

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom



India

A C Michael (Delhi Minorities Commission member, United Christian Forum, arrested in [New Delhi](#) on [December 11, 2013](#) with other priests, pastors, and nuns who were demonstrating for equal rights for Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims, several were beaten by police;

met with other human rights activists in [New Delhi](#) on [August 9, 2016](#) to discuss the failure of government and political parties to oppose the RSS Hindu paramilitary organization, said "I am concerned of the subtle way of terror which is happening in the way of changing the education policy and introducing a uniform civil code. This is more dangerous than the physical violence";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism "We, as Indian Christians, are concerned at the steady shift we see in our country from a pluralist, secular, democracy to a Hindu Rashtra [the supremacist Land of the Hindus]. What used to be fringe, has now become mainstream. There is a systematic design to undermine the Constitution. Official machinery often seems working in tandem with the 'vigilantes'. Street lynching, victims charged as accused, stage-managed trials, all on the basis of one's religious and caste identities. Media seems mute, silent in self-censorship, coerced by the state, or leashed by its corporate ownership...In unison with members of all faiths, ideologies, we should marshal India's tremendous spiritual resources in consolidating peace, resolving conflicts and infusing a sense of values in the body politic", which was published on [August 4, 2017](#), said that while the letter was sent to church leaders it was meant as a call to every Christian to unite for justice)

A Chinnappan (Secretary General – All India Catholic Union, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev A K Netam (described the [August 24, 2013](#) attack on Laxmi Sovi and her children;

described the [July 22, 2016](#) rape and murder of Sangeeta Siri)

Archbishop A M Chinnappa (led a day long fast on [September 19, 2012](#) to condemn the police desecration of a church in [Idinthakarai, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu state](#))

A P David (threatened with arrest for allowing the 20 Christians to stay at his hostel in [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#) on [February 25, 2015](#))

A Rethinakumar (repeatedly kicked in the spine by drunken policemen on [November 3, 2015](#) in [Thomas Nagar, Tamil Nadu state](#) who said "What has Jesus done for you, sons of prostitutes? Why are you running to Him?", suffered fractures, hospitalized)

Fr A X J Bosco SJ (Dalit [untouchable] activist, spoke during a [September 16, 2016](#) rally near the parliament building in [New Delhi](#) concerning government neglect of Dalits "If the BJP is

trying to destroy us, the entire country will be destroyed")

Abhilasha (aged 8 months, chased from a [December 25, 2014](#) Christmas celebration in [Sukta Dam, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by a Hindu mob, rescued by police then arrested for forcible conversions, released 5 days later)

Pastor Abraham Biswas Surin (aged 64, disappeared on [May 5, 2016](#), [body found under a bridge](#) in [Rourkela, Odisha state](#) on [May 9, 2016](#), throat slit, hit multiple times with an axe)

Fr Abraham Kannampala (condemned the [February 20, 2016](#) chemical attack on tribal activist Sori Sori in [Chhattisgarh state](#) "This is the first attack of this sort heard in the region in recent memory")

Abraham M Pattiyani (governmental member of Delhi Minority Commission, met with the Delhi police chief on [September 15, 2015](#) to express concern over the threats to John Dayal)

Bishop Abraham Mar Paulus (signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities")

Abraham Varghese (aged 25, said on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Aligarh](#) "What is the meaning of this 'homecoming'? We are already in our home")

Adivappa Kashennavar (beaten by mob)

Bishop Agnelo Gracias (said on [October 1, 2012](#) in [Mumbai](#) he was "happy that the objectionable [anti-Christian] scenes have been deleted" from the film Kamaal Dhamaal Malamaal)

Agnelo Pereira (arrested for the [July 14, 2014](#) desecration of a crucifix in [Vile Parle, Mumbai](#), hundreds convinced of his innocence protested the arrest)

Pastor Aharon (reported on [July 23, 2015](#) to have been being accosted by Hindu radicals before Sunday services, said "The situation is such that I cannot give a guarantee that I will go back to my family when I go to conduct worship in Masupally [village in [Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#)]. On more than one occasion, the members of Hindu Vahini, threatened to kill me if I continue to hold prayers in the village. They surround me and they use abusive language and manhandled me. They have warned me not to come back")

Aiba Padra (aged 35, farmer, [shot dead](#) on [November 14, 2012](#) by security forces in [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) who allegedly mistook him for an armed Maoist rebel)

Aimazan Bibi (house in [Nutangram village, Murshidabad district, West Bengal state](#) invaded on [March 30, 2012](#) by Muslims during prayer service of 11 persons, threatened with death)

Aiti (aged 40, stomped on by Hindu extremists on [June 16, 2014](#) in [Sirisguda, Bastar town](#),

Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state and hospitalized after protesting the denial of the Christians' food rations by the local government, sexually assaulted)

Aitu Mandavi (beaten by Hindu extremists on [June 16, 2014](#) in [Sirisguda, Bastar town, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state](#) after protesting the denial of the Christians' food rations by the local government, lay in a coma for two days after being beaten but initially denied treatment, left hand and right elbow broken in the attack, body covered in bruises, said "I received a hard blow on my head, and thereafter a couple of extremists started to jump on me, beating me up with sticks, punching and kicking me all over my body and my head and telling me I deserve to die because I am a Christian")

Pastor Ajay Kasbe (punched and kicked along with other Christians by Hindu extremists during an [October 27, 2013](#) worship service in the same church in [Kalva, Thane district, Maharashtra state](#) in which Pastor Arulraj was attacked on October 6, 2013, dragged to the police station for arrest on a charge of "forced conversions", police instead arrested the Hindu extremists)

Pastor Ajay Kumar (husband, father of a 3 year old daughter, beaten by a Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary youth wing] mob in [Begusarai, Bihar state](#) on [March 17, 2017](#), kicked in the face, ear, and abdomen, arrested on offending religious sensibilities charges, released, suffered pain from internal injuries including his ear)

Fr Ajaya Kumar Singh (director of the Odisha Forum for Social Action [OROSA], on [April 30, 2014](#) described the persecution of the family of Praful Digal by Hindu extremists;

spoke on [October 15, 2014](#) concerning Hindu nationalists "They even want to impose only one language, Sanskrit, even though hundreds of languages are spoken in India...Especially under threat is the Christian minority because it is rejected by extremists as alien and because they regard the Christian message as endangering the caste system...It is important for us to understand what is happening. As a Church we must think way beyond the bounds of the individual dioceses, we must act regionally, nationally in order to find responses to this challenge. Otherwise [the pogrom in] Orissa 2008 will be repeated, even worse than then because we learnt no lessons from it";

said after the [February 10, 2015](#) defeat of the Hindu nationalist BJP party in the National Capital Territory elections by the AAP anti-corruption party "With AAP's win in Delhi, Hindutva fascist forces will now be checked";

said of the [July 26, 2015](#) possible killing of Dhubaleswar and his wife "This is absolutely false. They were not Maoists, but ordinary Christians, killed in cold blood...This is a predominantly Christian village. After the violence of 2008, young people migrated to other states in search of work. Often people have to go to the top of the hill to get a signal and call the world. Dhubaleswar and his wife were ordinary Christians, not Maoist militants";

said of the three Christians and three others who were killed on [July 8, 2016](#) between [Baligunda and Malapanga, Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#) by police who claimed they were attacking Maoists rebels "It is a well-planned strategy to create terror among poor villages";

on [July 13, 2016](#) described the importance of the new film **Voice from the ruins - Kandhamal in search of justice**, which documents the 2008 pogrom against Christians in which nearly 100 were killed, more than 40 raped, 56,000 displaced, and 350 churches and 6,500 homes destroyed;

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#), said that the letter was meant to encourage Christians to better coordinate their responses to persecution)

Pastor Ajayan (reported on the [May 26, 2014](#) attack on Shri Lal Khatiyani and Asha Devi “Asha sustained a deep cut on her head, and Lal has pain in his chest”)

Pastor Ajmer Singh Damor (beaten when Hindu radicals attacked a [September 10, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Fattiguda, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state](#), police initially refused to file a report, unconscious for 5 hours)

Akash Gundia (aged 15, son of Hartesh Singh Gundia, put in juvenile detention in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#), said “I told the police I am a Christian by birth, and we are going to attend the VBS [Vacation Bible School], but they did not listen to me and took us to the police station. Children as young as 6 also were in police custody, but when their parents came, the police handed them over to the parents. I was produced in court a day later, and from there was sent to a juvenile detention home...I missed my home so much – I cried every day, and prayed and prayed”;
released on [June 20, 2017](#))

Rev Akash Nandi (described a [late August 2015](#) attack on four Christian families in [Lupungi Messasai village, Chaibasa municipality, Jharkhand state](#) “The believers in this village could not go anywhere, as they are restricted from walking on the road and taking water from the public pump, and the children were banned from the school. They were not allowed to take care of their herds of cattle, and the extremists threatened to kill and take hold of all their possession if they did not denounce Christ”;

described a [September 9, 2015](#) attack on seven Christian families in [Sagarkatta village, Chaibasa municipality, Jharkhand state](#) who were also prohibited from walking on the road or from using the village well “One baptized widow out of intense fear and pressure decided to return to Hinduism, and two men who started attending church services also promised not to take part in any of the Christian meetings again”;

gave additional details of the [May 8, 2016](#) attack in [Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#) “The pastor’s testimony enraged the crowd more and they started to beat him and the other five Christian men...”, when threatened with death the Christians replied “Do whatever you like, we are not going to leave Christ at any cost”)

Rev Akhilesh Edgar (Evangelical Fellowship of India, described how 15 Christians were driven into a Hindu temple and forced to worship, then beaten and driven from [Jawanga village, Dakshin Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [June 19, 2012](#);

said “The Hindu extremists were behind the [[October 20, 2014](#)] attack” on Laxman in [Tokapal area, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh state](#))

Pastor Akshya Kumar Vishyakarma (aged 32, arrested on [February 21, 2013](#) during a revival meeting, released on bail)

Bishop Alangaram Durairaj (condemned the [July 23, 2014](#) illegal demolition of school's flood control wall in [Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by Hindu nationalists shouting "Victory to Lord Rama!", courts had sided with the school)

Fr Alban D'Souza (forced by Hindu nationalists on [December 28, 2012](#) in [Kalmady village, Udupi District, Karnataka state](#) to remove a banner in honor of Our Lady of Velankanni)

Albert Dua ([Punjab](#) state minority commissioner, said of the [July 22, 2017](#) assassination of Pastor Sultan Masih "After the incident, anti-social elements have already threatened a pastor in Haibowal and a sister in Kila Mohalla. We cannot let our people die. The administration must ensure our security")

Pastor Albis Bara (aged 35, arrested on [February 21, 2013](#) during a revival meeting in [Aara,](#)

[Surguja district, Chhattisgarh state](#), released on bail)

Fr Alex Ekka (educationist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Alexander (beaten by Hindu extremists who had invaded St Thomas School in [Uttara Kannada, Karnataka state](#) on [August 25, 2013](#), later arrested on a charge of forcible conversion of the schoolchildren despite the absence of anti-conversion laws in the state)

Alfred Rozamio (responded to the [April 16, 2015](#) church vandalism in [Agra](#) in which a statue had a dog chain wrapped around its neck “I was born and brought up here and it hurts to see there is so much hatred growing among people.... I don’t know why they [the attackers] stooped so low and what they wanted to achieve”)

Ali Shah (aged 26, son of Pastor Sultan Masih)

Pastor Aliyakim Jena (complained about the demolition of a church on [July 14, 2012](#) in [Patli Dabar village, Haryana state](#))

Alkesh Ganava (aged 27, vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp;

denied bail on [June 12, 2017](#))

Allen Brooks (Assam Christian Forum spokesman, said after the cathedral in [Bongaigaon, Assam state](#) was vandalized on [June 20, 2017](#), the tabernacle was broken: "The incident has struck everyone. Christians in the state are under shock and are afraid")

Alora Milli (attacked by a mob on [April 10, 2013](#) for forced conversions in [Shivpora district, Srinagar, Kashmir](#), arrested)

Bishop Aloysius Paul Dsouza (expressed pain over the [June 25, 2012](#) vandalism of a [Mangalore](#) church, apparently done to increase sectarian strife)

Pastor Alvish Bara (beaten by 20 Hindu militants in [Balrampur district, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [June 5, 2016](#), arrested on forced conversion charges, other Christians also beaten)

Alwan Masih (general secretary of the Church of North India stated on [August 1, 2012](#) in [New Delhi](#) regarding discrimination against Christian Dalits "The very Constitution that must protect us appears to be against us";

arrested in [New Delhi](#) on [December 11, 2013](#) with other priests, pastors, and nuns who were demonstrating for equal rights for Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims, several were beaten by police;

said on [December 18, 2014](#) after leaked documents showed that the Federal government was considering creating a 'Good Governance Day' for schoolchildren on Christmas Day "We should be treated as equal citizens. And we should have the liberty of celebrating our Christmas without any intrusion and disturbance from anyone. But this is not happening...We are feeling threatened because it is like testing...how much people will react and how much they will go on bearing without much protest. It looks like this is testing for something bigger they might do to the [religious] minorities. That is the fear in the minds of the minorities";

protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2015](#) the continuing exclusion of Christian and Muslim Dalits ["untouchables"] from Scheduled Caste status, thus making them inferior to Hindu, Sikh, and Buddhist Dalits;

said on or near [April 12, 2017](#) “Our appeal fell on deaf ears. Good Friday is a sacred, holy

occasion for all Christians. It will be inappropriate to have the Digital Day on Good Friday, as it will hurt the religious sentiments of the Christian community”)

Fr Amal Yeruva (described the [June 5, 2013](#) noontime attack on Telugu Baptist Church in [Mahehwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Hyderabad territory, Andhra Pradesh state](#) in which twenty pastors were beaten and seven left unconscious in the road and later hospitalized, police did nothing to help them)

Sr Amala Valummel O.Carm (aged 69, retired nurse, **beaten to death** on [September 17, 2015](#) in her room at her convent in [Palai, Kottayam district, Kerala state](#))

Amarsingh (aged 35, arrested on illegal conversion charges in [Sitabedi village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh](#) on [April 9, 2017](#))

Ameya Jaal (aged 45, vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp;
denied bail on [June 12, 2017](#))

Pastor Amit Kumar (arrested along with 15 parishioners while celebrating Christmas on [December 17, 2014](#) in [Navipur, Pipraich, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh state](#), all were released without charge 18 hours later except the pastor who was charged with 'disturbing the peace')

Amiya Jal (described the attack on the [September 10, 2015](#) prayer meeting led by Pastor Ajmer Singh Damor)

Amrit Goldsmith (human rights activist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Anand Castelino (along with 5,000 Christians protested a [Mumbai](#) development plan on [July 18, 2016](#) that will remove protections for churches and cemeteries, said that since authorities had already removed some 'illegal' crosses, "tomorrow they will demolish our churches saying they are also illegal")

Rev Anand Chougule (reported on [August 28, 2015](#) to have said that the church of Pastor Benjamin Gomes in [Pinguli village, Kudal, Sindhugurh](#) had been accused of forcible conversions, but every member testified to the contrary)

Anand Kumar (aged 19, attacked on [February 16, 2013](#) by a mob which accused him of proselytizing, dragged to the [Sawalikeda village, Khalwa block, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) police station, released after 3 weeks)

Fr Anand Muttungal (on [May 4, 2012](#) appointed spokesman for Isai Mahasangh in [Bhopal city, Madhya Pradesh state](#), an ecumenical lay organization which has nearly 100,000 Christian members engaged in public advocacy and social empowerment;

stated on [August 24, 2012](#) "The number of people embraced death for the sake of faith is over fifty, so we decided to commemorate this event on the last Sunday of August. It is in the month of August 2008 most number of believers faced death and suffering. Every Sunday Christians gather all over the world for prayer so it will be fitting to remember and pray for those Christians...The Indian Christian Martyrs Day is not just to remember and pray for the believers who embraced death but also those Christians who are facing suffering and threat due to their faith in Lord Jesus Christ";

described on [July 18, 2013](#) how Christians of all denominations are organizing to defeat a new anti-conversion law in the [Madhya Pradesh state](#) parliament)

Pastor Anand Raj (church in [Andhra Pradesh state](#) attacked by a mob of 40 Hindu radicals on [June 28, 2015](#), threatened with death, police refused to file a report and ordered him to stop holding services, said "This is not the first time, the Hindu radicals attacked us. In April 2011, the radicals vandalized the church, destroyed the musical instruments, and burnt the Bibles. Again in 2013, the electricity was disconnected to the church by the authorities through the sheer influence and involvement of radical Hindu organizations")

Anand Rao (arrested at a [February 10, 2013](#) Bible lecture in [Adilabad district, Andhra Pradesh state](#) on a false charge of forced conversion, released on bail the next day)

Pastor Anar Jamre (as of [January 14, 2016](#) has been an advisor to the group of "followers of Jesus" in [Dahar village, Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Anar Singh (described the [March 9, 2015](#) attack on Pastor Lal Singh and Indram Chauhan by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary's youth organization] in [Barwani district, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Aneef (aged 34, home in [Karntaka state](#) set afire by Hindu extremists on [September 28, 2013](#))

Rev Aneesh Andrews (described on [July 17, 2014](#) how poor Christian families have been denied government rations of staples such as wheat, rice and sugar, and access to village water sources, said "In some places, the passing of the resolution has been followed by attacks on pastors and pulling down of village churches. It is not just passing of a resolution. This is a ploy to harass Christians")

Pastor Angad Singh (aged 35, arrested on [February 21, 2013](#) during a revival meeting in [Aara, Surguja district, Chhattisgarh state](#), released on bail)

Archbishop Anil Joseph Thomas Couto (arrested in [New Delhi](#) on [December 11, 2013](#) with other priests, pastors, and nuns who were demonstrating for equal rights for Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims, several were beaten by police;

said in [Delhi](#) on [July 17, 2014](#) "Though it could be considered as just another ban on Christian missionaries at the behest of fundamentalist groups and bigoted political functionaries, who are now greatly encouraged, it is a grave assault on the fundamental rights of individuals and peoples' groups", added that the non-Hindu religious activity ban will lead to violence;

in [New Delhi](#) on [August 7, 2014](#) condemned reports that Sangh Parivar Hindu nationalist groups are collecting information on people who have converted to Christianity and Islam;

has called on the Prime and Home Ministers to order a judicial inquiry into the [December 1, 2014](#) church arson in [Dilshad district, Delhi](#), also said that Christians are living in fear in India, also said "The arson in St. Sebastian's church was condemnable not just because it was an act of sacrilege and hate against the community and its faith, but that it could happen in the national capital which is just recovering from a series of communal incidents";

signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions

throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities";

said after the [February 10, 2015](#) defeat of the Hindu nationalist BJP party in the National Capital Territory elections by the AAP anti-corruption party: "the result is a vote for change. Even after eight months, the Modi government has failed to act well, nor has it fulfilled its promises. The people of Delhi are disappointed and that's why they wanted to give Arvind Kejriwal a chance as the new chief minister [governor]. Moreover, the majority of the population here is well educated and come from all over the country. People have the pulse of the situation, on their States: their vote also shows the frustration of the people of India about the central government's behavior";

protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2015](#) the continuing exclusion of Christian and Muslim Dalits ["untouchables"] from Scheduled Caste status, thus making them inferior to Hindu, Sikh, and Buddhist Dalits;

described three cases of illegal denial of ambulances or hearses for use by low caste people, wrote in [Delhi](#) on [September 7, 2016](#) "On the one hand, we are trumpeting that India is a super power and the world's third largest economy, while on the other, day-to-day incidents of apathy and the lack of basic amenities and health care for the poor continues to contradict the government's tall claims...These incidents remind us that we as a democratic state are lacking even basic amenities and facilities to provide a dignified burial or last rites for the dead, particularly the poor and vulnerable sections of the society";

on [November 22, 2016](#) criticized a proposed national education policy, said "The government is trying to impose an anti-people policy on the whole country. If the draft is finalized it will disturb the secular and peaceful fabric of the country")

Rev Anil Kumar (beaten by Hindu militants on [October 6, 2013](#) in [Siddapur, Karnataka state](#) while being observed by police, later arrested, released on bail, soon after suffered a heart attack, hospitalized in intensive care in critical condition)

Anil Kumar (aged 32, brother of Sunil Kumar, security guard at a [New Delhi](#) Christian school **killed** by robbers on [July 15, 2016](#), US\$315 taken, had been a former student at the school)

Anil Kumar (arrested in [Majhgawan, Satna district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [October 3, 2015](#) for forced conversions)

Pastor Anil Kumar (hit on the head with a bucket during the attack on the [October 12, 2015](#) prayer meeting in the home of Rajath and Swapna Pradhan, suffered a deep cut, later said "Balanagar is [a] stronghold for the RSS and all its affiliates. It is becoming increasingly difficult to hold prayers in Christian homes. Even the Christians are afraid of hosting prayers in their homes")

Anil Masih (said of the [July 19, 2015](#) Hindu extremist attack on the family of Pastor Pratap Singh in [Nakhnool village, Rajasthan state](#) "The extremists threatened to socially boycott the Christians if they continue to worship Christ and threatened to kill them if they submit a police complaint against anyone")

Sr Anise Jacob (school principal in [Nagrakata, Malbazar subdivision, Jalpaiguri district, West](#)

[Bengal state](#), called police on [March 22, 2015](#) after receiving the threat against the school)

Anita Benjamin (met with the state Home Minister to describe the [May 12, 2015](#) Hindu attack on the church in [Indore, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Ankush Bariyekar (prayer meeting in [Chandi Nagar, Raipur district, Chhattisgarh state](#) interrupted on [January 18, 2013](#), has relocated for safety reasons)

Anmol – see Anugrag Gemethi

Pastor Annaiah (beaten on [October 28, 2012](#) in [Narisipura village, Karnataka state](#), threatened with death)

Annamma (beaten by mob on Christmas, head injured)

Sr Annies John (superior of a 47-year old nun who on [June 20, 2015](#) was found bound, unconscious, and half naked at a nursing home in [Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#), two masked men had entered her room and demanded money but then left the money behind, said she had been drugged)

Anoop Masih (aged 47, auto-rickshaw driver, on [May 25, 2016](#) protested Hindus throwing garbage in a Christian cemetery in [Jalandhar, Punjab state](#) “I told them not to demean the Christian land and reminded them that the sentiments of the Christians are with their dead buried here”, said that later that day a customer “who seemed to me a learned gentleman...asked to stop for a moment in front of a shop in Santokhpura area, where seven men were waiting to ambush me. They suddenly pulled me down from my auto-rickshaw and started to assault me, saying that they are going to put me in a grave today...They hit me all over my body with many blows using their fists and legs, and then started to hit me in my private parts. One of them was wearing boots and his boot repeatedly hit one of my testicles so hard that I collapsed with the intensity of pain and I almost thought I’ll soon be dead”)

Anoop Masih (son of Pastor Sultan Masih, discovered his body)

Mgr Anthonisamy Neethinathan (spoke in [Mumbai](#) on Black Day [August 10, 2012](#), which marks the constitutional discrimination against Christian and Muslim Dalits [untouchables])

