# **Today's Martyrs**

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

## Weekly Report – 2017-06-25 through 2017-07-01



#### **Bangladesh**

Fr Albert Thomas Rozario (**UPDATE**: defended attorney Sultana Kamal after she came under political attack for defending a Lady Justice statue, said "I suspect it is electoral politics ahead of national polls as the ruling Awami League try to consolidate their voter base among conservative Muslims. The government is playing a risky game and its result will be ominous for the country")

Date reported: June 26, 2017

Location: Dhaka

Source: http://www.ucanews.com/news/catholic-official-condemns-islamist-death-threat-to-

rights-lawyer/79578

Fr Samson Marandy (**UPDATE**: described the attempted rape of a 20 year old Tribal Christian that was witnessed by police who did not intervene, said she "is already in a state of weakness because persecuted for their land. She lives like a refugee and has also had to suffer sexual assault by Muslims...Christians here are the minority and remain victims of the Islamic majority. We as church leaders are on the part of our people. We want justice and security")

Date: June 18, 2017

Location: Madarpur, Gaibandha

Source: http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Gaibandha,-Muslims-attempt-to-rape-a-Catholic-tribal-

41076.html



#### Brazil

Event: Two missionaries died in an automobile accident

Sr Luisa Manuel MCCJ (aged 47, Mozambican citizen, died)

Sr Giuseppina Lupo MCCJ (aged 37, Italian citizen, died)

Date: June 24, 2017

Location: near Humaita, Amazonas state

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/62532-

AMERICA BRAZIL Two Combonian missionaries die in a road accident#.WVJYo evyuM8



## **Central African Republic**

Fr Frederic Nakombo (Secretary General of the Justice and Peace commission, said "We have prepared 5,285 dossiers to be submitted to this [Special Criminal] court" concerning crimes committed since 2013)

Cardinal Dieudonne Nzapalainga (**UPDATE**: denied that he had a representative sign the June 19, 2017 peace agreement in Rome, said "the text, as published, is an open door to impunity for crimes committed")

Date reported: June 27, 2017

Location: Bangui

Source: <a href="http://www.fides.org/en/news/62536-">http://www.fides.org/en/news/62536-</a>

AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICA No to impunity for crimes committed otherwise the Country will sink back into hatred and violence#.WVJdSevyuM8

Rev Nicolas Guerekoyame-Gbangou (**UPDATE**: said he did not support the June 19, 2017 peace agreement that was signed in Rome, called it a "non-event", added "A question a Western diplomat asked me said a lot about the general mood here in CAR: 'How many peace deals are you going to sign?'...What causes the problem here is impunity, with on one side the 'godfathers' and executioners who continue to kill, rape, plunder and commit all sort of atrocities. And on the other, those who have no 'godfathers', who continue to suffer...The question one may ask and which deserves to be addressed by the European Union, which sponsored the trips of the rebel leaders to Rome and Brussels, is: 'what is the future of the Special Criminal Court, as its prosecutor was just recently appointed?...The people of the Central African Republic have no words to describe the situation, which has now become explosive")

Date: June 26, 2017 Location: Bangui

Source: https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/06/cars-clerics-say-war-must-stop-killings-

continue-despite-peace-agreement/



## China

Pastor Zhang Shaojie (husband of Wang Fengrui; UPDATE: had been tortured in prison)

Zhang "Yunyun" Huixin aka Esther Zhang (daughter of Pastor Zhang Shaojie and Wang Fengrui, U.S. resident; **UPDATE**: said "My father applied to file an appeal, but the government officials said that they would not process the appeal unless he would plead guilty. They are treating him harshly in order to bend him...They cruelly torture my father. He's unable to see the sun during the day. He's deprived of sleep for 24 hours at a time. The prison gives him only one steamed bun a day and intentionally starves him. According to people who have been released from that prison, my father is barely alive, suffering both mentally and physically")

Zhang Cuijuan (aged 40, wife of Jia Limin, younger sister of Pastor Zhang Shaojie, released from prison on May 31, 2015; **UPDATE**: described her brother's condition after a visit with him in prison "He was in a terrible mental state. His eyes burned from sleep deprivation. He said that he is forbidden to sleep during 'strict supervision.' He was depressed, and I had no way to help him. The prison guard held the phone throughout our entire conversation and we were forbidden to talk about his case")

