

Today's Martyrs – November 2015

Sunday November 1, 2015



Iran: Varamin

Fourteen Christians were arrested at a home church service

Amin

Bahram

Elnaz

Farzaneh

Leyla

Mehdi

Mohammad Shah Khasti

Nazanin

Sara

Shayan

Simmin

Zahra

Zari Shah Khasti Poorkaveh

<http://www.persecution.org/2015/11/13/new-raid-on-iranian-christians-14-arrested-one-christian-released/>



Egypt: Al Manah village, Nag Hammadi

Fayez Fouad (reported to have been abducted and tortured for three days after refusing to convert to Islam)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64869>

Monday November 2, 2015



Iraq: Ankawa, Erbil, Kurdistan

Fade Yousif (husband of Naghm Yousif Abdel Meseeh, father of Merna and Maram, refugee)

Naghm Yousif Abdel Meseeh (wife of Fade Yousif, mother of Merna and Maram, refugee, said "Even if the situation in Iraq gets better, no matter how safe it is, there's no guarantee it won't happen again. We love the land, but the land doesn't love us")

Merna (aged 9, daughter of Fade Yousif and Naghm Yousif Abdel Meseeh, refugee)

Maram (aged 7, daughter of Fade Yousif and Naghm Yousif Abdel Meseeh, refugee)

Haitham Boutros Azzo (husband of Aida Nasser Toma, father of nine children, refugee)

Aida Nasser Toma (wife of Haitham Boutros Azzo, mother of nine children, refugee, said "It is going to be sad for all the Christians to leave. But we have no other choice, do we? All we want is to be safe and settled. I can't remember one moment of rest and peace. It's been war and violence all my life here")

Iraq: Diana, Kurdistan

Fr Yatroon Yonan Dawood (reported to have said of the desire of Christians to leave Iraq "If you're at home, and every day your parents are hitting you, will you stay at home or will you go out? It's human nature that we look for life, not death")

<http://news.yahoo.com/christians-ready-leave-iraqi-homeland-doesnt-love-us-123003962.html>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151102152853.htm>

Tuesday November 3, 2015



China: Hangzhou, Zhejiang province

Zan Aizong (writer, **UPDATE**: detained by National Security Bureau officers, released, wrote "Please ask for the Lord's mercy. Today, I was accused on suspicion of subverting national security, and my cell phone, computer, etc., were confiscated. After this matter was recorded, I was free to go home for the time being, but I cannot speak and I cannot post on WeChat again. Currently, I can only write papers on technology to make my living...I would like to thank Jesus Christ for his grace and help and I would also like to thank the police officers, of whom there were over 10, who came to my home to search it for many hours. Because of the Lord, I do not have any hatred towards any person, nor do

I have an enemy. Because the Bible says God is love, I love all the people in the world. I will not be able to use WeChat often, and can only be reached by email now")

China: Yulin, Shaanxi province

Gao Zhisheng (aged 51, Christian human rights attorney, released from prison on [August 7, 2014](#), detained on [September 24, 2015](#) after accounts of torture while in prison became public, released but under house arrest; **UPDATE**: has been denied access to a dentist due to fears evidence of torture will be documented, wrote "...there is no understanding [by the authorities], just repeating over and over that they are 'the world's second largest superpower', and adding that they have a 'responsible behavioral style'. When, just a short while ago, a common person's teeth are destroyed and lost, [the attempt to correct the damage] is deemed a matter of 'national security'...the outside world can speculate that because I cannot treat my teeth, I must always be in a mood of personal, bitter hardship and torture. This is not entirely true. The world I find inside books occupies me to the point that I forget to eat. I do not even have the leisure to negotiate [with the police] regarding my suffering. To me, it is incredibly precious that I now have books to read. Generally speaking, I know I will disappear immediately again after my book is published. So I am determined to try my best to read more books. This is something I need to do before this happens. This is very crucial to me")

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/11/zhejiang-reporter-taken-by-police-after.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/11/gao-zhisheng-authorities-view-gaos.html>



India: New Delhi

Fr Stanislaus Jebamalai SJ (reported to have organized a petition which denounced "well-orchestrated efforts" by Hindu extremists to use the government against non-Hindus, said "A very dangerous trend is gaining momentum in the country, which tolerates violence against minorities of all kinds...It is coming to you, it will be too late if you wait till it comes to you")

India: Thomas Nagar, Tamil Nadu state

Two Christians were beaten by drunken policemen who said "What has Jesus done for you, sons of prostitutes? Why are you running to Him?", the police seized their vehicle documentation and charged them with lacking documentation

A Rethinakumar (repeatedly kicked in the spine, suffered fractures, hospitalized)

C Nova (nose broken, mouth seriously injured, unable to eat for days)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/indias-christians-join-protest-against-growing-intolerance/74548>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2015/12/police-break-spine-of-one-christian-nose-of-another-in-tamil-nadu-india/>



Iraq

Bishop Rabban al-Qas (**UPDATE**: criticized the Iraqi parliament for failure to amend a law that forces all children under 18 of one parent who converts to Islam to become Muslim without their consent and without the legal recourse to leave Islam)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/For-Kurdish-bishop,-ban-on-18-year-olds-choosing-their-religion-is-anti-Christian-35771.html>



Germany

Dr Josef Bordat (philosopher, threatened with death after posting stories on his blog concerning pro-life activists who were portrayed as zombies to be killed in a pro-abortion pro-homosexual theatrical play and later subjected to arson attacks on their property, wrote "The readiness of use of force seems practically limitless. The 'full, physical destruction of the enemy' [as a colleague described it aptly] is the goal that will be achieved")