Bishop Anthony Chirayath (said of the police after the [August 13, 2015](#) burglary of the [Ganj Basoda, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) church "They are inactive, and don't take any action when churches are attacked. They don't take seriously our complaints. What can we do? It is the duty of the police to investigate and take action against the culprits";

said in [Sagar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on or before [November 28, 2016](#) after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign "scrapping high denomination notes in the country does not have any serious impact on the running of the diocese and its institutions. Our diocese is in a rural area and people lead very ordinary lives with little money. Our Sunday collection was not affected as nobody would ever offer the scrapped high denomination notes";

reported on [September 20, 2017](#) to have said police "found that the alleged accusation of converting 200 people [at a 20 year old Catholic college in [Mohanpur village, Guna district, Madhya Pradesh state](#)] is false. Police officers have also verified that property really belongs to the Church, so there is nothing illegal about the land on which the structure is built. They only want to attack us...[the goal] is to drive out Christians from this area. There are just two Christian families here and yesterday one of them told me they received threats, now lives in fear";

reported on [September 20, 2017](#) to have said he had not received the order from the state

government to require that all public school students to say Jai Hind [hail India] when attendance is taken [Hind is a sectarian pro-Hindu word for India - the official non-sectarian word is Bharat] and would think about implementing it, added "It is not good for a healthy democracy to force such orders on students";

voiced opposition to the [November 10, 2017](#) Hindu nationalist group Dharam Jagaran Samanwaya Samiti [religious awakening co-ordination committee] torchlit march in [Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) in which it called for the closure of a church owned boarding school in [Mohanpur village, Guna district](#), said "We are under tremendous pressure...We are afraid, we can be attacked at any time. Our schools, institutions and orphanages can be harmed. Help us!...Our number has not grown in years, still we are accused of converting people...[in a] false and malicious [media] campaign [that is] creating an atmosphere of hostility against us, spreading fake news through newspapers, television channels, brainwashing")

Anthony Cruz (social activist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Anthony Dias (scholar, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Anthony D'Souza (said of the desecration of a cross in [Mumbai](#) on [September 4, 2016](#) [the day of the canonization of Mother Teresa] "God only knows who did this and what they wanted to get out of breaking it. Nobody saw it happening otherwise they would have caught them")

Fr Anthony Francis (pastor, said of the [December 1, 2014](#) church arson in [Dilshad district, Delhi](#) "The police and the forensic team only reached at 5.30 pm, though the fire broke out in the morning")

Anthony John (aged 44, fisherman, **shot dead** by police in [Idinthakarai village, Tamil Nadu state](#) on [September 10, 2012](#))

Antika (daughter of Ramnath and Survati, beaten on [March 27, 2013](#) in [Uttar Pradesh](#))

Fr Antony Bara (said that the [September 11, 2015](#) sexual abuse charges against Joseph Dhanaswami and Sr Christ Maria were made under pressure from the Bajrang Dal and Vishwa Hindu Parishad)

Antu Ram (paid US\$33 to avoid having his home in [Kue Mari village, Chhattisgarh state](#) burned down by Hindu extremists, home burned down anyway, family including three children and elderly parents as of [September 2, 2014](#) live under a plastic sheet)

Antulal Murali (family afraid, said in [Khuma village, Mandla district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [March 25, 2015](#) "I have been hearing of the church attacks across India, we fear we may be attacked too. A few years ago, the local members of the Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary youth wing] had threatened us and asked us to convert to Hinduism")

Anurag Gemethi aka Anmol (aged 7, son of Harish, disappeared on [November 17, 2013](#) on the way to Sunday School in [northern India](#), body found in a pond, **died by drowning**, body showed signs of extensive torture)

Archana (aged 22, daughter of Ramnath and Survati, badly beaten on [March 27, 2013](#) in [Uttar Pradesh](#), hand fractured)

Sr Archana (school principal, condemned the [July 23, 2014](#) illegal demolition of school's flood control wall in [Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by Hindu nationalists shouting "Victory to Lord Rama!", courts had sided with the school)

Arif Chouhan (aged 29, described an [May 27, 2016](#) assault in [Gurdaspur, Punjab state](#) "Each of

them was carrying a sickle in their hand and they hit me holding it upside down in a way that I would get internal injuries and not bleed. While assaulting me the attackers said that they had been following me for ten days and finally found me in a secluded place. I was unable to move for two weeks and the police have now given me two security personnel for my safety. In my 16 years of ministry as a Christian leader, I have not faced such opposition before")

Arjun (arrested without charge on [June 20, 2012](#) after conducting a prayer meeting in [Pati village, Bhalwani district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), released)

Arjun Singh (aged 45, attacked on [February 16, 2013](#) by a mob which accused him of proselytizing, dragged to the [Sawalikeda village, Khalwa block, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) police station, released after 3 weeks)

Pastor Arul (house church attacked by more than 30 BJP and RSS paramilitary members on [March 15, 2015](#), sermon interrupted, two ribs broken, hospitalized)

Pastor Arulraj (attacked by Hindu activists on [October 6, 2013](#) in [Kalva, Thane district, Maharashtra state](#) who invaded his church, beat him, and then took him to the police for arrest for "forced conversions")

Arun (aged 19, son of Ratnam, Mudugula caste member, denied an engineering scholarship due to the government's 1950 order that removed legal protections for Christian [and Muslim] untouchables, joined a protest in [New Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2017](#))

Pastor Arun Kumar (described the [June 5, 2016](#) attack in [Kas Mahal, Patna, Bihar state](#) "The church service was disrupted by members of the ABVP disguised as students. They stormed the venue, created a disturbance and proceeded to beat the Christians present using their belts. They also pelted stones at the women and children present...Many of the Christians were seriously injured and had to be admitted to the local hospital for treatment and first aid...The ABVP people have warned the Christians not to conduct any more worship services in the church or else next Sunday they will come with guns and swords and will kill the Christians and cut them to pieces";

described the [April 5, 2017](#) attack on Pastor Sikandar Kumar "When the pastor stepped out [of his home], 15 men started beating him and accused him of conversions in the village. They badgered his head with iron swords and sticks. Pastor Sikandar fell down unconscious: he had a deep injury on his head. He was bleeding severely", has assumed pastoral leadership in Pastor Sikandar Kumar's absence, has received death threats, added "More than 100 families attend the church. The police have provided us security for the Sunday worship")

Arun Pannalal (president of Chhattisgarh Christian Forum, described a village assembly in [Belar village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) which as of [July 6, 2014](#) has banned all non-Hindu religious activity, said "The situation is becoming worse. The anti-Christian propaganda is becoming stronger";

said "The attack [in [Madota village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [October 25, 2014](#)] happened without any provocation. Christians had gathered for the meeting, which never happened and instead they were attacked";

condemned an [October 31, 2015](#) call by the RSS paramilitary group for the government to enact strict population controls on religious minorities;

said the [March 6, 2016](#) attack on the church in [Kachana colony, Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#) was probably mounted by the Bajrang Dai, the youth wing of the RSS paramilitary organization "This is the fourth attack on churchgoers in Chhattisgarh in the past five

weeks";

described the [April 17, 2016](#) attack on Pastor Deenanath and his family, accused police of trying to avoid arresting the perpetrators;

said on or before [August 21, 2016](#) that so far this year there had been at least 20 attacks on Christians in [Chhattisgarh state](#);

said after two men accused of the [June 20, 2015](#) drugging and rape of a nun were acquitted in [Chhattisgarh state](#) on [January 3, 2017](#) "The youths arrested and tried for the rape were not the real culprits. They are absolutely innocents. It was an attempt to cover up the crime. So the judgment is not surprising at all";

said on or before [March 15, 2017](#) "Christians in Chhattigarh are being discriminated in every aspect of their life particularly in rural areas where their level of vulnerability is higher. Whether it is education, social welfare, or the PDS [Public Distribution System], Christians have been systematically chipped out for their Christian beliefs...There has been shift in the traditional way of incidents of harassment of Christians to an institutional discrimination")

Pastor Arun Toppo (prayer meeting in [Milan Patra, Koriya district, Chhattisgarh state](#) disrupted by drunken Hindu extremists on [October 9, 2013](#), protected from attack by Shyam Sunder and others, called police to stop the beating of Shyam Sunder, a policeman arrived and said he was not needed because no one had been killed, threatened with arrest when he complained of inaction at the police station)

Aruna Kumar Nayak (detained after a Christian worship service in [Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) was attacked by Hindu radicals on [June 18, 2017](#), forced to sign an 'agreement' that prohibited worship outside the home and with visitors, released)

Arvind (aged 20, son of Ramnath and Survati, beaten unconscious on [March 27, 2013](#) in [Uttar Pradesh](#))

Arvind D'Souza (placed in 'preventative' detention on [January 2, 2015](#) for 14 days after Hindu radicals accused him of 'spreading Christianity' in [Maulvikhurd village, Amethi district, Uttar Pradesh state](#), police acknowledged that he committed no crime but decided 'public order' required his detention)

Asaram Bech (personally aided 15 Christians after they were driven into a Hindu temple and forced to worship, then beaten and driven from [Jawanga village, Dakshin Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [June 19, 2012](#))

Asha Devi (wife of Shri Lal Khatiyani, home in [Balwanazir, Kaliyanganj, Bihar state](#) invaded by Hindu nationalists on [May 26, 2014](#), beaten, hospitalized)

Pastor Asha Ram Sahni (aged 38, arrested on [June 27, 2017](#) after a worship service in [Pujaripurvah village, Uttar Pradesh state](#) for 'unlawful assembly' and detained for 9 days, Bibles and literature seized, later accused of vandalizing an idol, accused of illegal conversions, slapped by the arresting officer after the officer asked for his favorite Bible reading and he read Matthew 7:7-11)

Ashalacha (orphaned in anti-Christian violence)

Ashes Bhuyan (detained after a Christian worship service in [Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) was attacked by Hindu radicals on [June 18, 2017](#), forced to sign an 'agreement' that prohibited worship outside the home and with visitors, released)

Mr Ashok (severely injured with a spinal cord injury after more than 60 Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary youth wing] members attacked a church in [Hosanagar, Shimoga district,](#)

- [Karnataka state](#) on [March 15, 2015](#), unable to sit or walk, hospitalized more than 70 kilometers away because local hospitals refused to treat him due to fears of attack)
- Pastor Ashok Nahar (aged 50, attacked on [February 16, 2013](#) by a mob which accused him of proselytizing, dragged to the [Sawalikedra village, Khalwa block, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) police station, released after 3 weeks)
- Pastor Ashok Wagh (accused on [March 16, 2015](#) along with three other pastors in [Multai, Madhya Pradesh state](#) of forcibly conversions to Christianity, detained for two days allegedly for their own protection)
- Assaryav (Bible college student, beaten by a Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary youth wing] mob in [Begusarai, Bihar state](#) on [March 17, 2017](#), arrested on offending religious sensibilities charges, released)
- Fr Aurele Brys SJ (Belgian citizen, missionary with over 50 years' experience in [Gujarat state](#), as of [April 24, 2017](#) may be forced to leave the country after denial of his visa renewal)
- Pastor Avdhesh Savita (aged 35, husband, father of four, Dalit [untouchable] caste member, abducted from his home in [Rendhar village, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [January 29, 2016](#) by Hindu extremists posing as policemen, beaten in [Orai, Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) for allegedly leading illegal conversions, head half-shaved including eyebrow and moustache, forced to ride a donkey, later said "'The mob that was parading me was shouting, 'Kill him, cut him in pieces,' but I kept telling them that faith unites, it does not divide. I told my tormentors that I believe in Christ out of my own freewill, and that I have never hurt anyone, but they just did not listen to me...I kept praying throughout the ordeal, I am not afraid of dying. I thought, 'This is the day when I will stand before my Savior.' But I also thought of my children, they are young, and that was my only concern. In the Lord I am persecuted, I am thankful for this privilege")
- Fr Avinash Masih (Brotherhood Society, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Avnish (wedding to a Hindu by the name of Anukampa on [February 28, 2017](#) was interrupted by Hindu radicals who invaded her church in [Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh state](#), police refused to intervene, Anukampa's statements that he was not converting to Christianity were ignored, agreed to move her wedding to a Vedic temple at a later date)
- Ayaid Prasad (home in [West Delhi](#) invaded by RSS paramilitary members when three pastors gathered on [July 18, 2015](#) to pray over his ill daughter)
- B Balakrishnan (attorney, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Rev B Rajarathnam (beaten in his home in [Chadurupally village, Andhra Pradesh state](#) by more than 15 radical Hindus on [March 17, 2014](#), wife beaten unconscious and hospitalized, a wall of his home was demolished, said on [April 28, 2014](#) "There is an increasing trouble emerging for the Christian community with Modi projected as Prime Minister. It is a matter of deep distress for Christians")
- Rev B Robert (described an attack by Hindu extremists armed with iron bars on a [June 4, 2013](#) meeting of about 20 pastors in [Thukkugudu, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#), sustained minor injuries, "Some pastors even wore their [motorcycle] helmets in order to protect their heads. However, the angry extremists beat them with iron rods and broke their helmets")
- Pastor B Rakshanandam (forced on [February 8, 2013](#) to cancel two worship meetings after

baptizing ten Muslims in [Balanagar Industrial Slums, Secunderabad, Andra Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Bablu (reported on the [March 27, 2013](#) attack on the Survati family)

Babu (received 24 stitches for head injuries suffered when he accompanied Rev. Rajesh to the police station)

Fr. Babu Jose Pamplany (provincial superior of the Franciscans for India, denied on [May 27, 2012](#) in [Bangalore](#) an Internet news story purporting that Buddhist extremists had attacked Christian churches and missionaries: "The news is completely false: no Buddhist in India has ever attacked any Catholic community")

Badusi (wife of Sanatan Badmajhi)

Bagathram Mandavi (aged 55, father of Raghuram Mandavi, **died of natural causes** in [September 2016](#), denied burial until his son converted to Hinduism)

Mr Bagavathi (beaten on [August 3, 2014](#) in his [Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu state](#) home along with his family and the Rev Simon Stanley, who he had invited to pray for his injured 12 year old daughter)

Bahadur Chand Sarel (church leader, reported on the [March 6, 2016](#) attack on Kisna Sarel and his family "They blocked the village entry and harassed the Christian family. They told him never to go to the church again but to perform all the Hindu poojahs [offerings to gods] and rituals, and then beat him up")

Bahadur Murmu (aged 23, leader of the small Christian community, arrested on [January 18, 2013](#) during a prayer meeting in a [Gudikhamari village, Baripada district, Orissa state](#) private home on charges of proselytism)

Rev Bala Lakhandar (arrested in [Salempur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [May 10, 2017](#);
released on bail of US\$310 on [May 20, 2017](#), said "Hindu activists and the police abused us at the police station and their supporters did the same in the jail... We had trouble in the jail, some even pulled our hair, took away our bed roll, verbally abused us for being Christian, and forced us to sleep on the floor. But at the same time, God gave us opportunity to speak about Jesus to them...I believe it was a God-given gift")

Fr Balraj Lourduswamy (described the [December 14, 2015](#) desecration of a grotto of the Virgin Mary in [Vikasपुरy district, New Delhi](#) by three men "While one person broke the grotto glass another pulled down Our Lady's statue")

Pastor Bal Raja (caught with Bibles while getting off a bus with Pastor Rampal in [Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh state](#) in [January 2016](#), beaten, escaped)

Balwinder Kaur (aged 55, mentally disabled after a 2015 accidental electrocution, **bled to death on** [September 11, 2016](#) in [Veroke village, Puncab state](#) **four hours after being hacked on her legs with an axe** for allegedly desecrating the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh sacred text)

Pastor Balwinder Kumar (said that Pastor Sultan Masih may have been targeted for a public celebration of the church's 25th anniversary "RSS [paramilitary] activists arrived there and started accusing the pastor of forced conversions. They came to him to quarrel twice after the event, too. The feud was not so very serious that he had to be killed like this. The RSS activists accused him that, 'You Christians get paid for converting people. How much do you pay the converted?' They were stiff and were not listening when Pastor Masih tried to explain it is not true")

Bamaan Kawasi (aged 19, brother of Kamli Kawasi, had been the initial target of his sister's

- attackers, now in hiding with his family)
- Bamdiguali (wife of Munda Badmajhi)
- Barnabas Nongbah (General Secretary, Catholic Association, [Shillong](#), signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Bartu Urawn (aged 50, convert, husband, father of Beneswar, reported on [February 14, 2017](#) to have **died after he and his wife were forced into a cold pond overnight for 17 hours** in [Kubuaa village, Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#) by 15 Hindu extremists, repeatedly said "I will not deny Christ...I will continue to believe till my last breath", wife survived)
- Pastor Basanna (prayer meeting in [Kondhapally village, Karnataka state](#) attacked by 70 Hindu radicals on [January 26, 2017](#), worshippers severely beaten including women and children, not present because he was meeting Pastor Rudresh at the bus station to bring him to the meeting, the radicals found him at the station and beat him, said "The general public remained as silent spectators. Nobody tried to rescue us despite the several pleas from myself and my wife. They even pushed my wife to the ground which caused her severe pain due to the stitches she had from a recent C-section. They said while beating me, that they will kill me if I try to run a church in their village...Even if I have to die, I will stay in this village", found that the Hindus had filed an illegal conversion complaint against him with the police)
- Rev Basavaraj Marudi (church in [Haveri, Karnataka state](#) invaded by Hindu extremists on [June 19, 2016](#), service interrupted, accused of illegal conversions, worshippers were chased out, and a Hindu idol was installed)
- Cardinal Baselios Cleemis Thottunkal (Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malankara-rite Catholic Church, on [December 30, 2014](#) called on Prime Minister Modi to intervene against forcible conversions to Hinduism;
- said on [March 20, 2015](#) in response to the [March 13, 2015](#) gang rape of a 72-year old nun "India should be as concerned about its people, as it is about its cows. The country has a responsibility towards all of us – every human being – and not just cows";
- signed a statement in [Bangalore](#) along with 40 other bishops on [April 24, 2015](#) condemning a Hindu nationalist leader's "highly provocative...irresponsible statement" for the government to not prosecute Hindus who attack Christian churches because they were not places of worship but factories for the conversion of Hindus: "Shri Shukla's contention that attacking a Church is not illegal and that it violates no law is highly untenable and contrary to standards, norms and laws of the land...In recent times there has been an escalation of violence against Christians and other minorities together with highly unwarranted statements. All such attacks indicate a sinister pattern and evil design calculated to denigrate and defame the Christians, peace-loving and law abiding citizens of India";
- said on [June 11, 2015](#) "Our sacred days are being disrupted under different pretexts";
- wrote on [July 22, 2016](#) "It has become the order of the day that the Dalits [those who are trampled upon, untouchables]...are persecuted in various parts of the country in the name of meat consumption and protection of cattle")
- Catholicose Baselios Paulose II (condemned forced conversions from [Kerala](#) on [December 23, 2014](#) as violations of the Constitution)
- Pastor Bacchudas (beaten and robbed on [July 16, 2015](#) at a bus station in [Leelatola, Rajendargram, Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh state](#), attacker accused him of forcible conversions)

Pastor Bashir Pal (supported Gaffar Shaik's account of his home invasion)

Rev Ben Christom (baptized 29 people in [Dherubada village, Orissa state](#) on [May 25, 2014](#) including the youngest son of Nimmaka Laxmaya, threatened with death after the murder of Nimmaka Laxmaya)

Beneswar (reported on [February 14, 2017](#) to have been forced to watch his parents' torture in the cold pond in [Kubuaa village, Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#), said "The villagers kept asking my father if he was ready to forsake Christ. Every time, he said 'I will not deny Christ'")

Pastor Benjamin Gomes (reported on [August 28, 2015](#) to have said "On every Sunday for more than a month now, around 100 Hindu extremists gathered near where we are conducting Sunday meetings [in [Pinguli village, Kudal, Sindhugurh](#)] and threatened to harm some of our church members if they continue to attend the prayer meetings. Even the village head told us to stop the meeting")

Benny Anthony Muttath (Catholic trainer, activist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Archbishop Bernard Moras (spoke against violence and fanaticism and how the Church contributes to a better India;

on [July 8, 2012](#) in [Bangalore, Karnataka state](#) accused the state government of illegally changing the definition of a minority school to "persecute, intimidate and harass" the Christian schools;

described Fr K.J. Thomas as "a devout and calm priest, whose death is a great loss for all of us and especially for the seminary" and his [March 31, 2013](#) murder as "brutal, terrible and senseless";

denounced the [July 16, 2014](#) sprayed drugging and rape of a 17-year old postulant in her [Bangalore](#) convent by three men;

expressed his embarrassment on [August 6, 2014](#) after the postulant who said she was drugged and raped in Bangalore admitted that she had fabricated the story after being sexually abused by an acquaintance)

Sr Bertilla Capra (aged 77, Italian citizen, director of the Vimala Dermatological Center in [Mumbai](#), reported on [December 30, 2015](#) to have been denied a visa to stay in the country, has cared for people with leprosy for 44 years;

as of [January 22, 2016](#) has been granted a one-year visa)

Bertram Devadas (Associate General Secretary, New Delhi YMCA, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Beth Grant (wife of David Grant, U.S. citizen, arrested on [February 10, 2014](#) in [New Delhi](#) for alleged visa violations)

Pastor Bhagati Timothy (sustained a deep cut on his head during an armed attack on a [June 4, 2013](#) pastoral meeting in [Thukkugudu, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#))

Bhagawan Pradhan (aged 44, catechist, son of Danardan Pradhan, threatened by Hindu radicals on [March 11, 2014](#) after he helped begin the construction of a church in [Gudrikiya village, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) to replace one destroyed in 2008)

Bhageswar Rabha (forced to convert to Hinduism on [June 8, 2012](#) near [Deuphani village, Assam](#))

state)

Bhagyamma (widow, beaten into unconsciousness by Hindu extremists at a [Romagonadanahalli, Karnataka state](#) prayer meeting led by Pastor Mounesh, clothes torn)

Rev Bharat Singh Mehda (obtained permits for a [May 4, 2015](#) church meeting of 5,000 Christians, the local government in [Dhar District, Madhya Pradesh](#) cancelled the permits at the last moment, the official said "[Christians] are free to hold small prayer meetings in the local church, but no permit will be granted for large-scale services")

Pastor Bhaskar (forced by Hindus on [March 24, 2013](#) to halt construction of a [Charlapalli, Ghatkesar Mandal, Andhra Pradesh state](#) church)

Bhaskar Sunamajhi (father of one, as of [December 19, 2012](#) is still in [Orissa state](#) prison after four years, falsely accused of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati; convicted on [September 30, 2013](#) and sentenced to life imprisonment; still imprisoned as of [March 14, 2016](#))

Bhavani (arrested on [June 20, 2012](#) for distributing Christian literature at a bus station in [Hubli village, Keshavapura district, Karnataka state](#))

Bhawanti (teenage girl, clothes torn by Hindu radicals who attacked a [September 6, 2015](#) worship service in [Barkhat village, Bagh block, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Bhim Kujur (teacher at a Christian school in [Barhawa, Sahibang, Jharkhand state](#), accused on [February 2, 2015](#) of child molestation by a Hindu parent who led a mob which shouted pro-Hindu slogans and physically attacked the school, a school representative said "The accusation against Bhim Kujur was totally false...The town people are wondering if the sudden unprovoked attempt was staged to malign the Holy Family School and the Christian religion")

Pastor Bhim Nayak (beaten by Hindu radicals along with fifteen other parishioners for singing Christmas carols on [December 13, 2014](#) in [Singareny Colony, Sarurnagar, Hyderabad](#), hospitalized in critical condition, four others hospitalized including his wife and son)

Pastor Bhima (aged 49, abducted by Maoist guerrillas in [Ketulnaar, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [July 7, 2015](#), escaped, the guerrillas then threatened his family of 18 who then flee the village)

Bhubudi Nayak (aged 45, wife of Dhubaleswar Nayak, mother of Rahul, Saul, Paul, two girls, and one other, **shot dead along with her husband** by the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] during a rape attempt on [July 26, 2015](#), blood and ripped pieces of clothing found at their last known location near [Pangalipdar village, in Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#), local media reported it as a clash with Maoists;

body recovered on [July 28, 2015](#) after protests)

