

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – September 2018

**Saturday September 1, 2018**



**Congo, Democratic Republic: Oviri-Okpe, Delta state**

Fr Christopher Ogaga (abducted, ransom demanded)

Bishop Paulinus Chukwuemeka Ezeokafor (said of the abduction of Fr Christopher Ogaga "It is unimaginable and foolhardy the demand on the Church to pay for the release of any abducted priests...where would they get the money from? These priests are going around preaching and calling for repentance. Why go after them?...Why go after those working out your salvation?")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64735->

[AFRICA NIGERIA The Bishop of Awka after the last kidnapping of a priest Why y persecute those working out your salvation](#)

**Sunday September 2, 2018**



**China: Luohe, Henan province**

Pastor Chen Qi (church raided by police, detained after he refused to sign a document listing the church's alleged violations, other parishioners were beaten and detained when they attempted to record the raid on their phones, property seized)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/09/churches-raided-christians-beat-as.html>



**Nigeria: Adu village, Bassa local government area, Plateau state**

Monday Ariki (**dismembered** in a Fulani Muslim attack)

Likita Tsi (wounded in a Fulani Muslim attack, hospitalized, **died** the following day)

**Nigeria: Du, Jos South local government area, Plateau state**

Simon Dung Zih (described a Fulani Muslim attack on shopkeepers “With my friend, we were coming from Lamingo when we saw a moving vehicle coming from Jos, the vehicle was at very high speed and that gave us concern. We continued moving towards Bukuru, and as we got to Yelwa Club, we received a call from someone, telling us that they were attacked...The person told us that some people driving in a very fast car shot sporadically on people in the community and killed many. We waited for some time before rushing to the scene of the attack, only to discover that several people were killed and some wounded. Those wounded were rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment. When I went back to the scene of the attack the next morning, I counted 12 dead bodies”)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/nigeria-dozens-more-killed-as-fulani-herdsmen-violence-continues-in-plateau-state/>

**Monday September 3, 2018**



**Brazil: Uaupes river, near Lauaete**

Fr Norberto Hohenscherer (aged 79, Austrian national, missionary, **disappeared while travelling alone on his canoe during a heavy storm**)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64701-AMERICA BRAZIL Salesian missionary missing in Amazonia during a storm>

**Tuesday September 4, 2018**



**China: Jixi, Heilongjiang province**

Chen Xiuliang (church leader, received a government notice ordering his church to close or face a fine of US\$7,454)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/09/authorities-threaten-to-fine-church-if.html>



### **Syria: Hassake province**

Archbishop Jacques Behnan Hindo (**UPDATE**: reported to have criticized the Kurdish governing authority DFNS of trying to oust Christians from the region, said "For years I have been saying that the Kurds are trying to eliminate the Christian presence in this part of Syria. Since the beginning of the year, the local government has already taken possession of about 100 state-run schools and introduced their own curriculum and textbooks. They do not want us to instruct pupils in the liturgical language, Syriac, and they do not want us to teach history because they prefer to drum their own history into the heads of pupils...To date, Kurds make up only 20 percent of the population, but, thanks to Western support, [they] are disproportionately represented in the local government. The West cannot keep silent...You are obligated to bring everything that is happening out into the open and prevent further violations of our rights and further threats to our presence in this region. We have been warning against this danger since at least 2015. They want to oust us Christians to strengthen their own presence")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20180904182856.htm>



### **Nigeria: Razat village, Kwok Ropp district, Plateau state**

Gyang (**killed** by Fulani Muslims)

Jillim (**killed**)

Lamba (**killed**)

David (**killed**)

Rebecca (**killed**)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/nigeria-dozens-more-killed-as-fulani-herdsmen-violence-continues-in-plateau-state/>

**Wednesday September 5, 2018**



### **China: Henan province**

Fr Stanislaus (elderly priest, reported to have complained of a government ban on the display of sacred images in church, wrote that full persecution has not yet arrived)

**China: Shihe district, Henan province**

Guo Chunmei (received a government notice of administrative punishment that fined her US\$7,304 for organizing unlawful religious events, church closed)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/For-Chinese-priest,-the-time-of-persecution-and-betrayal-has-not-yet-arrived-44854.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/09/church-raided-amid-escalating-crackdown.html>



**India: Bulandi village, Jounpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

**Two hundred and seventy-one [271] parishioners were accused by police under a court order of poisoning, cheating, imputations and assertions prejudicial to national integration, defiling a place of worship, outraging religious feelings, criminal conspiracy and inducing persons to believe that they will be rendered an object of Divine displeasure**

Durga Prasad Yadav (aged 45, brother of Jai Prakash, criminal complaint lodged against him on August 2, 2018, later dismissed; **UPDATE**: accused)

Kirit Rai (aged 50, accused)

Jitandra Ram (aged 40, accused)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/09/hindu-extremists-accelerate-clampdown-on-christians-in-uttar-pradesh-india/>



**Congo, Democratic Republic**

Fr Christopher Ogaga (abducted in Ovirí-Okpe, Delta state, on September 1, 2018, ransom demanded; **UPDATE**: released, no ransom paid)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64735->

[AFRICA NIGERIA The Bishop of Awka after the last kidnapping of a priest Why persecute those working out your salvation](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64735-)



**Nigeria: Kwi village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state**

Lawrence Zongo (Miango Youth Development, said of his local district “So far, we lost 27 of our people in ambush attacks from April to September 2018. The Fulani herdsmen killers have changed their method of killings and have adopted ambushing of our youths, targeting them when going back home or going to farm”)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/nigeria-dozens-more-killed-as-fulani-herdsmen-violence-continues-in-plateau-state/>

**Thursday September 6, 2018**



**Azerbaijan: Quzanli**

Vahid Gunduz oglu Abilov (aged 19, conscientious objector, indicted for evasion of military service on [July 9, 2018](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to one year's imprisonment, sentence suspended, appeal planned)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2415](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2415)



**Egypt: Dimshau Hashim village, Minya province**

Wadih Habib Henein (aged 68, **died of natural causes**, funeral held in the street after authorities closed his church)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/35253/>



**Nigeria: Nding Susut village, Barkin Ladi local government area, Plateau state**

James Pam (aged 34, reported on the murder of four Christians two days after a peace meeting “We thought everything was all right between us until this morning, around 6:30 AM, when we heard gunshot sounds. We later found out that the Fulani militants killed some of our youths, who were on their way to farm”)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/nigeria-dozens-more-killed-as-fulani-herdsmen-violence-continues-in-plateau-state/>