Germany: Bonn

Mina (aged 25, Egyptian citizen, refugee, fled Egypt after years of persecution including being stabbed in the abdomen while in church, now fears attacks by Muslim extremists)

<http://www.dw.com/en/my-piece-of-hope-after-knife-attack-persecuted-egyptian-christian-finds-comfort-in-prayer/a-18823221>

<http://www.kath.net/news/52733> - with translation



Cuba: Santiago de Cuba

Pastor Fausto Polemo (church reported to have been partially demolished by government agents, parishioners protested and stopped the demolition)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/churches-demolishing-drive-in-cuba-a-church-saved-from-being-demolished-as-christians-stage-a-sit-in/>

Wednesday November 4, 2015



Iraq: Alqosh

Mayada Abdul Rhani (mother, refugee, reported to have said of Muslims "They recruit and train kids like mine to behead people. How could I ever live with those people? It was difficult to live with them before ISIL, now it's impossible")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151103204428.htm>



Central African Republic: Bangui

Fr Moses Otii Alir MCCI (described the [October 30, 2015](#) rioting that began with the murder of three Muslims "On their way to the parish, they started looting and burning all the houses and shops. They gathered in front of the parish gate, wanting to destroy the church and butcher all of us...The shootings and the burning of houses lasted almost 10 hours", one UN peacekeeper protecting the church was wounded; **UPDATE:** wrote that the neighborhood was still "in the hands of the assailants. It is very difficult to get out of the parish compound. The situation does not seem to be getting better. We do not know what could happen from one moment to the next")

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2015/11/06/central-african-republic-priest-they-wanted-to-destroy-the-church-and-butcher-all-of-us/>

Thursday November 5, 2015



Bangladesh: Kamarpara, Panchagarh district

Ramni Das (aged 57, cane worker, home attacked by a Muslim mob: "For more than a year, Muslim youths from a neighboring village accused us of practicing witchcraft and told us to leave the village. They abused us in public and threw bricks at our houses. They wanted to kill us by burning us alive, but we managed to escape. We have lost everything", homes of three other families also destroyed)

Fr Prodig Marnadi (said "We are also working with local leaders to seek legal action against the attackers")

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/mob-burns-down-catholic-homes-in-bangladeshi-village/74575>



Kazakhstan: Astana

Maksim Sulyargin (foreign citizen, fined US\$610 and ordered deported on [August 8, 2015](#) for speaking to his religious community; **UPDATE**: appeal upheld, case dismissed)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2207

Friday November 6, 2015



India: Andhra Pradesh state

Issac (aged 20, son of a church pastor, reported to have been abducted by Maoist guerrillas)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/38813->

[ASIA INDIA Son of a Protestant pastor kidnapped#.Vj7GuMLlsg](#)



Syria: Homs

Archbishop Selwanos Boutros Alnemeh (**UPDATE**: described the escape of 15,000 people, mostly Christians, from the ISIL attacks on the towns of Sadad and Al-Hafar)

Fr Luka Awad (assistant to Archbishop Selwanos Boutros Alnemeh, said "When the ISIL fighters conquered Al-Qaryatayn, they made the threat: 'We will kill all of the Christians in Sadad'...The people there still speak Aramaic, the language of Jesus. Moreover, we have important churches there. It is really a center of our Christian heritage. Its loss doesn't bear contemplating. We truly are fearing for our cultural heritage. We beg the international community to put an end to this war. My people already experienced a genocide one hundred years ago, in 1915. Now, in the 21st century, we don't need another")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151106173226.htm>



Libya: Abu Shaalh, Misrata

Wasfy Bakhit Gad Mikhail (aged 37, husband, brother of Sabry and Fahmy, Egyptian citizen, construction worker, abducted)

Sabry Bakhit Gad Mikhail (aged 31, husband, father of one son, brother of Wasfy and Fahmy, Egyptian citizen, construction worker, abducted)

Fahmy Bakhit Gad Mikhail (aged 27, husband, Egyptian citizen, brother of Wasfy and Sabry, construction worker, reported on the abduction of his brothers)

<http://www.persecution.org/2015/11/28/two-egyptian-christian-brothers-executed-in-libya/>

Saturday November 7, 2015



Pakistan

Bishop Dr Alexander John Malik (**UPDATE**: reported to have said that madrassas [Islamic schools] have promoted hatred and violence)

Pakistan: Faisalabad

Sara John (elementary school student, reported to have been beaten and locked in a washroom for three hours by the school headmistress for using a toilet reserved for Muslim students, told “You are Christian an infidel and how you dared to use washroom which Muslim girls use”)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/ideology-taught-by-madrassas-promotes-hatred-says-alexander-john-malik/>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5681>

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/38937->

[ASIA_PAKISTAN_Kidnapping_and_conversion_of_a_13_year_old_Christian_girl_to_Islam#.VlkXI8Llsfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/38937-ASIA_PAKISTAN_Kidnapping_and_conversion_of_a_13_year_old_Christian_girl_to_Islam#.VlkXI8Llsfg)



Syria

UPDATE: ISIL released 37 Christians from captivity

Abres Abdelahad Darmo (aged 67)

Alice Adam Adam (aged 62)

Alice Awetar Ishmael (aged 61)