Rev Bhupendra Khora (said of the attack by Hindu extremists on [June 16, 2014](#) in [Sirisguda, Bastar town, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state](#) "The extremists shouting Hindu slogans suddenly rushed in and started beating the Christians with sticks and stones, punching and kicking whomever they could catch";

described an [October 25, 2014](#) attack on Christians in [Madota village, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh state](#) that led to 12 hospitalizations, with 7 in serious condition "Some of the injured Christians were admitted in a hospital in Jagdalpur, and some local Christians have also been forced to go into hiding due to the constant threats they received from the right-wing groups";

said on [December 23, 2014](#) “Christians in India are apprehensive of having a peaceful Christmas amid this wave of attacks as the right-wing groups are also becoming more aggressive in their mass conversion program that is taking place in different parts of India. We are fearful but we are praying”;

reported on [September 29, 2015](#) to have said of Christians in [Baster district, Chhattisgarh state](#) “We are overwhelmed with this crisis situation. At times, nobody dares to visit the victims when there is an assault on the Christians. The victimized Christians are so vulnerable that they don’t dare to report it anywhere. Mostly, they silently suffer”;

described the [May 15, 2016](#) attack on Kamli Kawasi in [Parapur village, Lohandiguda area, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#))

Bijay Kumar Sunseth (father of six, as of [December 19, 2012](#) is still in [Orissa state](#) prison after four years, falsely accused of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati; convicted on [September 30, 2013](#) and sentenced to life imprisonment; still imprisoned as of [March 14, 2016](#))

Rev Bijay Purusu (described the attacks on Mongli Madhi and others on [June 10, 2013](#) in [Dangarguda village](#))

Sr Bina Joseph (arrested in [Satna, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [June 13, 2017](#) while traveling on a train with four girls, all were held for 12 hours except the legal minor who was held until her parents arrived;

charged on [June 15, 2017](#) with abduction of the girls, police said an arrest could come at the end of the investigation)

Bina Madhi (husband of Ermi Madhi, beaten by Hindu extremists in [Goudaguda village](#) on [June 22, 2013](#) in an unsuccessful attempt to drive him from his land)

Bingu Baghel (aged 50, reported on [September 29, 2015](#) to have said in [Karmeri village, Baster district, Chhattisgarh state](#) “We are living in a panic situation. We are harassed. We do not know what will happen and when. We don’t do any harm to anybody, but we are constantly threatened by Hindu militant groups in the village”)

Bonis Rabha (aged 10, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Boota Imtiaz (on [June 19, 2016](#) protested the harassment of Christian women by workers of an ‘urban political party’ who would invade their homes in [Latifabad township, Hyderabad](#) and then file false police cases against their male relatives)

Ms Brinelle D’souza (Faculty Member, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Budhadeb Nayak (father of five, as of [December 19, 2012](#) is still in [Orissa state](#) prison after four years, falsely accused of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati; convicted on [September 30, 2013](#) and sentenced to life imprisonment; still imprisoned as of [March 14, 2016](#))

Budhanth Kumar Nayak (detained after a Christian worship service in [Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) was attacked by Hindu radicals on [June 18, 2017](#), forced to sign an ‘agreement’ that prohibited worship outside the home and with visitors, released)

Pastor Budhram Baghel (church on his [Guriya village, Chhattisgarh state](#) property demolished on

[March 13, 2013](#) by a mob led by members of the Hindu nationalist organization VHP after allegations were published that the church was on government land)

Buthram (sons aged 10 and 12 given food by Hindu radicals in [Sagarkatta village, Chaibasa municipality, Jharkhand state](#) in [June 2015](#), **both died from poison**)

C A Daniel (President of the National Congress of Indian Christians, said on [June 12, 2014](#) of the ascension of Narendra Modi to Prime Minister “Christians already are gripped with fear and concern over the election results. Hindu nationalist groups will take advantage of the situation and use it to attack churches and members of the Christian community...Forced conversion laws manipulated to attack Christian pastors and a climate of impunity for perpetrators of violence against Christians has been a hallmark of BJP rule at the state level. This must not be allowed to take hold in India’s national government”)

Pastor C H Prabhudas (church in [Balanagar, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) vandalized during Holi celebrations on [March 5, 2015](#) by two men thought to be RSS paramilitary members)

C Nova (nose broken by drunken policemen on [November 3, 2015](#) in [Thomas Nagar, Tamil Nadu state](#) who said “What has Jesus done for you, sons of prostitutes? Why are you running to Him?”, mouth seriously injured, unable to eat for days)

Pastor C Wilson (**murdered** [June 2, 2012](#) in [Tamil Nadu](#))

Fr Cedric Prakash SJ (director of the Prashant Jesuit Centre for Human Rights, Justice and Peace; on [June 27, 2012](#) in [Ahmedabad, Gujarat state](#) criticized Purno Agitok Sangma, the Christian candidate for president who denied evidence of anti-Christian pogroms in Kandhamal;

wrote in [Ahmedabad, Gujarat state](#) on [July 18, 2013](#) that Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat state, is a "threat to democracy in India" and "unstable" after Modi said that the 2002 Gujarat massacres [in which over 2000 Muslims died at the hands of Hindus] made him feel sad "as when you run over a puppy";

from [Ahmedabad](#) on [February 7, 2014](#) called on people to remember the role of Governor Narendra Modi in the 2002 Gujarat massacre of over 2000 Muslims, especially now that Modi will likely be the BJP Hindu nationalist candidate for Prime Minister in the upcoming election;

said after he received a human rights award in [Mumbai](#) on [March 27, 2014](#) "In many ways, the 2002 carnage [in which over 1,044 died, 75% of whom were Muslim] ushered in a culture of death, not only in Gujarat but in the entire country. Nowadays many in India seem to legitimize it. A section of society backs someone [Narendra Damodardas Modi] as a candidate for prime minister who presided over this bloody chapter in the country's history...there can be no greater tragedy than what happens to 'the other' [when] it does not matter if we burn and loot, rape and kill, if we destroy life in all its sanctity";

wrote an article on [April 22, 2014](#) which quoted leading BJP party members as saying that they will pass laws to ban religious conversions and to prohibit Muslims from living in Hindu neighborhoods - the article also quoted BJP leader Giriraj Singh as saying 'those who opposed Narendra Modi had no place in India. They would have to go to Pakistan after the elections', and concluded "So when Giriraj speaks the obvious, however silly it sounds, he is only manifesting the fascist agenda of those who seek to rule us";

said in an [April 30, 2014](#) interview in [Ahmedabad](#) "From his youth, Narendra Modi has been a member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh: RSS. The core ideology of this extremist organization, born in the 1930s and having its inspiration from Hitler and the

Nazis, was the formation of a Hindu nation state. In this ideology, minorities - particularly the Muslims and the Christians - were meant to be treated as second-class citizens. However, India's freedom fighters like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Babasaheb Ambedkar, worked and ensured that India becomes a secular and democratic State where every citizen is treated equally with rights and freedom guaranteed in the Constitution...The RSS was never satisfied with this. One of their men Godse assassinated Mahatma Gandhi in 1948. Over the years, they spawned many other groups including their political wing Bhartiya Janata Party BJP; together they are all known as the 'Sangh Parivar'...Modi has proved to be an extremely divisive person; he is a skilful orator able to spin myths and to take credit for achievements which are not his. With a well-oiled campaign, backed by a large section of India's corporate sector and by media houses owned by them, many feel that his party will be the largest single party when the results are announced and he may also be India's next Prime Minister";

criticized the Gujarat state government in [Ahmedabad](#) on [August 22, 2014](#) for publishing school textbooks that teach hatred and prejudice toward Westerners, accuse the English language "of having polluted the Indian culture", and define Islam and Christianity as "non-Indian religions", said "The books are full of myths and falsehoods, superstitions and prejudices, with gross distortions and manipulations. They propagate fascist ideology that is totally against the heritage of Indian culture, made up of inclusiveness, pluralism and the rights of all", demanded their withdrawal from schools, added that the then-Chief Minister of Gujarat - Narendra Damodardas Modi, now Prime Minister - had praised the books but delayed their release until after the recent national elections;

on [October 29, 2014](#) criticized the decision of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh [RSS] paramilitary organization to expand its news agency to the Telugu, Urdu and Oriya languages "...its ideology is not only fundamentalist but it is also fascist...Narendra Modi, the current prime minister of India, was schooled in its ideology. His government has also replaced governors and chief ministers with figures who toe the RSS line...India indeed faces hard times ahead...for the secular and pluralistic fabric of India, which, given the ideology of the RSS, is bound to be destroyed";

on [February 12, 2015](#) criticized the erection of a Hindu temple dedicated to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, including an idol in his likeness "This is a deplorable initiative for a secular country like India...Hinduism does not turn human beings into gods. What is certain is that sad things are happening in our country and they are threatening its secular nature...I don't think it is a good sign. It is yet another bad step in the wrong direction...", Mr Modi tweeted that he was "appalled" by the temple and the attempt to declare him a god and forced the cancellation of government sponsorship of its inauguration;

spoke on [February 19, 2015](#) about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent speech in favor of religious freedom "At no point in his speech did he condemn or take a position against attacks on Christians and other minorities in India. If he was serious he would first repeal the draconian and unconstitutional anti-conversion law that he introduced in Gujarat in 2003...[Modi's words] surely look good on paper, but many are wondering if he will actually 'walk his talk' [since he] was groomed and nurtured by the right-wing Hindu groups commonly referred to as Sangh Parivar. He is an integral part of them, shares their ideology and world view. It is they who catapulted him to power";

on [April 1, 2015](#) applauded the Supreme Court's notice to reverse the Allahabad High Court's dropping of criminal conspiracy charges against leading members of the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad [VHP] for the 1996 destruction of the Babur mosque in Ayodhya: "What will come of these notices is anybody's guess. However, despite the time that has gone by, it is never too late for the cause of justice to be

served...The people of India will be waiting for the Supreme Court to act decisively in this matter and thereby ensure that the generations to come will be able to live without fear in a free, tolerant and pluralistic India";

commented on [August 12, 2015](#) on the [Gujarat state](#) government's withdrawal of a textbook on the life of Babasaheb Ambedkar, the Dalit ["untouchable"] father of the Constitution, after it was discovered that the book highlighted his conversion from Hinduism to Buddhism: "It is clear that, with this book, the government wanted to co-opt as many Dalits and Buddhists as possible. However, they realized that in highlight Ambedkar, they also had to address the honest but painful reality of what he thought of Hinduism";

reported on [June 9, 2017](#) to have protested the use of a public school textbook in [Gujarat](#) state which labelled Jesus 'a demon': "The fact that Jesus is denigrated in school books says a lot about those in charge of shaping the minds, character and future of children. This also reflects the mind-set of those who govern us, those in power who with their acolytes appear bent on destroying what is deemed sacrosanct in the Constitution of India...there are fewer scruples in denigrating and even exterminating minorities, Dalits and Tribals...[this is a] brutal plan to promote fascist ideologies", he demanded removal of the books and "that the perpetrators be prosecuted according to the law and that the government apologize to the Christian community";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#);

said on the 70th anniversary of independence on [August 15, 2017](#) "Thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr B Ambedkar, this was 'the idea of India': which like a beautiful tapestry would preserve, protect and promote pluralism and respect the rights and freedom of every citizen...The country today is a far cry from what is envisaged in the Constitution. The rulers today seem to have no qualms of conscience in destroying democratic values...minorities in India have never had it so bad!";

wrote following the [September 1, 2017](#) assassination of writer and journalist Gauri Lankesh "Gauri represented the best of free and fearless India, respecting the rights of every citizen, celebrating pluralism and, above all, defending the highest values of democracy! Gauri had the courage to challenge the Sangh Parivar [the Hindu supremacist umbrella organization] and all sectarian people. She hated the caste system, struggled for the emancipation of women, fought for the poor and marginalized. Hers was an unstoppable crusade for the freedom of thought and expression. No one was spared when there was injustice in the center of the matter";

wrote on [November 25, 2017](#) "...the citizens of India have much to be concerned about!...the Election Commission of India [ECI], an independent Constitutional body, delays announcing the dates of the Assembly Elections in Gujarat for no explicable reason. Several cases and complaints of how the Electronic Voting Machines [EVMs] can easily be tampered with to benefit the ruling party are not looked into with the urgency and importance they deserve...Justice A.P. Shah, the former head of the Law Commission has called for an investigation into the mysterious death of CBI Special Judge B. H. Loya in December 2014. Loya was the presiding Judge of the high-profile Sohrabuddin Sheikh encounter killing case, in which the prime accused was Amit Shah the President of the BJP [the Hindu nationalist political party]. The Judge, who succeeded Loya, discharged Amit Shah...Several media persons, who have stood up for justice and truth, like Gauri Lankesh have been killed... As seen in the utterances of BJP functionaries like [governor] Yogi and others from the [Hindu supremacist umbrella organization] Sangh Parivar there are

sufficient indicators today pointing towards the possibility of a change of some of the key elements of the Constitution. As long as the ruling political dispensation does not have the required numbers in Parliament, then the country is indeed safe. However, given the political machinations, the manipulations and corruption in high places anything can happen in the run-up to 2019..."

Bishop Chacko Thottumarickal (said after the [May 12, 2015](#) attack on a home for disabled children in [Pipaldhar, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) "Fundamentalists seem to have a feeling that they can do anything and get away with it")

Champa Pawar (convert of three years, widow of Jaikant Pawar)

Pastor Chamu Hasda Purty ([shot dead](#) by unknown assailants in [Sandih, Khunti district, Jharkhand state](#) on [October 13, 2015](#))

Rev Chandan (arrested in [Salempur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [May 10, 2017](#); released on bail of US\$310 on [May 20, 2017](#))

Chandra Bedia (convert, brother of Pastor Tilas Bedia, on [March 5, 2014](#) was beaten and paraded half naked through the streets of [Pali village, Ramgarh district, Jharkhand state](#) and then driven from the village, family also beaten, later was accused of forced conversions on [March 10, 2014](#))

Pastor Chandrakanth Kalappa Chavan (attacked by a Hindu mob, beaten, stripped naked, paraded through his village, tied to a tree, ridiculed for hours, then arrested)

Pastor Chander Mani Khanna (accused by an Islamic court of proselytism, the Islamic court has ordered his expulsion from Kashmir, the Islamic court order for his expulsion from Kashmir has been overturned by the High Court;

fired from his ministry due to his arrest, lost his pension, as of [September 25, 2012](#) travels from [Bangalore](#) throughout India talking about persecution)

Chellakani Umashankar (aged 51, convert, Indian Administrative Service member with 25 years in government administration, prohibited by police from holding a prayer meeting in [Pudukadai, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu state](#) on [January 16, 2015](#), attacked by a Hindu mob along with 100 other Christians, automobile damaged; told in writing on [January 24, 2015](#) that his Christian preaching and evangelical conventions in [Tamil Nadu state](#) are a violation of the service rule that 'every member of this service shall at all times maintain absolute integrity and devotion to duty and shall do nothing which is unbecoming of a member of this Service', has cancelled an upcoming three day convention and said "The government is acting at the behest of some groups. To please them they are infringing my fundamental right. I have every right to preach my faith...This is nonsense. I am going to challenge it in the court")

Pastor Chetan Meravi (beaten and robbed on [July 16, 2015](#) at a bus station in [Leelatola, Rajendargram, Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh state](#), attacker accused him of forcible conversions)

Pastor Chimnan Lal (a [June 30, 2014](#) prayer meeting in [Madhya Pradesh state](#) disrupted by Hindu fundamentalists, accused of practicing forced conversions, insulted and beaten, arrested and held for 8 hours)

Mrs Chinnamma Jacob (women activist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Chote Lal (aged 45, arrested on [June 27, 2017](#) after a worship service in [Pujaripurvah village,](#)

[Uttar Pradesh state](#) for 'unlawful assembly' and detained for 9 days, Bibles and literature seized, later accused of vandalizing an idol)

Sr Christ Maria CSS (arrested on [September 11, 2015](#) on sexual abuse charges at the instigation of Hindu radicals in [Chhattisgarh state](#);

acquitted on [January 9, 2017](#) for lack of evidence)

Christina Bhutia (aged 35, Tibetan convert, wife of Dominic Bhutia, mother of Rinjee and another daughter, **hacked to death** on [June 21, 2014](#) in [Git Dabbling village, West Bengal state](#))

Pastor Christopher (church in [Malakpet, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#) burnt to the ground on [February 22, 2014](#))

Christopher Joseph (journalist, wrote from [Kochi](#) on [July 10, 2015](#) "It is 25 years since the Indian media reported what they then called the first rape case involving Catholic nuns in Independent India. No one has yet been punished for the crime. Police did arrest four men in connection with the July 13, 1990 rape of two nuns in their convent in Gajraula, near Delhi. However, the trial proved farcical when it was determined they were in jail when the crime was committed...Between 1990 and 1995, New Delhi's Theological Research and Communication Institute recorded 20 more cases of murder, rape and assault on Catholic clergy and nuns in India. Since then the number of incidents has grown with about 100 attacks being recorded in recent years. In the last year the figure has doubled to more than 200, since Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party came to power...It remains a fact that not a single Hindu Brahmakumaris nun has been sexually attacked in all these years")

Rev Christopher Meesaul (returned with his parishioners from an Easter outdoor sunrise service on [April 5, 2015](#) to their church in [Makthal Mandhal village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) to find two Hindu nationalist flags flying inside it, took down the flags, Hindu nationalists later invaded the service, threw the flags into a sewer and photographed them, forced to end the service and forcibly taken to a Hindu temple, said that on the way "The extremists mob were walking both on my left and right sides, and some were walking behind me while they all mocked me, abused my faith in Christ, pushed and slapped me from both sides, and they kicked me from behind as well", rescued by police, added "Under the extremists' pressure, the police officials told me to move back the front side of the church from the road by three feet, and they told me to oblige and not to file any police complaint on the matter. I was compelled to do it")

Rev Christopher Rajkumar (Executive Secretary of the National Council of Churches in India [NCCI] Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation, said in [Nagpur](#) on [December 16, 2014](#) that they have decided to not invite the Chief Minister [Governor] of [Maharashtra state](#) to the annual Christmas prayer meeting "We used to invite the chief minister every year. But to protest what is happening, we have decided not to invite him this year...This Christmas evokes not joy but fears. It should not happen. But is happening")

Rev Christopher Takri (described the [March 1, 2013](#) attack on Rabinarayana Marandi and the [March 10, 2013](#) threats against Mohan Soren)

Rev Christopher Talla (assaulted in [January 2014](#) in [Munugode village, Andhra Pradesh state](#))

Fr Cipriano D'Silva (said in [Calangute, Goa state](#) on or before [November 28, 2016](#) after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign "A small time hotelier came to us and requested change to pay his staff. We obliged him. We help those in need in whatever way possible...On average, we get 70,000 rupees on Sunday but after the withdrawal we collected only 48,000 [US\$700]")

Mrs Clara Fernandes (Assistant Secretary General of AICU, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Sr Clerita De Mello (principal of Holy Cross School in [Hazaribagh, Jharkhand state](#) which was invaded and vandalized on [April 21, 2015](#) by 60 members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad [ABVP], the student branch of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP], said the attackers used a “violent and threatening tone”)

Colin Gonzalves (attorney, told by the Supreme Court in [New Delhi](#) on [July 17, 2014](#) that the state of Odisha is not obligated to compensate the 300 churches destroyed in the 2007 anti-Christian rioting)

Bishop Collin C Theodore (protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2015](#) the continuing exclusion of Christian and Muslim Dalits ["untouchables"] from Scheduled Caste status, thus making them inferior to Hindu, Sikh, and Buddhist Dalits)

Fr Cyril Patrick (contradicted a police report that the [January 3, 2015](#) destruction of his [New Delhi](#) church's creche was an electrical fire, said "CCTV videos show something being poured [on the Nativity Scene] from the top")

Pastor D Srinivas (church in [Tadur village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) destroyed by arson on [January 16, 2015](#), said “I have been serving as the pastor for the last six years in this village. We used to meet at church members’ houses, till last year we built a temporary structure. Prior to this incident, on number of occasions, right-wing activists have threatened me and warned me not to continue the church in this village. The Hindu radicals have snatched the Gospel literature from me and destroyed them a number of times in the past”)

Pastor Dada (beaten on [September 2, 2012](#) in and outside the [Bhanpuri village, Balod district, Chhattisgarh state](#) home of Daminbai Sahu, driven from the village under death threats)

Dr Daisy Panna (Vice President, Federation of Catholic Associations of Archdiocese of Delhi, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Daminbai Sahu (new convert, hosted a Sunday service in his [Bhanpuri village, Balod district, Chhattisgarh state](#) home on [September 2, 2012](#) that was invaded by neighbors who beat several people and people to renounce their faith in Christ;

driven from his family and [village](#) by 600 Hindu extremists on [September 3, 2012](#), family now prohibited from using the village well or collect rainwater)

Rev Damodara ([September 5, 2012](#) prayer service in [Sagar village, Shimoga district, Karnataka state](#) interrupted by 15 Hindu radicals, beaten by them and later by the police)

Danardan Pradhan (aged 63, father of Bhagawan Pradhan, threatened by Hindu radicals on [March 11, 2014](#) after he helped begin the construction of a church in [Gudrikiya village, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) to replace one destroyed in 2008)

Pastor Daniel (home meeting in [Shimoga district, Karnataka state](#) reported on [September 29, 2016](#) to have been stopped by Hindu radicals and police)

Daniel B Das (said in [Amritsar](#) on [January 16, 2015](#) "We all are Indians and we never went away from home so there is no question of Ghar Wapsi {Homecoming to Hinduism}")

Pastor Daniel Jebraj (aged 28, son of Pastor Muniyandi Elangoan Jebraj, attacked on [July 19, 2017](#) outside his church in [Thyagaraja Nagar, Sirkali area, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu state](#) by five men belonging to the Hindu Makkal Katchi, a branch of the RSS paramilitary

organization, suffered bruises and cuts, said “I told them this is not the right place for drinking and smoking activities. I was not aware they were waiting for me. They pulled out the weapons and attacked me. They were spewing very dangerous words – I can’t say such words, they are highly derogatory and foul. My father came out running, and he too was beaten”, added that an 18 year old Muslim named Mhamadhu Abdullah Barish ran to their aid but was later arrested: “The police falsely framed the boy to prevent exposing the case as Hindu extremist violence on Christians. Abdullah has no relation to this case. He heard our screams and came and tried to take us to the hospital. He did not beat us”)

Daniel Renthlei (engineering student in [Pune](#), said on [August 16, 2012](#) “We have been praying and seeking God’s protection” in regard to social media statements that revenge would be taken for ethnic and religious attacks in Assam)

Pastor Daniel Singh (Good Friday service on [April 3, 2015](#) in [Swar, Rampur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) interrupted by Hindu extremists who threatened to burn down his church, the BJP district president threatened to terminate the job of a church member, five days later on [April 8, 2015](#) a court ordered him to vacate the premises)

Darwin Prashad (school principal in [New Delhi](#), said of the [July 15, 2016](#) robbery and double homicide of the two school security guards “It raises serious security concerns for us. I don't rule out a communal [i.e. religious sectarian] angle to the incident”)

Pastor Dashrath Prasad (reported on the [January 18, 2013](#) arrest of Pastors Rajesh Yadav and Raju Dewangan)

Daud Gomango (beaten on [February 15, 2013](#) by police under suspicion of association with local Maoists in [Patachanda village, Balarampur panchayat, Dharakot block, Orissa state](#))

Pastor David (Independent Church, said of the [October 12, 2015](#) attack in [Balanagar village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) “This is a cruel act carried out in the name of Hindu nationalism. Fringe Hindu radicals portray Christians as anti-nationals so innocent Christians are punished for no wrong doing”)

Rev David Boro (said of the attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#) in which at least 15 Christians were injured “The attackers did not even spare women and children but beat them mercilessly with the intention to kill...Right now there are no Christians in the village – all have fled. The Christian families who were the main target of the attack are now in a safe-house after they were released from the hospital. The more critically injured are still in the hospital, and when they will be released, they too will join the others in the safe-house”)

David Dayalan (Asian Access India Director, said on [December 31, 2014](#) of the anti-Christian and anti-Muslim campaign “I wasn’t surprised at what’s happening, but I’m really surprised at the speed at which the BJP is moving...This is our time. God uses persecution, where you get these determined Christians, focused Christians, unified Christians, and they get after it”)

Rev David Grant (husband of Beth Grant, U.S. citizen, has worked as a missionary in the country for 35 years, arrested on [February 10, 2014](#) in [New Delhi](#) for alleged visa violations)

Rev David Ralte (described the situation as tense on [August 16, 2012](#) as 9,000 people have fled to Assam and Mizoram states following social media statements that revenge would be taken for ethnic and religious attacks in Assam)

Pastor Dayal Davar (told to stop preaching on [September 5, 2015](#) by Hindus in [Barkhat village, Bagh block, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#), threatened with death, tried to file a police report against the Hindus but found a report had already been filed against them, police demanded

that he stop all prayer meetings in the village, 100 parishioners went ahead with a service without the pastors and were attacked by 150 Hindus, 14 parishioners were arrested for "luring people to Christianity")

Mrs Dayamani (aged 40, right ankle fractured by police during the [November 2, 2016](#) church demolition in [Telangana](#))

Debaki (wife of Bhaskar Sunamajhi)

Pastor Deenanath (home in [Tokapal, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) invaded by Hindu radicals on [April 17, 2016](#), beaten along with his seven-month pregnant wife and two small children, forced to sing a Hindu hymn, had gasoline thrown on them before they managed to escape, Bibles ripped, church burned)

Deepak (beaten by a mob on Christmas 2011, nose broken)

Deepak Kumar (Bible college graduate, attacked by ten Hindu militants from the RSS paramilitary organization on [April 5, 2016](#) while preaching about Christ in a street in [Patna, Bihar state](#), beaten for five hours, stripped, given electric shocks, had alcohol rubbed into his wounds, told he would be left on railroad tracks if he did not insult the name of Jesus, replied "Kill me, but I will not abuse the name of Jesus")

Deepak Mukerji (Governing Board Member - St Stephen's College, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Mr Deepu (ran to the police station just yards away from the church in [Attingal, Kerala state](#) to report the [June 14, 2015](#) attack, police took 30 minutes to respond)

Fr Dennis George (choked by police during the [February 5, 2015](#) peaceful march by 1,500 Christians in [Delhi](#) to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks)

Fr Denzil Fernandes SJ (Executive Director of the Indian Social Institute, said of the illegal conversion allegations made on [January 3, 2017](#) by the leader of the RSS paramilitary organization "[it is a] project under which they want to make India a Hindu nation...They rake up the conversion issue to create a Hindu vote bank, to distract people from real problems";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Dev Raj (parishioner, church service of 150 worshippers including 11 U.S. tourists in [Dathauli area, Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) interrupted by Hindu radicals on [April 7, 2017](#). friend with the U.S. tourists, said "We were all shocked. My friends said: 'Is this what normally happens in India? That you visit a church and are mobbed by a group of men?'"