### **United States**

Denise 'D C' McAllister (columnist, under police protection after receiving death and rape threats following an anti-abortion tweet)

### **United States – Texas: Dallas**

Botham Shem Jean (aged 26, youth pastor, son of Allison Jean, **shot dead** in his apartment by a police officer who mistook the apartment for her own)

<https://www.charismanews.com/us/73070-youth-pastor-shot-to-death-in-his-own-home>  
<https://www.christianpost.com/news/worship-leader-bible-teacher-shot-dead-in-home-by-police-officer-who-entered-wrong-apartment-227273/>  
<https://www.christianpost.com/news/christian-woman-hiding-amid-death-rape-threats-for-anti-abortion-tweet-227335/>

**Friday September 7, 2018**



### **Pakistan: Gujranwala**

Faraz Ahmed Badar (hospital manager, attacked with acid over his entire body, hospitalized)

<https://www.christiansinpakistan.com/gujranwalas-christian-suffers-serious-injuries-in-male-acid-attack/>



### **South Africa: Soweto and Zeerust**

Archbishop Buti Joseph Tlhagale (reported to have decried anti-immigration violence "Once again, we had to see media images of well dressed, well fed South Africans looting foreign owned shops, assaulting the owners, threatening them with death and leaving destruction and shattered lives in their wake...Xenophobic violence is a violation of the commandment of love")

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/64718-AFRICA\\_SOUTH\\_AFRICA\\_The\\_Archbishop\\_of\\_Johannesburg\\_Xenophobic\\_violence\\_is\\_a\\_violation\\_of\\_the\\_commandment\\_of\\_love](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64718-AFRICA_SOUTH_AFRICA_The_Archbishop_of_Johannesburg_Xenophobic_violence_is_a_violation_of_the_commandment_of_love)

**Saturday September 8, 2018**



### **India**

Pastor Vijay Massih (beaten along with two other pastors when 50 Hindu radicals invaded a retreat, said “Our lives are in danger... Everything went against us following the incident, including negative publicity by print and electronic media leveling false charges of forcible conversions. Even the police have taken the side of the attackers”)

<https://www.persecution.org/2018/11/05/indias-christians-troubled-surge-religious-persecution/>

**Sunday September 9, 2018**



### **China: Chaoyang district, Beijing**

Senior Pastor Jin Mingri (church building landlord evicted the church under government pressure on [June 14, 2018](#), the church web site was earlier shut down by the government; church gate padlocked by the government on [July 5, 2018](#), parishioners were denied entry to retrieve belongings; **UPDATE**: church ordered closed after refusing to install video cameras to facilitate government surveillance, said “I fear that there is no way for us to resolve this issue with the authorities”, parishioners decided to hold services outdoors, personal assets frozen)

### **China: Pi county, Sichuan province**

Cheng Zhangchuan (church minister, detained by officials during a raid on a church, Bibles and other books seized)

### **China: Zhengzhou, Henan province**

Wang Yanfeng (cited in a government notice ordering a church to close, the government agents left the notice after 400 congregants resisted their entry into the church)

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-religion/china-outlaws-large-underground-protestant-church-in-beijing-idUSKCN1LQ07W>

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\\_pacific/group-officials-destroying-crosses-burning-bibles-in-china/2018/09/10/55d68366-b4af-11e8-ae4f-2c1439c96d79\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.85d16a6c4a91](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/group-officials-destroying-crosses-burning-bibles-in-china/2018/09/10/55d68366-b4af-11e8-ae4f-2c1439c96d79_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.85d16a6c4a91)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/09/locations-of-church-broken-into-forced.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/09/christians-resist-as-officials-attempt.html>



### **Iraq: Basra**

Archbishop Habib Hormouz al-Naufali (**UPDATE**: appealed for prayer during an uprising against the central government: "...half the places traditionally occupied by the faithful [in the pews] were empty, because people could not reach the church because surrounding streets were closed [by the military, but it] did not stop even Muslim brothers and sisters from reaching our church to ask them for the mercy and help of God in front of what is happening...[This is a] humanitarian, social and cultural disaster. When you hear what is happening in Basra, you feel ashamed as a human being")

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/64728-ASIA\\_IRAQ\\_Basra\\_in\\_flames\\_The\\_Chaldean\\_Archbishop\\_describes\\_the\\_social\\_catastrophe\\_of\\_the\\_city](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64728-ASIA_IRAQ_Basra_in_flames_The_Chaldean_Archbishop_describes_the_social_catastrophe_of_the_city)

**Monday September 10, 2018**



### **Rwanda: Bannyahe, Kigali**

Grace Umutesi (aged 35, mother of four, church elder, reported to have said "I'm very disappointed by the decision of the government to close our church. But we cannot stop to pray and praise God because our church has been closed. God is everywhere and he listens to our prayers")

### **Rwanda: Nyamirambo, Kigali**

Esther Umohoza (walks nine miles every Sunday to worship, reported to have said "Life has become hard, especially for Christians in this country. You have to travel for a distance to seek God. But we are not going to give up on seeking God. I pray that the government revises these rules. We need churches to be everywhere so that people can pray freely...We are praying God to change the government's mind so that they don't completely shut down churches. We believe no leader can go against God, and if he does so, our country will be cursed")

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=6914>





**Nigeria: Umuwala, Imo state**

Fr Jude Egbom (**shot dead** during a robbery in a barbershop)

Fr Patrick Tor Alumuku (**UPDATE**: described the murder of Fr Jude Egbom "Fr. Egbom was at the barber's when some bandits entered. We do not know what happened but at some point the criminals fired some shots, killing the priest and seriously injured a seminarian who was with him. What is striking is the total lack of respect for human life")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64749->

[AFRICA NIGERIA Fr Jude Egbom killed during a robbery What is striking is the total lack of respect for life says a priest](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64749-)

**Tuesday September 11, 2018**



**India: Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

**Seven assistants to Pastor Rajender Chauhan were arrested on fraudulent conversion charges, three were released, four were held without bail**

Ratnesh Kumar

Jiyalal

Rajendra Vishwakarma

Manoj Chauhan

Pastor Rajender Chauhan (arrested in [2003](#); arrested in [2007](#); **UPDATE**: 2007 case still pending, in hiding)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/09/hindu-extremists-accelerate-clampdown-on-christians-in-uttar-pradesh-india/>



**Nigeria**

Fr Gabriel Oyaka CSSP (abducted on the [Okene-Auchi road, Kogi state](#) on [September 7, 2015](#); **UPDATE**: still missing)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64735->