Date reported: June 24, 2017

Location:

Source: <a href="http://www.chinaaid.org/2017/06/exclusive-incarcerated-pastor-reports.html">http://www.chinaaid.org/2017/06/exclusive-incarcerated-pastor-reports.html</a>



## **Cyprus**

Event: Two families have sued the Church for US\$2 million after two adult sons, one aged 28, became monks

Metropolitan Athanasios Nikolaou (sued)

Abbot Epiphanios Mahairiotis (sued)

Date reported: June 28, 2017

Location: Machairas Monastery, Lazanias village Source: http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/104733.htm



#### **Egypt**

Neven Nabil Bishay (aged 15, abducted while out with her mother)

Date reported: June 30, 2017

Source: http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1928&A=31284

Michael Labib (canonical painter, killed)

Date reported: June 30, 2017

Source: http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1928&A=31287



#### Greece

Kamran Iqbal Maseh (Pakistani refugee, faces imminent deportation, may be killed if returned to Pakistan)

Date: June 30, 2017 Location: Lesbos

Source: http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pakistani-Catholic-refugee-in-Greece-asks-for-

pope%E2%80%99s-help-41161.html



#### India

Michael Williams (president of the United Christian Forum, joined in an anti-Hindu religious extremism rally held a week after a 17 year old Muslim was killed on a train, said "A small group in India believe that every Indian should follow a particular culture and lifestyle dictated by them")

Date: June 28, 2017 Location: New Delhi

Source: http://www.ucanews.com/news/thousands-across-india-rally-against-religious-

intolerance/79639

Event: A Christian worship service was attacked by Hindu radicals, several were beaten, some were detained by police and forced to sign an agreement that prohibited worship outside the home and with visitors

Pastor Samuel Karjee (described the attack on the church "We were dragged out, and there were over 300 village Hindus waiting to beat us. They have beaten us with sticks and lathis, kicked us and used foul language against women believers. We tried hard to keep them from physically attacking the women", spoke of the 'agreement' to stop worship services "There was no worship last Sunday, and this Sunday too we can't worship. I can't tell you how dry and barren we feel. Our hearts yearn to pray and worship together")

Madhusmita Bhuyan (aged 13, punched in the stomach)

Taruna Kumar Nayak (detained, denied food and water, forced to sign the 'agreement', released)

Aruna Kumar Nayak (detained, forced to sign the 'agreement', released)

Budhanth Kumar Nayak (detained, forced to sign the 'agreement', released)

Ashes Bhuyan (detained, forced to sign the 'agreement', released)

Ravindra Bhuyan (injured, detained, released)

Rajata Bada Raita (aged 24, seriously injured, has continued hospital outpatient treatment)

Date: June 18, 2017

Location: Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state

Source: http://morningstarnews.org/2017/06/hindu-extremist-attack-odisha-state-india-ends-

agreement-stopping-worship-services/



## **Indonesia**

Event: Christian leaders condemned an ISIL-linked attack that killed a policeman during the Eid al-Fitr holiday which ended Ramadan

Christopher Nugroho (general secretary of Catholic Youth, called the attack "barbaric and inhuman...We will offer our condolences to the victims and their families")

Rev Karo Sekali (secretary of Religious Harmony Forum, said "We should safeguard the unity of the nation and state, and not violate the norms of religion and law")

Date: June 25, 2017

Location: Medan, North Sumatra

Source: http://www.ucanews.com/news/indonesian-christians-condemn-eid-al-fitr-attack/79605



#### Iran

Event UPDATE: Four Christians were called into court 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'

Mohammad-Reza Yohan Omidi

Saheb Fadaie

Yasser Mosayebzadeh

Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani

Date: June 14, 2017 Location: Rasht

Source: http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=6527

Event: A training session in "the region" allowed young Iranian Christians to meet

