despite testimony that he was not present)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2059



Nigeria: Plateau state

Rev Sonja Bewarang (spoke on the most recent attacks by Fulani Muslim gunmen “Information we have so far received from our pastors in the two attacked villages shows that two of our church members were killed in Zarazong and 12 in Yelwa. We are yet to get the complete details about attacks because of the state of insecurity in the two areas, but I can confirm that all the victims of the attack are members of the Church of Christ in Nations”)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/muslim-herdsmen-in-nigeria-kill-18-christians-in-plateau-kaduna-states/>

Tuesday August 12, 2014



China: Hangzhou city, Zhejiang province

Zou Wei (described the removal of a cross from atop the city's largest church)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/two-hangzhou-churches-persecuted-in.html>



India: Pulittadi, Karnataka state

Four women arrested after accusations of handing out Christian literature and visiting a Hindu family, later released

Shirley

Mini

Leelamma

Shubha

Sajan K George (**UPDATE**: called the arrest of the four women "a matter of serious concern, because not only did they target innocent faithful, but are likely to tear the fabric of society. The Hindu nationalist forces want to spread a feeling of suspicion towards Christians")

India: Delhi

Christians protested continued discrimination against Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims

Shri Alwan Masih (Church of North India General Secretary)

Archbishop Emeritus Vincent Concessao (**UPDATE**)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Karnataka:-four-Christian's-arrested,-later-released,-on-charges-of-forced-conversions-31886.html>

<http://www.christiantoday.co.in/articles/black-day-observed-in-delhi-demand-for-equal-rights-for-dalit-christians-intensifies/7966.htm>



Iran: Tehran

Mehdi Vaziri (convert, arrested during a Bible study)

Amir Kian (convert, arrested during a Bible study)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9077:iranian-authorities-raid-a-house-church-in-tehran-arrest-two-christian-converts&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Iraq

Shamil Abu Madian (aged 45, had fled Mosul when it fell in June 2014, sought refuge in a town protected by the peshmerga, said "was forced to flee again in panic in the middle of the night when the Kurdish peshmerga troops suddenly vanished")

Iraq: outside Erbil

Sahar Mansour (aged 40, professor of chemistry, refugee camp resident, said “Christians find Ankawa a safe place to stay, but some say that it is not good solution that we are all living here because it is an easy target for ISIL to attack...The Christians are homeless. There are no places for them — only sitting in the churches, parks, streets, in this heat of sun. A lot of people are sick: elderly, infants and pregnant women sitting under the sun, and they cannot catch their breath. People are dying because of the shortage of medicine, water and food...We are facing risk a real genocide and a human catastrophe. We need protection. Please save our lives, we cannot stay in this country anymore”)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140811202731.htm>

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/08/12/iraqi-christians-dying-in-crowded-refugee-camps/>



Ukraine: Lugansk region

Bishop Afanasy Yavorsky (threatened with being shot by DPR militants, fled after his automobile brakes were tampered with)

Ukraine: Donetsk

Pastor Alexander Kobzev (abducted on [July 27, 2014](#), **UPDATE**: whereabouts still unknown)

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>



Liberia

Fr Miguel Pajares (aged 75, missionary, Spanish citizen, has contracted Ebola, flown to Spain for treatment; **UPDATE**: **has died** in [Madrid, Spain](#))

<http://www.misna.org/en/medicine-and-health/ebola-first-european-victim-a-missionary-12-08-2014-813.html>

Wednesday August 13, 2014



Sri Lanka

Rev Baber George (Pakistani refugee, wrote "We now have heard that the government announced they are going to deport 10 people per day to Pakistan. We heard the flight left at 13:00. They were handcuffed. They got a stamp in their passport saying that they are deported. They were handed over to the FIA [Federal Investigation Authorities] which are the Pakistani authorities. They are detained in Pakistan and not free. We do not know what will happen to them. The asylum seekers are afraid of torture and murder or being imprisoned for life. Tomorrow 10 more people are going to be deported. They say it will all be Christians. It is not known who exactly so everyone is very insecure")

<http://www.assistnews.net/Stories/2014/s14080053.htm>



Iran: Rajai Shahr Prison

Pastor Saeed Abedini (aged 34, convert, US citizen, convicted on [January 27, 2013](#) of undermining the government by spreading Christianity and sentenced to eight years in prison; **UPDATE**: has been threatened with death by fellow inmates who belong to ISIL)

<http://www.charismanews.com/world/45007-american-pastor-getting-death-threats-from-isis-terrorists>



Egypt

Ibrahim Girgis Atallah Ibrahim (aged 54, husband of Josephine Morris Hanna, disappeared during the [August 2013](#) government crackdown on the Muslim Brotherhood; **UPDATE**: still missing)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56246#.U-xEHsLwsfg>



Ukraine: Donetsk

Bishop Leonid Padun (church seized by pro-Russian PRD militants)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue24436.html>

Friday August 15, 2014



China

Gao Zhisheng (**UPDATE**: has been described by his attorney as "utterly destroyed" by his captivity - he is unintelligible and speaks only in single words, shows no emotion, and lost almost all of his teeth due to malnutrition)