[AFRICA NIGERIA The Bishop of Awka after the last kidnapping of a priest Why persecute those working out your salvation](#)



### **United Kingdom**

Brian Walker (Scout leader, reported on [February 16, 2018](#) to have been dismissed as a Scout leader after writing a letter to a Scouting magazine questioning the promotion of LBGQTQ and Islamic events relative to Christian events, the letter was not published; **UPDATE:** reinstated, said “Scouting was started in 1908 by Sir Robert Baden-Powell, based on Christian principles, whilst welcoming those of all faiths and none. Over recent years, I have been concerned that the movement has increasingly promoted Islam above Christianity. Islam is not what has given the scouting movement its inclusive and welcoming nature...The irony is that the Chief Scout is Bear Grylls, an internationally-known Christian who is the figure-head for the Alpha Course - which specifically states that Jesus is the only way to God and that Christianity is unique! Their own Chief Scout believes this, and says this publicly, and yet, when I, as a grass roots member for 52 years, challenge the values in a letter which is not even published, I am silenced and dismissed...I am raising this case as I believe the fundamental values of Scouting are being undermined. Parents need to be made aware of what is happening at the center of Scouting, and will eventually flow out into the local groups. We need to act now to maintain and protect the values on which the movement was based”)

<https://www.christianconcern.com/our-issues/freedom/scoutmaster-wins-settlement-over-christian-roots-letter>

**Wednesday September 12, 2018**



### **China: Hong Kong**

Yeung Ho-yin (shurch leader, wrote of the growth of persecution in China "The government is planning to tighten preaching on the internet", and also of the silence of Hong Kong churches "Do the Hong Kong churches honor God or Emperor Xi?")

Ying Fuk-tsang (divinity school director; **UPDATE:** said the government was suppressing churches "reflecting [President] Xi Jinping's ideological fight and his belief that Protestant churches threaten the Communist Party")

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/china-suppresses-protestant-churches-in-several-provinces/83332>

**Thursday September 13, 2018**



**China: Hebei province**

John (explained that the Communist Party's planned to purge religious believers from its rolls "because they now feel that they [the believers] are somewhat uncontrollable...The newly revised regulations have already interfered with human rights and religious freedom, going beyond a political party's constitution")

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-communist-party-targets-members-with-religious-beliefs/83313>



**Philippines: Manila**

**Church leaders responded to allegations that there were plans to destabilize the government**

Fr Jerome Secillano (**UPDATE:** reported to have said "I'm not in the intelligence community, I cannot say if such a plan really exists. This is the assurance I can give you, the church has no part in it")

Auxiliary Bishop Broderick Soncuaco Pabillo (**UPDATE:** reported to have said the destabilization allegations are "an old tune strongmen use when they land in hot water...in a healthy democracy there should be strong opposition to abuse of power. The opposition is not to be crushed but to be engaged to arrive at best actions for the common good. The church has to speak out and warn the people of the dangers of authoritarianism")

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/bishops-distance-themselves-from-duterte-ouster-plot/83317>



**India: Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Pastor Gulab Chand (home raided at 1:00 AM by police, arrested on fraudulent conversion charges)

**India: Karmahi village, Dharmapur block, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Pastor Ravindra Maurya (church attacked by Hindu radicals during a prayer service, the mostly female congregation faced down the radicals and 'boldly' professed their faith in Jesus)

**India: Englisia village, Madiyahu, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Ram Milan Gaud (church leader, severely beaten by the younger brother of the village chief, ordered to halt services in his home)

**India: Aaspur village, Devsara, Pratapgarh district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Pastor Ram Milan (arrested in his home by police along with 2 visiting pastors, all were later released, the visiting pastors were ordered to leave the state)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/09/hindu-extremists-accelerate-clampdown-on-christians-in-uttar-pradesh-india/>



**Nigeria**

Leah Nathan Sharibu (aged 15, daughter of Nathan Sharibu, student, abducted by Boko Haram in [Dapchi](#) on [February 19, 2018](#); **UPDATE**: still in captivity because she has refused to convert to Islam)

Nathan Sharibu (father of Leah Nathan Sharibu, reported to have said “Unfortunately, since the abduction of our daughter, no government official in Nigeria has contacted us or even let us know the effort the government is making towards the release of my daughter. However, Christians across the world have been supporting us and praying with us. It has not been easy bearing the pains of missing our daughter, but the Lord has been gracious through His unmerited grace to us”)

Rev Yunusa Nmadu Jr (**UPDATE**: reported to have said “I visited the father and had discussions with him. Her mother too, was invited here at the ECWA headquarters [in Jos], and she had the opportunity to speak to a women’s fellowship group who were attending a conference here. So, we have done what we can do to be with her family in solidarity, as we await the release of Leah...We once again are appealing that the government should speed up the efforts to get Leah released, because it’s torturing to her parents and to all of us who are related to Leah, as she’s still left there as the only girl, the only victim in fact, out of those that were abducted. And you can imagine that the narrative is that [she is yet unreleased] because she is a Christian. This goes a long way not to help the image of the government at this time...We have been trying as much as possible, working with other organizations in and outside the country, to raise the tempo of the campaign for her release. One such organization is Christian Solidarity Worldwide, and the office in the UK marked the 200-days campaign, which was held in front of the office of the Nigerian High Commission [Embassy] in the UK”)

**Nigeria: Bolki village, Numan local government area, Adamawa state**

Rahab Solomon (later said “My husband and I went to Numan to my pick up our children around 2pm. At about 3pm, while we were on our way back home, we heard that our village was under attack and that three persons were killed. We couldn’t go back home because we were told that our house was burnt. So we came to stay in this camp...The next day [September 14] we called my husband’s brother and he told us that the Fulani chased our people and killed so many of them. Those who tried to run through the river were shot and many who tried to escape through the river, but could not swim, died as well, those who could swim were able to survive. We heard that over 25 bodies were recovered from the river. The exact number of people who died in the attack is yet to be known as the place is still under attack...We were told that the Fulani militants burnt down all our houses, and some women and children who hid in the farms were abducted by the Fulani. We no longer have a place to call home. Right now we are helpless”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/09/parents-of-kidnapped-leah-sharibu-awaiting-government-action-amid-groundswell-of-support/>

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/20-nigerian-christians-drown-in-river-attempting-to-escape-fulani-attackers/>