Amal Kako David (aged 50)
Anyar Shmoel Abdal (aged 73)
David Jacob Koriya (aged 76)
Enwiya Badal Joseph (aged 74)
Esho Enwiya Eshaq (aged 65)
Fareeda Esho Kako (aged 55)
Febronya Lazar Samou (aged 70)
Georget Jacob Malkey (aged 63)
Khanem Elisha Elisha (aged 57)
Khosheebo Sarhad Gewargis (aged 65)
Korish Elija Talya (aged 77)
Ludiya Hormiz Eshaq (aged 60)
Lulu Zaya Odisho (aged 50)
Malek Sadeq Ishmael (aged 67)
Maqdonya Antraneek (aged 63)
Maryam Jerjees Joseph (aged 75)
Maryam Manasha Esho (aged 53)
Nimrud Jacob Koriya (aged 80)
Nineveh William Royel (aged 56)
Pana Yoshiya Lazar (aged 54)
Rosweena Elisha Elisha (aged 54)
Royel Dinkha Mirza (aged 78)
Sadeq Aweqam Ishmael (aged 74)
Salwa Wilson Royel (aged 49)
Samera Hormiz Eshaq (aged 58)
Samera Nikola Shmony (aged 63)
Samera Yaow Mako (aged 55)
Shidrakh David Khoshaba (aged 73)
Surma Enwiya Eshaq (aged 60)
Teresa Odisho Odisho (aged 53)
Wardiya Joseph Zomaya (aged 65)
Youniya Talya Talya (aged 55)
Zabet Solaqa Khiyou (aged 55)

Zomo Sulaiman Sawa (aged 63)

<http://aina.org/news/20151107050524.htm>



Egypt: Minya

Agban Farag Moussa (taxi driver, abducted)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64942>



Kosovo

Christian students had their Instagram account suspended after posting photos of destroyed churches, monasteries, and cemeteries

Nemanja Bisevac

Jovan Aleksic

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/87505.htm>

Sunday November 8, 2015



China: Taiyuan, Shanxi province

Fr Pedro Yu Heping (aged 40, underground priest and seminary founder, webmaster and theology journal publisher, **found dead in a river**, police ruled his death a suicide, friends refuse to believe the ruling)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Underground-priest-dies-in-suspicious-circumstances-in-Shanxi-35891.html>

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-underground-priest-found-dead/74620>



Vietnam: near Da Don village, Lam Ha district, Lam Dong province

UPDATE: Two human rights activists were stopped by police, beaten, and interrogated

Anthony Chu Manh Son (released from prison in Vinh on February 2, 2014)

Paul Tran Minh Nhat (Redemptorist News employee, released from prison on or about August 27, 2015)

<http://www.rfa.org/english/news/vietnam/vietnamese-authorities-detain-and-beat-two-human-rights-activists-11092015165356.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ho-Chi-Minh-City,-Catholic-activists-arrested-and-beaten-by-police-35829.html>



Uzbekistan: Yakkasaray district, Tashkent

Police raid a home worship service, seized numerous religious and other items, attendees arrested, beaten, denied water and toilet facilities, mothers denied access to nurse their infants until they signed statements against themselves and others, all released after 11 hours

Sarvar Zhuliyev (home raided)

Erik Tajibayev

Ruslan Bekzhanov (beaten)

Dilsuz Zununova

Gulnoza Khasanova

Zhavokhir Abdullayev (beaten)

Odila Bobokulova

Meirbek Tajibayev (brother of David Tajibayev)

David Tajibayev (brother of Meirbek Tajibayev)

Erzhan Tajibayev (beaten)

Diyora Khamidova

Shavkatilla Soliyev

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2125



Egypt: Kafr Darwish village, Beni Suef

Magdi Shehata (home partly destroyed in an arson attack)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64964>

Monday November 9, 2015



Pakistan: Haji Pura, Sialkot, Punjab province

Sana Shahid (aged 13, abducted while on her way to school, forcibly converted to Islam and forcibly married to her abductor, family filed a police report but the police have taken no action, family has received death threats)

Pakistan: Lahore

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (**UPDATE**: called on the Punjab provincial government to cease its vandalizing of a historic church after seizing the surrounding land for a parking lot)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5684>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5693>



Kyrgyzstan

Janysh (alias, husband of Laura, reported to have fled his village with his wife and children after rocks were thrown at their home)

Laura (alias, wife of Janysh, reported to have fled her village with her husband and children after rocks were thrown at their home)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue27104.html>



Kazakhstan: Astana

Yklas Kabduakasov (aged 54, father of eight, arrested by KNB secret police on August 14, 2015 for spreading 'religious discord' by discussing his faith with others and offering Christian books to others; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 7 years' restricted freedom, will not be able to travel or move without permission, banned from most public locations)

Alibek Kabduakasov (son of Yklas Kabduakasov, acted as his father's public defender, said "My father's religious liberties and basic human rights were violated by the fact that he was kept under arrest without any grounds since 14 August [2015] and has now been sentenced" and that they will appeal against his "unlawful arrest" and conviction)

Kazakhstan: Balkhash, Karaganda region

Nikolai Popov (aged 54, husband, father of five, fined US\$1,122 on [October 29, 2013](#) for religious activities; fined US\$597 on [January 15, 2014](#) for religious activities; had refused to pay the two fines, banned on [May 13, 2015](#) from leaving the country; **UPDATE:** fined US\$64 for not paying his previous fines)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2119

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2130



Ukraine

Pastor Peter Dudnik (**UPDATE:** reported to have been given an award by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Kiev Patriarchate for his church's work with orphans)

Patriarch Filaret Denysenko (aged 85, **UPDATE:** reported to have given an award to several members of the Good News Evangelical Church for their work with orphans)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue27103.html>



Libya: Wadi Kiam area near Al Khums

Wasfy Bakhit Gad Mikhail (aged 37, husband, brother of Sabry and Fahmy, Egyptian citizen, construction worker, abducted on [November 6, 2015](#); **UPDATE:** shot dead)

Sabry Bakhit Gad Mikhail (aged 31, husband, father of one son, brother of Wasfy and Fahmy, Egyptian citizen, construction worker, abducted on [November 6, 2015](#); **UPDATE:** shot dead)