Pastor Devaraju (verbally abused by more than 30 radical Hindu youths who barged into a Christian home in [Marepalli village, Andhra Pradesh state](#) during a [February 23, 2014](#) prayer meeting, said "Surviving as a pastor in India at the hands of Hindu radicals is every day a challenge. There is no guarantee that I will come back home if I go for gospel work")

Fr Devasia Mattathilany (reported on [July 25, 2016](#) to have said that the church will appeal to the [Bihar state](#) government to amend the law to allow the use of wine at Mass)

Pastor Devu Gowli (driven from [Mundgodu, Karwar, Karnataka state](#) along with his wife and 1-month-old baby in [August 2013](#) by Hindu extremists)

Dhanasekharan (aged 34, politician, **stabbed to death** on [October 2, 2016](#) after being lured out of church in [Padappai, Tamil Nadu state](#) with a cell phone call)

Dharaya Singh (husband of Sumitra Singh, threatened on [June 10, 2016](#) with expulsion from his village in [Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#))

Pastor Dharminder Bajwa (complaint filed on or before [June 17, 2016](#) with police for illegal conversions in [Pakhawal village, Ludhiana district, Punjab state](#))

Dhubaleswar Nayak (aged 50, 'well liked' Vice President of the Kandhamal Baptist Union, husband of Bhubudi Nayak, father of Rahul, Saul, Paul, two girls, and one other, **shot dead along with his wife** by the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] on [July 26, 2015](#), blood and ripped pieces of clothing found at their last known location near [Pangalipdar village, in Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#), local media reported it as a clash with Maoists; body recovered on [July 28, 2015](#) after protests)

Pastor Dhum Singh (said "My daughters also were among the children, they were going to the VBS camp" when they were detained in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#))

Dhurubhai Bharatan (said that Hindu extremists pelted the Shyamlal's house in [Borgaon-Bujurg village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on or before [December 29, 2014](#) and tried to bring down a wall "The police told the Christians that they will be provided protection but arrested them")

Dilip Durga (sustained injuries in his neck and chest during an attack on an [October 11, 2014](#) prayer meeting in [Kalahandi, Odhisa state](#) by RSS paramilitaries)

Dilip Laxu Galat (severely beaten by Hindu extremists in [Kamseth village, Nasik district, Maharashtra state](#) on [October 28, 2014](#) after an attempt to extort money for the Diwali festival, fled for safety, homes invaded and looted, arrested for 'rioting' when they came out of hiding and were again attacked, home attacked again four days later on [November 1, 2014](#))

Dillu Bhai (beaten when Hindu radicals attacked a [September 10, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Fattiguda, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state](#), police initially refused to file a report, received stitches in his head)

Dinanath Jaiswar (said of the [May 29, 2016](#) attack on Pastor Lalta Prasad and his wife "The doctor on duty warned the couple of the consequences of getting a medical examination done and on filing a case against the assaulters on the basis of the medical test. The couple got extremely frightened and agreed not to get into further trouble and decided not to proceed with the medical examination and thus the police complaint was not filed. The political pressure on the police and the medical staff is evident in this case")

Doddamma (home in [Chikkamalaguru district, Karnataka state](#) invaded on [August 18, 2013](#) by Hindu radicals who demanded to know why she preached about Christianity, dragged to a Hindu temple with her daughter after refusing to answer, beaten unconscious after refusing to reconvert to Hinduism, home destroyed)

Dolphy D'Souza (said of [Maharashtra state's](#) decision to again hold 'Good Governance Day' on Christmas, including the National Service Scheme [NSS] camp for which students gain credits that it "raises suspicion about the government's intentions"; along with 5,000 Christians protested a [Mumbai](#) development plan on [July 18, 2016](#) that will remove protections for churches and cemeteries "We fail to understand how they could miss out such religious landmarks. We demand the authorities rectify this"; said of the desecration of a cross in [Mumbai](#) on [September 4, 2016](#) [the day of the

canonization of Mother Teresa] "The timing of this incident is worrisome...We feel it is a mischievous attempt to provoke the community")

Dominic Bhutia (aged 45, Tibetan convert, husband of Christina Bhutia, father of Rinjee and another daughter, **hacked to death** on [June 21, 2014](#) in [Git Dabling village, West Bengal state](#))

Fr Dominic Emmanuel (investigated the Asroi village, Aligarh district incident in which the Hindus videographed the 'reconversion' of 72 Christians on YouTube, alleged on [September 4, 2014](#) in [New Delhi](#) that it was fabricated "It was organized by Hindu fundamentalist outfits capitalizing on the lapse of the pastor. But there are only five Christian families with 30 members in the area";

said in [New Delhi](#) on [January 22, 2015](#) "We have come in support of this petition-signing campaign for President Obama to put it firmly on record during his meeting with Mr. Modi, that a democracy like India cannot allow the repression of religious minorities - particularly the Muslims and the Christians";

arrested during a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children, said "We have all the right to make our voices heard. We were legitimately protesting against the harm done on our churches" and added that the police crackdown was "brutal and illegal";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Bishop Dominic Lumon (said in [Imphal, Manipur state](#) on [July 20, 2017](#) after the Supreme Court ordered an investigation into extrajudicial killings by the police and military "We welcome the decision and hope the probe will be impartial, devoid of political goals, and bring justice to the victims")

Fr Donald Rogrigues (reported on the [May 3, 2017](#) illegal demolition of a Cross in [Kalina, Mumbai](#) by the municipal government)

Durjo Sunamajhi (father of five, as of [December 19, 2012](#) is still in [Orissa state](#) prison after four years, falsely accused of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati; convicted on [September 30, 2013](#) and sentenced to life imprisonment; still imprisoned as of [March 14, 2016](#))

Pastor E Lakra (reported on the [August 26, 2014](#) church closure by Pastor Habil Gyan)

Ebenezar (aged 41, seminar in [Dumartola, Bajag village, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) interrupted by police on [February 20, 2013](#), questioned but not charged)

Edwin Raj (aged 29, **beaten to death** on [August 26, 2012](#) in [Nadaikavu village, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu state](#))

Bishop Elampassery Peter Celestine (concerning the [May 23, 2012](#) arson attack on Holy Family parish church stated on [May 30, 2012](#) in [Srinagar, Kashmir](#): "The situation is tense, this is true. Catholics here are a minority and are afraid of more attacks, they worry, and feel hurt by this attack on the heart of the community. However, the Church in India strongly supports us, and is with us in finding the culprits")

Eliazer Topno (said "We are shocked by the murder [of Pastor Abraham Biswas Surin]. Perhaps the pastor was killed for circumstantial reasons. We asked the Lutheran Evangelical

Christians of Rajgangpur to take the matter to the police and the government of Odisha...I do not understand because the pastor had informed his family that he was going to Ranchi, when his body was found in Rourkela, 215 km from that city")

Elizabeth Hebal (aged 35, wife of Pastor Hemachandra Hebal, mother of three, 25 Hindus interrupted a [September 29, 2013](#) prayer service in [Tarikere, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka state](#) and beat her and her husband, arrested by police and forced to sign a statement that they would stop preaching, would vacate the premises within 24 hours, and releasing the police of liability if something should happen to her)

Rev Emmanuel Ariel (church service of 300 Christians in [Kasba Jobat village, Alirajpur district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [March 1, 2015](#) interrupted by a dozen Hindu extremists, said "The sloganeering and abuse continued for over an hour, till the police reached the spot. They were vilifying the Christian faith";

said that the Hindu flags in front of his church in [Jobat, Madhya Pradesh state](#) which were a pretext for attacking Christians on [May 5, 2016](#) "were probably torn because of the wind...RSS [paramilitary] activists, the BJP and Bajrang Dal [the RSS youth wing] led by former district chief, threw stones at members of the community, attacked our women and broke the church lamps...all this happened before the eyes of the police officers, who stood by as silent spectators")

Rev Emmanuel Nobel ([March 1, 2015](#) worship service in [Kasba Jobat village, Alirajpur district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) halted by members of the Hindu Jagran Manch, accused of making forced conversions)

Eraj Ram (aged 5, son of Naresh Ram, begged that his father be spared from the beatings during the [May 8, 2016](#) attack in [Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#), thrown aside by the Hindu radicals)

Fr Eremito Rebelo (on [March 22, 2017](#) protested the governor's choice of the Hindu nationalist BJP party to form the new [Goa](#) state government despite the Congress party receiving more seats, said it violated the Constitution and legal precedent)

Ermi Madhi (wife of Bina Madhi, beaten by Hindu extremists in [Goudaguda village](#) on [June 22, 2013](#) in an unsuccessful attempt to drive her from her land)

Fr Errol Fernandes SJ (on [January 21, 2015](#) rhetorically said in [Mumbai](#) "there seems to be a rise of fundamentalism and other forms of domination in the world, even in our country. Where does that lead to?")

Eswaraiiah ([as of July 27, 2012](#) arrested for missionary activity in a public area located near a Hindu temple in [Tirumala, Andhra Pradesh state](#))

Fr Eugene Lazarus (described the [April 16, 2015](#) vandalism of four statues of Mary in his [Agra](#) church, one statue had a dog chain tied around its neck)

Evan Mamang Kipgen (aged 26, attacked by a gang of five men in [Lakshmipuram](#) on [August 18, 2016](#))

Pastor Evangelist Baidhare (beaten and seriously injured on [June 15, 2012](#), the attackers then turned on his rescuers and attacked 12 Christian families in [Mitrapur village, Balasore district, Orissa state](#): 20 were beaten, some rapes were attempted, homes were looted, and the victims likely fled into the jungle)

Archbishop Filipe Neri Ferrao (raised concerns from [Panaji](#) on [December 24, 2014](#) over several recent actions by Hindu radicals including an attempt to force Catholic schools to install a statue of the goddess Saraswati;

condemned the [July 10, 2017](#) desecration of 40 crosses and several graves in a cemetery in [Goa](#) with heavy machinery, appealed to people of "all faiths to refrain from taking any retaliatory action or fanning the flame of religious hatred")

Fr Francis Arackal OP (on [December 10, 2014](#) criticized an announced plan by the RSS paramilitary organization to convert 1,000 Muslim and 4,000 Christian families in [Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh state](#) to Hinduism on December 25, 2014)

Fr Francis Gonsalves (theologian, journalist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Archbishop Francis Kallarackal (opposed on [August 27, 2014](#) the efforts of Hindu nationalists in [Kerala state](#) to ban the use of wine at Mass)

Francis Pereira (aged 54, taxi driver, arrested in [Goa](#) on [July 15, 2017](#) for the recent wave of cross and cemetery desecrations)

Br Francis Thattaparambil SJ (sacramental winery operator, reported on [July 25, 2016](#) to have said he is "expecting officials to come and close the winery any time now" after the [Bihar state](#) government banned the use of wine during Mass)

Bishop Franco Mulakkal (said in [Amritsar](#) on [January 16, 2015](#) that the 'Ghar Wapsi' Homecoming to Hinduism campaign is a tool to divide the Dalit [untouchable] community and to indulge in communal violence;

said after the murder of Balwinder Kaur "God, forgive them for they know not what they do. All the evidence indicates that there is persecution in Punjab")

Franklin Caesar (will be protesting discrimination against Christian Dalits [untouchables] on [August 1, 2012](#) in [Delhi](#);

noted on [May 12, 2014](#) that his court challenge to government discrimination against Dalit Christians has been delayed before the Supreme Court for 10 years by government evasions;

said on [October 21, 2014](#) concerning Social justice minister Thavar Chand Gehlot's comment that the government should not aid Christian Dalits ['trampled upon', untouchables] because there are none "On the political level, Hindu nationalists say all Indians are Hindus. But when it comes to the issue of equal rights to all Dalits, they divide them on the basis of religion...With the BJP in power, what is the point of protesting?";

said on [December 29, 2014](#) "This system is against the fundamental rights provided to all India's citizens in the Constitution. The Presidential Order of 1950 has destroyed fundamental and constitutional rights of Dalits from Christian and Muslim backgrounds; the benefits must be delink from religion";

spoke out against the state of Maharashtra's introduction of a religious conversion bill: "[Under] the Anti-Conversion Law, it is easy to convert Dalit Christians to Hinduism, Christians to Hinduism, whereas converting people from Hinduism to Christianity is very tough";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Frederick D'Souza (executive director of Caritas India, said in [New Delhi](#) on [June 25, 2015](#) "We heard media reports saying that Caritas India had been added to the list of NGO that require 'prior approval' from the Home Affairs Ministry. However, we have not received any official communication in the matter", an anonymous government official has said that

Caritas has been accused of “anti-Indian activities”)

Pastor G Suvarna Raju (church in [Telangana](#) demolished on [November 2, 2016](#), said “Many of our believers are day laborers and can hardly meet their daily needs. Yet, with their meager earnings, they sacrificially provided for the church construction, including offering their own free labor to build the church. Today, all of our years of work and labor were brought down to the dust. We are not sure if we can build it again”)

Gabriel John (reported on [July 25, 2016](#) to have said that the laity would oppose the [Bihar state](#) ban of wine at Mass)

Gaffar Shaik (hosted a prayer meeting in his home on [March 30, 2012](#) which was invaded by 7 Muslims; the 11 participants - which included his wife and a 65 year old widow - were slapped, kicked, pushed and demands made of them that they return to Islam)

Rev Gajjala Neeladri Pal (assaulted in [January 2014](#) in [Ipparthi, Andhra Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Gajrup Ganga Bhai (60 years old, beaten at the funeral of Jaikant Pawar)

Bishop Gallela Prasad (aged 54, abducted on [April 25, 2016](#) along with his driver after his automobile was forced to stop in [Kadapa district, Andhra Pradesh state](#), beaten for hours, released, later said "They hit me and punched me resulting in injuries all over my body. I did not resist...They appeared to be paid goons and non-Christians from the way they talked and behaved")

Rev Gandham Padma Rao (aged 49, father of Samuel Mark, assaulted by 10 Hindu extremists while walking to his automobile after praying for healing with an elderly parishioner in [Medipally village, Telangana state](#), said “They spoke to me in vulgar language: ‘You must never come to our village to pray. You should never enter our village’...I could not balance myself and fell in a pit nearby. They picked me up, threw me on the road and started battering me again. I tried hard to regain my strength and run, but they followed me quickly held my collar, pushed me off with their feet. When I fell down again, they began kicking and beating me again”, police altered his statement to hide the attackers' membership in the Vishwa Hindu Vahini, hospitalized two days later with hypertension after feeling light-headed)

Gangadhar (family severely beaten on [August 31, 2013](#) in a home invasion in [Thimdoli, Belgaum, Karnataka state](#) by Hindu extremists, taken to a temple and tried to force them to worship)

Gangamma (aged 60, convert, widow, home in [Akleshpur village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) invaded by 100 Hindu radicals on [December 23, 2014](#), family assaulted, possessions including a calendar with Bible verses thrown into the street, told "You either choose the village or you choose Jesus", grandson abducted and held for three days, released)

Pastor Ganugapati Kumar (bones broken in both hands during an armed attack on a [June 4, 2013](#) pastoral meeting in [Thukkugudu, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#))

Garry (protestor at a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) which was attended by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks and which was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children, said "All that we are asking is 'what are the police doing? What is the government doing?'")

Gary Andrady (church leader, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev Gaurango Nayak (in the [week prior to November 11, 2012](#) discovered the desecration of the local Christian cemetery in [Midiakia village, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#))

Gayoor Messah (accused by an Islamic court of proselytism; the Islamic court has ordered his expulsion from Kashmir, the Islamic court order for his expulsion from Kashmir has been overturned by the High Court)

Geeta (reported on the [April 23, 2013](#) arrest of Pastor Vijay Meshram and his wife)

Geetanjali (young mother, chased from a [December 25, 2014](#) Christmas celebration in [Sukta Dam, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by a Hindu mob, rescued by police then arrested for forcible conversions, released 5 days later)

Fr George Paramel (said of [Maharashtra state's](#) decision to again hold the 2015 'Good Governance Day' on Christmas, including the National Service Scheme [NSS] camp for which students gain credits, that it was scheduled to keep Christian teachers and students at the camp on Christmas day)

Fr George Pattery SJ (Jesuit provincial superior, wrote on [July 25, 2017](#): "There is a display of a majoritarian hegemony with a totalitarian outlook upheld by the RSS [paramilitary] agenda of ending diversity and establishing a Hindu Rashtra, a state with a monolithic culture...The infiltration by RSS sympathizers has communalized institutions of democracy like the judiciary with some judges of the Supreme Court, High Courts and other lower courts upholding Hindutva ideology...Much of Print and Electronic Media have become tools of Government propaganda...")

Fr George Plathottam SDB (Principal, Don Bosco College, Tura, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr George Peter (spiritual animator, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr George Valiyapadath OFM Cap (Padre Pio Shrine, Wayanad, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Bishop Gerald Almeida (described a [March 21, 2015](#) attack by Hindus against 200 Christians who were staying overnight in the cathedral courtyard in [Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh state](#) for a Bible seminar "Around one o'clock in the morning, a large number of people raided the building, attacking the faithful and stealing their belongings. After the beating, the attackers destroyed the door of the cathedral and some vehicles. The police arrived several hours later, only at 4 am, when it was all over";

said following the arrest of two ministers in [Kesla village, Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 7, 2015](#) "The law and order situation in the state has almost collapsed as government officials act [in a] biased manner against Christians. When a family cannot sit together and pray, you can imagine the situation...We cannot predict what will happened to us [but we will] continue to uphold the law of the land";

said after the [July 10, 2017](#) arrest of Fr Leo D'Souza in [Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) that Hindu radicals have created trouble for Christians: "Such hatred could be one reason for this heinous charge")

Fr Gerald D'Souza (said of the attacks on two schools in [Hazaribagh, Jharkhand state](#) which were invaded and vandalized on [April 21, 2015](#) by 60 members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad [ABVP], the student branch of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party [BPJ]

"[The attacks are] part of a plan to scare away Christian missionaries")

Bishop Gerald John Mathias (one of seven Catholic bishops who met on [April 21, 2017](#) with the new Chief Minister [Governor] of [Uttar Pradesh state](#), Yogi Adityanath [who was the founder of a Hindu youth organization responsible for the April 7, 2017 church invasion and who had been an opponent of Mother Teresa], said "We assured him of our prayers for the success of his work as the head of the government of the largest Indian state. We also expressed some concerns, calling for security and protection of our minority, especially in its places of worship. We also asked the eminent chief minister to investigate people who take the law into their own hands")

Ghanishka Kedar (aged 12, said on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Aligarh](#) "We never talk about such issues [as religious differences] in school")

Ghasiram Bagsingh (aged 33, farmer, father of four young children, **shot dead** on [November 14, 2012](#) by security forces in [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) who allegedly mistook him for an armed Maoist rebel)

Rev Gigi P Paul (arrested in [Chhattisgarh](#) on [June 22, 2015](#) on false accusations by Hindu radicals, denied bail)

Girija (aged 40, finger broken in the [June 14, 2015](#) attack in [Attingal, Kerala state](#))

Rev Girish (attacked on [November 23, 2012](#) along with 100 worshipers during a consecration ceremony by 50 Hindu militants who proceeded to convert the [Kammasahalli village, Kolar district, Karnataka state](#) church into a Hindu temple)

Gita Rabha (aged 22, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Gnanamuthu (home in [Sasthancode village, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu state](#) attacked during [August 26, 2012](#) prayer service, beaten, hospitalized)

Gobrey Nishad (aged 45, arrested on [June 27, 2017](#) after a worship service in [Pujaripurvah village, Uttar Pradesh state](#) for 'unlawful assembly' and detained for 9 days, Bibles and literature seized, later accused of vandalizing an idol)

Gopal Solanki (aged 18, convert, summoned to a [February 20, 2016](#) public meeting in [Dingara, Buldhana, Maharashtra state](#) led by the village chief, beaten unconscious after refusing to leave Christ, revived)

Gordon D'Souza (on [March 4, 2015](#) criticized the passage of [Maharashtra state](#) legislation that bans the possession, sale, or consumption of beef, said "Religion is something personal, and the government should not mix it with their laws", about 10.5 million people - mostly Muslims - will lose in part or in full their employment)

Goresa Mallick (**stabbed to death** by neighbors who believed he practiced witchcraft)

Gornath Chalanseth (father of four, as of [December 19, 2012](#) is still in [Orissa state](#) prison after four years, falsely accused of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati; convicted on [September 30, 2013](#) and sentenced to life imprisonment; still imprisoned as of [March 14, 2016](#); reported on [April 1, 2016](#) to have been granted bail)

Gossner Ekka (family forced to flee [Kullu village, Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand state](#) on [June 10, 2015](#) along with their pastor by tribal people directed by Hindu extremists, returned on [June 22, 2015](#), homes were pelted with stones on [June 23, 2015](#))