**Friday September 14, 2018**



**India: Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Seven assistants to Pastor Rajender Chauhan [who is in hiding] were arrested on [September 11, 2018](#) on fraudulent conversion charges, three were released, four were held without bail; **UPDATE: the four were released on bail, Hindu radicals attempted to disrupt the court bail hearing, media representatives actively supported the radicals**

Ratnesh Kumar

Jiyalal

Rajendra Vishwakarma

Manoj Chauhan

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/09/hindu-extremists-accelerate-clampdown-on-christians-in-uttar-pradesh-india/>



**Nigeria: Bassa local government area, Plateau state**

Lawrence Zongo (Miango Youth Development, said of his local district “So far, we lost 27 of our people in ambush attacks from April to September 2018. The Fulani herdsmen killers have changed their method of killings and have adopted ambushing of our youths, targeting them when going back home or going to farm”)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/nigeria-dozens-more-killed-as-fulani-herdsmen-violence-continues-in-plateau-state/>

**Saturday September 15, 2018**



### **Pakistan: Lahore**

Faraz Ahmed Badar (aged 26, son of Bibi and Badar Masih, hospital manager, reported on [September 7, 2018](#) to have been attacked in [Gujranwala](#) with acid over his entire body, hospitalized; **UPDATE: died**)

Badar Masih (aged 48, father of Faraz Ahmed Badar, said "There was a lot of jealousy at his place of employment, we live in a dog eat dog culture where often Christians become the victims because of their vulnerable status. My son was regularly abused by Muslims who could not stand the fact that a Christian man was in a position senior to them. Our country is bigoted and many most Muslims believe all Christians should be sweepers not managers, they call us 'Chura' a name that means untouchable cleaner...This is not the first time that Faraz was attacked. Only a few months previously Faraz was attacked by another group of unidentified men wearing masks telling that as a Christian he was not fit to lick their boots, they even shoved their boots in Faraz's mouth. They threatened him with death unless he left his employment telling him that his ritual impurity meant he was contaminating the health of 'pure Muslims'")

Bibi (aged 45, mother of Faraz Ahmed Badar, said "I cannot believe my innocent son was killed. He done nothing wrong barring adhering to the Christian faith. He was a committed volunteer of our church and he was nearing the age of marriage which was very exciting for our family - he did not get a chance to live a full life")

<https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/christian-hospital-manager-dies-after-motorcycle-acid-attack>



### **Nigeria**

Fr Louis Odudu (abducted, date unknown; **UPDATE: escaped from captivity**)

<http://dailypost.ng/2018/09/21/catholic-priest-dies-four-days-escaping-kidnappers/>



**Nicaragua: Sutiava, Leon**

Fr Abelardo Toval (beaten and bound in his rectory by 3 hooded men, possessions stolen)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64763->

[AMERICA NICARAGUA Priest attacked and robbed by three hooded people the climate is always tense](#)

**Sunday September 16, 2018**



**China: Chengdu, Sichuan province**

Cao Qingen (church minister, detained during a police raid on a church)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/09/church-calls-for-help-as-police-block.html>



**Nigeria: Gon village, Numan local government area, Adamawa state**

Jidauna Igiya (village leader, said "...we were home with our families, we did not know that the Fulani were coming to attack us. Although we heard rumors earlier that there was a planned attack by the Fulani on Pasham and Lau villages, so we did not think they will attack us since we did not receive such messages, but at about 4pm, we heard gunshot sounds. Everybody in the village sought cover and began to run for safety, as the Fulani were shooting and burning houses...The Fulani burnt all our houses. No house is standing right now and we cannot go back to our villages. The Fulani also moved from our village to Ndumusu, from Ndumusu to Yanga, from Yanga to Bolki, and continued their attack, killing more people and burning more houses. They took away our cattle and looted our foodstuff and property and burnt the remaining things they could not take away. Twenty-six people were killed in our village, Gon, while two others were wounded...During the attack, we tried to call security forces but none came to our rescue. We managed to put our families, children, women and old people through the bush and that is how we were able to be saved. Right now we are all scattered. Some of us are still in the bush, taking shelter around Gon north, while some of our families are in Numan and others in other

villages...Most people who tried to escape through the river during the attack lost their lives as the Fulani chased them because they could not swim. It is not easy for us right now to find food to eat. We have to go to nearby villages to get food for our survival”)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/20-nigerian-christians-drown-in-river-attempting-to-escape-fulani-attackers/>



### **United Kingdom: HMP Brixton**

Pastor Paul Song (South Korean national, prison chaplain, told by the senior Muslim chaplain that he could no longer use the Alpha course materials due to its “extremist” nature, banned from the prison without explanation in [August 2017](#), appealed the ban; falsely accused on [September 4, 2017](#) of having called an undisclosed prisoner a 'terrorist', told that his testimony would not be allowed in his appeal; informed on [January 11, 2018](#) that his ban has been made permanent; **UPDATE**: reported to have been reinstated after another prison governor met with him and concluded that the prison was being 'not reasonable')

<https://www.christianconcern.com/our-issues/freedom/pastor-paul-song-wins-return-to-brixton-prison>



### **Colombia: Antioquia**

Pastor Elfren Martnez Prez (aged 55, husband, father of five, **shot dead** by a paramilitary group outside his home)

<https://www.csw.org.uk/2018/09/24/press/4079/article.htm>

**Tuesday September 18, 2018**



### **China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province**

Yan Xiaojie (detained in [Wenzhou, Zhejiang province](#) on [August 26, 2015](#); released on [February 2, 2016](#); **UPDATE**: home visited by police, wrote the next day “I was not home, so they threatened my mom and wife, telling them that they must see me and investigate two things: one is that I signed the petition [in support of persecuted Christians in Henan



province], and the other that I will travel abroad in October. I am communicating with them now. May the Lord Jesus be with me. I hope brothers and sisters will pray hard for me”)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/10/pastor-investigated-for-supporting.html>



### **Niger: Bomoanga**

Fr Pierluigi Maccalli SMA (Italian national, abducted by jihadists, probably taken over the border into Burkina Faso)

Fr Vito Giroto SMA (forced to abandon his mission after the abduction of Fr Pierluigi Maccalli)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64769->

[AFRICA NIGER Italian priest of the Society of African Missions kidnapped](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64769-)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64775->

[AFRICA NIGER The Italian missionary kidnapped is probably in Burkina Faso w here the jihadists are based](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64775-)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/65112->

[AFRICA NIGER New jihadist attack near the mission of Makalondi](http://www.fides.org/en/news/65112-)