Fahmy Bakhit Gad Mikhail (aged 27, husband, Egyptian citizen, brother of Wasfy and Sabry, construction worker, **UPDATE:** reported on the murder of his brothers)

<http://www.persecution.org/2015/11/28/two-egyptian-christian-brothers-executed-in-libya/>

Tuesday November 10, 2015



Indonesia: Semarang

Archbishop Johannes Pujasumarta (aged 65; **UPDATE: died of lung cancer**)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/indonesian-archbishop-johannes-pujasumarta-dies-at-age-65/74596>



China: Dazhou, Sichuan province

Li Shengfen (house church member, described how his church has been ordered to register despite being too small to legally register, said “It seems as if, according to the...stipulations, 30-50 people are required to apply. We don’t have that many people. Is meeting together with our friends and neighbors in our home not OK?...If we go to the city to meet, many of the Christians are old and some people get carsick. I said, ‘How can you not give us freedom?’”)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/12/authorities-demand-house-church.html>



Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek

Pastor Vasili Kuzin (asked for prayers after the government seized his church, which it had sold to the church 16 years before)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue27106.html>



Iran: Shiraz

Suroush Saraie (detained on **October 12, 2012** in a government crackdown that may have detained between 100 and 400 Christians; sentenced to two and a half years in prison on **July 16, 2013**; **UPDATE: released from prison**)

<http://www.persecution.org/2015/11/13/new-raid-on-iranian-christians-14-arrested-one-christian-released/>



United States – Indiana: Indianapolis

Amanda Blackburn (aged 28, wife of Pastor Davey Blackburn, 13 weeks pregnant, **shot dead** during a home invasion and burglary, had been sexually assaulted)

Pastor Davey Blackburn (widower of Amanda Blackburn)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/amanda-blackburn-murdered-pregnant-pastors-wife-was-raped-sources-say-150573/>

Wednesday November 11, 2015



Kenya: Witu, Lamu county

Hassan Ali (convert, home attacked by neighbors and in-laws armed with knives, wife and children taken, said “What is worrying me at the moment is that communication between my wife and me has now been disconnected. I cannot reach her again. I know my wife and my two children, Hussein and Mariam, will be Islamized. This is making me to have sleepless nights”)

Hussein (aged 7, son of Hassan Ali)

Mariam (aged 4, daughter of Hassan Ali)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2015/11/armed-muslims-take-wife-children-from-christian-in-kenya/>

Thursday November 12, 2015



Australia: Hobart, Tasmania

Archbishop Julian Porteous (under investigation for possible violation of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 after he published a pamphlet which defended traditional Christian marriage)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/aussie-archbishop-faces-discrimination-charges-for-defending-natural-marria>



Iran

Naghmeh Shariat Panahi Abedini (wife of Saeed Abedini, who has been sentenced to eight years imprisonment, U.S. citizen; **UPDATE**: reported to have announced via email that she was suspending her campaign to see her husband freed due to “physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual abuse [through Saeed’s addiction to pornography]” and claimed that the abuse had continued during his imprisonment, later stated that she regretted sending the emails and called her husband "a treasure")

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2015/november-web-only/pastor-saeed-abedini-wife-naghmeh-halts-public-advocacy.html?share=4I2I7UOaUtRGpMskkK9AxqrC5QcXU3fo>



Uganda; Nandere village, Kadama sub-county, Kibuku district

Namusisi Budadu Birye (aged 21, beaten by her father after converting to Christianity from Islam, rescued by her neighbors, an imam apparently also converted - his fate is unknown)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2015/11/young-woman-in-uganda-beaten-disowned-for-putting-faith-in-christ/>

Friday November 13, 2015



Mexico: Cuyoaco, Puebla state

Fr Erasto Pliego de Jesus (disappeared, residence found ransacked with bloodstains on a chair and carpet)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/38880-AMERICA_MEXICO_Parish_priest_in_Cook_has_been_missing_for_days

Saturday November 14, 2015



India

Rev Vijayesh Lal (**UPDATE:** reported on a Hindu attack on Christians “In one incident not long ago about 35 kilometers from Delhi, 13 pastors were gathered in the house of another pastor. They were praying. It was prayer meeting. There was no preaching or evangelizing. They were attacked and beaten. They were taken to the police station where they were told: ‘This is a Hindu nation. Your kind of prayers are not allowed.’ They were released later that day after many hours in custody”)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/india-pastors-beaten-and-jailed-for-praying-in-a-house/>



Azerbaijan: Gyanja

Rashad Niftaliev (aged 27, worship service raided on **November 14, 2015**, nine worshippers fined US\$1,910 each)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2134

Sunday November 15, 2015



Myanmar: Kachin state

Rev Lama Yaw (described the new government offensive against Christian tribes "They dare not go to sleep at home as they fear unexpected attacks, because the Burma Army has done these kinds of attacks and abuses before. Some nearby villagers have gone to sleep at churches in Mohnyin town, as they fear random attacks by the Burma Army...I feel like they intentionally launched the attacks on the day when Christians held worship...As soon as we heard civilians fled for safety [to Mohnyin], we held prayer and pray to God to protect them. We are weak, and what we can do is keep praying and relying on God. We believe that God is capable to protect our people”)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2015/11/burma-myanmar-military-offensive-displaces-kachin-christians/>



Pakistan: Gujranwala

Liaquat Masih (aged 47, husband of Rubina, father of Khurram, Kinza, Adeel, and Zarish, driver, arrested for allegedly stealing gold from his employer, tortured by police)

Khurram (aged 20, son of Liaquat Masih and Rubina, arrested and tortured)

<http://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/5th-christian-man-dies-while-in-custody-of-pakistans-christianophobic-police>