Govind Janu Galat (aged 70, beaten by Hindu extremists in [Kamseth village, Nasik district, Maharashtra state](#) on [October 28, 2014](#) after an attempt to extort money for the Diwali festival, fled for safety, homes invaded and looted, arrested for 'rioting' when they came out of hiding and were again attacked, home attacked again four days later on [November 1, 2014](#))

Gracie (orphaned in anti-Christian violence)

Gulab Govind Galat (beaten by Hindu extremists in [Kamseth village, Nasik district, Maharashtra state](#) on [October 28, 2014](#) after an attempt to extort money for the Diwali festival, fled for safety, homes invaded and looted, arrested for 'rioting' when they came out of hiding and were again attacked, home attacked again four days later on [November 1, 2014](#))

Gumili (wife of Durjo Sunamajhi)

Gunasekaran (prayers with extended family in his [Keeranur, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu state](#) home interrupted by government officials on [April 9, 2017](#), told he required approval for his actions despite having led family prayers for 24 years)

Gurudeen (aged 35, arrested on [June 27, 2017](#) after a worship service in [Pujaripurvah village, Uttar Pradesh state](#) for 'unlawful assembly' and detained for 9 days, Bibles and literature seized, later accused of vandalizing an idol, told he deserved life imprisonment for eating beef, said "I don't do any such thing. I only believe in Jesus Christ. Christ has done many wondrous things in my life. Sir, I did not do anything that I have to be jailed", wife threatened with arrest in response and subjected to harassment at their home, after his release was threatened with arrest for 'making false statements' - the statements were his defense)

Gurumoorthy (beaten into unconsciousness by Hindu extremists at a [Romagonadanahalli, Karnataka state](#) prayer meeting led by Pastor Mounesh)

Pastor Gurusurthy Madi (aged 29, **killed** on [August 15, 2015](#) in [Telarai, Malkangiri, Odisha state](#) by Maoist guerrillas after refusing to hand over a former Maoist convert)

Fr Gyanprakash Topno (responded on [February 22, 2016](#) to the government granting special rights to the Jat caste after members rioted in [Haryana](#), killing 16 and injuring 150 "It is very unfortunate. The loss of lives and property looks like that there is no rule of law in the country";

in response to the RSS paramilitary organization's [February 24, 2016](#) reissuance of a book written in 1946 by one of its founders that purported that Jesus was a Tamil Hindu called the book "nonsensical and funny")

Pastor Habil Gyan (locked his church in [Asroi village, Aligarh district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [August 26, 2014](#) to prevent its seizure by Hindu RSS militants, several parishioners forcibly reconverted to Hinduism)

Hanok (aged 18, daughter of Pastor Sultan Masih)

Pastor Harchand Singh (beaten in [West Delhi](#) on [July 18, 2015](#), said "The police asked us uncomfortable questions, like how much money we offered to people to convert them to Christianity")

Pastor Harendra (arrested on [February 21, 2013](#) during a revival meeting in [Aara, Surguja district, Chhattisgarh state](#), released on bail)

Harilal (aged 20, arrested in [Majhgawan, Satna district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [October 3, 2015](#) for forced conversions)

Harin Rabha (aged 45, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Harish Gemethi (convert, father of Anugrag Gemethi aka Anmol, family persecuted since 2003; said on [November 29, 2013](#) that the police are not investigating the murder of his son Anugrag Gemethi aka Anmol, and that they took over two hours to arrive at the murder scene near [Gamidi village, Dungerpur district, Rajasthan state](#) although they were 20 minutes away)

Hartesh Singh Gundia (father of Akash Gundia, said on [June 20, 2017](#) that he had attempted to recover custody of his 15 year old son after he had been detained on his way to a Christian summer camp “But they refused to hand over my child to me. Later, I got to know from the police station that police had not intended to file the case, but that there was pressure from RSS [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, a Hindu paramilitary group] and Bajrang Dal [Hindu youth] activists, because of whom my child spent 25 days in judicial custody”)

Ms Hazel D’Lima (social worker, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Helen Jain (responded to the [April 16, 2015](#) church vandalism in [Agra](#) in which a statue had a dog chain wrapped around its neck “the incident has made us cautious and we will have to tread carefully”)

Pastor Hemachandra Hebal (aged 39, husband of Elizabeth, father of three, [September 22, 2013](#) prayer service in [Tarikere, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka state](#) interrupted by Hindu fundamentalists, filed a police report on [September 25, 2013](#), 25 Hindus returned on [September 29, 2013](#) and beat him and his wife, arrested by police and forced to sign a statement that they would stop preaching, would vacate the premises within 24 hours, and releasing the police of liability if something should happen to him)

Archbishop Emeritus Henry Sebastian D'Souza (celebrated Mass for the victims of violence; **died of natural causes** on [June 27, 2016](#))

Hira Lal (aged 32, attacked on [February 18, 2013](#) during a prayer meeting in [Roshni village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), dragged to a police station, not charged)

Hosuramma (beaten into unconsciousness by Hindu extremists at a [Romagonadanahalli, Karnataka state](#) prayer meeting led by Pastor Mounesh)

Captain Hunjan Singh Govindra (Air India, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Idaram (reported on [March 9, 2015](#) to have hosted a prayer meeting in his home in [Barwani district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) which was interrupted by Hindu radicals, held by police due to fears for his safety)

Fr Ignacio Zuazua SJ (Spanish citizen, missionary with over 50 years’ experience in [Gujarat state](#), as of [April 24, 2017](#) may be forced to leave the country after denial of his visa renewal)

Rev Ilam (beaten at a [February 9, 2013](#) prayer service in [Nagpur, Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by Hindu nationalists)

Iliya Vasunia (beaten when Hindu radicals attacked a [September 10, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Fattiguda, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state](#), police initially refused to file a report, has hosted the prayer meeting in his home, goat killed)

Pastor Iliyas Buck (aged 42, attacked on [February 18, 2013](#) during a prayer meeting in [Roshni](#)

- village, [Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), dragged to a police station, not charged)
- Indira Iyengar (president of the Madhya Pradesh Christian Association, as of [June 23, 2013](#) has asked the [Madhya Pradesh](#) state governor to reject the anti-conversion law that passed the state legislature, the law requires that religious converts register with the police two weeks before their conversion - violators may be sentenced to three years imprisonment - and criminalizes the conversion of women and protected minorities)
- Irma Madhi (beaten by Hindu extremists on [June 10, 2013](#) in [Dangarguda village](#), hospitalized)
- Irma Markami (beaten by Hindu nationalists along with his wife and three sons on [October 25, 2014](#) in [Gumkaguda, Malkangiri, Odisha state](#), threatened with death, hospitalized)
- Issac (aged 20, son of a church pastor, reported on [November 6, 2015](#) to have been abducted by Maoist guerrillas in [Andhra Pradesh state](#))
- Pastor Isaac Rajamani (attacked on [February 16, 2013](#) while conducting a prayer meeting in [Gulai village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), arrested, not granted bail)
- Rev Isaac Shaw (National Director & President, Delhi Bible Institute, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Ivan Menezes (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Pastor J Das (arrested along with eight other Christians on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Balisuda, Sundergarh district, Orissa state](#) arrested on charges of forced conversions during their Christmas celebration)
- Fr J Felix (Secretary, Inter-religious Commission, Archdiocese of Delhi, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Pastor Jackson George (witnessed the [September 16, 2016](#) abduction of Pastor Prashant Bhatnagar in [Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra state](#), said he was bleeding from the nose and ear after his beating and that he had been threatened with being shot and set afire)
- Bishop Jacob Barnabas (signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities")
- Pastor Jacob Joseph (church in [Chhattigarh state](#) attacked by Hindu radicals on [January 29, 2017](#), had previously been ordered by police to close his church, said "It is very painful that we had to shut down the church that we have been running for more than 13 years. Even

praying in our own homes with our family is restricted and treated as crime")

Fr Jacob Kani (journalist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Jacob Panjikanan SG (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Jacob Peernikaparambil CMI (National Convener – Forum of Religious for Justice & Peace, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Jacob Pradhan (a resident of [Bogadi village, Orissa state](#), as of [November 13, 2012](#) has been denied a caste certificate because his wife is a Dalit [untouchable] Christian)

Rev Jacob Thomas (spoke at the funeral service of Peramangalam Porinju Job)

Pastor Jagdish Gill (assaulted during a [July 31, 2016](#) church service in [Panipat, Haryana state](#))

Jagdish Sahu (described the [October 9, 2013](#) attacks on Pastor Arun Toppo and Shyam Sunder)

Jagarnath Maekani (beaten by Hindu extremists along with Bina and Ermi Madhi in [Goudaguda village on June 22, 2013](#))

Fr Jai Kumar (Brotherhood Society, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Jaikant Pawar (convert of three years, Balgal village, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh state, **died from asthma and sickle cell anemia** on April 20, 2012, funeral disrupted by 300 Hindu extremists who beat the mourners and threatened them with death unless Jesus immediately raised the deceased from the dead)

Pastor Jaipal (church in [Malakpet neighborhood, Hyderabad, Telangana state](#) demolished on [June 16, 2016](#), now being rebuilt)

Bishop Jairag Mark (reported on [August 1, 2017](#) to have favored [Jharkhand state](#) recognition of Islamic school certificates: "Often their degree certificates are not recognized by employers, both private and state, leading to a denial of job opportunities. This adds to the backwardness of the community")

Rev Jaisankar (pastor and medical doctor, **found dead** on [July 11, 2013](#) alongside a flood-swollen river in [Lamtaput, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#), police ruled his death an accident, local and national Christians say his injuries indicate torture and murder)

Rev James Dhilal (prayer meeting in [Gamidi village, Dungerpur district, Rajasthan state](#) stopped in [September, 2013](#) by Hindu extremists)

James D'Souza (described a [March 20, 2015](#) Hindu extremist mob attack on a Bible convention in [Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh state](#), said "The police registered a case against three attackers, however they were released on bail the very same night")

James Milli (attacked by a mob on [April 10, 2013](#) for forced conversions in [Shivpora district, Srinagar, Kashmir](#), arrested)

James Thomas (attacked by a mob on [April 10, 2013](#) for missionary activities in [Shivpora district, Srinagar, Kashmir](#))

Janakbai Sahu (wife of Sarjoram Sahu, driven from her family and [Bhanpuri village, Balod district, Chhattisgarh state](#) by 600 Hindu extremists on [September 3, 2012](#), family now prohibited from using the village well or collecting rainwater)

Janardhan (beaten in the [March 9, 2013](#) attack on the [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) home of Rev Robert Lobo, hospitalized)

Jani (aged 27, widow of Sadavir, mother of three, witnessed her husband's murder on [January 22, 2015](#) in [Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh state](#))

Jankon Bai Juri (elderly woman, [died of natural causes](#), denied a Christian burial in [Sulega, Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [August 13, 2015](#), the next day police and media convince the villagers to allow the funeral)

Janu Bai (aged 35, claims to be a "followers of Jesus" but "not Christian", arrested under the anti-conversion law during a Hindu festival on [January 14, 2016](#) in [Dahar village, Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Fr Jas (responded on [February 22, 2016](#) to the government granting special rights to the Jat caste after members rioted in [Haryana](#), killing 16 and injuring 150 "The situation is very bad. Everything is burned out on the streets...there is a simmering anger among non-Jats as they became the victims of the violence and suffered huge losses for no fault of theirs")

Jasmine Jose SD (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev Fr Jaswanth Rana (Chairman, Philadelphia Fellowship of Churches, said in [Rajasthan state](#) on or before [May 15, 2014](#) of the BJP's pending electoral victory "Narendra Modi is a Hindu fanatic influenced by RSS, Vishva Hindu Parishad [VHP] and other radical Hindu nationalist organizations. Even though Modi speaks of development and peace, we know that he is obliged to Hindu radical groups and their ideologies. Modi should not become Prime Minister. There will be riots across the country if he is elected. Radical Hindu organizations like VHP, RSS, and Bajrangdal will take full advantage of the situation and will be very aggressive against minorities")

Jatho Mandal (beaten on [February 15, 2013](#) by police under suspicion of association with local Maoists in [Patachanda village, Balarampur panchayat, Dharakot block, Orissa state](#))

Sr Jaya OAS (described a [May 12, 2015](#) attack of a center for mentally disabled children in [Pipaldhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) "It was 3:15 am Tuesday. Everyone was asleep, when suddenly heavy bricks were thrown on the roof of the house and fell into the room where we [four nuns] slept. Thanks to the Lord's Divine Providence, no one was injured and the children were not present at that time. Now we sisters are afraid")

Jayaram Marandi (beaten by a mob in [Kanthapada, Balasore district, Orissa state](#) on [October 2, 2012](#) then arrested by police for attempting to baptize 10 catechumens who were also arrested)

Rev Jaykar Christy (described the [September 6, 2015](#) arrest of Sunny Oommen and John Alexander)

Jebakumar Dhanraj (religious conference organizer, beaten on [April 10, 2016](#) at the end of the conference in [Nabinagar, Aurangabadin district, Bihar state](#) by 35 Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary organization's youth wing] members)

Fr Jeebanta Nayak (stated that Goresa Mallick was a recent convert and was not involved in the occult and is survived by his wife and three children)

Jenis Francis (attorney, said of the [December 1, 2014, Delhi church](#) arson "The SHO [police Station House Officer] didn't record any statements of the people present, and before we could press for more details, he went away. The ACP [Assistant Commissioner of Police] later declared that it was not a short circuit, but indeed, clearly a case of mischief";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Jessudoss (beaten on [April 21, 2012](#) in [Paganeri village, Sivaganga district, Tamil Nadu state](#) for conducting a public evangelization - Bibles and tracts burnt and automobile keys stolen)

Brother Jibaratna Bira (husband of Siporah Singh, Christmas celebration attacked by 100 Hindu radicals on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Deogarh, Khandua district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), threatened with death, fled into the jungle with 25 parishioners, found the next day and beaten along with his daughters, charged with forcible conversions by the police and jailed)

Jibed Challanset (had left Dhubaleswar and his wife after a [July 26, 2015](#) prayer service in [Pangalipdar village, in Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#), accosted by armed CRPF officers, questioned at gunpoint, released after disclosing the whereabouts of Dhubaleswar and his wife)

Fr Jim Borst (accused by an Islamic court of proselytism, the Islamic court has ordered his expulsion from Kashmir, the Islamic court order for his expulsion from Kashmir has been overturned by the High Court)

Fr Jimmy Dabbhi SJ (on [April 11, 2017](#) criticized the [Gujarat state](#) government for increasing the penalty for killing a cow to life imprisonment as "nothing but a political gimmick to garner votes and divide communities")

Fr Jimmy Pochakkatt (said on [August 29, 2016](#) after a [Kerala](#) state minister accused the RSS paramilitary organization of stockpiling weapons in Hindu temples "We neither support nor oppose the minister's statement. We have always reiterated that religions and places of worship should never become breeding grounds for hate and violence. If a place of worship, be it a church, mosque or temple, becomes the supporting ground for violence against anyone, the state should intervene and stop such activities. That is our stand"

Jitender (convert, complained about the demolition of a church on [July 14, 2012](#) in [Patli Dabar village, Haryana state](#))

Pastor Jiyalal Maravi (aged 35, seminar in [Dumartola, Bajag village, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) interrupted by police on [February 20, 2013](#), questioned but not charged)

Pastor Jodhan Bedia (convert, beaten on [March 5, 2014](#) in [Pali village, Ramgarh district, Jharkhand state](#), later was accused of forced conversions on [March 10, 2014](#))

Rev John Alexander (reported on [September 7, 2015](#) to have been arrested for leading prayers in a private home in [Kesla village, Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), released after 5 hours)

Archbishop John Barwa (uncle of Sr Meena Barwa; eulogized Rabindra Parichha, comforted families of the arrested;

supported his niece during her physical rehabilitation and during the trial of her rapists)

Fr John Chathanatt SJ (Sahayog, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev John Daniel (said of the [October 25, 2014](#) attack by Hindu nationalists in [Madhota village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) that led to the hospitalization of at least 11 Christians and the arrest of 2 "I have been here for 40 years. Whenever Christians are attacked, this is the pattern. Before the Christian victims would reach the police station, the attackers would have filed a case against them with the police. That's why innocent Christians have been arrested")

Dr John Dayal (Christian activist and member of the National Integration Council, professor of

journalism, former war correspondent; nephew of Sophie Joseph, stated on [August 24, 2012](#) concerning the 2008 Kandhamal massacre "Just one person has been convicted of murder, and in other cases, frightened witnesses, bad investigation and shoddy court cases have meant that ringleaders have escaped the law";

accused the government on [October 30, 2012](#) of suppressing dissent by cancelling 4,300 licenses for non-government organizations, including religious charities;

described "panic" and "disgust" after Hindus raped two Christian girls aged 13 on [October 25 and 27, 2012](#) in [Simanbadi village and Bhubaneswar village, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#), killing one;

described on [May 7, 2013](#) how [Bhubaneswar, Orissa](#) investigators of the 2008 anti-Christian pogrom that killed 100, wounded thousands, rendered 56,000 homeless, and burned 296 churches are unable to bring the perpetrators to justice;

arrested in [New Delhi](#) on [December 11, 2013](#) with other priests, pastors, and nuns who were demonstrating for equal rights for Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims, several were beaten by police;

said on [March 31, 2014](#) regarding the nomination of Narendra Damodardas Modi for Prime Minister by the Hindu nationalist BJP party "The record of Mr Modi and of his party is terrible as far as religious minorities, especially Christians and Muslims, are concerned";

reported on [May 15, 2014](#) to have said "Modi is feigning ignorance, it does not work for him. It was in Gujarat region that more than two dozen Churches were destroyed in the Christmas season of 1998. Surely he knows what happened in Kandhamal, Orissa and Mangalore, Karnataka and other places in 2007 and 2008 when more than 300 churches and more than 6,000 Christian homes were destroyed by the Hindu radical-led mobs. More than 120 Christian tribal and Dalits were killed";

wrote on [July 11, 2014](#) in [New Delhi](#) "A recent report from India's Intelligence Bureau demonizing non-government organizations [NGOs] and several activists including a Catholic priest - the late Father Thomas Kocherry - was a precursor of more direct action to come. All were accused of working against Indian national interests...[Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas] Modi's government carries a deadly political baggage that seeks to [divide people along the lines of religion or egg them on into violence], polarize communities, pitting the majority faith against religions that it brands as alien...This can be seen in a move in June by several village councils in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region to ban entry of Christian workers, and prevent Christian worship, in their areas. It was prompted by the hardline Hindu groups such as the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Akhil Bharatiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram. The village council diktat is that only Hindu religious workers will be allowed into village areas in the tribal belt. This is of course entirely illegal, and violates the constitutional provisions of freedom of expression and movement. The coercive methodology of branding every tribal as a Hindu, and make him or her oppose Christians, injures the secular nature of society and the peace that has existed there for such a long time";

said on [September 4, 2014](#) in [New Delhi](#) "these incidents [of persecution] are not isolated. There is a clear strategy and plan behind it. Such instances are only spreading";

spoke at a [September 27, 2014](#) conference in [Delhi](#) on persecution, other speakers said that the post-election increase in violence appears carefully planned in that it is mainly in rural areas, avoids deaths, and pursues routine everyday violence to spread tension and panic;

published an article on [October 3, 2014](#) documenting the growth of RSS paramilitaries across the country;

said on [December 12, 2014](#) that since May 2014 there have been a “recorded 34 cases of physical and structural violence against the Christian community, total of about 600 cases reported by the media, most of them against Muslims”;

signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities";

wrote on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Delhi](#) "On December 18, India's National Minorities Day, Rajeshwar Singh, the head of the Dharm Jagran Manch [Faith Awakening Forum] declared on national television news channels that his organization had set a 2021 deadline to cleanse India of 'alien Islam and Christianity'. Another group said Christians would not be allowed in Himalayan regions that are sacred to Hindus...The Indian government has not indicated whether Singh is being prosecuted under India's strict laws against religious discord. So far the laws have been largely used to target Christian pastors, and in recent months, Muslim youths venting their anger against the government on Facebook...Meanwhile, members of the Council of Ministers and spokesmen for the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP], which controls many Indian state governments, have been vocal in support of the Sangh Parivar. The Parivar is a large and almost omnipresent family of Hindu militant organizations created by the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh [RSS paramilitary organization] in the past two decades. The Dharma Jagran Manch, the Bajrang Dal [youth organization] and the powerful Vishwa Hindu Parishad are among the more prominent of its groups with aggressive cadres...RSS affiliated groups have launched a campaign to convert poor Christians and Muslims to Hinduism, a process they call Ghar Wapsi, or homecoming. They argue that every Indian is actually a Hindu, and Christians and Muslims are those who strayed, or were bought by missionaries...Protestant pastors are being beaten up, home churches raided almost as a matter of routine, with the police looking on, or actively participating. Santa Claus, of course, has been proscribed...The fact that the Sangh Parivar runs over 57,000 ideology-based schools for children in villages across several states, especially in areas populated by tribal and Dalit groups, makes available a cadre of youth and their parents ready to do their bidding...The federal minister for education, former TV actress Smriti Boman Irani, has ordered a revision of text books, particularly of history, to incorporate more ancient Indian traditions including references to Hindu sacred texts. Various important councils in the ministry are now chaired by luminaries wedded to the thesis that India is the fountainhead of all knowledge in the world. The BJP and the minister hold that Hindu sacred texts are a 5,000-year-old source of knowledge on such diverse subjects as plastic surgery, aviation, nuclear weaponry and genetic engineering...Muslims and Christians feel they are being strangled by a tightening noose, in the villages and small towns by Sangh cadres who have the police on their side,

and nationally by the federal and state governments who seem to endorse the hate campaigns and the violence...All too many people in office and heading Sangh groups have said that the constitution is an inheritance from Britain that has no place in Hindu Rashtra, the Land of the Hindus. This is something that must worry not just Indian religious minorities, but the world";

said on [January 15, 2015](#) "I still feel the prime minister must openly denounce such attacks on religious minorities and denounce those involved...even if they belong to his own Sangh Parivar [the Hindu nationalist umbrella organization]";

wrote in [New Delhi](#) on [January 30, 2015](#) "India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, does not like to be told that he, his government, his political party or the cadres of his old group, the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh [RSS], have done something wrong...US President Barack Obama made international headlines with his 'town hall' speech in Delhi as he concluded a three-day visit to India for its Republic Day. The speech offered a rather sharp lesson on what makes a country great — not economic progress or military might, but the unity of its people brought about by a shared destiny, the hope of progress among the most marginalized and a sense of security among its religious minorities...But it was the Indian president, the 79-year old Pranab Mukherjee, who delivered a homily that was the strongest caution yet about the threat posed to unity and progress in India from the religious nationalism of the RSS [paramilitaries]...Mukherjee touched on a point that has worried many among those who voted for Modi...This was the increasing cacophony of many in the Bharatiya Janata Party, including several ministers and members of parliament, who were supporting a demand that India mark itself out as a Hindu Rashtra or Nation, and stop appeasing Muslims and Christians. Both minority religious groups are seen as enemies of the nation and the majority...The so-called "Ghar Wapsi", or homecoming campaign, launched by the Sangh Parivar just after the general election to forcibly convert Dalit and Tribal Christians and Muslims to Hinduism was put on hold a week before Obama's state visit. It was never in doubt that the campaign, and violence targeting religious groups, would resume. And resume it did, the day after Obama left India...";

arrested at a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) which was attended by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks and which was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children, said in a phone call from the police station "Our protest demanded that the government inquire into the violence against Christians because we do not trust the police to investigate it properly. Police told us we were disturbing the peace and threatening the police, but we are always peaceful, that is the point"