**Wednesday September 19, 2018**



### **China: Hong Kong**

Ying Fuk-tsang (divinity school director; **UPDATE:** described new government restrictions on religious use of the internet "The measures, plus the recent suppression of house churches, reveal that authorities are completely obliterating the space for house churches to publish information since the internet is the main way in which house churches preach")

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/chinas-internet-rules-will-strangle-religion/83363>



### **Nigeria: Warri**

Fr Louis Odudu (abducted, date unknown; escaped from captivity on [September 15, 2018](#);  
**UPDATE: complained of pains, hospitalized, died**)

Fr Benedict Ukutegbe (said that Fr Louis Odudu's death was likely related to his abduction, from which he escaped only 4 days earlier: "He was pronounced dead at a private hospital in Warri, hours after he reportedly complained of pains and demanded to be taken to a hospital")

<http://dailypost.ng/2018/09/21/catholic-priest-dies-four-days-escaping-kidnappers/>

**Thursday September 20, 2018**



#### **Pakistan: Gujar Khan village, Punjab province**

Bashir Masih (aged 58 or 60 or 72, husband of Grace Mashi, father of five, retired sanitary worker, threatened in [June 2017](#) by his neighbors, later said "I reported [that] incident to the District Superintendent for Police...but he didn't take any action and in fact pressured and held it over our family to build relationships with the attackers. He told us to drop the charges or blasphemy charges would be laid against us. We were told that they would send the whole family to Adyala Jail [in Islamabad]. My family and I caved in to the pressure and had no choice but to accept it"; **UPDATE:** attacked along with his wife after refusing to step inside their home to avoid contaminating the air in use by Muslims: "I told him that there was no power and it was hot, so I have come out. He told me that none of us should be seen outside and then he, along with his brothers, beat me. My wife came to help me, but they beat her as well, tore her clothes and broke one of her fingers...They called us Chuhra [latrine cleaner] and beat both of us mercilessly")

Grace Masih (aged 60 or 68, wife of Bashir Masih, mother of five, retired nurse, beaten)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/pakistani-christian-family-flees-after-home-set-on-fire-told-theyll-be-killed-if-they-return/>

<https://barnabasfund.org/us/news/muslim-mob-assault-and-evict-only-christian-family-in-pakistan-village>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=6935>



#### **Jamaica: St Catherine**

Pastor James Johnson (aged 29, **shot dead** while teaching a class at his church)

[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Young\\_St\\_Catherine\\_pastor\\_shot\\_dead\\_in\\_church?profile=1228](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Young_St_Catherine_pastor_shot_dead_in_church?profile=1228)



### **United States – Alabama: Montgomery**

Daniel French (husband of Valerie French, anti-abortion protestor, cited in a criminal complaint on [May 18, 2018](#) that he had damaged an umbrella that was property of an abortion clinic, the damage actually occurred when a clinic volunteer hit him over the head with the umbrella; **UPDATE**: charges dismissed after he produced a video in court that showed him being beaten with the umbrella by the clinic volunteer)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/judge-declares-pro-life-advocate-not-guilty-of-absurd-charge-in-montgomery>

**Friday September 21, 2018**



### **Pakistan: Gujar Khan village, Punjab province**

Bashir Masih (aged 58 or 60 or 72, husband of Grace Mashi, father of five, retired sanitary worker, attacked along with his wife on [September 20, 2018](#) after refusing to step inside their home to avoid contaminating the air in use by Muslims: "I told him that there was no power and it was hot, so I have come out. He told me that none of us should be seen outside and then he, along with his brothers, beat me. My wife came to help me, but they beat her as well, tore her clothes and broke one of her fingers...They called us Chuhra [latrine cleaner] and beat both of us mercilessly"; **UPDATE**: received a threatening phone call at 4:00 AM, that afternoon was attacked: "...around 3pm, the brothers, and about 10 other unidentified persons, armed with firearms, sticks and torches lit with fire, first hit our main door and then scaled the boundary wall and entered our house. They started beating every one of us. My three sons, women and children – all were home because it was a public holiday...They stripped the clothes off my daughters-in-law and forced them out on the street. They also threw the children, some as young as two, against the walls. My sons and I were hit with gun butts and iron rods amid volleys of abuse and threats...My son, Imran, had blood gushing out from his mouth and nose and he fell unconscious. Then they stole money and gold ornaments from our cases and set our household goods on fire, including a vehicle standing in the veranda. In order to save ourselves, we ran out of the house and from far away looked back to see fire and smoke rising high")

Grace Masih (aged 60 or 68, wife of Bashir Masih, mother of five, retired nurse, beaten on [September 20, 2018](#); **UPDATE**: beaten again)

Fiyaz Masih (aged 36, son of Bashir and Grace Masih, beaten)

Sobia (aged 31, adult child or in-law of Bashir and Grace Masih, beaten)

Imtiaz (aged 30, adult child or in-law of Bashir and Grace Masih, beaten)

Adnan (aged 29, adult child or in-law of Bashir and Grace Masih, beaten)

Imran (aged 22 or 28, son of Bashir and Grace Masih, beaten)

Ahsan (aged 26, adult child or in-law of Bashir and Grace Masih, beaten)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/pakistani-christian-family-flees-after-home-set-on-fire-told-theyll-be-killed-if-they-return/>

<https://barnabasfund.org/us/news/muslim-mob-assault-and-evict-only-christian-family-in-pakistan-village>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=6935>

**Saturday September 22, 2018**



### **China: Hong Kong**

Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-Kium SDB (aged 86; **UPDATE**: wrote that the recent agreement between the Vatican and the Chinese government concerning joint appointment of bishops is "A masterpiece of inventiveness in saying nothing with many words")

<https://oldyosef.hkdavc.com/?p=1071>



### **Iran: Tehran**

Fatimeh Bakherti (aged 37, convert, home raided by police during a [May 25, 2017](#) worship service, several Christians arrested; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment for 'spreading propaganda against the regime')

Saheb Fadaie (convert, home raided by VEVAK agents on [February 16, 2015](#), religious items seized, warned on [February 17, 2015](#) to leave the country; arrested on [May 13, 2016](#); charged on [September 10, 2016](#) with acting against national security and consumption of communion wine; called into court in [Rasht](#) on [June 14, 2017](#) on charges of 'actions against national security, were accused of accepting a half million pounds from the