Marjan (alias, aged 23, said "I don't know any other young Christian in my city...When my parents came to faith, I myself was still a very strict Muslim. When we went to house church meetings, I just sat and cried in the other room. Then one day, a girl my age came

to me and helped me with all the questions I had. That was the start of my own journey towards Jesus")

Kyana (alias, aged 17, said "I lost some of my friends when they found out I was a Christian. They stopped inviting me over because they thought I was different from them and shouldn't belong to their group...Our new house church was supported by a more experienced fellowship. They were mentoring us. But one day there was a series of arrests and we lost contact with them. It didn't only make me scared, it also made me question God. Why did he leave us on our own?", added that she now meets in homes with small groups of Christians We have to keep our voices down so the neighbours don't report us to the police")

Aref (alias, aged 25, music teacher, said "It is a dream to one day make music and sing in a church building")

Date reported: July 1, 2017

Source: <a href="https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/06/freeiran-movement-gathers-paris-young-iranians-talk-challenges-faith-presents/">https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/06/freeiran-movement-gathers-paris-young-iranians-talk-challenges-faith-presents/</a>



## Italy

Fr Andrea (church vandalized with graffiti that read 'Free abortion [also for Mary]', posted a reply on Facebook)

Date: May 29, 2017 Location: Milan

Source: <a href="https://churchpop.com/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-pro-abortion-graffiti-on-his-church-and-decom/2017/06/04/a-priest-find-graffiti-on-his-church-and-d

reaction-is-going-viral/

and

 $\frac{\text{https://www.facebook.com/980520388653889/photos/a.1410217955684128.1073741828}}{.980520388653889/1425157647523492/?type=3\&theater}$ 



#### Kazakhstan

Teymur Sultan ogly Akhmedov (aged 61, husband, father of three sons, retired bus driver, arrested on January 18, 2017 for sharing his religious beliefs with KNB secret police informants, held in pre-trial detention, denied cancer treatment, reportedly has been beaten in prison, can barely walk; sentenced on May 2, 2017 to 5 years' imprisonment followed by 3 years' prohibition on preaching; **UPDATE**: appeal denied, still denied medical treatment)

Date: June 20, 2017

Location: Astana

Source: <a href="http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2289">http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2289</a>



## Nigeria

Fr Charles Nwachukwu (abducted for ransom while traveling on a road near Umuokpu, Nwangele logal government area, Imo state on June 16, 2017; **UPDATE**: rescued by police)

Fr Gabriel Oyaka CSSP (abducted on the Okene-Auchi road, Kogi state on September 7, 2015; **UPDATE**: fate unknown)

Date: June 18, 2017

Source: <a href="http://www.fides.org/en/news/62546-">http://www.fides.org/en/news/62546-</a>

AFRICA NIGERIA The police releases a priest victim of a seizure for extortion#.

WVOs0oTyuM8



#### **Pakistan**

Event: The hospital where Irfan Masih died after suffocating in a sewer and after doctors refused to treat him on June 1, 2017 has brought legal action against 16 of his relatives and co-workers for 'obstructing the doctors from performing their duties' when they tried to obtain medical treatment for him and protested his death, police have resisted the hospital's action as frivolous and an attempt to rebut the charges of criminal negligence that have been brought against them but a court has ordered the police to arrest the relatives and co-workers, the police are appealing the court order

Pervaiz Masih (sanitation worker, cousin of Irfan Masih; **UPDATE**: said "The hospital has levied a false charge against us in order to save themselves. The doctors were responsible for Irfan's death, because he would have been alive today had they not refused to treat him immediately. Our outburst against the doctors was natural, but we did not damage or steal anything from the hospital. It is a lie, and even the police know it")

Date reported: June 27, 2017

Source: <a href="http://morningstarnews.org/2017/06/hospital-pakistan-accused-letting-christian-die-requests-arrest-relatives-colleagues/">http://morningstarnews.org/2017/06/hospital-pakistan-accused-letting-christian-die-requests-arrest-relatives-colleagues/</a>



## **Philippines**

Fr Teresito 'Chito' Suganob (abducted by Islamic militants along with 13 parishioners on May 23, 2017, cathedral burned, 9 other Christians shot dead; **UPDATE**: seen alive by rescued hostages)