spoke on the [February 5, 2015 Delhi](#) police action against Christians protesting Hindu extremist violence "The brutalizing of the Christian youth, women and men, many of them nuns and priests, by the Delhi police is symptomatic both of the bigotry and the sadism that seems so seeped into the system. The current political dispensation abets it and uses it. It is important to remember that the Christian community had not even started their proposed protest march when the police swooped on them in a pre-emptive strike to stifle their voice...The Hindu, hyper-nationalist, fundamentalist groups that carry out the violence are encouraged by the government's silence. Politically they believe that [Prime Minister Narendra] Modi has come into power because of their hard work in the run-up to the elections in 2014, and that he is beholden to them and will not take any action against them";

opposed the [February 24, 2015](#) statement of the leader of the RSS paramilitary

organization that "the main purpose of Mother Teresa in serving the poor was to convert them to Christianity", said "The words of Mohan Bhagwat on Mother Teresa are petty, condemnable and more than outrageous. Every sane person in India has rejected this...the importance of the words of Bhagwat is in the timing with which they were spoken. He spoke a week after the acclaimed speech of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the defense of religious freedom. It is evident that the Sangh [the Sangh Parivar, the nationalist Hindu movement of which RSS is part] believes that the prime minister should not really have said what he said";

responded after [March 16, 2015](#) to the verbal attacks against Rev Subhash Chand by Chief Minister [governor] Khattar "His government has showed its commitment to Hinduism by its recent actions and comments on beef, making Gita [part of an epic tale in Hindu scripture] a part of the curricula and such. His justification of the actions of the violent elements who oppose the church and attacked it undermines the rule of law in the state. The chief minister has lowered the dignity of his office and betrayed the trust of people he is sworn to protect";

attended a [March 19, 2015](#) protest in [New Delhi](#) on the 300th day of Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas Modi's administration and issued a report entitled ***300 DAYS – Documenting Hate and Communal Violence under the Modi Regime***, which listed 168 incidents of anti-Christian violence in that time, said "What we have compiled is perhaps a tenth of the actual number of incidents";

said on [April 10, 2015](#) "Uttar Pradesh has been a particular focus of the BJP and its strong arms, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh [paramilitaries], World Hindu Council and the Bajrang Dal [youth group], and the BJP is working aggressively towards winning the 2017 state legislative assembly poll. Electoral victory will result in having a majority in the upper house of Parliament in New Delhi, and this will enable them to make any constitutional changes they like, such as a national law against conversion or against beef";

participated in the [June 19, 2015](#) release in [Delhi](#) of a report entitled ***365 Days: Democracy and Secularism Under the Modi Regime*** which listed almost 400 attacks against Christians and Muslims, accused some state governments of suppressing news of attacks "They are not reported. In those states, which are ruled by the BJP, the police, government and the RSS [paramilitary organization] is one seamless entity. The cases that happen do not come out in the open";

said of the [June 14, 2015](#) attack in [Attingal, Kerala state](#) "Also, for all its well-earned reputation of being a place of co-existence of various religions, the RSS and the BJP have made a serious efforts the last 25 years to penetrate Kerala and poison its communal harmony. The RSS continues to try to polarize people whichever the government in the state and this attack is a direct result of the polarization";

protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2015](#) the continuing exclusion of Christian and Muslim Dalits ["untouchables"] from Scheduled Caste status, thus making them inferior to Hindu, Sikh, and Buddhist Dalits, said "This [exclusion of Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims from Scheduled Caste net] is nothing but racism. And it must be repealed without further delay";

as of [September 15, 2015](#) has seen an increase in death threats, Hindu radicals have obtained his cell phone number and posted it on the internet;

said of the [October 31, 2015](#) call by the RSS paramilitary group for the government to enact strict population controls on religious minorities "This criminalizes both Christians and Muslims, leading to a rhetoric of poisonous hate against the two communities";

said on [February 13, 2016](#) in [New Delhi](#) that Christian leaders had a consensus that dialog with the RSS paramilitary organization was not currently possible "Not only the incidents of Christian persecution but the overall reaction of the Hindutva groups against civil society exposes their thinking, roots and ideology...We would demand a larger discourse on the strengthening of secular, constitutional democracy in India";

said on [April 12, 2017](#) "The rash of violence against Christians, disrupting Palm Sunday prayers speaks of a heightened impunity. We suspect a more direct collusion of police and local authorities, especially in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan [Indian states currently ruled by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party - BJP] in an aggressive competition to prove they are the most nationalist defenders of Hindutva [Hindu nationalism], cleverly disguised as a 'way of life'. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the chief ministers of the states, including Yogi Adityanath of [Uttar Pradesh], cannot shrug off their responsibility and must be held accountable for...encouraging, directly or indirectly, their political and religious cadres", added that Modi's condemnation of the ISIL church bombings in Egypt "...should not blind us to this violence against a community that numbers a mere 26 million in a population of a billion and a quarter and is extremely vulnerable. Threats by government members in Parliament and state legislatures for a ban on evangelization, extra-judicial curbs on the freedom of faith and expression, and a penetration of the police and sections of the judiciary by Hindutva elements makes it a real and present danger to freedom of religion in secular India...[it] camouflages bigotry and persecution, acts as a smokescreen and helps evade international scrutiny";

reported on the state seizure on [May 21 & 22, 2017](#) of 71 young teens on their way to a summer Bible camp in [Nagpur, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on the grounds that their families had not legally converted to Christianity, said "The traumatization of these tribal and Dalit children from the villages of western Madhya Pradesh is symptomatic of the paranoia and targeted hate that is currently sweeping across north India. No laws were broken by anyone in this instance, as indeed in incidents of anti-Christian violence in recent weeks. These are Christian children going to a summer camp in Nagpur. The involvement of the police and local civil authorities needs closer study apart from rampant impunity and turning a blind eye to [Hindu nationalist] violence, the law and order institutions have been heavily infiltrated and radicalized under almost 15 years of Bharatiya Janata Party rule in Madhya Pradesh. [The government should give] a categorical assurance, in clear language, that targeting of Christians of all denominations will stop forthwith and district police and administrative heads will be held personally responsible";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#);

said in [New Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2017](#) concerning the government's 1950 order that removed legal protections for Christian [and Muslim] untouchables "This law is the biggest violator of religious freedom because it denies 150 million or more low caste individuals the right to choose their faith. They have to be Hindus or they have to be of a faith which deemed to be Hindu, like Buddhism or Sikhism...In effect, the 1950 Presidential Order has acted as a powerful anti-conversion law because the law has punitive consequences for anyone to change from Hinduism to Christianity or Islam. It effectively denies Hindus of low caste origin the freedom of faith which is the birth right of every Indian citizen";

said that Prime Minister Modi's [August 15, 2017](#) Independence Day speech "left most people disappointed...His critics have come away convinced that he has no plan, or no inclination, to really stop and punish those responsible for the lynchings that have followed the ban on beef and cattle trade, on targeted violence against Muslims and Christians, and

those who are eroding what we call the secular fabric of India";

reported on [December 25, 2017](#) to have said "In many such cases and attacks against Christians, the police has been either an idle bystander or has been complicit in the violence. How can one citizen of India threaten another citizen of India and get away with it? It is for the police and the government to act – when will they act?...This accusation of forced conversions is a criminal conspiracy to paint a picture of Christians as the way they have already painted a terrible picture of the Muslims. This is a conspiracy to try and frame Christians")

John D'Souza (said people did not understand the motive for the desecration of a cross in [Mumbai](#) on [September 4, 2016](#) [the day of the canonization of Mother Teresa], added "There are no tensions here. We live peacefully")

Archbishop John Moolachira (protested the [August 7, 2015](#) vandalism of a statue of St John Bosco in [Guwahati, Assam state](#) "The contribution of the Salesian apostolate to education is well recognized by all religions in Assam, and a significant percentage of the population was emancipated thanks to them. This incident is unfortunate and some elements are responsible. Disagreement and dissent must be seen in a positive light, but to desecrate and then throw into the river wounds our religious sentiment", four members of the BJP Hindu nationalist party were arrested;

commented on the [May 20, 2016](#) electoral victory of the Hindu nationalist BJP party in Assam state "It [Hindu nationalism] may not work in Assam because of the multiplicity of tribes and cultures. We do not expect any serious problem in the state. We are praying and hoping so")

Pastor John Muller (husband, expectant father, threatened in [Attipattu village, Cuddalore district, Tamil Nadu state](#) on [May 2, 2017](#), said "They said, 'Don't stay here – get out of this area, or we will see your end'. Recently, some villagers belonging to Vanniyar, a caste-based Hindu sect, came to Christ. The same caste group opposes conversions in the village because they treat Christianity as a religion of lower castes. They don't want anyone from Vanniyar to convert to Christianity";

church and home destroyed in an [May 5, 2017](#) arson attack, said "We lost everything. My wife is 26 weeks pregnant. We are expecting our first child. We are homeless. A kind believer is letting us rest in his house during nights for now")

Pastor John Nag (personally aided 15 Christians after they were driven into a Hindu temple and forced to worship, then beaten and driven from [Jawanga village, Dakshin Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [June 19, 2012](#))

Rev John Pargy (on [September 7, 2012](#) dragged to the local police station in [Birmawal village, Ratlam district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by Hindu radicals who then accused him of insulting Hinduism and forcing people to drink cow's blood, held in jail for 3 days)

Auxiliary Bishop John Rodrigues (celebrated a Mass of reparation on [September 18, 2013](#) at St Joseph church in [Mumbai](#) after burglars desecrated the church and tabernacle)

Bishop John Thomas Kattrukudiyil (spoke on the continuing mass conversions to Christianity and the passage of anti-conversion laws)

Johnny Joseph (aged 52, protestor at a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) which was attended by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks and which was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children,, said "Our churches are being destroyed and the government isn't

doing anything for us. We want to tell the government to safeguard our churches")

Johnny Lever (convert, actor, threatened on [December 14, 2013](#) with "a lesson VHP-style" - the VHP is a Hindu nationalist party - after publishing his conversion story in [Mumbai](#))

Johnny Thekkakara (church trustee in [Changanacherry, Kerala state](#), said on or before [November 28, 2016](#) "The lack of small denomination notes was the major reason for the drop in the collection" because people are hoarding currency after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign)

Johnson (son of Gnanamuthu, beaten, hospitalized on August 26, 2012)

Fr Johnson Veeppattuparambil (eparchy [diocese] spokesman, described the [January 28, 2016](#) attack on Fr Kannumkuzhy Jose, Joseph, Lijo, and Stanley)

Fr Joju Kutikad (described the [April 29, 2014](#) vandalism of three chapels in the [Irinjalakuda diocese](#))

Fr Jolly Kannukodan (accused along with a bishop, another priest, a nun, and two lay people of illegal conversions in [Madhya Pradesh state](#) in [May 2009](#);
acquitted on [April 20, 2017](#), said "The court has vindicated our stand. We had tough time going for bail and other proceedings, from police station to trial court and then to the high court. From day one we have been telling the investigators that this was a fake case aimed at discrediting the Catholic Church", added that they do not plan to bring a defamation suit against their accusers because "Christ has taught us to love even our enemies")

Dr Jolly Rimai (church leader, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor Jordarsingh Changod (aged 34, beaten unconscious during a [February 9, 2013](#) attack on a [Nanpur, Alirajpur district church](#))

Rev Jorder (beaten at a [February 9, 2013](#) prayer service in [Nagpur, Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by Hindu nationalists)

Fr Jose Karivelickal (said officials in the Communist state government did not consult with Christians prior to the [April 20, 2017](#) Cross demolition in the [Pappathshola hills, Kerala state](#) "This is wrong. The government should have dealt with the issue more carefully")

Jose Leon (President – Leo Burnett India, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Jose Thottakkara (said on or before [November 28, 2016](#) that his parish weekly collection in [Kochi, Kerala state](#) dropped by 40% after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign, is now US\$44)

Joseph (attacked by Hindu radicals on [January 28, 2016](#) after the death of a child patient in an AIDS clinic in [Ettimada, Tamil Nadu state](#), drove with the attackers in pursuit until they saw a police jeep, stopped but the police refused to protect them, the attackers told the victims to call on Jesus to protect them, hospitalized, released on [January 31, 2016](#))

Joseph Bara (social scientist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Joseph Chinnayan (Catholic Bishops Conference of India deputy secretary-general, responded to the [April 16, 2015](#) church vandalism in [Agra](#) in which a statue had a dog chain wrapped

around its neck "The way the venerable statues were attacked and desecrated to bring maximum shame and disgrace on the icons confirm that these were not just mere acts of vandalism, but well planned dastardly acts, aimed at deeply wounding the religious feelings and creating a feeling of insecurity among the minorities";

said of the [July 10, 2015](#) church desecration in [Taherpur, West Bengal state](#) "The repeated attack on the churches and missionaries is a grave concern")

Fr Joseph Dhanaswami (high school principal, arrested on [September 11, 2015](#) on sexual abuse charges at the instigation of Hindu radicals in [Chhattisgarh state](#);

acquitted on [January 9, 2017](#) for lack of evidence, said "I knew that one day I would be freed, but did not know when. I had full faith in my bishop, diocese and the judiciary..[jail was] a very hard experience and quite painful [but it brought me] closer to God and deepened [my] faith in Him. It also gave me a different kind of experience of how people live in jail")

Joseph Dias (member of the Catholic Secular Forum, stated that radical Hindu groups threaten religious freedom in Gujarat and across India;

protested on [September 26, 2012](#) the upcoming movie "Kamaal Dhamaal Malamaal" which has a scene with a Catholic priest dancing on church steps while wearing a garland of lottery tickets;

pointed out on [October 1, 2012](#) that movies such as Kamaal Dhamaal Malamaal where Christians and the faith are being grossly and vulgarly portrayed, "trivializes the faith and stereotypes the community as drunkards and criminals, besides painting the clergy in bad light. Our women are shown as those of cheap virtue and loose morals. This image is then used by fundamentalists, who persecute and target us";

described on [January 6, 2013](#) how rural authorities in [Manor, Vikramgad, Tamsai, Palghar, Malvan and Pochade villages, Thane district, Maharashtra state](#) denied Christians water, firewood, and decided "to impose economic sanctions, social boycott and restrictions on practicing of Christianity in the area.";

reported on a [January 11, 2013](#) attack on a prayer meeting in [Sawantwadi taluka, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra state](#) in which Christians including women, children, and the elderly were beaten, police took no action;

complained from [Mumbai](#) on [June 20, 2013](#) about the film *Policegiri* in which the actress Kavitta Verma is seen in seductive poses with a rosary around her neck, the scene is being removed from the film;

spoke on [June 19, 2014](#) on the election of Narendra Modi to be Prime Minister "the fringe groups are already on the loose";

said in [Delhi](#) on [February 26, 2015](#) that the continuing anti-Christian violence "undermines the authority of the prime minister. This means that fringe elements or the Hindutva brigade are running the country instead of the government of India...[and should] worry the prime minister and the nation more than the Christians. The very credentials of the prime minister are in question now";

said in [New Delhi](#) of a [January 18, 2015](#) report on Christian persecution in India "There is at least a 20% increase in the incidents in terms of the number of people victimized as against 2014. The real numbers are much higher as many don't want to report such incidents as the police force is communal. Then we have incidents from areas where RSS [paramilitary] is very dominant and victims are threatened to not report the attacks. In some cases the media is also biased. Being less in number, Christians can't fight

back...With the BJP government in the center, there is huge increase in RSS shakhas [Hindu religious schools]. Even though there is no BJP government in Kerala, the state has the highest number of shakhas. West Bengal, which has long been under communist rule and is now governed by liberal forces, BJP has a strong hold over five districts where reconversions are picking up. There is saffronization of secular institution and in every sphere secular activities have been saffronized - be it in the northeast, Tamil Nadu, Kerala or Goa")

Joseph D'Souza (President of the All India Christian Council, described how a state High Court decision now allows Christians to marry non-Christians - previously anti-conversion laws were interpreted to prevent such marriages)

Fr Joseph Manipadam (spoke in [New Delhi](#) on [August 8, 2016](#) concerning the government's latest education proposals which would promote Hindu beliefs "Our concerns are several. We believe education should be free from cultural, religious, and political ideologies of governments and leaders";

on [November 22, 2016](#) criticized a proposed national education policy, said that the proposal would reinforce the caste system by imposing student fees and segregation based on performance, added "This will naturally push poor students into caste-based jobs...The government gradually wants to control and centralize the education sector by inviting investment from private bodies")

Joseph Mattam SJ (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Joseph Pawar (aged 20, husband of Ayushi Wani, briefly detained after their [September 28, 2014](#) wedding in [Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh state](#), marriage annulled by the local superintendent on or before [October 6, 2014](#) because he did not convert to Hinduism, the religion of his wife)

Bishop Joseph Suren Gomes (reported on the police investigation into the [July 10, 2015](#) church desecration in [Taherpur, West Bengal state](#), said: "There is no history any communal tension in the area. They all live in peace and harmony")

Metropolitan Joseph Mar Thoma (led the funeral service of Peramangalam Porinju Job)

Pastor Joseph Thomas (husband of Merlin, attacked on [December 16, 2013](#) by more than 30 Hindu nationalists during a Bible study attended by 45 in [Avaraikulam village, Tamil Nadu state](#), beaten, church burned to the ground)

Rev Joseph Wilson (one of ten pastors detained and interrogated on [August 31, 2014](#) in [Kulesra village, Surajpur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on suspicion of making illegal conversions, said "In the many years I have never seen this kind of communal tension. We are not even being able to get close to Surajpur police station. Some members of our church, who went there, were beaten up" by villagers incited by the RSS Hindu paramilitary group)

Fr Joseph Xavier SJ (attorney, human rights activist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Joshi Varghese (said on [September 15, 2015](#) concerning the vandalism of his church in [Haldibadi, Chhattisgarh state](#) "They managed to break one window of the sanctuary and attempted to defile the holy place by throwing stones inside it)

Joyson (beaten by mob on Christmas 2011, leg fractured)

Judith Monterio (called on [September 26, 2012](#) for more Catholic screening of films)

Jugal Kishore Ranjit (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Junas Mandal (beaten on [February 15, 2013](#) by police under suspicion of association with local Maoists in [Patachanda village, Balarampur panchayat, Dharakot block, Orissa state](#))

Junus Pradhan (President of the "Christian Jana Kalyan Samaj", arrested on false charges of collaborating with guerrillas)

Sr Justine Gitanjali Senapati CSJ (CAO – UN NGO, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Jyoti Pal (reported on [September 24, 2014](#) to have been arrested during a prayer meeting in [Raigarh, Chhattisgarh state](#))

Rev K A Sathis (prayer service in [Udumalpet, Tamil Nadu state](#) attacked on [November 16, 2014](#) by over 100 Hindu radicals who destroyed over 20 vehicles, desecrated the altar, burned Bibles, broke musical instruments, and beat the parishioners, hospitalized in serious condition along with four parishioners, threatened and beaten again in the hospital)

Pastor K J Cherian (aged 60, attempted to rent a hall in [Belgaum, Karnataka state](#) for a congregation of 200, made first payment and was told to use the hall even though the contract was not signed, first Sunday service on [October 20, 2013](#) was invaded by Hindu nationalists who demanded the service stop until he proved he had a legal right to use the hall and who refused to accept the payment receipt as proof)

Br K J Markose (reported on arrests of Christians; said on [November 13, 2012](#) of discrimination against Dalit Christians that "the number is growing";
on [March 18, 2013](#) met with and prayed with the families of the seven Christians who were falsely accused in [Orissa state](#) of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati)

Rev K J Mathai (taken by police after [January 11, 2015](#) services along with some of the 30 attendees and questioned on charges of forcible conversions while Hindus demonstrated outside the police station in [Kushulanagar, Karnataka state](#), released, warned to 'be careful')

Fr K J Thomas (aged 62, seminary rector, **beaten to death** on [March 31, 2013](#) with a brick in the seminary in [Bangalore, Karnataka state](#), seminary documents stolen but personal electronic items not stolen)

K Lalrotluana (aged 35, arrested in [Badwah, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 12, 2014](#) on false charges of coerced conversion, denied bail)

K Kamamma ([Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#) home invaded during a [March 26, 2013](#) prayer meeting, verbally abused, Bibles torn)

K M Selvaraj (journalist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor K Manohar (beaten by mob and arrested, later released)

K P Yohannan (reported on the [March 27, 2013](#) attack on the Survati family;
described the forced closure of a Christian center for childhood education and health care in [eastern India](#) by anti-Christian extremists on [November 23, 2013](#), staff was threatened with death if they did not close the center)

Rev K Raju (described a series of attacks on Christians on [June 10, 2013](#) in [Dangarguda village](#))

K Varghese (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism;

- acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)
- Pastor Kaila Badaika (arrested along with eight other Christians on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Balisuda, Sundergarh district, Orissa state](#) arrested on charges of forced conversions during their Christmas celebration)
- Kailash Markham (aged 25, prevented by Hindu radicals from burying his sister in [Chhattigarh state](#) in [January 2017](#), said "We weren't allowed to bury the dead body of my sister for three days. The only reason for that was because we practice Christianity. While the body was decomposing, we were running to the government offices and to the police station to get help to bury the body. The local BJP leaders told us not to bury the body in the village, unless we first gave up our Christian faith. We hardly had time to grieve over the loss of my sister", beaten after obtaining police approval to bury his sister)
- Rev Kamlesh ([January 11, 2015](#) prayer service attended by 50 people in [Madhav Nagar, Bihar state](#) disrupted by Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary youth wing] militants, accused of forced conversions, pushed around, others beaten, furniture and musical instruments damaged)
- Kamleshwar Baglary (said of the attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#) in which at least 15 Christians were injured "Not satisfied with merely beating the Christians, the mob led by Hindu extremists broke and destroyed the homes of these Christian families. All together, five houses have been completely destroyed along with household items")
- Kamli Kawasi (aged 22, sister of Bamaan Kawasi, beaten unconscious on [May 15, 2016](#) by four men in [Parapur village, Lohandiguda area, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) because her family was Christian, hospitalized with significant internal bleeding, has lost the hearing in her left ear, now in hiding with her family)
- Kanaka Rekha Nayak (widow of Parikhita Nayak, mother of two, home [near Raikia, Kandhamal](#) destroyed in the [August 25, 2008](#) pogrom;
said on [November 16, 2015](#) "I knew who had killed my husband. Afterwards they were taken to jail. After seven years in jail now they are released. I am scared to go to my village. They threaten me. I have lost my husband, my home and properties but I have not lost my faith. Jesus is my Savior")
- Kanesh Singh (aged 51, prosecuted and fined for attending [April 17, 2017](#) Easter services in [Junwani village, Chhattisgarh state](#), refused to pay his fine or renounce his faith, said "What crime have I committed that I should pay the fine? I have not stolen anything. I have not defiled any woman. I have not quarreled. I have not killed anybody. If you think going to church and worshipping Jesus is the crime, I will commit this crime every day")
- Pastor Kanhaiya Lal (church service of 300 Christians in [Kasba Jobat village, Alirajpur district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [March 1, 2015](#) interrupted by a dozen Hindu extremists, said "They were shouting slogans against Christianity and using abusive language. I had not seen most of them before and think they are from nearby villages, because I do not recognize them as residents", police told the extremists to stop and to file complaints, added "Three of them have alleged that Pastor Pratap gave them money to convert to Christianity, when the fact is we have never seen these people before")
- Fr Kannumkuzhy Jose (aged 49, attacked by Hindu radicals on [January 28, 2016](#) after the death of a child patient in an AIDS clinic in [Ettimada, Tamil Nadu state](#), drove with the attackers in pursuit until they saw a police jeep, stopped but the police refused to protect them, the attackers told the victims to call on Jesus to protect them, hospitalized in intensive care in critical condition with a head wound, still unconscious as of on [January 31, 2016](#))