British government, told they would receive a verdict in 20 days, a hardline judge then joined the hearings and said 'Christians make foolish claims'; sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment on [June 24, 2017](#); arrested in [Rasht](#) on [July 24, 2018](#), transferred to [Evin Prison in Tehran](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment for 'spreading propaganda against the regime', sentence to run concurrently with his current imprisonment)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/10/crack-down-on-christians-in-iran-continues-with-two-more-prison-sentences/>



### Syria

Isa Rashid (teacher, education director, beaten by suspected Kurds, hospitalized in serious condition)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mgr-Hindo-worried-about-a-Christian-journalists-disappearance-in-a-Kurdish-area-45086.html/>



### Kenya: Elwak, Mandera

Fredrick Mukanda Bahati (husband, father of two, brother of Wycliffe Mukanda, mason, attacked on a construction site along with two co-workers by Muslims angered by the deaths of three al-Shabaab militants in a likely police action, all three fled to a nearby hotel and were **stoned to death**)

Wycliffe Mukanda (brother of Fredrick Mukanda Bahati, said "This is a sad day in our family. We have lost a man who was skilled in construction and loved all of us. He always reminded us to pray and trust God even in difficult times. That is what is keeping us going after losing him. We were expecting to see him before the end of the year but now what we have is the memories, a widow, and two children to take care of...Where were the police to protect?")

<https://www.persecution.org/2018/09/25/local-muslims-stone-three-christians-death-protest/>

**Sunday September 23, 2018**



**India: Nevadiya village, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Pastor Ashok Rajbhar (attacked by Hindu extremists during a worship service)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/11/persecution-of-christians-radiates-outward-from-hub-in-northern-india-sources-say/>



**Argentina: Barrio Larrea, Rosario**

Fr Juan Pablo Nunez (church door shot at, bullet fragments landed on the altar, the shooting came a month after he had complained about organized drug crime activities in his neighborhood)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/64816-AMERICA\\_ARGENTINA\\_Shots\\_against\\_the\\_church\\_intimidating\\_message\\_of\\_the\\_narcos](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64816-AMERICA_ARGENTINA_Shots_against_the_church_intimidating_message_of_the_narcos)

**Monday September 24, 2018**



**Myanmar: Mong Mau**

Fr Mariano Soe Naing (said "The Sisters were interrogated by the authorities for the first time on 9 September at their building. Once it was determined that the women religious were working only in the field of education, the officials let them go, in fact, they complimented their work...The young people [helping the sisters] were taken to the police station [on September 16]. The agents treated them well, did not harm them and after a few hours released them. On the 23rd, together with their personal belongings, they again took them to the barracks, where they spent the night. The following day, despite the opposition of local villagers, the youth and the nuns were ordered to leave Mong Mau and return to Lashio. The authorities know who the Catholics are and what they do...Their behavior is wrong. First, they invite us and then they throw us out without any explanations")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pro-China-rebels-shut-down-Baptist-churches,-arrest-Baptist-pastors-and-expel-Catholic-nuns-45072.html>



### **India: Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

P Nanhe Lal (arrested without charge, forced to sign a statement that he would not conduct religious services)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/11/persecution-of-christians-radiates-outward-from-hub-in-northern-india-sources-say/>



### **Pakistan: Multan prison, Punjab province**

Aasiya Noreen aka Asia Bibi (aged 53, wife of Ashiq Masih, mother of five including Isham, daughter of Soran Masih, convicted of blasphemy in 2009 and sentenced to death;

**UPDATE:** still incarcerated, has begun to show symptoms of possible dementia such as memory loss and confusion, has not received medical treatment)

<https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/pakistani-christians-raise-awareness-of-asia-bibis-plight-by-running>

**Tuesday September 25, 2018**



### **Uganda: Kampala**

Pastor Umar Mulinde (husband, father of six, attacked with acid on December 24, 2011, blinded in the right eye; **UPDATE:** home attacked, escaped with his family, said “They entered my house dressed in Islamic attire. Muslim extremists forcefully broke into my home in the middle of the night, but after realizing the danger, I sought God, and he gave me some wisdom to pray, which confused them, and they could not trace my whereabouts. We narrowly survived – I only lost a number of my personal household goods and office items such as laptops, iPads and phones, but precious life remained intact...This second attempted murder defeats human logic, due to the fact that I am guarded by police, unlike in 2011. I had given my bodyguards a day off, and thugs succeeded to break into my home at night without being noticed. I narrowly survived this close attempt on my life, and I must really thank God...What I know is that these attacks are connected to religious extremism and are protected by corrupt leaders paid off by the Muslim community”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/10/acid-attack-survivor-umar-mulinde-targeted-again-in-uganda/>



## Nicaragua

Bishop Rolando Jose Alvarez Lagos (**UPDATE**: condemned the September 23, 2018 killing of a 16 year old anti-government demonstrator by pro-government paramilitaries in Managua “We mourn the death. We mourn one more death. It grieves our soul, the death of the young man, of the boy, Matt Andres Romero. Our prayers for his family. Our love and solidarity with them. We continue to insist: not one more death, please”)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/nicaraguan-bishop-laments-death-of-teen-during-anti-government-protests-19698>

**Wednesday September 26, 2018**



## China: Xuzhou, Jiangsu province

Pastor Fang Xiaojun (church raided by police on [August 26, 2018](#), given notice of administrative punishment; **UPDATE**: hearing held on administrative punishment, hearing later invalidated)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/11/jiangsu-church-releases-prayer-letter.html>



## Myanmar: Lashio

Cardinal Charles Maung Bo SDB (aged 69, **UPDATE**: met with the nuns who were expelled from [Mong Mau](#) and heard their stories)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pro-China-rebels-shut-down-Baptist-churches,-arrest-Baptist-pastors-and-expel-Catholic-nuns-45072.html>



## Ukraine



**A Ukrainian nationalist group was reported as having added the names of Orthodox prelates of the Moscow patriarchate to their web site as enemies of the state, some who have been listed in the past have been killed**

Metropolitan Onuphry Berezovsky (**UPDATE**)

Metropolitan Pavel Lebed (**UPDATE**)

Metropolitan Vladimir Moroz (**UPDATE**)

<http://orthochristian.com/116027.html>

**Thursday September 27, 2018**



**China: Guiyang, Guizhou province**

Pastor Li Guozhi aka Yang Hua (husband of Wang Hongwu, detained on [December 9, 2015](#) for 'illegally holding state secrets'; formally charged on [January 22, 2016](#) with 'obstructing justice' and 'gathering a crowd to disturb social order'; sentenced on [January 5, 2017](#) to two and a half years imprisonment; released on [June 19, 2018](#), sang worship songs as he left prison; **UPDATE**: has been under constant surveillance by police)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/09/tortured-pastor-suffers-as-persecution.html>