Egypt: Beni Suef

Maher Fayez Habib (aged 18, secondary school student, reported on [May 18, 2015](#) to have been arrested on a charge of insulting Islam; **UPDATE**: reported to have been released)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=65015>

Monday November 16, 2015



India: near Raikia, Kandhamal

Parikhita Nayak (husband of Kanaka Rekha Nayak, father of two, home destroyed in the 2008 pogrom, two Christian friends killed, brought to a Hindu temple on [August 26, 2008](#), beaten and threatened with death, refused to deny Christ, dragged with a cycle chain around his neck, **beheaded**)

Kanaka Rekha Nayak (widow of Parikhita Nayak, mother of two, home destroyed in the [August 25, 2008](#) pogrom, said "I knew who had killed my husband. Afterwards they were taken to jail. After seven years in jail now they are released. I am scared to go to my village. They threaten me. I have lost my husband, my home and properties but I have not lost my faith. Jesus is my Savior")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Survivor-of-Kandhamal-pogrom:-I-lost-everything-except-Jesus-35892.html>



Turkey: near Diyarbakir

Iskandar Dayan (farmer, severely beaten by 12 Kurds while driving his tractor, told to stop farming, jaw fractured, perpetrators released by police)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/?p=44958>



Lebanon

Sarmad (Iraqi refugee, when asked if he would return to Iraq said "Iraq! I hate my parents for being born there")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151116155053.htm>



Norway

Five children were seized and placed in foster care after the oldest sang about Jesus at school

Marius Bodnariu (husband of Ruth, father, charged with 'Christian indoctrination')

Ruth Bodnariu (wife of Marius, mother, charged with 'Christian indoctrination')

<http://www.charismanews.com/world/53633-government-seizes-children-over-christian-indoctrination-charges>

Tuesday November 17, 2015



China: Nanming district, Guiyang, Guizhou province

Pastor Su Tianfu (**UPDATE**: accused by officials of illegally modifying a business location for use as a house church, threatened with daily fines of US\$2,030)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/12/guizhou-pastor-investigated-for.html>



Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh City

Christians have been fighting the government seizure of three schools

Fr Vincent Pham Trung Than CSSR

Sr Maria Nguyen Thi Ngoan LHC

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Saigon,-Catholic-buildings-targeted-by-communists.-Nuns-protest-expropriation-35899.html>



India

Sajan K George (Global Council of Indian Christians, **UPDATE**: condemned comments by a leader of the RSS paramilitary organization who alleged that Christian churches and priests serve Maoists guerrillas)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Militant-Hindu-asks-whether-Christians-are-never-attacked-because-they-serve-Maoists-35904.html>



Greece

Over a dozen refugees **drowned in the Aegean Sea, including seven Iraqi Christians**

Stephen Marzena Marogeh (husband of Silvana Sami Marogeh)

Silvana Sami Marogeh (wife of Stephen Marzena Marogeh)

Angie Marogeh (daughter of Stephen Marzena Marogeh and Silvana Sami Marogeh)

Mark Marogeh (son of Stephen Marzena Marogeh and Silvana Sami Marogeh)

Samah Sami Marogeh (sister of Silvana Sami Marogeh)

Haneen Salem Saman Shasha (daughter of Samah Sami Marogeh)

Marvin Shasha (son of Samah Sami Marogeh)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/?p=44960>



United Kingdom: Branford

Nissar Hussain (convert from Islam, husband of Kubra, **UPDATE**: attacked by two masked men when he left his home, beaten with the shaft of a pickaxe, suffered fractures in his left kneecap and left hand, underwent surgery to insert pins in the fractured bones)

<http://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/uk-pakistani-convert-attacked-and-hospitalised-for-his-faith>

<https://barnabasfund.org/news/editorial-british-convert-to-christ-hospitalised-after-being-brutally-beaten-outside-his-home>



Mexico: Cuyoaco, Puebla state

Fr Erasto Pliego de Jesus (disappeared on November 13, 2015, residence found ransacked with bloodstains on a chair and carpet; **UPDATE**: found dead, body had been burned)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/38888->

[AMERICA MEXICO The missing priest s body found he had been set on fire#.Vk_t68Llsfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/38888-AMERICA_MEXICO_The_missing_priest_s_body_found_he_had_been_set_on_fire#.Vk_t68Llsfg)

Wednesday November 18, 2015



China: Ili Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture, Xinjiang province

Huo Jinrong (detained by police)

Li Yan (detained by police)

Pan Xianglong (detained by police)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/12/multiple-raids-in-xinjiang-5-detained.html>



Bangladesh: Suihari

Fr Parolari Piero PIME MD (aged 64, shot in the neck while riding his motor scooter, injured when he fell off, stabbed and beaten, hospitalized in critical condition)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/PIME-missionary-targeted-in-Dinajpur-gun-attack-35907.html>



Syria

Patriarch Ignatius Ephrem Joseph III Yonan (**UPDATE:** said "Western democracies have conspired against Syria and produced the destruction of the nation's infrastructure, the demolition of houses, towns, villages, monuments and archaeological sites. This is the result of a foolish politics and of a conspiracy, under the pretext of bringing democracy to the region. We Christians are not able to live in this chaos that produces militias, armed gangs, terrorist groups and Islamic parties. But when we maintain a firm stand against these phenomena, then the West accuses us of being dictatorial. All Eastern patriarchs, myself included, have spoken out clearly to the West from the very beginning: Be careful, the situation in Syria is not like that of Egypt, Tunisia or Libya. It's much more complex, and conflict here will create only chaos and civil war. They listened and responded: 'No, the Assad regime will fall in a few months.' As I predicted, that hasn't happened...[Syrian Christians are now] trapped in a terrible situation [between] criminal gangs called ISIL and other terrorist groups who use Islam as an excuse to 'purify' areas under their control in the name of religion, and Muslims scholars who tell us that Islam is alien to these facts...Innocent people, especially Christians, have no support. The West has betrayed us")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151125032041.htm>

