

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – unknown month 2016



China: Linfen, Shanxi province

Yang Rongli (sister of Pastor Yang Xuan, arrested on [September 24, 2009](#) while guarding her church construction site, later sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment and fined US\$4,392; **UPDATE:** released from prison, placed under police surveillance)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/01/bomb-destroys-persecuted-church.html>

[http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Linfen:-Christians-in-tears-watching-destruction-of-their-church-\(video\)-42807.html](http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Linfen:-Christians-in-tears-watching-destruction-of-their-church-(video)-42807.html)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-officials-demolish-yet-another-church-in-shanxi/81225>



Laos

Event: Two sisters were dragged from a worship service in the [autumn of 2016](#) by their family, beaten, tied up for four days, refused to renounce Jesus

Nani (aged 17, convert, sister of Nha Phong, said "Our mother never hit us, but our father did. He did this after the head of the village told him to. Dad listened to the authorities who did not want us to go to church. He didn't want my Bible in the house, so he took my Bible and hid it somewhere I couldn't find it. I found it later, so now I can read my Bible again...It has been really hard to not obey our father, who is the head of the family. But we want to obey Jesus more than anyone. We know that Jesus died for us, and we do not want to go back to our old religion. Even if it is difficult, we want to follow Jesus")

Nha Phong (aged 16, convert, sister of Nani)

<http://www.gospelherald.com/articles/71771/20171228/teen-sisters-laos-beaten-tied-up-family-converting-christianity-god.htm>



Turkmenistan: Ashgabad

Three Christians received 2 year suspended sentences **between February and August 2016** for refusing military service

Merdan Ochanov

Konstantin Sivkov

Ruslan Rahmetulov

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2220



Egypt: el-Arish, Sinai

Misak Nasrallah Misak (father of Mina Misak, hospital employee, **shot dead** as he left his hospital)

<http://www.copticsolidarity.org/2017/02/27/egypts-christians-flee-terror-in-north-sinai-security-void/>



Nigeria

Rebecca Bitrus (wife, mother of Zachariah and Joshua, abducted by Boko Haram in **August 2014**, 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”; forced into an Islamic marriage, repeatedly raped, gave birth to Christopher on **December 25, 2015**; **UPDATE**: rescued along with her two sons by the Nigerian military in **2016**, reunited with her husband)

Zachariah (aged 7, son of Rebecca Bitrus, brother of Joshua and Christopher, abducted by Boko Haram in **August 2014**; **UPDATE**: rescued by the Nigerian military)

Christopher (aged 6 months, son of Rebecca Bitrus, brother of Zachariah, born in captivity on **December 25, 2015**; **UPDATE**: rescued by the Nigerian military)

Bishop Oliver Dashe Doeme (**UPDATE**: counseled Rebecca Bitrus regarding her son Christopher, who was conceived in rape, to “accept and love” him and that he could grow up to be “an important person in life, a person who could help me [as bishop]”)

Nigeria: Lo-Birin village, Plateau state

Rev Chollom Sale (**killed** in a Muslim attack along with more than 20 others **months before November 2016**)

http://www.christiantoday.com/article/christian_peer_and_us_bishop_narrowly_escape_ambush_by_islamist_gunmen_in_nigeria/101087.htm

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



Norway

Dr Katarzyna Jachimowicz (Polish citizen, fired from her job in Sauherad in 2016 after refusing to implant IUDs)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/god-won-doctor-fired-for-pro-life-stance-wins-major-court-case-in-norway>



United States - Georgia

Chike Uzuegbunam (college student, denied permission to hand out Gospel literature in campus free speech zones in Lawrenceville in the summer or autumn of 2016;

as of September 30, 2017 the U.S. Justice Department has joined his civil rights suit against the college: “GGC [the college] applied a ‘heckler’s veto’ that allowed every listener to become a regulator unto himself and to shut down expression simply because the listener found it ‘uncomfortable’. For this reason alone, GGC’s content-based restriction fails strict scrutiny”)

<http://christiannews.net/2017/09/30/u-s-department-of-justice-backs-christian-college-student-told-preaching-disturbing-the-peace/>

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<http://todaysmartyrs.org/events/>

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