**Myanmar: near Mongpauk, Shan state**

Rev Lazaru (released a statement denouncing rebel acts of violence against Christians including arrests of pastors and forced conscription of male and female students into the rebel army)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pro-China-rebels-shut-down-Baptist-churches,-arrest-Baptist-pastors-and-expel-Catholic-nuns-45072.html>



**Iraq: Bagdad**

Tara Fares (aged 22, model, beauty pageant winner, social media personality, **shot dead**)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20180928102843.htm>



**Egypt: near Samalut, Al Minya province**

Bishoy Nady (aged 18, farmer, disappeared)

<https://www.copticsolidarity.org/2018/10/08/from-egypt-a-list-of-recently-reported-assaults-on-coptic-christians/>



**Nigeria: Rukuba Road, Jos, Plateau state**

**Fulani Muslim gunmen killed 17 Christians in their homes**

Rogu Audu (aged 50, son of Kande Audu, father of Ruth and Dorcas Rugu, uncle of Ishaya, Jonathan, and Cynthia Kogi, brother in law of Kogi Audu, nephew of Sunday Moru, said “The Fulani herdsmen came from the Wild Life Park, which shares a border with our community. The park is located in the southern flank of Rukuba Road and has rocky hills, which provided the attackers with cover to enable them to invade our community...When the Fulani herdsmen came, they shot into the house randomly, breaking and forcing their way into rooms shooting defenseless women and children and anyone in sight”)

Ruth Rogu (aged 18, **killed**)

Dorcas Rugu (aged 20, **killed**)

Ishaya Kogi (aged 15, relative of Rogu Audu, **killed**)

Jonathan Kogi aged 17, nephew of Rogu Audu, **killed**)

Cynthia Kogi (aged 22, niece of Rogu Audu, **killed**)

Lucky Kogi (aged 25, relative of Rogu Audu, parent of Majesty and Blessing, **killed**)

Majesty Lucky (aged 3, child of Lucky Kogi, **killed**)

Blessing Lucky (aged 4, child of Lucky Kogi, **killed**)

Kande Audu (aged 75, **killed**)

Kogi Audu (aged 47, sister in law of Rogu Audu, **killed**)

Blessing Kogi (aged 22, child of Kogi Audu, injured, hospitalized)

Azumi Gado (aged 20, **killed**)

Ladi Rigi (aged 22, **killed**)

Sunday Moru (aged 65 uncle of Rogu Audu, grandfather of Blessing Sunday, home attacked)

Blessing Sunday (aged 18, granddaughter of Sunday Moru, fiancée of Monday, **killed**)

Monday (fiancé of Blessing Sunday, **killed**)

Daniel Kadiya, 60, grandfather of Redzie, Patience, and Philip Yakubu, said of his grandchildren  
“They had machete cuts and are currently receiving treatment at the Bingham University Teaching Hospital, Jos. Redzie was cut on her head, Patience was cut on her right hand, while Philip was cut on the face and hands”)

Redzie Yakubu (aged 14, granddaughter of Daniel Kadiya, cut with a machete on the head)

Patience Yakubu (aged 8, granddaughter of Daniel Kadiya, cut with a machete on the right hand)

Philip Yakubu (aged 5, grandson of Daniel Kadiya, cut with a machete on the face and hands, hospitalized)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/10/four-children-grandmother-among-17-christians-slain-in-attack-by-muslim-herdsmen-in-nigeria/>



### **United Kingdom**

Princess Alexandra of Hanover (aged 19, professional figure skater, reported to have been removed from the British royal line of succession due to her conversion to Catholicism)

<http://royalcentral.co.uk/europe/monaco/princess-alexandra-of-hanover-is-removed-from-the-british-line-of-succession-109243>

**Friday September 28, 2018**



### **Indonesia: Palu, Sulawesi island**

Anthony Gunawan Agung (aged 22, air traffic controller, remained in the airport control tower after it was damaged in an earthquake to ensure safe movement of aircraft, jumped from the tower as it collapsed, suffered internal injuries, hospitalized, **died**)

Flo Renshy ("young" Sunday school teacher, **died after a wall collapsed on her following an earthquake**, had attempted to hold the wall up with her body in a successful attempt to allow her students to escape the room)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/bodies-of-bible-class-students-retrieved-from-rubble/83526>  
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/indonesia-quake-palu-air-traffic-controller-hero-tributes-10773450>

<https://barnabasfund.org/us/news/sunday-school-teacher-dies-saving-children-from-indonesian-earthquake>



### **Pakistan: Mirpurkhas**

Yaqoob 'Kaka' Bashir (aged 25, son of Kasuar Bibi, mentally disabled, accused on [June 4, 2015](#) of Quran desecration after he accidentally burned part of an Islamic booklet with a cigarette, dragged from his home in [Lukoo Shade Mehmoodabad neighborhood, Mirpur Khas, Sindh province](#) by a mob, arrested, more than 25 Christian families fled their homes; **UPDATE:** sentenced to life imprisonment)

Kasuar Bibi (mother of Yaqoob Bashir; **UPDATE:** said "It's unbearable and unjust. My son is innocent. He did not insult or do blasphemy. He does not care much of these issues as his mind works differently than that of a normal person's")

<https://www.persecution.org/2018/10/24/mentally-disabled-pakistani-christian-sentenced-life-in-prison/>

**Saturday September 29, 2018**



### **India: Tezpur, Assam state**

Jimmy Gotthrop (school principal, statue of St. John Bosco vandalized, said "These people must have come prepared, because they used some weapons to break the statue. It is certainly not the work of a drunkard or a mischief...This was the third incident of desecrating the Don Bosco statue. About four years ago, some people tried to burn the statue, but they failed in their attempt. Around two years ago, some people tried to break the statue...There is an atmosphere of fear among the Christian people, reasoning as to why this has happened")

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/11/oubreak-of-violence-against-christians-in-assam-india-sparks-concern/>

**Sunday September 30, 2018**



**India: Nevadiya village, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Pastor Ashok Rajbhar (attacked by Hindu extremists during a [September 23, 2018](#) worship service; **UPDATE**: detained by police along with his father to prevent a worship service, released)