China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Zhang Zhimin (aged 30, one of 10 parishioners injured in a July 21, 2014 police raid on a church to remove a cross, skull fractured, has been vomiting blood; **UPDATE**: underwent surgery, returned home, reported on another church cross toppling)

China: Yayang town, Taishun county, Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Brother Lin (spoke about the continuing cross demolitions - at least 231 churches have been affected - and the police monitoring of Chinese Christian internet chat rooms)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/freed-chinese-dissident-utterly-destroyed-by-jail/71697>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/wenzhou-government-succeeds-at.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/persecution-continues-churches-in.html>



Kenya: Eastleigh neighborhood, Nairobi

Mohammed Ali (aged 30, convert, married, father of two girls aged 3 and 5, Somali immigrant, Bible teacher, beaten by five Muslims in an apparent premeditated attack, possibly stabbed, thrown from a fourth floor balcony, hospitalized, in a coma for five days, speech and memory impaired)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/somali-christian-in-kenya-beaten-thrown-off-fourth-floor-balcony/>



South Sudan: Juba

David Nicholas Ochan (Catholic radio station news editor, station closed, detained after covering news of riots between troops supporting the President and troops supporting the former Vice President)

Albino Tokwaro (radio station director, reported on the detention of Ochan David Nicholas)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36216->

[AFRICA SOUTH SUDAN The main Catholic radio station in the Country has been shut down#.ULRZsLwsfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36216-AFRICA_SOUTH_SUDAN_The_main_Catholic_radio_station_in_the_Country_has_been_shut_down#.ULRZsLwsfg)

<http://www.misna.org/en/economy-and-politics/radio-bakhita-shut-down-18-08-2014-813.html>



Egypt: Nazla village, Fayoum

Zaki Habib Zaki (appliance store owner, as of [August 9, 2014](#) has been a victim of harassment; **UPDATE:** reported to have been remanded in custody for a total of 19 days for false charges of harassing a Muslim girl, is to be the subject of a 'customary reconciliation' meeting)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56309#.U-7tYMLwsfg>



Ukraine: Chervonaya Motovilovka village, outside Kiev

Fr Vladimir Navozenko (church service interrupted by anti-Russian militants, red paint thrown at him)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/72990.htm>



North Korea

Kenneth Bae (aged 44 in 2012, father of three, U.S. citizen, arrested on November 3, 2012 for preaching Christianity; sentenced to 15 years hard labor on May 5, 2013 for “anti-

government activities”; **UPDATE:** health still fragile, reported to have been returned to a labor camp)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/north-korea-sends-us-missionary-back-to-labor-camp/71704>

Saturday August 16, 2014



Iraq: Karamless

Ghazala Elyas (aged 80, suffers from breast cancer, one of 11 sick and elderly Christians who defied ISIL demands to convert under penalty of death, scolded the terrorists who then demanded they leave, now in a refugee camp)

Sahar Mansour (**UPDATE:** reported on the defiance of Ghazala Elyas and the other elderly Christians to ISIL)

Nadar Eleya (aged 30, fled after the ISIL takeover)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/08/20/elderly-iraqi-christians-defy-islamic-state-terrorists/>

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2014/08/29/comment-there-will-be-no-christians-iraq-ten-years>



Ukraine: Donetsk

Pastor Gennadiy Mokhnenko (**UPDATE:** reported that his adoptive son had been captured and held by pro-Russian DPR fighters for 10 days, handcuffed and beaten for 2 days in an attempt to force him to join their ranks, ribs broken, released)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue24437.html>



Central African Republic

Archbishop Dieudonne Nzapalainga (**UPDATE:** spoke at a Mass attended by the new Prime Minister "I would like to humbly ask the leaders of the Country to take quick decisions to stop the suffering of the population in Bangui and elsewhere in the Country")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36217->

[AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC The Archbishop of Bangui to politicians stop the suffering of the people as soon as possible#.U Qle8Lwsfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36217-)



Liberia: Monrovia

Sr Anna Rita Brustia (reported on an attack on her clinic by armed men in which 20 Ebola victims were forced to flee into the neighboring slum, mentioned that the clinic staff has to work without protective gear)

<http://www.misna.org/en/economy-and-politics/ebola-alarm-mounts-after-attack-on-clinic-18-08-2014-813.html>

Sunday August 17, 2014



Pakistan: Islamabad

Rehmat Masih (aged 65, retired cook, slum resident, said "I think being Christian, in this place, this Pakistan, is a crime. If we speak out, our corpses will be on the road")

Samuel Yaqoob (Muslim-Christian Coalition, said that minority parliament seats are given to "friends and favorites of the ruling parties, not actual spokespersons of our community")

Robin Daniel (National Minority Alliance, said "We are too scattered, too divided, too uneducated")

Shahryar Shams (aged 25, attorney, said "Our problems are social, legal and political. In theory, all fundamental rights for minorities are granted by the Constitution of Pakistan. But we lack organized political leadership in our own community. We face increasing extremism from the rest of society too...But our biggest issue is that we are represented by those who are selected by the powers that be, and not through our direct vote")

Fazeela Bibi (aged 17, high school dropout, U.S. Embassy office assistant, slum resident, said "One person can't do anything alone. Injustice cannot be fought alone")

<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/why-it-feels-crime-be-christian-pakistan-n179511>