Rev Kantharaj Hanumanthappa (prayer service on approximately [July 1, 2012](#) in his home in [Vijayapura, Karnataka state](#) interrupted by 20 Hindu activists;
(beaten along with his family on [April 11, 2013](#) in [Vijapura, Chitradurga, Karnataka state](#), hospitalized)

Kapoor Chand Jairam (convert, home in [Kesla village, Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) reported on [September 7, 2015](#) to have been raided by police, told then that he had invited Rev Sunny Oommen and Rev John Alexander to his home and that he had not been forced to convert)

Kari (aged 45, stomped on by Hindu extremists on [June 16, 2014](#) in [Sirisguda, Bastar town, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state](#) and hospitalized after protesting the denial of the Christians' food rations by the local government, sexually assaulted)

Karan Singh (beaten [between Bhaini Kalan village and Gharaunda city, Karnal district, Haryana state](#) on [August 9, 2015](#), leg and forearms broken, arms required steel plates to be implanted)

Karuna Dayal (daughter of John Dayal, online newspaper editor, wrote on [September 15, 2015](#) "John Dayal, my father, an Indian citizen, journalist and minority rights activist. I have seen his activism grow each day, and his savings getting depleted because he is too voluble, too opinionated, and too unafraid to be employed as the full-time journalist that he once was. That was his choice to make. He lives by the choice, and makes a living with the spare writing or speaking assignment that comes his way. However, what should not be a choice is his right to live fearlessly in his own country. His activism does not give permission, to those who do not agree, to unleash threats and abuse online")

Kayaram Kashyat (brother of Musuram Kashyat, threatened by a mob on [March 24, 2013](#) with expulsion from [Gunia village, Lohandiguda, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state](#), beaten the next day at the home of the village chief, hospitalized)

Pastor Kiran (also commented on the three church members arrested on 'forced conversion' charges)

Kiran Vishwakarma (family friend of Sudhama and Umesh Patel, beaten in the [July 17, 2016](#) attack on their home in [Chhattisgarh state](#), hospitalized in serious condition)

Kishor Barela (aged 30, arrested on illegal conversion charges in [Sitabedi village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh](#) on [April 9, 2017](#))

Kisna Sarel (aged 37, husband, father of two aged 7 and 5, locked with his family in their home in [Gurudpal village, Paschim Medinipur district, West Bengal state](#) by Hindu radicals for 12 hours on [March 6, 2016](#), dragged out and beaten, hospitalized, said "I am not worried about anything. I have Jesus, and even if they take my life, I will still follow Jesus")

Sr Kochurani Abraham (feminist theologian, Kerala, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Kornail Raita (aged 50, beaten on [February 15, 2013](#) by police under suspicion of association with local Maoists in [Patachanda village, Balarampur panchayat, Dharakot block, Orissa state](#))

Kotresh (assaulted by Hindu nationalists on [August 22, 2013](#) in [Jagalur tilak, Davengere, Karnataka state](#))

Kribakaran (aged 35, hit on the head with an iron bar during a [November 23, 2014](#) church attack in [Bangarapet, Karnataka state](#) by Hindu fundamentalists, seven others wounded, collapsed, hospitalized)

Krishna Paul (beaten by a Hindu mob which then turned him over to police in [Jahanpur village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [April 9, 2017](#), released)

Krishnamma (as of [July 27, 2012](#) arrested for missionary activity in a public area located near a Hindu temple in [Tirumala, Andhra Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Krupaiah (beaten in the [June 5, 2013](#) noontime attack on Telugu Baptist Church in [Mahehwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Hyderabad territory, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)

Krupakar (church in [Gangammalaya, Bangarapet, Karnataka state](#) attacked by Hindu fundamentalists on [November 23, 2014](#), legs broken, hospitalized, seven others wounded, church vandalized, threats made to not rebuild)

Pastor Krupiah (aged 68, husband of Rodemma, bled profusely from blows to his head during an armed attack on a [June 4, 2013](#) pastoral meeting in [Thukkugudu, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized, required five stitches;

died from progressive organ failure as a result of the 2013 beating on [July 22, 2015](#))

Kulakanta Dandasena Majhi (JKS India, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor Kumar (beaten in the [June 5, 2013](#) noontime attack on Telugu Baptist Church in [Mahehwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Hyderabad territory, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)

Rev Kumar Hanumanthappa ([September 21, 2012](#) prayer service in [Voddarahalli Thanda village, Shimoga District, Karnataka state](#) attacked, Bibles burned and some Christians beaten, all forced to attend a Hindu temple service)

Rev Kumar Swamy (national coordinator, All Indian Christian Council, spoke on [June 19, 2014](#) on the election of Narendra Modi to be Prime Minister "I'm sure there will be increased sporadic, localized attacks [on] the Christian community. Maybe not initially, because the BJP wants to keep its image secular and democratic, and show they care about the minority groups, so there may not be immediate major attacks taking place";

criticized Social justice minister Thavar Chand Gehlot for saying that the government should not aid Christian Dalits ['trampled upon', untouchables] because there are none "As a Dalit Christian leader, I have to state that the position of the minister is unfortunate. The constitution clearly states that citizens will not be discriminated on the basis of religion")

Archbishop Kuriakose Bharanikulangara (reported on [December 6, 2014](#) that parishioners were anxious after their [New Delhi](#) church was pelted with stones and windows broken during Divine Liturgy;

signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without

saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities")

Kurian Joseph (Supreme Court judge, boycotted a judicial conference that was scheduled on Good Friday [April 3, 2015](#))

Kusuma Anjeneya Swamy (aged 47, husband of Sujatha, father of two daughters, engineering professor, Gideons member, verbally attacked by three Hindus for handing out Bibles in [Hyderabad, Telangana state](#) on [January 21, 2017](#), threatened with being burned alive, dragged to a police station, released without charge, collapsed with a cerebral hemorrhage, hospitalized in a coma, paralyzed on one side)

Kusumabhai (wife of Somashekarwas, verbally threatened on [August 3, 2013](#) to reconvert to Hinduism, accused of practicing forced conversions after refusing to leave her [Bijapur district, Karnataka state](#) village)

Lakshmi Priya (aged 23, engineering graduate in [Chennai, Tamil Nadu state](#), abducted by her parents on or before [August 23, 2013](#) after converting to Christianity and seeking to enter the convent, whereabouts unknown)

Lal Bihari Verma (aged 35, arrested on [June 27, 2017](#) after a worship service in [Pujaripurvah village, Uttar Pradesh state](#) for 'unlawful assembly' and detained for 9 days, Bibles and literature seized, later accused of vandalizing an idol, said "The villagers respected my belief and even requested us to pray for their illnesses and problems since I accepted Christ as my personal Savior three years ago. There have been divisional politics and conspiracies cooking in the village for three months as the Christians are growing in numbers. The same people who earlier told us we can assemble and pray as church are now opposing us", after his release the arresting officer called him to say the events so far were just a prelude)

Pastor Lal Singh (reported on [March 9, 2015](#) to have led a prayer meeting in the home of Idaram in [Barwani district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) which was interrupted by Hindu radicals, held by police due to fears for his safety)

Pastor Lalit Kumar (Aged 35, husband of Meena, father of four, worship service in [Jashpur town, Chhatisgarh](#) interrupted by police on [December 29, 2013](#), illegally detained)

Lalita Korram (one of six female converts in [Nawagad, Jaitalkhar, Kondagoan, Chhatisgarh state](#) who were ordered by villagers on [July 12, 2015](#) to stop attending church, refused, beaten, fled the village)

Lalita Mandavi (sister of Tejai and Tija Mandavi, all sisters and three other Christian converts were expelled from [Nawagad, Jaitlkhar, Kondagaon, Chhatisgarh state](#) on [August 25, 2015](#))

Pastor Lalsa Tirkey ([February 20, 2013](#) pastoral meeting in [Deori, Surguja district, Chhatisgarh state](#) cut short after attack by Hindu protestors)

Pastor Lalsai Khakha (described the [February 20, 2013](#) attack on the pastoral meeting in [Deori, Surguja district, Chhatisgarh state](#))

Pastor Lalta Prasad (aged 58, assaulted along with his wife by four masked men with wooden sticks during a [May 29, 2016](#) worship service of more than 50 Christians in [Naupur village, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#), denied medical treatment)

Pastor Lalta Ram (aged 66, husband of Sushila Devi, beaten unconscious during a [May 22, 2016](#)

worship service in [Naupur, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) by four masked Hindu extremists, hand fractured, hospitalized for 5 days, said of the 15 Christians who were injured in the attack “Anybody who needs prayer and counseling can come over to my place, and if anyone needs a home visit, I will go and visit”)

Lalu Babore (aged 28, vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp;

denied bail on [June 12, 2017](#))

Lalu Gautam (arrested in [Nodia, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [February 7, 2016](#) for celebrating religious rites without permission)

Lancy D’Cunha (National President – All India Catholic Union, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Lata (beaten by a mob on Christmas [2011](#), chest injured)

Sr 'Lata' (school principal, school in [Isagarh, Ashoknagar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) invaded by Hindu fundamentalists on [July 7, 2015](#), abused)

Latha (wife of pastor Suresh, also beaten by mob)

Lawrence F Vincent (Vice President – Catholic Council of India, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Laxman (beaten unconscious on [October 20, 2014](#) by his three brothers in [Tokapal area, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh state](#), still hospitalized as of [October 31, 2014](#))

Laxmi Amma (aged 70, beaten on [February 25, 2013](#) after visiting a sick friend in [Secunderabad, Andra Pradesh state](#), suffered minor bruises on her face)

Laxmi Kanta Nayak (farmer, **shot dead** on [November 14, 2012](#) by security forces in [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) who allegedly mistook her for an armed Maoist rebel)

Sr Laurel Judith Seaton MC (Australian citizen, missionary with over 30 years’ experience, as of [April 24, 2017](#) may be forced to leave the country after denial of his visa renewal)

Pastor Laxmi Prasad (reported on the [May 26, 2014](#) attack on Shri Lal Khatiyani and Asha Devi, said that Hindu nationalists threatened Christians with death if they should file a police report)

Laxmi Sovi (widow, mother of two, home in [Kakadi Beda village, Kondagoan](#) invaded by Hindu radicals on [August 24, 2013](#), dragged to a Hindu temple with her children, teenage daughter threatened with rape, beaten after refusing to reconvert to Hinduism, suffered a fractured left hand and multiple swellings and contusions, home destroyed)

Pastor Lazarus (beaten in the [June 5, 2013](#) noontime attack on Telugu Baptist Church in [Mahehwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Hyderabad territory, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)

Leelamma (arrested on [August 12, 2014](#) in [Pulittadi, Karnataka state](#) after accusations of handing out Christian literature and visiting a Hindu family, later released)

Archbishop Leo Cornelio (on [May 4, 2012](#) thanked by the Isai Mahasangh leadership in [Bhopal city, Madhya Pradesh state](#) for his support of their organization;

said "The police conducted the arrests [of Stephan Rajkumar, Harilal and Anil Kumar in

Majhgawan, Satna district, Madhya Pradesh state on October 3, 2015 for forced conversions] on the basis of a simple 'complaint', without any investigation: this is a serious violation of human rights. Some fanatics put pressure on the police without any evidence of actual attempts at forced conversions. The agents then carry out the arrests. What happened is a serious violation”;

said on or before April 18, 2016 that a Madhya Pradesh state report that called for a reassessment of religious minority preferences in public schools and the certification of religious schools was part of an anti-Christian agenda and would "halt the standard of the education in the state";

said after the June 13, 2017 arrest of Sr Bina Joseph that he "strongly condemns the harassment of radical elements professing their loyalty and political alliance with the ruling party [BJP]. All this is absolutely wrong and goes against the freedom of every Indian citizen...[Sr Bina Joseph] was traveling on a public transport vehicle, when she became the victim of harassment, intimidation, and humiliation by the police. The behavior of the agents is to be condemned";

said the June 15, 2017 charge against Sr Bina Joseph was a "totally a false case";

said of the September 1, 2017 arrest of Fr Sebastian Panthalluparambil "It is an attempt to tarnish the image of the church. The real facts were distorted and a false case was registered against the priest";

reported on September 20, 2017 to have said there had been "harassment against Christians and an anti-Christian atmosphere surrounding our mission. This is a land dispute [regarding the 20 year old Catholic college closed by the Madhya Pradesh state government in Mohanpur village, Guna district]. And it is also a question of Ghar Wapsi, that is to return to the religion of origin. But tribals have never been Hindus. So the [nationalist]'s claim to return the land to the people is unfounded and only responds to the goal of tormenting Christians")

Fr Leo D'Souza (aged 56, school principal in Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state, arrested on July 10, 2017 on child abuse charges involving an eighth grade student who had been accepted at the school only 10 days earlier, no preliminary police investigation was performed prior to the arrest)

Rev Lewis Mascarenhas (beaten by Muslims on November 23, 2012 in Hospet village, Bellary district, Karnataka state, falsely accused of conducting forced conversions, hospitalized but kept in police custody)

Fr Ligo Mathew (school headmaster in Khursipar village, near Raipur, Chhattisgarh state beaten on September 2, 2014 for 'insulting students' by sympathizers of the Hindu BJP party, sentenced to 14 days' detention, bail denied, office vandalized, teachers who came to his aid also beaten)

Lijo (attacked by Hindu radicals on January 28, 2016 after the death of a child patient in an AIDS clinic in Ettimada, Tamil Nadu state, drove with the attackers in pursuit until they saw a police jeep, stopped but the police refused to protect them, the attackers told the victims to call on Jesus to protect them, hospitalized, released on January 31, 2016)

Lion C Francis (described the June 17, 2016 demolition of a church in Hyderabad, Telangana state to widen a road “the pastor was never informed by local authorities. The community is upset. This is a slum area and locals work mainly as stone crushers. People just came to pray and worship Jesus, and experience his liberating grace in order to survive their heavy and oppressive situation”)

Liris Thomas (Alliance Defending Freedom-India, described the [December 17, 2014](#) arrest of Pastor Amit Kumar and his parishioners)

Lodha Barla (head of a family of Dalit [untouchable] background, well poisoned on or before [May 2, 2014](#) with garbage and waste by neighbors who also are threatening to have the local government seize their land)

Ms Loreign Ovung (attorney, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev M Bhaskar (reported on [February 1, 2017](#) to have said that 10,000 Christians wanted to protest against the abuse of Kusuma Anjeneya Swamy but police cancelled the protest, said "It is unfortunate that the police who are supposed to empower the citizens to exercise their right to protest peacefully [stopped the protest] contrary [to the constitution]. They showed unfair bias [against] Christians")

Fr M Chinappa (aged 63, participated in a [March 10, 2015](#) march by thousands of Christians in [Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh state](#) that protested the anti-Mother Teresa comments made by the leader of the RSS paramilitary organization;
rector of the Gunadala Matha shrine in [Vijayawada](#), abducted, photographed and video recorded in sex acts while drugged, extorted out of US\$154,000 of his own money, called police on [March 6, 2016](#) after fearing the gang would begin to demand shrine funds, hospitalized with high blood pressure and blood sugar levels)

Pastor M Emmanuel (robbed on [January 28, 2013](#) of money and Gospel tracts and warned to not return to [Kottur, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu state](#), police took no action)

M S Stanislaus (Secretary General – Federation of Catholic Associations of Archdiocese of Delhi, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

M Thomas (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism; acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)

Fr Madan Singh (said of the government promise of financial compensation to families of the three Christians and three others who were killed on [July 8, 2016 between Baligunda and Malapanga, Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#) by police who claimed they were attacking Maoists rebels "Compensation might satisfy the families, but it is not enough. Measures to protect Christians are needed. The latest event comes as a shock to Adivasi [aboriginals] and Dalits [untouchables]")

Madhu (son of Rev. Ratnababu, bound and gagged while his parents were assaulted)

Rev Madhu Chandra Singh (spoke on [December 29, 2014](#) against government discrimination against Christian Dalits [untouchables] "After their conversion, Dalit Christians begin to suffer religious persecution from religious fanatics but also a denial of Scheduled Caste benefits because of the Schedule Caste Order of 1950, which I term a double discrimination of Dalit Christians")

Madhusmita Bhuyan (aged 13, punched in the stomach when a Christian worship service in [Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) was attacked by Hindu radicals on [June 18, 2017](#))

Mahalingam (**died in hospital after being injured** in an anti-Christian riot on [June 23, 2012](#) in [Vanagiri Menavar village, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu state](#))

Mahendra Nayak (along with his wife visited Pastor Sushil Lima in jail in [Kanheipur village, Odisha state](#) on [August 23, 2015](#), along with his wife was forced to attend a [August 24,](#)

2015 village meeting, tortured and threatened with banishment)

Mahendra Rabha (aged 24, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Pastor Mahesh Chand (accused of forced conversions while attending a [March 29, 2017](#) birthday party in [Agra, Shamsabad, Uttar Pradesh state](#), attacked by a mob along with five other Christians, arrested, held until midnight)

Mahmood Kala (on [June 19, 2016](#) protested the harassment of Christian women by workers of an 'urban political party' who would invade their homes in [Latifabad township, Hyderabad](#) and then file false police cases against their male relatives)

Pastor Maipal Singh (retrieved the casket and took it to a different cemetery after a [March 6, 2015](#) attack by Hindu nationalists on a Christian funeral procession in [Pali village, outside Delhi](#) in which mourners were beaten and driven away)

Mala Rabha (wife of Manesor Rabha, dragged from her home in [Deuphani village, Assam state](#) at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when she refused, later hospitalized in serious condition;

has been released from the hospital as of [June 28, 2012](#), has no home left to return to)

Pastor Malkeet Singh (reported on [August 28, 2015](#) to have said “Since June 27, we have not been able to have any kind of worship meetings [in [Nakhnool village, Rajasthan state](#)]. The extremists threatened to harm us if we utter the name of Christ or conduct any Christian meetings”)

Malkeeth Singh (evangelist, family threatened on [July 18, 2015](#) in [Bandholi, Rajasthan state](#))

Pastor Mallikarjun Sangalada (with four other Christians was beaten by a mob for distributing Christian leaflets)

Rev Mallikarjun Shingoli (present at a [February 3, 2013](#) prayer meeting at the [Gadag district, Karnataka state](#) home of Rev Nagesh Naik which was invaded by 20 Hindu nationalists, stripped, beaten, later arrested for insulting religion)

Manasida Barla (head of a family of Dalit [untouchable] background, well poisoned on or before [May 2, 2014](#) with garbage and waste by neighbors who also are threatening to have the local government seize their land)

Maner Sori (convert, father of Sangeeta Siri, reported on her [July 22, 2016](#) rape and murder)

Manesor Rabha (dragged from his home in [Deuphani village, Assam state](#) at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, two other families later fled the village;

has been released from the hospital as of [June 28, 2012](#), has no home left to return to)

Mangal Mandavi (lost hearing when hit on the ear by a militant Hindu attacker on [October 25, 2015](#) in [Madota village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#), said "Today, for the sake of following Jesus, we are persecuted. We as Christian community are very strong, even after the attack on us. We will never turn back. Even if we have to die, we will never leave Jesus”)

Rev Mangaleswar Prasad (arrested in [Salempur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [May 10, 2017](#), said “When we gathered for the prayer, right-wing Hindu activists objected but we ignored them. There was no provocation, as alleged, from our side and we were there only to offer peaceful prayers. Police took us into custody, ignoring our pleas. The FIR [first information report] was filed without any evidence”;

- released on bail of US\$310 on [May 20, 2017](#), said “It is true that we were harassed but God turned it to our advantage and, despite hurdles, we bore witness to Christ among the inmates. It seems that before we reached the jail the message was spread among the prisoners that Christians converting Hindus were coming. For the first three days, the inmates treated us with contempt but later came to listen to us about Jesus Christ...by our cool and composed attitude, even after the abuses”)
- Mangli Madhi (beaten by Hindu extremists on [June 10, 2013](#) in [Dangarguda village](#), hospitalized and released)
- Mani Matiya (aged 30, beaten unconscious on [September 4, 2015](#) with blows to the head with a spade)
- Sr Manish SCN (social animator, activist, Delhi, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Manisha Shenge (wife of Sachin Shenge, abducted in [Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra state](#) on [September 16, 2016](#), threatened, abused, and beaten after having handed out religious literature)
- Manita Kumari (aged 16, beaten on [March 5, 2014](#) in [Pali village, Ramgarh district, Jharkhand state](#), told she would never marry, forced to worship Hindu idols)
- Sr Manju Kulapuram (FORUM National Secretary, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Manju Modu (reported on [September 24, 2014](#) to have been arrested during a prayer meeting in [Raigarh, Chhattisgarh state](#))
- Pastor Manjunath (arrested on [June 20, 2012](#) for distributing Christian literature at a bus station in [Hubli village, Keshavapura district, Karnataka state](#))
- Mankuram Singh (brother of Mankumar Singh, convert, beaten by Hindu extremists on [September 22, 2013](#) in an attempt to convert him back to Hinduism, home in [Dhanora, Kondagoan district, Chhattisgarh state](#) destroyed, expelled from the village with his family)
- Mankumar Singh (brother of Mankuram Singh, convert, beaten by Hindu extremists on [September 22, 2013](#) an attempt to convert him back to Hinduism, home in [Dhanora, Kondagoan district, Chhattisgarh state](#) destroyed, expelled from the village with his family)
- Mannulal Rajdiwar (aged 68, seminar in [Dumartola, Bajag village, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) interrupted by police on [February 20, 2013](#), questioned but not charged)
- Rev Manohar Chandra Prasad (said in [Bangalore, Karnataka state](#) on [March 13, 2015](#) that the Maharashtra state assembly's total ban on the possession and consumption of beef will further impoverish the Dalits [untouchables]: “This ban is an insult to the poor and the Dalits”)
- Manoj Kumar (husband of Pushpa Kumari, beaten in [Jalalabad village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [April 25, 2017](#), forced to participate in Hindu rituals and denied water)
- Rev Manoj Samuel (home in [Maharajganj, Rae Bareilly district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) attacked during a [March 26, 2015](#) prayer meeting by 30 Hindu extremists, said “They broke the wall of the hut and stormed in, accused me of giving money to people to make them follow Jesus and mercilessly attacked us. Four Christians, including three women, were rushed to the hospital for treatment. They sustained injuries on their heads, backs and legs, and they complained of internal pain as well”)

Pastor Mantu Nayak (prayer service in [Krutamgarh, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) disrupted by a mob on [September 24, 2012](#), beaten, arms fractured and head seriously injured)

Pastor Manu Das (beaten after hosting Christmas carolers in his home, still in intensive care)

Major Manuel Masih (Salvation Army, said in [Amritsar](#) on [January 16, 2015](#) that Dalits belong to many faiths and added "Who can divide them on the basis of religion?")