**India: Puducherry**

Pastor Vincent Paul (home attacked during a worship service, family and friends beaten, said "[Hindu Munnani leader Sanil] Kumar's mother, Rani, bit my hand, and his followers broke the chairs and threw away the Bibles. His wife, Dhanam, attacked my wife and children while the goons continued beating our guests and me. They brought media also to videotape the attack, and the news flashed in all local channels", the attacker later apologized after he tried to file a police report but became belligerent when he said he wanted to continue to worship in his home: "This did not go well with Kumar. He told me that he would go as far as killing me and my family but will not allow Christian prayers in the area. I pleaded him that we are not more than 15 people, and that we gather only to pray and worship and have never caused any trouble in the area with our activities. He said, 'Today you are 15, tomorrow you will become 50, and after some days you will be in hundreds...My two children, ages 13 and 4, are afraid to step out of the house. The goons surround our house day and night to keep a watch on us. We have no other option left but to sell away this house'")

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/10/police-attack-threaten-christians-in-tamil-nadu-state-india/>  
<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/11/persecution-of-christians-radiates-outward-from-hub-in-northern-india-sources-say/>



**Uzbekistan: Tashkent region**

**Forty Christians were arrested for attending a retreat**

Nargiza Ashurova

Berdimurad Parpiyev

Sukhrob Jurayev

Shakhnoza Umarova

Nigina Bozorova

Miyassar Mirsagatova

Rita Kogai

Azizali Sagindikov

Khakim Nurkhanov  
Dilafruz Shadiyeva  
Makhmudjon Zakirov  
Mirzakhmed Akramov (brother of Saidakhmad Akramov)  
Saidakhmad Akramov (brother of Mirzakhmed Akramov)  
Sahobiddin Umarov  
Mavjuda Tursunova  
Ortik Jurayev  
Nazirjon Abdurasulov  
Nigora Kurbonova  
Zukhra Khaitova  
Nodira Mukhsinova  
Mansur Sultonov  
Omadbek Kodyrov  
Valentina Zakirova  
Mekhrinisso Nurkhanova  
Sunnat Alimov  
Karomat Yuliyeva  
Nadezhda Pak  
Park Gibong (South Korean citizen)  
Chong Khengsu (South Korean citizen)  
Park Yong Sook (South Korean citizen)  
Choi Chung Sub (South Korean citizen)  
[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2431](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2431)



### **Syria: Qamishli**

Souleman Yusph (journalist, disappeared, believed to have been detained by the Asayish [the Kurdish security and intelligence service], had extensively reported on Kurdish closure of Christian schools)

Archbishop Jacques Behnan Hindo (**UPDATE**: spoke on the disappearance of Souleman Yusph: “at present we don’t have any news...We hope that the situation can be resolved as soon

as possible. We are closely following the story in order to figure out who took him and where he is now")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mgr-Hindo-worried-about-a-Christian-journalists-disappearance-in-a-Kurdish-area-45086.html/>



### **Canada: Toronto**

Marie-Claire Bissonnette (aged 26, assaulted by a pro-abortion counter-demonstrator, news account rejected by major media outlets)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/breaking-police-to-lay-charges-against-man-who-roundhouse-kicked-pro-life-w>

**September 2018, date unknown**



### **Kenya: on the road between Garissa and Masalani**

**Two Christians were dragged from a bus by al-Shabaab militants and shot dead after they refused the invitation to Islam**

Fredrick Ngui Ngonde (husband of Penianh Mwatha, father, church choir leader, **shot dead**)

Joshua Ooko Obila (brother of Victor Oketch, bus mechanic, **shot dead**)

Pastor Cosmas Mwinzi (described Fredrick Ngui Ngonde as “a faithful follower of Christ who was committed to the church and his family. He had a passion for God’s work and loved the fellowship of brethren”)

Penianh Mwatha (widow of Fredrick Ngui Ngonde, mother, said her husband was “caring, prayerful, and a friendly person who I hoped to spend the rest of my life with. I am still in shock. Fredrick has left me with a 2-year-old son too soon. It is painful to lose him...I don’t know what my future will be, but I am persuaded that one day we shall see him in heaven”)

Victor Oketch (brother of Joshua Ooko Obila, said “His Somali colleagues, the driver, and the conductor, did nothing to defend him. This shows you how religious animosity is at the core of persecution in northeastern Kenya”)

Date: September 2018

Location:

Source: <https://www.persecution.org/2018/10/31/two-christian-men-executed-declining-recite-islamic-creed/>



**Nigeria: Gon, Bolki, Ndumusu, Yotti and Yanga villages, Numan local government area, Adamawa state**

Rev Gerison Ezekiel Killa (aged 43, husband, father of six, **drowned** along with at several others in a river while attempting to escape a Fulani Muslim attack that claimed at least 27 lives)

Bishop Stephen Dami Mamza (aged 49, Christian Association of Nigeria [CAN]; **UPDATE:** said of the [September 13-16, 2018](#) attacks "[Innocent Christians were being] killed by these so-called herdsmen on a daily basis, without security forces responding appropriately to stop them from hurting Christians...incessant attacks on Christians has led to hunger and starvation, adding that if these Christians are not aided many will die of starvation")

Solomon Faider (said the conflict has “gone on for three or four years now, without the government or anybody else finding a solution. There seems to be collusion between the military and the killer herdsmen group. Where the suspected killer herdsmen are reported to be attacking from is called Abbare. This place is just a 30 minutes’ drive from Numan, and the military have been informed of the impending attack four hours before it happened”)

Sodom Tayedi (state House Assembly member, said of the [September 13-16, 2018](#) attacks “There are soldiers camped in Abbare, yet these attackers will always mobilize from that Abbare. There is never a time they’ll attack and I don’t call security forces as member representing the constituency...I just called the Brigade Commander again and he assured me that troops are on their way to the area. We had intelligence report of the attack and reported to the paramount ruler [local chief], who always passes the same information to the security forces, but they will always come and destroy our community”)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/09/20-nigerian-christians-drown-in-river-attempting-to-escape-fulani-attackers/>



**Belgium**

Br Rene Stockman FC (superior general of the Brothers of Charity, reported on [April 28, 2017](#) to have objected when the mostly lay board of directors of the psychiatric hospitals operated by his order voted to allow euthanasia; issued a statement opposing his hospital board's [September 12, 2017](#) vote in favor of euthanasia; **UPDATE:** along with his congregation removed two monks from the board of directors [at the end of September 2018](#) for failing to oppose the euthanasia policy)



<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/belgian-brothers-of-charity-drop-board-members-who-accepted-hospital-euthanasia-protocol-81225>

## **Today's Martyrs**

**2490 Black Rock Turnpike #455**

**Fairfield CT 06825-2400**

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

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