Date: June 25, 2017

Location: Marawi, Mindanao

Source: <a href="http://www.ucanews.com/news/filipino-priest-held-hostage-seen-alive-in-marawi/79604">http://www.ucanews.com/news/filipino-priest-held-hostage-seen-alive-in-marawi/79604</a>



#### Russia

N N Golchenko (fined US\$26 in Mirny, Sakha Republic on January 12, 2016 for distribution of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: March 22, 2016 Location: Yakutsk

Aleksandr Parygin (fined US\$19 on January 22, 2016 for possession of banned religious literature, claimed the literature was planted by the FSB in his automobile; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: February 25, 2016 Location: Arkhangelsk

Roman Pinegin (fined US\$25 in Kirovo-Chepetsk, Kirov Region on February 16, 2016 for having posted an online link to a banned web site; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: April 7, 2016 Location: Kirov

Yekaterina Kuznetsova (acquitted of charges of distributing banned religious literature)

Zinaida Leontyeva (acquitted of charges of distributing banned religious literature)

Date: March 4, 2016

Location: Tikhoretsk, Krasnodar region

A E Shinder (fined US\$33 on March 17, 2016 for possession of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: June 2, 2016

Location: Birobidzhan, Jewish Autonomous Region

V V Vasilyev (fined US\$15 in Kez, Udmurt Republic on March 21, 2016 for possession of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal withdrawn)

Date: April 27, 2016

Location: Izhevsk, Udmurt Republic

G M Rakhmanin (acquitted of charges of distributing banned religious literature)

Date: April 4, 2016

Location: Gulkevichi, Krasnodar region

S N Paukshtaitene (charged with posting an online link to a banned web site, outcome unknown)

Date: April 26, 2016

Location: Severodvinsk, Arkhangelsk region

Igor Rudakov (fined US\$31 in Serov, Sverdlovsk region on April 26, 2016 for possession of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: July 13, 2016 Location: Sverdlovsk

N A Zvereva (fined US\$16 for posting an online article that contained a link to a banned web site)

Date: April 29, 2016

Location: Kotlas, Arkhangelsk Region

Nikolai Lyashenko (accused of possession of banned religious literature, case later dismissed due to prosecutorial delays)

Date: May 16, 2016

Location: Serov, Sverdlovsk

N I Khvorostetskaya (fined US\$46 in Novorossiisk, Krasnodar region on May 17, 2016 for distribution of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: July 20, 2016 Location: Krasnodar

K F Loginova (charged with posting an online link to a banned web site, outcome unknown)

Date: May 23, 2016

Location: Solombalka, Arkhangelsk region

Aleksei Golovenkin (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Leonid Golovenkin (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: May 26, 2017

Location: Arkhangelsk region

Yu N Sablina (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: May 31, 2017

Location: Arkhangelsk region

S V Fedotov (fined US\$16 in Prokhladny, Kabardino-Balkariya on June 2, 2016 for possession of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: July 19, 2016

Location: Kabardino-Balkariya

L A Pychkina (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: June 6, 2016

Location: Solombalka, Arkhangelsk region

A A Belolapova (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: June 6, 2016

Location: Arkhangelsk region

Zh A Navrotskaya (fined US\$31 in Klintsy, Bryansk region on June 8, 2016 for distribution of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: July 19, 2016 Location: Bryansk

T F Tarasova (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: June 10, 2016

Location: Velsk, Arkhangelsk region

N N Starostina (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: June 14, 2016

Location: Koryazhma, Arkhangelsk region

A V Boytsova (fined US\$15 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: June 17, 2016

Location: Mtsensk, Oryol Region

M N Malova (fined an unknown amount in Gelendzhik on June 30, 2016 for distribution of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: August 28, 2016 Location: Krasnodar

Svetlana Vorontsova (fined US\$16 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: July 8, 2016

Location: Isakogorsk, Arkhangelsk region

O V Kirst (fined US\$16 for posting an online link to a banned web site)

