

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

**Weekly Report – 2018-12-09 through 2018-12-15**



## **China**

**Event: At least 100 Christians were detained after police raids on their homes, at least three people of both sexes were ‘raped’ by police**

Pastor Wang Yi (husband of Jiang Rong; **UPDATE**: detained)

Jiang Rong (wife of Pastor Wang Yi; **UPDATE**: detained)

Guo Hai (detained along with his wife, two children left behind at home)

Qin Defu (church elder, forced to the ground during a police search of his home)

Song Enguang (husband, detained along with his wife, electricity shut off from his home)

Jiang Ruolin (detained)

Ge Yingfeng (detained)

Zhu Hong (detained)

Xiao Hongliu (detained)

Ye Yin (detained)

Zhang Jianqing (detained)

Liu Yingxiu (detained)

Assistant Deacon Zhang Guoqing (detained)

Su (church elder, husband, detained along with his wife)

Xiao Yingshan (husband, detained along with his wife)

Xiao Baoguang (detained)

Zhou Xiaojuan (detained)

Liu Daxuan (detained)

Zhou Yong (detained)

Li Yingqiang (**UPDATE**: evaded police, contacted foreign media)

Date: [December 10, 2018](#)

Location: [Chengdu, Sichuan province](#)

Li Yingqiang (**UPDATE**: detained)

Date: December 11, 2018

Location: Chengdu, Sichuan province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/12/associated-press-group-says-dozens.html>  
and <http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/12/breaking-80-church-attendees-in-custody.html>

Liao Hongcong (military veteran, church raided by police, Bibles and furniture seized, said “I am an old Chinese soldier and dedicated my youth and made my contribution to the country. However, I don’t have religious freedom now and couldn’t even protect my religious freedom. We seniors worshipped at home. What law did we violate? We sang hymns and read the Bible. What law did we break? We need religious freedom. I love Jesus, I love China, and I love all people...The stools and Bibles were looted on the morning of Dec. 2. At that time, only more than 10 seniors were holding a worship service in my home. I have already made a police report, but the police station hasn’t sent anyone out yet”)

Date: December 2, 2018

Location: Pingxiang, Jiangxi province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/12/i-dont-have-religious-freedom-chinese.html>

Rev John Cao San Qiang (husband of Jamie Powell, father of two sons, U.S. resident, minister to Myanmar Christians, arrested [at the Myanmar border with China on March 5, 2017](#) and charged with illegal border crossing; sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment on [March 23, 2018](#), fined US\$3,168; **UPDATE**: appeal postponed)

Date: December 5, 2018

Location: Pu'er, Yunnan province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/12/north-carolina-pastors-appeal-postponed.html>

Zhang Baoluo (home raided by police without warrant, entire family detained, Bible and other items seized, all were released after being held for 30 minutes)

Date: December 2, 2018

Location: Xuzhou, Jiangsu province

Cao Nan (**UPDATE**: recently released after a 10 day detention)

Date reported: December 6, 2018

Location: Henan province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/12/jiangsu-police-detain-entire-christian.html>



## Iran

Ebrahim Firouzi (convert, aged 33, welder, rearrested on [August 21, 2013](#) while visiting two other Christians in [Karaj](#); reported on [May 1, 2015](#) to have been sentenced to five additional years' imprisonment for "action against national security through collusion and gathering", the gathering in question was a meeting where he met with friends to say

goodbye before the beginning of his original prison term; **UPDATE**: denied a furlough to attend the funeral of his mother)

Date: December 3, 2018

Mansour Borji (Article 18 advocacy director; **UPDATE**: reported that the government had arrested 142 Christians in the past month in “10 or 11 different cities” - 114 in the past week - and released most after hours or days “as they had arrested so many of them and didn’t know what to do with them all”, the released Christians were all told to expect phone calls from military intelligence)

Date reported: December 5, 2018

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/12/iran-staggering-number-of-christians-arrested-114-in-a-week/>



## Nicaragua

Fr Mario Guevara (aged 59, attacked with acid while hearing confessions, hospitalized with severe burns on his face, arms, and shoulders)

Cardinal Leopoldo Jose Brenes Solorzano (aged 69; **UPDATE**: deplored the attack on Fr Mario Guevara)

Auxiliary Bishop Silvio Jose Baez Ortega (**UPDATE**: deplored the attack on Fr Mario Guevara)

Date: December 5, 2018

Location: Managua

Source: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/nicaraguan-priest-attacked-with-acid-during-confession-60341>

## Today's Martyrs

*For more information please visit our web site at <http://todaysmartyrs.org/>*

*or write to*

**2490 Black Rock Turnpike #455  
Fairfield CT 06825-2400**

Permission is granted to copy, disseminate and forward this document without charge or fee, provided no changes are made and full attribution is made to Today's Martyrs