

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Commentary - 2017-07-16 through 2017-07-22

Our report this week ([click here to read](#)) tells of the deaths of Christians in Egypt, India, Nigeria, and the United States. Once again, the death of a Nigerian Christian college student shows how the most gifted and promising among us are lost to us due to hatred, though of course they are not lost to God. Once again, the murder of an elderly reclusive nominal Christian in the United States shows the reach of internet enabled terror. Once again, the death of an Egyptian Christian shows the extent of police brutality. Once again, an Indian Christian has died at the altar of Hindu nationalism. [Our report this week](#) once again has shown a great many other things.

The irony prize this week goes to the Russian government, for both threatening to prosecute a conscientious objector from an "extremist" church and for telling him that he will be posted to the country's nuclear forces.

In Great Britain two events occurred that should greatly concern Christians. The first was the release of a report from the Foreign Office which argued that the government should 'persuade' Christians in the Global South to 'reinterpret' the Bible to be 'inclusive' to LGBTI people. The second was similar: at the July 11-14 General Synod of the Church of England in York, the church leaders effectively voted to remove LGBT activity from the realm of Christian forgiveness. One Christian who is regularly reported on this site, Andrea Minichiello Williams, rose and asked the synod to consider the Bible. The Rev. Gavin Ashenden, who is becoming another regular here, told on an [Anglican Unscripted webcast](#) what happened:

“One of the saddest moments was when our doughtiest public campaigner, Andrea Minichiello Williams, who is the director of [Christian Concern](#), she stood up and invited people to consider the demands of Scripture. She wasn't listened to in respectful silence. She was booed. Well, when you have the Synod of the Church of England booing somebody who has an extraordinary reputation for standing up for the Gospel in the public space, who was inviting the Synod to consider the claims of Scripture, when someone like that was booed, you know that things have gone too far, there's been a sea change”

She was booed. A Christian who has probably done more than any other in today's Britain to defend the rights of persecuted Christians in courts and in the media was publicly shunned and silenced by the leaders of the established church, and over an appeal to consider, not follow, but *just consider* the Bible. This is an atrocity. The Church of England has only about 800,000 members, and so Gavin Ashenden [recently wrote a call for restoration](#):

Anglicanism is an episcopal Church, and the betrayal [seen at the synod] is one that lies at the feet of the bishops of the Church of England, who have preferred social and secular kudos to the sacrifice and integrity of the Gospel, and gone along with the replacement of Christ the Savior with Jesus-the-fake-therapist...There must come a new episcopal jurisdiction to whom the faithful can look for comfort, fidelity and leadership – a new Anglicanism that is in fact the old Anglicanism recaptured from the secular civil servants who serve this new religion...Leave the civil servants in their legal offices with responsibility for the upkeep of so many churches that have become museums, and let the faithful look to new bishops who will guard the orthodox faith, offer spiritual nourishment, lead the Christian community in its struggle against the growing anger of the secularists who seek to silence them.

Please read our report, please pray very much, and please do not be silent.



York Minster, Yorkshire, England

Today's Martyrs

For more information please visit our web site at:

<http://todaysmartyrs.org/index.php/blog-3/>

or write to:

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

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