Date: July 11, 2016

Location: Isakogorsk, Arkhangelsk region

Aleksandr Vozhzhov (fined US\$16 for distribution of banned religious literature)

Date: July 22, 2017 Location: Kaluga

A I Dmitriyevykh (fined US\$31 on July 28, 2016 for distribution of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: September 13, 2016

Location: Kirov

V A Zinyukova (fined US\$15 for posting an online audio file that mentioned a banned web site)

Date: August 5, 2016

Location: Syzran, Samara region

V A Khromenkov (fined US\$15 for uploading banned religious literature to the internet)

Date: September 9, 2016

Location: Teykovo, Ivanovo region

O V Rybakova (fined US\$31 for possession of banned religious literature)

Date: September 22, 2016

Location: Sochi

A P Ogorodnikov (acquitted of possession of banned religious literature)

Date: October 7, 2016

Location: Kostomuksha, Karelia

Yury Kim (acquitted of possession of banned religious literature)

Date: October 12, 2016

Location: Nikolsk, Penza region

Alyona Kurganova (fined US\$16 for possession of banned religious literature)

Nadezhda Geraskova (fined US\$16 for possession of banned religious literature)

Date: October 28, 2016

Location: Urupsky, Karachai-Cherkessiya region

S A Gerbusheva (fined US\$16 for distribution of banned religious literature)

Date: November 8, 2016

Location: Primorsky, Novorossiysk, Krasnodar region

A N Shustov (fined US\$1,563 in Nolinsk, Kirov region on November 21, 2016 for distribution of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: January 17, 2017

Location: Kirov

Svetlana Isayeva (fined US\$16 for possession of banned religious literature)

Svetlana Kordiyaka (fined US\$16 for possession of banned religious literature)

Date: November 22, 2016

Location: Urupsky, Karachai-Cherkessiya region

S R Zharovtsev (acquitted of distribution of banned religious literature)

Date: December 7, 2016

Location: Nolinsk, Kirov region

O L Grinishina (fined US\$16 in Kirovo-Chepetsk, Kirov region on December 8, 2016 for posting an online link to a banned web site; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: February 21, 2017

Location: Kirov

A D Posokhov (fined US\$81 in Pyatigorsk, Stavropol region on December 14, 2016 for possession of banned religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal successful, conviction overturned)

Date: March 22, 2017 Location: Stavropol

Source: <a href="http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2287">http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2287</a>

**Events**: Two Christians were investigated beginning in April 2013 for 'incitement of hatred'; acquitted on March 4, 2016; acquittal overturned in Moscow on March 26, 2016;

UPDATE: verdict reached on re-trial but not disclosed

Vyacheslav Yuryevich Stepanov (aged 40)

Andrei Petrovich Sivak (aged 43)

Date: June 21, 2017

Location: Sergiyev Posad, Moscow region

Source: <a href="http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2290">http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2290</a>



## **Tajikistan**

Andrei Chumachenko (home raided during a worship service by NSC secret police, said "Lieutenant Khojayev threatened me that they will demolish my house. Other officers also threatened our believers with criminal prosecution")

Date: June 11, 2017

Source: <a href="http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2291">http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2291</a>



## **United Kingdom**

Mike Overd (street preacher, arrested on July 6, 2016 on of public order offences; convicted and fined £2,016 - US\$2,495 on February 28, 2017, the prosecutor stated "To say to someone that Jesus is the only God is not a matter of truth. To the extent that they are saying that the only way to God is through Jesus, that cannot be a truth", the judge stated that quoting parts of the King James Bible in the context of modern British society "must be considered to be abusive and is a criminal matter"; **UPDATE**: acquitted on appeal)

Michael Stockwell (street preacher; **UPDATE**: acquitted on appeal)

Date: June 29, 2017 Location: Bristol

Source: http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/freedom-of-speech/christian-street-

preachers-acquitted-of-public-order-offences



#### **United States - New York**

## **Event: Four churches were defaced with Satanic graffiti**

Deacon Alton Lamont (said "It's very upsetting that someone would desecrate a house of God")

George Richardson (aged 81, said "It is really scary! It is a sign of the end of time coming. It is a shame this is what the world is coming to. We need more prayer")

Pastor Walter Willie (said "They must have a vendetta. To attack a place of healing, a place that helps people in time of great need — whoever did this has hurt in their heart")

Pastor Willard Price (said he will pray for the perpetrator)

Pastor William Walker (aged 48, said "The blood of Jesus covers this house! No distress, no fear, to this family! Bless this house, no sign of evil will stop the word of God. Hail Jesus, hail Jesus, hail Jesus!")