Thursday November 19, 2015



Azerbaijan: Gyanja

Rashad Niftaliev (aged 27, worship service raided on [November 14, 2015](#), nine worshippers fined US\$1,910 each, **UPDATE:** arrested for not paying his fines which now totaled US\$4,730, has been paying the fines in small installments)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2134



Syria

Deacon Boutros (reported to be still held captive by ISIL)

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/escaped-syrian-priest-was-saved-by-the-hand-of-god/>

Friday November 20, 2015



Pakistan: Lahore

Agnes Shaukat (daughter of Shaukat Masih, sister of Samuel, boutique employee, apparently abducted by her employer in an attempt to convert her to Islam)

Shaukat Masih (reported that a Christian rickshaw driver hired by the family to bring her home reported that Agnes Shaukat never left the boutique and that CCTV recordings confirm his account)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5709>

Saturday November 21, 2015



Australia: Orange, New South Wales

Bishop Mark Lieschke (commented on a church arson attack in which 'ISIS' and 'Allah Akbar' were spray painted on the church)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-11-23/orange-church-targeted-in-graffiti-attack-spelling-isis/6963274>



Pakistan: Sumandri

Seven Christian brick kiln workers were stopped by police at a routine traffic stop, police became belligerent when they discovered they were Christians, police seized their small wages as alleged drug money, beat them, and jailed them

Allah Rakha (aged 47, father of Asif and Khurram, said "We pleaded with them for mercy explaining we were just poor bricklayers returning to our homes at Chack 226. We told them that our employer could explain where we obtained our money, but they still beat us with their batons extremely severely. Even when we cried and lay on the floor they continued to beat us, filled with hatred that we were Christians with some money. We were put in a cell and despite our severe wounds they provided no medical aid and we sat in pain, bleeding, our wounds open to infection. I led everyone in prayer believing God would release us just as He did with Paul. God answered our prayers after a couple of hours when police staff allowed us to call our community leaders Irfan Masih and Riaz Masih who were able to act as guarantors for us enabling our release and return home...When we all eventually arrived home our women wept as they saw our wounds. They tended to us and helped us recover, however we have all been badly traumatized and have not yet been back to work. We hope to start back on Monday if our employers have not already given our work away. The police officers have not yet returned our money and we do not know if we will ever get our wages back. We are already poor but this attack destroys our already hard to manage finances. I have seven children, two daughters and five sons. Two of my sons work with me in the brick kilns to feed our family, none of my children ever went to school as we could not afford it. Our lives have been worthless but we thank God for them even then")

Asif (aged 25, son of Allah Rakha)

Khurram (aged 17 son of Allah Rakha)

Sittar Masih (aged 38)

Naeem (aged 25)

Tariq Masih (aged 30)

Nadeem Masih (aged 28)

Irfan Masih (obtained legal counsel for the seven brick workers and their release from jail)

Riaz Masih (obtained legal counsel for the seven brick workers and their release from jail)

Akmal Bhatti (**UPDATE**: appointed as attorney for the seven brick workers)

<http://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/police-beat-poor-christian-brick-kiln-workers-during-discriminatory-stop-and-search>



Egypt: Cairo

Beshoy Natae Bushra (aged 21, soldier, reported to have **died** in his military unit under 'mysterious circumstances')

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=65074>

Sunday November 22, 2015



Uzbekistan: Fergana

Raisa Kuznetsova (mother of Boris, home raided by police without warrant, 15,453 Christian items seized)

Boris (son of Raisa Kuznetsova, home raided by police without warrant)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2159



Germany

Amir Ali (aged 24, convert from Islam, Iranian refugee, reported to have been beaten in a refugee camp by an Afghan Muslim refugee for speaking about his conversion, hospitalized)

<http://mohabatnews.com/en/?p=2641>



United Kingdom

Rev Arun Arora (criticized the refusal of the three major cinema chains to show a Church of England advertisement that featured one line of the Lord's Prayer, the church is threatening legal action as the victim of religious discrimination)

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/ban.on.lords.prayer.ad.in.uk.cinemas.bewilders.church.of.english/36065.htm>

Monday November 23, 2015



Bangladesh: Dhaka

Rev Martin Adhikari (principal of the College of Christian Theology, one of several Protestant leaders who have been receiving death threats "I have been forced to limit my movements since receiving the threats. If I need to go out, I take two people with me for safety")

Nirmol Rozario (secretary of the Bangladesh Christian Association; **UPDATE**: said "The attempted murders of a priest and a pastor, and the death threats, are correlated. A vested group, presumably religious fanatics, is targeting Christian leaders and institutes. Christians are scared and confused because they are being targeted for no apparent reason")

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/bangladesh-christians-protest-against-attacks-on-priests/74659>



Kazakhstan: Shet district, Karaganda region

Roman Dimmel (aged 53, arrested in [Konstantinovka, Taiynsha district, North Kazakhstan region](#) on [October 28, 2014](#) for distributing religious literature; convicted on [February 6, 2015](#), fined US\$500; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 3 days' incarceration for refusing to pay his fine)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2176



Uzbekistan: Fergana

Raisa Kuznetsova (mother of Boris, home raided by police without warrant on [November 22, 2015](#), 15,453 Christian items seized; **UPDATE** detained, questioned for 3 hours, charged with 'Illegal production, storage, or import, with the intent to distribute or actual distribution, of religious materials')