Uzbekistan: Navoi

Artur Alpayev (husband of Irina Alpayev; **UPDATE**: home raided by police without warrant during a worship service, Christian books seized, mother expelled back to Israel)

Iruna Alpayev (wife of Artur Alpayev; **UPDATE**: home raided by police without warrant during a worship service, Christian books seized)

Gulya Solyanov (wife of Sergei Solyanov, Russian citizen, detained while visiting Artur and Iruna Alpayev, expelled back to Russia)

Sergei Solyanov (husband of Gulya Solyanov, Russian citizen, detained while visiting Artur and Iruna Alpayev, expelled back to Russia)

Nikolai Serin (husband of Larisa Serin; **UPDATE**: detained while visiting Artur and Iruna Alpayev, home later raided by police without warrant, Christian books, Bible and laptop seized)

Larisa Serin (wife of Nikolai Serin; **UPDATE**: detained while visiting Artur and Iruna Alpayev, home later raided by police without warrant, Christian books and Bible seized)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1991



Iraq

Johnson Siawesh (Kurdish Regional Government Minister of Transportation, resigned in protest of the government's lack of action against ISIL and in providing assistance to tens of thousands of Christian refugees)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/08/assyrian-minister-in-kurdish-government-resigns-in-protest/>



Ukraine: Mospino village, Donetsk region

Archpriest George Gulyayev (described the shelling of his church with a missile)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/73039.htm>

Monday August 18, 2014



China: Liuzhou, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region

Cheng Jie (wife of Pastor Du Hongbo, mother of two young children, detained on [February 18, 2014](#), charged with "engaging in illegal business operation" for running a Christian kindergarten; **UPDATE**: arrest application approved by prosecutors)

Mo Xiliu (detained on [February 18, 2014](#), charged with "engaging in illegal business operation" for running a Christian kindergarten; **UPDATE**: released)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/authorities-shut-down-2-church-run.html>



Turkmenistan: Dashoguz

Bibi Rahmnova (aged 36, wife of Vepa Tuvakov, arrested on [July 5, 2014](#) along with her husband and 4 year of son after receiving religious literature via train, threatened with death, beaten at the train station and in prison, released on [July 7, 2014](#), charged with hooliganism for resisting police on [July 31, 2014](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to four years' imprisonment)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1987



Kazakhstan: Oral

Nikolai Novikov (arrested on [November 10, 2013](#) at an unregistered Sunday religious service; fined 50 MFIs on [December 18, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to 5 days' imprisonment for refusing to pay his fine)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2004



Egypt

Bishoy Armiya aka Mohammed Hegazy (aged 31, Egypt's 'most famous' convert, arrested again on [July 21, 2014](#) on 2009 charges of "defaming Islam", charges were filed after he attempted to have his religious affiliation changed on his government ID card; **UPDATE**: detention renewed for 15 more days, denied clothing and food)

http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56354#.U_QvBcLwsfg

Tuesday August 19, 2014



Nepal

Pastor Chhedar Bhote Lhomi (aged 37, arrested in [October 2012](#) for eating beef, sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment, family is struggling, his three children are mocked at school; **UPDATE**: released from prison)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/36219-ASIA_NEPAL_A_Christian_pastor_released_from_prison_in_Tibet#.U_Qki8Lwsfg



Iran: Rajaei-Shahr prison, Karaj

Pastor Farshid Malayeri Fathi (aged 35 in 2014, in jail since [December 2010](#); sentenced to six years imprisonment for "being the chief agent of foreign organizations in Iran and of administrating funds for foreign organizations"; **UPDATE**: has been transferred to the criminal wing of a different prison)

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9066:christian-prisoner-f-fathi-transferred-to-criminals-ward-of-rajaei-shahri-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Iraq: Amadiyah-Zakho, Kurdistan

Bishop Rabban al-Qas (**UPDATE**: called for Western military support, including mine disposal experts, to aid the Kurdish military against the ISIL militants, added "another 5,000 terrorists are ready to enter Iraq from Turkey to fight the jihad. As scary such reports are, Christians are still alive and despite losing their material possessions, they should not lose hope")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/As-the-liberation-of-the-Nineveh-Plains-gets-underway,-Kurdistan-bishop-waits-for-Pope-Francis-31930.html>



Syria

James Foley (aged 40, journalist, U.S. citizen, **beheaded** by ISIL militants)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/prayer-a-stronghold-in-life-death-of-catholic-journalist-james-foley-22401/>



South Sudan: Juba

David Nicholas Ochan (Catholic radio station news editor, station closed, detained on **August 15, 2014** after covering news of riots between troops supporting the President and troops supporting the former Vice President; **UPDATE**: held in a dark room for three days, released)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/36230-AFRICA_SOUTH_SUDAN_Security_agents_release_South_Sudanese_news_editor_South#.U_bDKsLwsfg



Ukraine: Chervonohrad

Archpriest Igor Dergach (church burglarized)

Ukraine: Gorlovka

Archbishop Mitrophan (said in a homily "Today we are celebrating the feast of the Transfiguration. We cannot ring the church bells, because people will immediately run here shouting, "Why are you ringing? They'll bomb us for that!" although we don't know where they got that idea. There is no electricity, no running water. We are serving using prosphora we baked earlier, and when they are all gone we will have to think about what to do next. But in our souls there is no depression, no anguish, only joy. What are we, crazy? No, we are simply Christians... We do not know what tomorrow will bring; we do not know what will happen to us now, along the road from church. But we believe that the Lord will set it all straight, that all will be well")