Date: June 17, 2017 Location: Amityville

Source: http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/06/17/police-3-churches-on-long-island-hit-with-

satanic-graffiti.html

and http://nypost.com/2017/06/18/several-churches-found-sprayed-with-satanic-grafitti/



#### Uzbekistan

Event: Three Christians were sentenced in late April 2017 to 15 days' imprisonment for praying in a home; UPDATE: released early

Marat

Joldas

Salamat

Date: May 5, 2017

Location: Nukus, Karakalpakstan autonomous region

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\_id=2288



## Venezuela

Fr Oswaldo Montilla (church desecrated)

Auxiliary Bishop Tulio Luis Ramírez Padilla (denounced the desecration of a church)

Date: June 26, 2017

Location: Quebrada Honda, Caracas

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/62542-

AMERICA VENEZUELA Mgr Ramirez Enough thefts and profanations while cha os\_reigns\_in\_the\_capital#.WVOrq4TyuM8

Cardinal Jorge Urosa Savino (**UPDATE**: wrote "We [the Bishops] ask the national government to reconsider, stop that attitude of wanting to establish a totalitarian Marxist militaristic system in Venezuela, and, of course, to refrain from using legal resources to dismantle the state. All this is reprehensible and intolerable and it is not what most Venezuelan people want...One could speak of a government war against the people")

Date: June 30, 2017 Location: Caracas

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/62556-

AMERICA VENEZUELA Cardinal Urosa Enough violence one could speak of a government war against the people#.WVeh44TyuM8



#### Vietnam

Peter Pham Minh Hoang (aged 62, husband of Le Thi Kieu Oanh, father, professor of mathematics, activist and blogger, dual French citizen, told on June 1, 2017 that the government would revoke his citizenship - despite his birth in the country - and expel him; **UPDATE**: expelled)

Le Thi Kieu Oanh (said "Hoang is an excellent husband. I love him because he dedicates himself to the country. He accepts imprisonment and poverty to work for the nation, I trust completely in God. God chooses us to carry His cross on our shoulders, He will open other doors for us")

Date: June 24, 2017

Location: Ho Chi Minh City

Source: http://www.ucanews.com/news/vietnam-expels-catholic-activist-to-france/79588

Fr Peter Cao Duc Loi (described an attack by 100 undercover police and hired thugs on his monastery in which a large cross was pulled down "They have thrown stones against the monks and hit three or four of them. They prevented us from raising it again and pulled the monks clinging to it by their hair and clothes. Two of them were injured and another was knocked senseless. It was horrible")

Date: June 28, 2017 Location: Thien An, Hue

Source: <a href="http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Thi%C3%AAn-An-monastery-cross-demolished;-">http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Thi%C3%AAn-An-monastery-cross-demolished;-</a>
Monks-and-faithful-assaulted-41166.html

Mary Magdelene Nguyen Ngoc Nhu Quynh (aged 38, mother of two, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for anti-government internet postings)

Le Cong Dinh (aged 48, attorney, released from a Ho Chi Minh City prison on February 7, 2013 after serving more than three years of a five year sentence; **UPDATE**: said "I am really surprised by the 10-year sentence that shows the government's inhumanity to a single young mother. I did not realize what a state of panic the ruling party is in...It is certain that in her lifetime she will witness the death knell of the regime that sentenced her")

Date: June 29, 2017

Location: Nha Trang, Khanh Hoa province

Source: http://www.ucanews.com/news/vietnamese-catholic-blogger-sentenced-to-10-years-in-

jail/79638

## **Today's Martyrs**

For more information please visit our web site at <a href="http://todaysmartyrs.org/">http://todaysmartyrs.org/</a>
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