Boris (son of Raisa Kuznetsova, home raided by police without warrant on [November 22, 2015](#); **UPDATE**: detained, questioned for 3 hours, charged with 'Illegal production, storage, or import, with the intent to distribute or actual distribution, of religious materials')

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2159



Spain: Pamplona

Polonia Catellanos (Christian Lawyers Association, said that the association would bring legal action against a city council that allowed an art exhibit in a municipal building in which 240 stolen consecrated hosts were used to spell the Spanish word for 'Pederasty', had already brought suit against the artist)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/sacrilege-in-spain-over-200-consecrated-hosts-stolen-desecrated-for-art-exhibit-15364/>

Tuesday November 24, 2015



Pakistan: Karachi

Javed Williams (brother of Sarfraz Williams, owner of a Christian television station that was destroyed by arson, refuted police statements that a short circuit caused the fire because all expensive electronics such as cameras were not found and so were stolen before the fire was set)

Sarfraz Williams (brother of Javed Williams, said that all of their resources were invested in the television station)

Peter Danish (aged 25, Gawahi television director, said that the Christian station had received numerous threats in the months prior to the arson attack)

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (President of Pakistan Christian Congress; **UPDATE**: reported on the destruction by arson of a Christian television station “It is surprising that Pakistani Electronic media owned by Muslims have again not bothered to cover setting on fire incident of Gawahi TV when minor issues are taken as breaking news by it”)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5708>

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/gawahi-tv-arson-police-says-fire-caused-by-short-circuit-christians-confident-of-deliberate-vandalism/>

<http://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/tv-channel-razed-to-the-ground-for-preaching-the-gospel>



Uzbekistan: Fergana

Raisa Kuznetsova (mother of Boris, home raided by police without warrant on [November 22, 2015](#), 15,453 Christian items seized; detained on [November 23, 2015](#), questioned for 3 hours, charged with 'Illegal production, storage, or import, with the intent to distribute or actual distribution, of religious materials', **UPDATE**: detained, questioned for 7 hours)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2159



Egypt: Ezbet Wasif

Demiana Gebrael (niece of Makram Hakim, abducted)

Makram Hakim (uncle of Demiana Gebrael, reported her abduction)

<http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1517&A=21250>

Thursday November 26, 2015



Pakistan: Sahiwal Jail

Sajjad Masih Gill (sentenced to life imprisonment in [Gojra district, Toba Tek Singh](#) on [July 13, 2013](#) for allegedly sending a blasphemous text message, the transmitting cell phone was not recovered by the police and no evidence connecting it to the accused was presented in court, the conviction and sentencing also occurred after the accuser retracted the accusation and admitted that the police had pressured him into making it; **UPDATE**: appeal underway, asked for prayers from Christians around the world)

Bashiran Bibi (widow, mother of Sajjad Masih Gill, said "I pray day and night for my son freedom from prison because I know he is not guilty")

Sarfraz Masih Gill (brother of Sajjad Masih Gill)

Pervaiz Masih (brother of Sajjad Masih Gill)

Zulifqar Masih (brother of Sajjad Masih Gill)

Pastor Simon Peter

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5711>



Egypt: Hana Manor, Bani Ghany village, Samalout, Minya province

Hannah T N (aged 25, widow of a Coptic Christian police officer, reported to have disappeared under mysterious circumstances)

Egypt: Ezbet Wasif

Demiana Gebrael (niece of Makram Hakim, abducted on [November 24, 2015](#); **UPDATE:** returned to her family by the police)

Egypt: Awald Ali village, Monshaa Center, Sohag province

Fr Sulaiman Botros (presided at the funeral of Wasfy Bakhit Gad Mikhail and Sabry Bakhit Gad Mikhail, who were murdered in [Wadi Kiam area near Al Khums, Libya](#) on [November 9, 2015](#), said “They were targeted and killed because they are Christians. They kept the faith and refused to deny the Lord Jesus Christ. They are our Church's Martyrs. We are proud of them. They aren't dead but have been saved by God in Heaven. They have entered into glory and there are in a better place than all of us. They've got their crown in heaven and they are with Jesus now, no more pain for them, only joy and peace...We pray for their family to be strengthened by the power of The Holy Spirit and the peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, May God comfort all of them”)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=65124>

<http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1519&A=21282>

<http://www.persecution.org/2015/11/28/two-egyptian-christian-brothers-executed-in-libya/>



United States – Ohio: Columbus

Madison Gesiotto (aged 23, law school student, reported to have been threatened by a fellow student who wrote “The government cannot take action against you for your offensive and racist article. But your colleagues can” following her publication of an article on abortionists targeting African-Americans, the school administration declined to pursue the matter and turned her complaint into an attack on her article)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/law-school-dismisses-threat-against-pro-life-student-scolds-her-instead>

Friday November 27, 2015



Philippines: Culaman River, north of Jose Abad Santos, Davao del Sur province, Mindanao

Pastor Feliciano “Cris” Lasawang (aged 50, husband, father of Darwin Lasawang and six others, **shot dead** by Maoist rebels)

Darwin Lasawang (aged 24, son of Pastor Feliciano “Cris” Lasawang, **shot dead** by Maoist rebels)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2015/12/maoist-rebel-group-suspected-in-killing-of-pastor-son-in-the-philippines/>



Syria: Lattakia

Fr Elias Sharbak (stabbed by a man during a church celebration when he attempted to prevent the man from throwing a grenade, a 5 year old child died and over 30 people were injured from the grenade explosion)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/?p=45234>

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/88411.htm>



United States – Colorado: Colorado Springs

Officer Garrett Swasey (aged 44, husband of Rachel, father of Elijah and Faith, church co-pastor, **shot dead** by an assailant at a Planned Parenthood clinic along with two others)