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/73073.htm>

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/73056.htm>



Nigeria

Ephraim Goje, (Christian leader, said "The Fulanis have declared a jihad on Christians of southern Kaduna and other parts of Nigeria, evidenced by this genocide in Bondong village, and the murders in Benue, Plateau, and Taraba states, among others")

Nigeria: Kaduna state

Anglican and Catholic bishops issued a joint statement "The Southern Kaduna Christian Leaders Council can no longer be silent over the systematic and well-coordinated massacre of our people. There have been as many as 51 separate, targeted attacks in many communities in southern Kaduna, including recent attacks on Takad and Moro'a communities. As a result of these attacks, not less than 600 persons, including old men, old women, young children and babies, are confirmed to have been murdered. Also, not less than 1,060 houses have been burned. Of necessity, tens of thousands of our people are now refugees in their own fathers' land...This genocide has reached an alarming scale with the recent massacre of 148 innocent lives in the single attack of Friday, March 14th, that ran through the early hours of Saturday, March 15. With heavy hearts and great displeasure we condemn these murderous acts in the strongest possible term and wish to let the whole world know the truth of the predicament that has caught up with us"

Bishop Joseph Bagobiri

Rt Rev Zakka Bonet

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/muslim-herdsmen-in-nigeria-kill-18-christians-in-plateau-kaduna-states/>



United States – Tennessee: Dyersburg

Kendra Turner (aged 18, disciplined by her teacher for saying "bless you" to a student who sneezed)

Pastor Steven Winegardner (defended Kendra Turner, said that other students have reported similar incidents and that the school's denials are not accurate)

<http://www.charismanews.com/opinion/45134-school-punishes-pentecostal-student-for-saying-bless-you>

Wednesday August 20, 2014



Pakistan

Nadia (aged 19, convert, wife of Shamaun Anwar, family arranged a marriage with her cousin which she rejected, beaten repeatedly, finally divorced her husband and married Shamaun)

Shamaun Anwar (aged 24, embroiderer, husband of Nadia)

Pakistan: Islamabad

Kalsoom Bibi (wife of Yousuf Bhatti, secret convert, received death threats after marriage, lived in hiding)

Yousuf Bhatti (husband of Kalsoom Bibi, abducted by four Muslim militants after his marriage, released after he convinced them that both had married freely)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/pakistans-interfaith-couples-defy-threats-for-sake-of-love/71748>



Kazakhstan: Zhezkazgan, Karaganda region

Nadezhda Yefin (religious literature seized, interrogated)

Margarita Yantsen (religious literature seized, interrogated)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2004



Iraq

Flora Anwar (held captive with her two children by ISIL militants, robbed by female militants dressed entirely in black who had non-Arab accents, released, said "The female militants were as brutal as the men. They treated us more mercilessly than the men")

Iraq: Sulemaniyah

Munira Aziz (aged 74, fled Mosul after hearing gunfire believed to be the killing of Christians, said "Please, tell the world what is happening. Please tell the world we just want to go home. We just want to live, we just want to be safe.")

Aws (aged 10, father killed by jihadists when he was a toddler, fled Mosul with his family)

Iraq: Qaraqosh

Elias Boulos Kero (**killed** by ISIL for refusing to convert to Islam)

Iraq: Erbil

Event: Five patriarchs visited with displaced Christians in the north

Patriarch Beshara Boutros al-Rai

Patriarch Ignatius Ephrem II Karim

Patriarch Louis Rafael I Sako

Patriarch Gregorios III Laham

Patriarch Ignatius Ephrem Joseph III

Patriarch Dinkha IV (unable to travel from Chicago due to severe illness)

Fr Rami Wakim (newly ordained, said of the Christian refugees "The people are angry because the government just gave up on them. They told us that, in Mosul, where there had normally been a presence of 60,000 soldiers, after the onslaught of ISIL, in only a matter of hours, these soldiers abandoned them, laying down their weapons", added "People look up to priests and bishops as the only solution, the only help they can get at a time where — of course we need to pray with them — but at this time prayer alone doesn't seem enough and actions are required")

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/female-is-militants-are-deployed-at-prisons-where-christian-women-are-held/#sthash.DKUIfq4E.dpuf>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140820015007.htm>

http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56398#U_V6iMLwsfg

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/08/the-historic-visit-of-five-patriarchs-to-north-iraq/>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140821035235.htm>

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/08/25/priest-shocked-by-conditions-for-iraqi-christian-refugees/>



Egypt: Al-Tatalia village, Assuit province

Fr Luka Radi (**UPDATE**: said that local thugs are perpetrating violence and extortion on local Christians)

Egypt: Sharara village, Abu Qurqas, Minya Province

Fire department took almost three hours to respond to a fire at Mar Girgis church, Christians and their Muslim neighbors put out the fire with a bucket brigade