Rachel Swasey (widow of Officer Garrett Swasey, mother of Elijah and Faith)

Elijah Swasey (son of Officer Garrett and Rachel Swasey)

Faith Swasey (daughter of Officer Garrett and Rachel Swasey)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/police-officer-killed-at-planned-parenthood-was-pro-life-christian-pastor>

Saturday November 28, 2015



Syria: Damascus

Archbishop Samir Nassar (**UPDATE**: wrote ""Since 2003 [the Iraq war] and especially since 2011 [the Arab spring] the exodus of Christians from the east increases. Some reports give only ten years for the page to turn concerning Christianity in the Middle East. This seems to be a pessimistic view, but observed experience shows an alarming and growing emigration...The subject of daily discussions is how to leave. Go anywhere and in any way, even if it means taking dangerous risks. A family just sent their twelve-year-old son away with a caravan of fugitives. A twelve-year-old child has not returned. Will he later be able to invite his family to join him? Will he find a safe place? Given the military stalemate, an increasingly distant peace, and to avoid Military Service, in order to escape an absurd war that has lasted too long, young people are the greatest number of those who leave...What is the future a Church without young people? It is the fatal end of apostolic Christianity in a Biblical Land which becomes a hostage of violence and intolerance in the name of a radical faith that neither supports pluralism nor accepts differences...The Christians of the East face an almost suicidal choice. Living under the shadow of Islam remains a choice quite difficult to assume. Living in the shadow of Islam requires a return to the early centuries of the Church, which highlights the hidden life of Jesus in Nazareth")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151128151856.htm>



Kenya: Mijomboni

Dr Rita Fossaceca (aged 51, radiologist, missionary, **killed** during an attempted robbery in her home)

<http://www.fides.org/eng/attachments/view/file/PastoralCareWorkerskilledin2015.doc>

Sunday November 29, 2015



China: Nanming district, Guiyang, Guizhou province

Pastor Yang Hua (**UPDATE**: house church raided, said "there were more than 30 personnel from the Municipal Planning Bureau, Urban Management Bureau and [a local] police station. Some were in plainclothes, and they did not show identification...While I was preaching,

they tried to raid the church but were stopped by some church members. Later, they took some video footage of the pantry and library for evidence, and a verbal dispute happened between them and our church members”, church ordered to stop meeting and pay a fine of US\$15,650)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/12/officials-raid-guizhou-house-church.html>



Egypt: Bani Ahmad el-Sharqiya village, Minya province

Shenouda Bakheet (**murdered**, two Christians arrested by police after the perpetrators fled)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=65169>

Monday November 30, 2015



Nigeria

Archbishop Matthew Hassah Kukah (**UPDATE**: spoke on the origins of Boko Haram “A hypocritical elite continues to believe that it can claim the benefits of democracy but use it only to consolidate its hold on power. This is what has laid the foundation for what is now Boko Haram...We must locate the current crisis of Boko Haram within the context of the inability of the northern Muslim elite to live by their own dubious creed of being Muslims. They preached Sharia Law but only for the poor. They preach a religion that encourages education, yet their own people are held in the bondage of ignorance. They did not wish to live by the same standards, so they decided to live their own Islam in the capitals of the world away from the prying eyes of their own people. Boko Haram began as a revolt against this mendacity, subterfuge and hypocrisy. Now, I hear Muslims in northern Nigeria hiding under the cover of the facts by saying: ‘These Boko Haram people are not Muslims. They do not represent us’. Well, first, they are your own children. You must take responsibility for what has made them what they are today and to the rest of society. They claim they have been inspired by the Quran and no other holy book. They say they want to build an Islamic state. So, they are Muslims. After all, from the debates of the Constituent Assemblies of 1979, 1988, and 1995 and beyond, did their fathers and grandfathers not stage walkouts, demanding Sharia Law? The promise to institute Sharia has become the most potent tool for political mobilization and organization. Till date, the tactics may have changed, but the essence has not. Rather than face the tough questions of how and why over 15 million children in the northern states are on the streets; how and why the northern states are falling behind on almost every

index of development, the northern Muslim elite continues to live for just the moment, with no plans for tomorrow...Should we pretend that a society that allows the forced marriages of its young daughters could frown on the idea of a group kidnapping and forcing young girls into sexual slavery? Islam must have an honest look at the mirror and have an internal discussion...It is my considered view that northern Islam has to confront the realities of taking its religion into the modern world of democracy seriously. Muslims in northern Nigeria cannot accept democracy and reject the inclusive nature of its philosophy as it is the case today”)

<http://newswireng.com/2015/11/30/bishop-kukah-says-northern-elites-should-stop-pretending-theyre-behind-boko-haram/#>

November 2015, date unknown



China

Fr Fei Jisheng (aged 39, abducted by authorities, released)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-priest-gets-jail-time-for-theft-supporters-say-he-was-framed/80303>



Pakistan: Pakpattan district, Punjab province

Mary Ashma Javed (wife of Javed Sahotra, teacher with 27 years' seniority, accused by one parent of teaching Christianity to Muslim students and beating them when they did not agree, denied the charges)

Pakistan: Lahore

Aftab Gill (information secretary of the Christian Masiha Millat Party [MMP], arrested in **March 2015** for the lynching that follow the March 15, 2015 Youhanabad church bombings;
UPDATE: released)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5716>
<http://www.ucanews.com/news/another-christian-prisoner-dies-in-lahore-jail/81050>



Egypt: Qalubiya

Marwa Ahmed (aged 26, convert from Islam, wife, mother of two, **killed** by her uncle in **early November 2015** for having converted and married a Christian, her husband's family has been forced to flee to avoid sparking violence)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20151123021214.htm>