Mina Hanna (brother of Ibrahim Saber, put out the church fire, said "There is hatred inside the hearts of many Muslims toward us. They consider us infidels. They wanted the church burning. The majority of the Muslims, especially in Upper Egypt, are fanatics and hate us")

Ibrahim Saber (brother of Mina Hanna, put out the church fire)

Fr Abdel Massih Obaid (pastor of Mar Girgis church)

http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56407#.U_bKScLwsfg
https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/09/article_3364783.html/



United States – Oklahoma: Oklahoma City

Archbishop Paul Coakley (**UPDATE**: has brought a lawsuit against the organizers of the upcoming Black Mass which states that the consecrated host is church property that has been procured by theft or fraud and demands its return)

United States - New York: Schaghticoke

Farm owners fined \$13,000 for refusing to host a same sex marriage at their home, has stated that they had no objection to hosting the wedding reception

Robert Gifford

Cynthia Gifford

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/black-mass-organizers-face-lawsuit-over-stolen-host-96131/>

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/catholic-couple-fined-13000-for-refusing-to-host-same-sex-wedding-at-their>

Thursday August 21, 2014



China: Nanle county, Henan

Pastor Zhang Shaojie (convicted on July 4, 2014 of "fraud" and "disturbing public order", sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment and fined US\$16,113; **UPDATE**: appellate court upheld his conviction)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/henan-court-rejects-house-church.html>



Egypt: Dakof village, Samalout, Minya province

Fr Antonios Shoukry (church burned)

http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56427#.U_gPpcLwsfg



Ukraine: Lugansk

Archpriest Alexander Ponomarev (**UPDATE:** church damaged again by government shelling)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/74046.htm>



United States – Oklahoma: Oklahoma City

Archbishop Paul Coakley (brought a lawsuit on [August 20, 2014](#) against the organizers of the upcoming Black Mass which states that the consecrated host is church property that has been procured by theft or fraud and demands its return; **UPDATE:** the host has been turned over to a diocesan priest by the Satanist's attorney, added “I remain concerned about the dark powers that this satanic worship invites into our community and the spiritual danger that this poses to all who are involved in it, directly or indirectly”)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/okla-archbishop-relieved-at-return-of-consecrated-host-14515/>

Friday August 22, 2014



China: Dongkou county, Hunan province

UPDATE: Authorities detained 14 Christians on [August 7 2014](#) in a crackdown on unregistered churches following the stabbing death of a woman in a McDonalds by members of the Church of the Almighty God cult

Luo Chungui (released)

Ouyang Xinxiong (released)

Fan Tianying (released on US\$1,300 bail)

Li Fenge (released on US\$1,630 bail)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/more-than-dozen-hunan-believers.html>



India: Ahmedabad, Gujarat state

Fr Cedric Prakash SJ (director of the Prashant Jesuit Centre for Human Rights, Justice and Peace; **UPDATE**: criticized the Gujarat state government for publishing school textbooks that teach hatred and prejudice toward Westerners, accuse the English language "of having polluted the Indian culture", and define Islam and Christianity as "non-Indian religions", said "The books are full of myths and falsehoods, superstitions and prejudices, with gross distortions and manipulations. They propagate fascist ideology that is totally against the heritage of Indian culture, made up of inclusiveness, pluralism and the rights of all", demanded their withdrawal from schools, added that the then-Chief Minister of Gujarat - Narendra Damodardas Modi, now Prime Minister - had praised the books but delayed their release until after the recent national elections)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36240->

[ASIA INDIA The Jesuits the Government of Gujarat promotes extremism and violence in schools#.U_gGH8Lwsfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36240-ASIA_INDIA_The_Jesuits_the_Government_of_Gujarat_promotes_extremism_and_violence_in_schools#.U_gGH8Lwsfg)



Iraq: Qaraqosh and Ankawa

Mikha Qasha (elderly, wheelchair bound, given one week by ISIL to convert to Islam or be killed, taken to Kurdish territory by a friend, reunited with his grandson)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/08/article_3307652.html/



Nigeria: Gwoza

Stephen (captured by Boko Haram, said "I saw them kill my father and brother. After the killings, they took 11 of us hostage...We watched them carry out their evil atrocities from one town to another", later escaped)

Elizabeth (captured by Boko Haram while trying to escape, said "They stopped our car and ordered us to convert to Islam. We refused. Then they shot my siblings behind me. My husband was ordered to leave. He fled into the bush and then they told me to get in their car", later forcibly converted to Islam and married, repeatedly raped by her 'husband', escaped, said "For all the horrible things Boko Haram did to me and my family, I leave them to the judgment of God Almighty!")

<http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/world/2015/March/Miracle-Survivors-Tell-of-Boko-Harams-Unspeakable-Evil/>



Canada: Toronto, Ontario province

Charles McVety (criticized city officials for cancelling an annual Christian parade on [August 22, 2014](#) without offering an alternative route)

Saturday August 23, 2014



China: Nanle county, Henan province

Zhao Junling (**UPDATE**: released on bail, trial on a charge of 'disrupting public order and interfering with official duties' scheduled for September 2014)

Zhang Cuijuan (aged 36, younger sister of Pastor Zhang Shaojie, trial on a charge of 'disrupting public order and interfering with official duties' scheduled for September 2014)

China: Longhui county, Hunan province

UPDATE: Authorities detained 14 Christians on [August 7, 2014](#) in a crackdown on unregistered churches following the stabbing death of a woman in a McDonalds by members of the Church of the Almighty God cult

Hu Tousheng (released on US\$1,630 bail)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/henan-one-nanle-county-christian-church.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/more-than-dozen-hunan-believers.html>



Pakistan: Islamabad

Naja Masih (aged 60, school janitor, arrested on blasphemy charges, bail denied, family fled from their home)

Nargis Bibi (wife of Naja Masih, mother of Yaqoob, Ashraf, Anwar, and Sunny, in hiding)

Yaqoob (aged 30, child of Naja Masih, in hiding)

Ashraf (aged 28, child of Naja Masih, in hiding)

Anwar (aged 26, child of Naja Masih, in hiding)

Sunny (aged 24, child of Naja Masih, in hiding)

Fr Yaqoob John (reported on the arrest of Naja Masih "Our sources have confirmed that the accusations are false")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Punjab:-after-a-Christian-man-is-falsely-accused-of-blasphemy,-his-family-flees-32067.html>



Ukraine: Kirovskoe

Church hit by a shell during a vigil service, three killed, six hospitalized, hospital later hit resulting in two deaths

Olga Radchenko (killed)

Zinaida Meluga (killed)

Viktor Chernyshev (killed)

Archpriest Sergey Piven (husband of Lyudmila Piven, hospitalized)

Lyudmila Piven (wife of Archpriest Sergey Piven, hospitalized)

Tatiana (hospitalized)

Nadezhda (hospitalized)

Lyubov (hospitalized)

Lyubov (hospitalized)

Archpriest George Tsyganov (reported on the attack)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/08/missile-hits-church-during-service-in-the-gorlovka-diocese-casualties-are-reported/>



Nigeria

James Abawu (chairman of the Madagali Local Government Council said “The Boko Haram insurgents came to the villages in large numbers and, using rocket-propelled launchers, explosive devices, and bombs, invaded our communities in Madagali. They killed, maimed people and destroyed houses before hoisting their flags in different locations in the villages”)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/09/bible-college-churches-shut-down-as-boko-haram-claims-territory-in-ne-nigeria/>

Sunday August 24, 2014



Iraq: Qaraqosh

Christina Khidr Ebada (aged 3, reported to have been abducted from her mother's lap by ISIL militants)

Rana (aged 31, wife of Diyaa, captured by ISIL)

Rita (aged 18, captured by ISIL while attempting to rescue her elderly father)

Talal Abdul Ghani (disappeared, had been whipped after refusing to convert to Islam)

http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56457#U_rEr8Lwsfg

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/26/magazine/is-this-the-end-of-christianity-in-the-middle-east.html?_r=0

Monday August 25, 2014



China: Nanchang

Archbishop Giuseppe Wu Shizhen (aged 93, **died of natural causes**, had been forced to work on a farm after his 1949 ordination)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36349->

[ASIA_CHINA_Death_of_Archbishop_Giuseppe_Wu_zealous_shepherd_dedicated_to_formation_of_seminarians_and_women_religious#.VBpTQ8Lwsfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36349-ASIA_CHINA_Death_of_Archbishop_Giuseppe_Wu_zealous_shepherd_dedicated_to_formation_of_seminarians_and_women_religious#.VBpTQ8Lwsfg)



Iraq: Bashiqa

David Georgis (father of Saad George, hearing and speech impaired, reported to have **died of starvation** after three weeks of ISIL occupation)

Saad Georgis (son of David George, hearing and speech impaired, reported to have **died of starvation** after three weeks of ISIL occupation)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Patriarch-of-Baghdad:-While-politicians-argue,-Iraqi-Christians-continue-to-suffer-and-die-31976.html>



Egypt: Sahel Salim village, Assuit

Essam Damian, brother of Emad Damian and Dr Samy Damian, cousin of Medhat Damian, said “The cases of ransom and royalties imposed on Copts in the governorate have increased amid silence of the security forces. More than 250 Copts, including physicians, paid ransoms”)

http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56466#.U_vzscLwsfg



Ukraine: Trudovskiye settlement, Donetsk

Archpriest George Gulyayev (**UPDATE**: reported on the destruction of his church by shelling, no injuries)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/73216.htm>



Libya: Sirte

Event: Four Egyptian Christians abducted, Muslim friends freed

Jamal Matta Hakim (brother of Rafat Matta Hakim and Romani Matta Hakim, cousin of Adel Sadiki Hakim)

Rafat Matta Hakim (brother of Jamal Matta Hakim and Romani Matta Hakim, cousin of Adel Sadiki Hakim)

Romani Matta Hakim (brother of Jamal Matta Hakim and Rafat Matta Hakim, cousin of Adel Sadiki Hakim)

Adel Sadiki Hakim (cousin of Jamal Matta Hakim, Rafat Matta Hakim, and Romani Matta Hakim)

<http://www.libyaherald.com/2014/08/27/four-egyptian-chrisitians-abducted-near-sirte/#ixzz3BkKYumyb>

Tuesday August 26, 2014



China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Pastor Huang Yizi (aged 40, taken into custody on [August 2, 2014](#); **UPDATE**: reported to have been charged with 'gathering to assault a state organ', faces a possible sentence of 10 years' imprisonment, had said "I know I will be put in jail one day")

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/china/11055730/Pastor-faces-decade-behind-bars-amid-Chinas-anti-church-campaign.html>



India: Asroi village, Aligarh district, Uttar Pradesh state

Pastor Habil Gyan (locked his church to prevent its seizure by Hindu RSS militants, several parishioners forcibly reconverted to Hinduism)

Pastor E Lakra (reported on the church closure by Pastor Habil Gyan)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/india-christians-accuse-hindus-of-forced-conversions/71824>



Nigeria: Gwoza village, Borno state

Peter Biye (member Federal House of Representatives; **UPDATE**: spoke on [August 26, 2014](#) concerning the Boko Haram takeover of his village "The killings are massive, but nobody can give a toll for now because nobody has been able to go to that place because the insurgents are still there. They have taken over the whole area")

<http://christiannews.net/2014/08/26/allah-commands-us-to-rule-the-world-boko-haram-claims-african-christian-town-as-islamic-state/>

Wednesday August 27, 2014



China: Dongkou and Longhui counties, Hunan province

UPDATE: Authorities detained 14 Christians on August 7, 2014 in a crackdown on unregistered churches following the stabbing death of a woman in a McDonalds by members of the Church of the Almighty God cult

Sun Jue (released on bail)

Hu Qingxi (released on bail)

Luo Longyu (released on bail)

Liu Manxiu (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Deng Xuexiang (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Long Shijiang (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Zeng Weiqing (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Zeng Weigang (released on US\$1,630 bail)

Yin Shiting (released on US\$1,630 bail)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/more-than-dozen-hunan-believers.html>



India: Verapoly, Kerala state

Hindu nationalists attempt to ban the use of wine at Mass

Archbishop Francis Kallarakal (opposed the efforts to ban the use of wine at Mass)

Fr Paul Thelakkat (dismissed the efforts of the Hindu nationalists "Combining the liquor ban and Mass wine issue together is an attempt communalize the issue by dragging in the Church")

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/communion-wine-controversy-as-indian-state-bans-alcohol/71806>



Iraq

Ayoub (daughter abducted by ISIL, pled for her return)

Iraq: Alqosh

Raed Salman (aged 45, truck driver, displaced from his home)

Rinam Mansour (aged 30, brother of Lillian, teacher, displaced from his home)

Lillian (sister of Rinam Mansour, displaced from her home)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56503>

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/parallels/2014/08/27/343673454/iraqi-christian-village-from-sanctuary-to-ghost-town-in-2-months>



Nigeria: Bauchi state

Pastor Blessing Ehiorobo (**murdered** by Boko Haram)

Mrs Uche Chiejina (President of the Nigeria Christian Graduate Fellowship, condemned the murder of Pastor Blessing Ehiorobo)

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2014/08/christians-edo-protest-killing-pastor-boko-haram/>



Mexico; Tabasco state

Bishop Gerardo Jesus Rivera (prohibited by agents of the Customs Service and National Migration Institute from saying Mass on the fourth anniversary of a drug cartel massacre of 72 Central and South American migrants)

<http://www.misna.org/en/justice-and-human-rights/bishop-banned-from-celebrating-mass-for-migrants-27-08-2014-813.html>

Thursday August 28, 2014



China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Pastor Huang Yizi (aged 40, taken into custody on [August 2, 2014](#); reported on [August 26, 2014](#) to have been charged with 'gathering to assault a state organ', faces a possible sentence of 10 years' imprisonment; **UPDATE**: formal arrest warrant handed down)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/wenzhou-pastor-formally-arrested.html>



Malaysia

Christian leaders issued a message to all Malaysians calling for an end to religious and racial polarization

Rev Dr Eu Hong Seng

Archbishop Datuk Bolly Lapok

Bishop Emeritus Antony Selvanayagam

Rev Datuk Jerry Dusing

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/in-merdeka-message-christian-leaders-urge-malaysians-to-save-country-from-e#sthash.uh3Ozljg.dpuf>



Iraq: Erbil

Event: Mother of 3 year old Christina Khader Ebada recounted her abduction and pled for her return on television

Yas (brother of Christina Khader Ebada)

Baddu (father of Christina Khader Ebada, blind)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140828181542.htm>



Turkey: Gaziantep

Pastor Patrick Jensen (U.S. citizen, church property sealed by police)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/09/article_3405334.html/



Egypt: Mit Nama village, Shubra Al Khaimah

Fr Biman Shaker (prevented from constructing a service building at his church by 'thugs')

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56525>



Cameroon: Assighassia

Zerubbabel Tchamaya (church elder, **beheaded** by Boko Haram militants)

Samuel Lada (church elder, **beheaded** by Boko Haram militants)

https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/09/article_3361988.html/

Friday August 29, 2014



Pakistan: Satellite Town, Bahawalpur district, Punjab province

Javed Masih (convert, husband of Malika, school custodian, arrested on a charge of Quran desecration, wife escaped with their 3 children from a mob that threatened arson to kill the "blasphemer's children", a Hindu custodian named Lai also arrested)

Malika (wife of Javed Masih)

Aneeqa Anthony (attorney for Javed Masih, commented on the sudden appearance of two Islamic clerics at the scene of the 'crime' "If you look at the sequence of events in this particular case, it's quite clear that Masih and Lal have been deliberately targeted")

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/09/christian-hindu-in-custody-in-pakistan-on-accusation-of-defiling-koran/>



Iraq: Erbil

Bashar Mansor (watched Kurdish Peshmerga forces flee from the ISIL advance, said "I don't trust anyone now. Not the Iraqi army, not the Peshmerga, and not the United States. I don't trust any of them to protect us")

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2014/08/29/comment-there-will-be-no-christians-iraq-ten-years>

Sunday August 31, 2014



China: Fuyang, Anhui province

Fang Han (principal of the church sponsored Shunchang School, said "The government officials have held a meeting and want to abolish our school. The first step they took is notifying the parents...that the school has been shut down... They told the parents not to send their children here. However, the parents still believe in the school and send their children here. Now, nearly 800 students have come to the school")

Mr Ma (said "The government just wants to suppress and bully the school. My son and daughter both study at the school. I don't know the reason why the Fuyang government is against Christians, and they also know all the students and teachers are Christians. The school will start tomorrow, and the government may come to harass them and drive away the students. We, the parents, will all go to the school and argue with the government. We will not leave. This school is very, very good. The character education rendered in this school cannot be found elsewhere. The [teachers] treat the students like their own children")

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/09/anhui-government-shuts-down-church-run.html>



India: Kulesra village, Surajpur district, Uttar Pradesh state

Rev Joseph Wilson (one of ten pastors detained and interrogated on suspicion of making illegal conversions, said "In the many years I have never seen this kind of communal tension. We are not even being able to get close to Surajpur police station. Some members of our church, who went there, were beaten up" by villagers incited by the RSS Hindu paramilitary group)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/India,-false-accusations-of-forced-conversions-used-to-intimidate-Christian-minority-32048.html>



Egypt: Al-Khanka, Qalyubia

Armya Kamel (mother's land seized by 'thugs', police initially took no action)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=56574>



United States – Indiana: Columbus

Fr Doug Marcotte (reported on the 'Quran 3:151' graffiti which appeared on his church, two other churches also targeted)

<http://fox59.com/2014/08/31/columbus-community-condemns-graffiti-left-on-three-local-churches/>

August 2014, date unknown



China

Fr Lu Genjun (released after 8 years' detention)

China: Hong Kong

Josiah Chok Kin-ming (former equal opportunities officer, removed from his position after telling fellow church members how to legally resist the homosexual rights movement, denied financial compensation when he refused to apologize for his talk at his church)

<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-crime/article/2113277/former-hong-kong-eoc-official-loses-gratuity-fee-retrial>

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-catholics-appeal-for-release-of-long-imprisoned-bishop/74182>



Iraq: Erbil, Kurdistan

Sarah (infant, rescued from a 110 degree shelter in a refugee camp by Savina Rafael Daoud)

Savina Rafael Daoud (**UPDATE**: rescued ailing infant Sarah from a 110 degree shelter in a refugee camp, became her godmother)

Iraq: Qaraqosh

Sr Luma (fled her town with 35 other nuns and an orphan girl ahead of the ISIL takeover, said "We had only one choice: face death or leave")

Inaam Isho Poulos (aged 36, **killed in an ISIL mortar attack**, her sister said "It was to be a wonderful day, she was to be engaged that day. But she was buried instead...perhaps a

reason that she died [was that the] exodus began, just in time. Thousands of people were rescued by her death")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20141029033328.htm>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20141209172524.htm>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151006193557.htm>



Ethiopia: Shashemene

Three Christian converts arrested on fabricated charges of cultivation and possession of illegal substances, all had been threatened by Muslim relatives that only their reversion to Islam would prevent the charges

Obsa Ogeto (aged 32, convert, arrested)

Soka Araro (aged 31, convert, arrested, released on bail)

Peter (convert, arrested, released)

<http://www.persecution.org/2014/11/17/false-case-against-christian-converts-heard-in-federal-court/>



Sudan: Khartoum

Pastor Philemon Hassan (worship music composer, church building seized by the government)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/07/sudan-returns-church-building-closed-four-years-ago/>



Egypt: Alexandria

Youhana Zakry Zaky (wife abducted)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=65293>



Belarus: Gorky-9 Prison

Vasily Parfenkov (imprisoned opposition leader, sent to a prison punishment cell for ten days for refusing to remove icons from his cell)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1997



Nigeria

Rebecca Bitrus (wife, mother of Zachariah and Joshua, abducted by Boko Haram miscarried, pretended to convert to Islam to save Zachariah after Joshua was killed following her first refusals, said “I was never convinced about Islam. I kept my trust in the Lord and I was praying the rosary with my fingers. I am convinced that the prayer of the rosary saved me from captivity”)

Joshua (aged 3, son of Rebecca Bitrus, brother of Zachariah, abducted by Boko Haram, **deliberately drowned** when his mother initially refused the invitation to Islam)

Zachariah (aged 5, son of Rebecca Bitrus, brother of Joshua and Christopher, abducted by Boko Haram)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/former-boko-haram-captive-shares-harrowing-tale-of-faith-forgiveness-27861>