Sr Margaret (described on [August 6, 2014](#) the questioning by church officials and police which uncovered the rape hoax committed by the postulant in Bangalore)

Sr Maria Palathingal SCN (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Maria Stephen (spokesman for the regional bishops' council, said on or before [April 18, 2016](#) of a [Madhya Pradesh state](#) report that called for a reassessment of religious minority preferences in public schools and the certification of religious schools "It is highly disappointing to note that the minority panel has given a report against the minorities to the state government. The minority commission is meant for protecting and promoting the welfare of the minority institutions but by this move it has failed to do its duty")

Mario Britto (said of the [July 10, 2017](#) desecration of 40 crosses and several graves in a cemetery in [Goa](#) with heavy machinery "If the police are really serious about unraveling the mystery of the desecration, they ought to start investigating the [government] ministers' links with fundamentalists organizations")

Mario Joseph (convert from Islam, reported on [November 15, 2013](#) that after his conversion was imprisoned by his father who then attempted to kill him but failed, escaped)

Sr Marisa O.Carm (school principal, described on [June 28, 2016](#) how her school in [Pune](#) had been harassed for two months following a demand by a local politician that admission slots be set aside for political favorites)

Mariyamma (parishioner, came running with her relatives in [Medipally village, Telangana state](#) when she saw the attack on Rev Gandham Padma Rao on [January 27, 2017](#), the attackers fled)

Marko Baba (witnessed the [March 21, 2015](#) attack against 200 Christians who were staying overnight in the cathedral courtyard in [Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh state](#) for a Bible seminar)

Marshal Pereira (AICU President – Madhya Pradesh, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Prof Mary John (chairman of the National Council of Dalit Christians NCDC, stated on [August 1, 2012](#) in [New Delhi](#) that the government promises to Christian Dalits were dishonest; arrested in [New Delhi](#) on [December 11, 2013](#) with other priests, pastors, and nuns who were demonstrating for equal rights for Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims, several were beaten by police; reacted on [August 10, 2016](#) to Prime Minister Narandra Modi's speech against 'cow vigilantism', said that Modi's words were "too little, too late...But if they are serious they should act now")

Sr Mary Prema MC (Missionaries of Charity superior general, said on [October 11, 2015](#) that the Missionaries would be closing their adoption centers in India after the government issued new regulations that would allow nontraditional families to adopt)

Masid das Lugun (head of a family of Dalit [untouchable] background, well poisoned on or before

- May 2, 2014 with garbage and waste by neighbors who also are threatening to have the local government seize their land)
- Masihcharan Kujur (family forced to flee [Kullu village, Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand state](#) on [June 10, 2015](#) along with their pastor by tribal people directed by Hindu extremists, returned on [June 22, 2015](#), homes were pelted with stones on [June 23, 2015](#))
- Fr Masiladaikalam Jacob (described the police suppression of an [April 14, 2017](#) Good Friday service on public land in [Sogandi, Tamil Nadu state](#) "Government officials stopped the service midway, pulled down the altar and manhandled nuns")
- Fr Mathew Kojickal (chancellor of the Archdiocese of New Delhi, condemned the [December 1, 2014](#) arson attack on a church in [Dilshad district, Delhi](#) serving 1,000 families "I do not dare to accuse anyone but what is certain is that the attack was carefully planned and carried out on a place of worship of a religious minority...We had to organize a protest in the street to convince the police to send an investigation team";
- spoke on [February 2, 2015](#) on the continuing attacks on churches in the Delhi-New Delhi area "There has been no attempt from the prime minister's side to condemn the attacks...[If he did] we would be comforted, we would know we have a prime minister who cares about us")
- Fr Mathew Puthyadom (ministers to Christians held in prison under false charges of participating in the 2008 assassination of a Hindu leader)
- Fr Mathew Thomas (pastor of Holy Family parish church in [Srinagar, Kashmir](#) that had minor damage in an arson attack on [May 23, 2012](#))
- Bishop Emeritus Mathew Vaniakizhakkal (accused along with two priests, a nun, and two lay people of illegal conversions in [Madhya Pradesh state](#) in [May 2009](#);
- acquitted on [April 20, 2017](#), said the case was "part of a motivated campaign against the church for its role in helping weaker sections of society")
- Sr Meena Barwa (niece of Archbishop John Barwa, raped by 10 men during the August 25, 2008 anti-Christian pogrom in Kandhamal, Orissa state; testified to a growing faith in the state of Orissa)
- Meena Kumar (wife of Pastor Lalit Kumar, gave birth to their fourth child while her husband was in illegal detention in [Jashpur town, Chhatisgarh](#))
- Meenu Kumari (aged 17, beaten on [March 5, 2014](#) in [Pali village, Ramgarh district, Jharkhand state](#), told she would never marry, forced to worship Hindu idols)
- Pastor Meera Rani (beaten by 25 members of the ABVP [the student wing of the BJP Hindu nationalist political party] during a [June 5, 2016](#) church service in [Kas Mahal, Patna, Bihar state](#), one of her fingers was fractured and her neck was cut under the ear)
- Pastor Mehtu Karma (aged 31, beaten unconsciously on [October 25, 2015](#) by a Hindu mob that attacked a church service in [Kohkameta, Chhattisgarh state](#), blood was seen to stream from his ear, several parishioners also beaten)
- Merlin (wife of Pastor Joseph Thomas, attacked on [December 16, 2013](#) by more than 30 Hindu nationalists during a Bible study attended by 45 in [Avaraikulam village, Tamil Nadu state](#), beaten, hospitalized)
- Michael Nayak (church leader, his July 2011 [death has been reclassified](#) on [August 7, 2012](#) by a court in [Baliguda, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) from a road accident [to murder](#) by Hindu extremists)

Michael Rabha (dragged from his home in [Deuphani village, Assam state](#) at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, later hospitalized in serious condition; has been released from the hospital as of [June 28, 2012](#), has no home left to return to)

Fr Michael Santhumayor ([Milagres College](#) administrator, attacked on [October 20, 2016](#) by a student he had warned would have to repeat courses due to skipped classes, hospitalized)

Bishop Michael Toppo (said "we do not know the reasons of the attack" on Fr Sushil John Soren)

Dr Michael Williams (president of the United Christian Forum, joined in an anti-Hindu religious extremism rally in [New Delhi](#) on [June 28, 2017](#), which was 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";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Mini (arrested on [August 12, 2014](#) in [Pulittadi, Karnataka state](#) after accusations of handing out Christian literature and visiting a Hindu family, later released)

Mini John (secretary of the All India Catholic Union' women's commission, condemned the [December 14, 2015](#) grotto attack in [Vikasपुरy district, New Delhi](#))

Associate Pastor Mitilesh Kumar (dragged from the home of Mukh Dev on [September 4, 2015](#), ordered to stop worshipping Jesus, replied they were not doing anything wrong and would not stop, beaten resulting with abrasions and a deep cut on his head)

Mitko Kashyap (aged 60, beaten by her nephew on [September 22, 2013](#) in [Taragaon, Chhattisgarh state](#) when she refused to deny her faith, daughter-in-law also attacked but escaped, hospitalized with a head injury, police refused to file a report until hospital management insisted the injury was serious)

Rev Mohan (reported on [March 31, 2017](#) to have been arrested in [Uttar Pradesh state](#) for speaking out against the use of Hindu terminology in compulsory yoga classes in schools while praising the general benefits of yoga)

Mohan Dass (prayer meeting speaker, meeting in [Kalahandi, Odhisa state](#) attacked by RSS paramilitaries on [October 11, 2014](#))

Mohan Soren (convert, fled with his family from [Dengabahalli, Dhenkanal, Orissa state](#) on [March 10, 2013](#) after receiving threats that they would be killed)

Ms Molly Sebastian (women activist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Mongli Madhi (severely beaten on [June 8, 2013](#) after drawing water from a public well in [Orissa state](#), beaten again the following day by the same three Hindu extremists)

Fr Monodeep Daniel (Dean, St Stephen's College, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor Moosa Minj (forced to flee [Kullu village, Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand state](#) on [June 10, 2015](#) after having his possessions thrown from his house, received death threats, said "The Christians in the village have been discriminated and threatened for a long time, but the banishment started in the first week of June, when five Christian families were threatened and banished")

Moses Annel (described the [April 25, 2016](#) beating of six families of Christians in [Katodi village, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh state](#) after they refused to give up Christianity, six individuals hospitalized; homes demolished and threatened with death on [April 29, 2016](#), all fled the village)

Moses Vatipalli (project coordinator for the All India Christian Council, spoke on [March 4, 2014](#) on the increasing anti-Christian violence in Andhra Pradesh state “The jump from 39 incidents in 2012 to 72 incidents in 2013 is alarming, and the reasons for this escalated growth on the Christian minorities is the culmination of every effort of the right-wing political party to woo the majority of the communal agenda in the coming election of 2014”)

Pastor Mounesh (home church in [Romagonadanahalli, Karnataka state](#) attacked in [July 2012](#), Bibles destroyed and three parishioners injured; as of August 1 2012 has halted ministry in the area)

Moyazan Bewa (aged 65, mother of Aimazan Bibi, beaten during home invasion)

Mudha Madhi (beaten into unconsciousness by Hindu extremists on [June 10, 2013](#) in [Dangarguda village](#), hospitalized and released)

Mukesh (hospital custodian in [Rohtak district, Haryana state](#), threatened by a mob backed by a media crew on [March 9, 2015](#) “The mob consisted of around 15-plus people and was stirred by Raj Kumar Dhaka, a lab technician working in the same hospital [and member of the RSS paramilitary organization]. They objected to me being a Christian and attending church in Kalanaur. I am attending the Uddhar Ka Jeevan Kalisia [Eternal Life Church] since April 2012, when my wife was healed miraculously as a result of prayers...There is no prayer being held at my house, but I do attend church. This is a frame up.”

said “[The next day on [March 10, 2015](#)] Dr Sagwan handed me a letter from the contractor which said that they are not satisfied with my work, and just like that I was without a job. I was not given any notice period, and neither were the charges explained. I have been terminated because I am a Christian. I don’t know what to do now. I have a family to support”)

Mukh Dev (aged 60, attacked on [September 4, 2015](#) in his home in [Hututag village, Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#) with an axe, suffered a deep gash, had hosted the prayer meeting)

Pastor Mukti Prakash Lakra (organized an “Open Special Gospel Meeting” in [Nagra, Balrampur Ramanujganj, Chhattisgarh state](#) that was shut down by police on [March 25, 2013](#) after forced conversion allegations were lodged)

Chief Minister [Governor] Mukul Sangma (aged 51, physician, on [April 12, 2017](#) protested the federal government's decision to hold Digital India Day events on Good Friday “I have written to the [federal] union cabinet secretary because it is necessary for me to express concern on behalf of the people, with special reference to the north-east, which has a significant Christian population. We have to be candid in asking: ‘What is their agenda?’ Observing Good Governance Day at Christmas [in 2015] and now Digital India Day on Good Friday. Are they trying to marginalize the minority?”)

Munda Badmajhi (father of four, as of [December 19, 2012](#) is still in [Orissa state](#) prison after four years, falsely accused of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati; convicted on [September 30, 2013](#) and sentenced to life imprisonment; still imprisoned as of [March 14, 2016](#))

Rev Muniraju ([September 23, 2012](#) prayer service in [Gudadahalli Hearaghatta, Karnataka state](#)

- with five Christians invaded by Hindu radicals, beaten, Bibles and religious documents destroyed, all were dragged to a Hindu temple where two were forced to perform a Hindu ceremony)
- Pastor Muniyandi Elangoan Jebraj (aged 61, father of Pastor Daniel Jebraj, attacked on [July 19, 2017](#) outside his church in [Thyagaraja Nagar, Sirkali area, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu state](#) by five men belonging to the Hindu Makkal Katchi, a branch of the RSS paramilitary organization, suffered a brain injury, hospitalized)
- Munni Devi (aged 60, beaten unconscious on [September 4, 2015](#), both hands fractured, entire body covered with bruises)
- Musuram Kashyat (brother of Kayaram Kashyat, threatened by a mob on [March 24, 2013](#) with expulsion from [Gunia village, Lohandiguda, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state](#), beaten the next day at the home of the village chief, hospitalized)
- Fr Muvvala Prasad (said that the abduction and extortion of Fr M Chinnappa "have put severe pressure on the aged priest")
- Myron J Pereira (Campion Jesuit Residence, Mumbai, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Rev Nagesh Naik ([February 3, 2013](#) prayer meeting at his [Gadag district, Karnataka state](#) home invaded by 20 Hindu nationalists, stripped, beaten, later arrested for insulting religion)
- Nagma (convert, actress, threatened on [December 14, 2013](#) with "a lesson VHP-style" - the VHP is a Hindu nationalist party - after publishing her conversion story in [Mumbai](#))
- Rev Nama Moses (husband of Suverthamma Moses, accused of conducting false conversions in [December 2013](#), church in [Narketpally, Andhra Pradesh state](#) attacked by extremists; stabbed multiple times in the back and stomach on [December 28, 2013](#) in his home in [Narketpally town, Nalgonda district, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)
- Rev Nand Lal (arrested in [Salempur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [May 10, 2017](#), home raided; released on bail of US\$310 on [May 20, 2017](#))
- Nanda (donated land in [Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh state](#) for a 'Prayer Tower', forced to flee the [January 10, 2013](#) dedication ceremony by protesters)
- Nanda Lal (abducted from [Gadra village, Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by Hindu radicals on [July 21, 2016](#), taken into a forest, beaten, tied to a tree and left for hours, untied by police who arrested them on forced conversion charges; released on bail on [July 27, 2016](#))
- Narendra Gachha (said of the [October 25, 2014](#) attack on Irma Markami and his family "The attack lasted for about one and a half hours, and by the time they were rushed to the hospital, the Christians were barely conscious")
- Naresh (alias, government employee, said in [New Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2017](#) concerning the government's 1950 order that removed legal protections for Christian [and Muslim] untouchables "Sometimes I have to participate [in] customs and rituals to prove that I am a Hindu to protect my job. I do not know how long I need to live this double life")
- Naresh Bhuiya (one of 16 Christian Dalits [untouchables] who were called on [May 8, 2016](#) to a village in [Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#) to explain their abandonment of Hinduism, said "They wanted us to shout to hail the Hindu god. When we refused, they tied our legs and

hands and beat us mercilessly”, all then fled the village)

Naresh Ram (father of Eraj Ram, beaten during the [May 8, 2016](#) attack in [Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#), hands broken)

Narsu Madavi (beaten by Hindu radicals on [October 25, 2015](#) in [Madota village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#), suffered a severe head injury)

Pastor Nathaniel Shubas (beaten by Hindu activists on [July 15, 2012](#) in [Sainagara village, Hubli district, Karnataka state](#) and then arrested for "forcibly and fraudulently" converting people to Christianity)

Navneet Kedar (attended Christmas service on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Aligarh](#) despite Hindu activities)

Nayak Suryakant (**beaten to death**)

Nazir Masih (on [June 19, 2016](#) protested the harassment of Christian women by workers of an 'urban political party' who would invade their homes in [Latifabad township, Hyderabad](#) and then file false police cases against their male relatives)

Pastor Neethi Rajan (assaulted along with his family on [April 10, 2013](#) in [Kashmir state](#) by Muslims who accused him of converting children, taken into protective custody, relocated)

Dr Neeti Lal Bhai (theologian, human rights activist, [Varanasi](#), signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Nicholas Almeida (said the [April 29, 2017](#) illegal demolition of a 122 year old Cross on private land in [Bandra district, Mumbai](#) by the municipal government "hurt our religious sentiments")

Fr Nigel Barrett (in response to the RSS paramilitary organization's [February 24, 2016](#) reissuance of a book written in 1946 by one of its founders that purported that Jesus was a Tamil Hindu said that if Jesus was Hindu "then why does the RSS has so many issues with people converting to Christianity?...This is a move in keeping with the current trend of intolerance in this country";

said of the desecration of a cross in [Mumbai](#) on [September 4, 2016](#) [the day of the canonization of Mother Teresa] "They [police] have assured us that they will do a full inquiry and investigation on this sensitive issue";

reported on the [April 29, 2017](#) illegal demolition of a 122 year old Cross on private land in [Bandra district, Mumbai](#) by the municipal government)

Niladri Kanhar (beaten and arrested on charges of proselytism before [May 3, 2012](#); he had led attacks on Christians until his dying daughter recovered after being prayed over by Pastor Pabitra Kata in [Gupti village, Orissa state](#) - after which he converted to Christianity)

Nilandri (wife of Budhadeb Nayak)

Nimai Rabha (aged 40, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#), hospitalized)

Nimmaka Laxmaya (aged 50, **murdered** by mistake by Hindu extremists on [May 25, 2014](#) while returning from his youngest son's baptism in [Dherubada village, Orissa state](#) - the son was the actual target of their attack, when he found his father's body one attacker said "We killed your father because he refused to deny Jesus Christ", has received additional death threats after the arrest of the perpetrators)

Nipon Rabha (aged 27, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola](#)

village, Golpara district, Assam state)

Pastor Nirakant Pradhan (arrested October 6 2011 in [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) on a charge of assisting Maoist rebels, died in prison in [May 2012](#) reportedly due to illness)

Nirmal Raymind Nigam (accused along with his brother on [May 5, 2016](#) of desecrating Hindu flags that had been installed in front of his church in [Jobat, Madhya Pradesh state](#), arrest warrant issued)

Sr Nirmala Mulackal SCN (Executive Director CBCI CARD, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Sr Nirmalini AC (educationist, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Nithiya Sagayam (on [January 13, 2013](#) the fifth anniversary of the [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) pogrom in which 100 Christians died and 54,000 displaced after 300 churches were destroyed, told how many victims live in appalling conditions and cannot return to normal life because they cannot obtain replacement IDs, driver licenses, title deeds, and other legal papers lost in the pogrom)

Pastor Nitin Kumar (attended a Christian prayer service in [Nagepur village, Telangana state](#) which was attacked by Hindu radicals on [January 17, 2016](#), six Christians hospitalized with severe internal injuries, a four year old girl suffered a fractured leg, said “It was very scary scene. They tore my cassock and I received blows, punches, kicks from all directions as I was their prime target. Bibles were snatched from us and were tore and trampled. Believers ran to all directions as they were chased by the mob”, later developed an infection in a back wound)

Nitin Mandod (aged 23, vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp; denied bail on [June 12, 2017](#))

Nitin Sardar (described a [June 16, 2012](#) attack by 20 men on the dormitory of an English-language school in [Pimpri Liasina, Yavatmal district, Maharashtra state](#) allegedly for converting children of the Pardhi tribe, who have long faced discrimination, to Christianity)

Fr Nitish Jacob (said after his church in [Ganj Basoda, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) was burglarized and cash stolen on [August 13, 2015](#) “This is the third theft or attempted theft from this church [in less than a year]”)

Norris Pritam (Board of Director - New Delhi YMCA, journalist, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Nripol Rabha (aged 26, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

O J Metei (theologian, social activist, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor Obaid S Christ (convert, Afghan refugee, fled to India with his wife in 2007, has no legal status to stay as a refugee but faces certain death if he should return, the Afghan government has threatened to arrest him through Interpol for apostasy, says he knows of at

least 22 Christians who have disappeared and are likely dead or imprisoned, said on [September 13, 2013](#) in [New Delhi](#) "Today I know that the world is really evil. And I know that even if I suffer as a refugee in India, God put me here for a purpose to learn. There is no justice. The world is against Christ and Christianity, so I don't expect the world to give me something. I am here to give them something, and that is the love of Christ")

Omkar (House church attacked by more than 30 BJP and RSS paramilitary members on [March 15, 2015](#), beaten, hospitalized)

Osmond Charles (advocate, said on [September 4, 2014](#) in [New Delhi](#) "The series of atrocities did not end with Asroi. At Hasayn in the same district, the pracharaks [Hindu activists] wanted to conduct the same purification inside the church but were stopped by the police";

said on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Aligarh](#) "People are nervous about the new government at the center as they feel such activities [as mass forced conversions to Hinduism] will be condoned")

Rev Orucanti Sanjeevulu (**stabbed** by four men on [January 10, 2014](#) in [Vikarabad village, Andhra Pradesh state](#), **died** three days later, wife also stabbed but escaped and survived)

Cardinal Oswald Gracias (will inaugurate a Missionary Congress [April 30th, 2012](#) in [Kerala](#) with 10,000 priests, religious, and laity;

expressed satisfaction on [August 31, 2012](#) in [Mumbai](#) that the Himachal Pradesh High Court struck down parts of the state's anti-conversion law as unconstitutional;

condemned the [September 10, 2012](#) desecration of Our Lady of Lourdes church in [Idinthakarai village, Tamil Nadu state](#), in which police destroyed two statues and urinated on them;

described Fr K.J. Thomas [who was murdered on [March 31, 2013](#)] as "a dear friend and a humble priest, compassionate, respectable and good-hearted, loved by everyone";

condemned the [December 15, 2013](#) vandalism of a 133 year old crucifix in [Mumbai](#);

in [Mumbai](#) on [January 23, 2014](#) had received the 'Report on Persecution in 2013' which listed over 4,000 registered cases in which 7 Christians were murdered, and 1,000 women, 500 children, and more than 400 priests and ministers were beaten;

said "[This] must be condemned in the strongest possible, am completely shocked and deeply saddened at this arson attacks [on [December 1, 2014](#) on a church in [Dilshad district, Delhi](#)]. While I do not want to attribute communal motives, but this act of deliberate torching of a Sacred Place of worship, is completely unacceptable and cannot be condoned. People are revolted and feel vulnerable, whenever the miniscule Christian community is targeted";

spoke of a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks and which was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children, said "What happened today is a shameful stain on secular and democratic India...the way in which our women religious were treated, women who consecrated their lives to God dragged away like criminals. Not even children were spared...Christians constitute less than 2 per cent of India's population. In Delhi they are just over 100,000 [out of 25 million residents]. They are a peaceful and law-abiding community. Our educational institutions and health facilities are at the service of the nation. Yet, in response to tens of decades of nation building, our women religious, our priests and our people are treated like criminals. This is a shame, a disgrace and a stain on our motherland";

condemned the [March 22, 2015](#) vandalism of a [Mumbai](#) church;

said of [Maharashtra state](#)'s decision to again hold the 2015 'Good Governance Day' on Christmas, including the National Service Scheme [NSS] camp for which students gain credits "Holding programs to promote Good Governance is good, but such a celebration should be avoided on Christmas Day...There might be a strategy behind it";

on [March 14, 2016](#) relaunched the web site www.release7innocents.com to secure the release of the seven Christians falsely accused of the 2008 murder of Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati, which led to the Kandhamal pogrom in which nearly 100 Christians were killed;

issued a statement on the [April 25, 2016](#) abduction and beating of Bishop Gallela Prasad "We are deeply saddened by this sacrilegious attack on Bishop Prasad. We assure him of all our support and prayers, and we appeal to the authorities to apprehend the culprits as soon as possible...The fact that this attack was perpetrated as the prelate was performing his duties is a source of anguish and grief. Mgr Prasad has always been concerned for the poor and for women. One of the major commitments of his ministry is in favor of women's empowerment. Since most girls in rural India do not attend school beyond the age of 15 years, the diocese offers an 11-month training program that culminates in the gift of a sewing machine worth US\$ 100. This allows graduates to go on to earn a living...We pray for the bishop's quick recovery and call on God's merciful love to touch and turn the hearts of those who committed this sacrilegious assault;

complained of the "half-hearted attitude of the police" after two men accused of the [June 20, 2015](#) drugging and rape of a nun were acquitted in [Chhattisgarh state](#) on [January 3, 2017](#))

P Anand (arrested on [February 12, 2013](#) for attending a college prayer service with friends at [IIIT College, Basara, Adilabad district, Andra Pradesh state](#))

Fr P Augustine SJ (pastor, spiritual guide, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

P B M Basaiawmoit (National Council of Churches, criticized the government for its scheduling of International Yoga Day on [Sunday June 21, 2015](#), said "Holding such high profile programs on Sundays and other Christian holydays is a serious concern to us. It's not that we do not welcome yoga minus its religious connotation since it has merits for mind exercise and relieving stress. However, the hype and overboard is just too much";

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev P G Vergis (visited the [Kaliyaganj village, Bihar state](#) home of Sadanandan Singh prior to a [May 25, 2014](#) attack by a Hindu mob)

P I Jose (attorney, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr P J James (principal of St Xavier school in [Hazaribagh, Jharkhand state](#) which was invaded and vandalized on [April 21, 2015](#) by 60 members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad [ABVP], the student branch of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP], said "I'm not sure what they were opposing or protesting. They wanted me to close down the school, saying that we have commercialized education. It was no point in reasoning with them...A pattern is emerging...and that shows they are against minority-run institutions")

P K Antu (school headmaster, said of [Maharashtra state](#)'s decision to again hold the 2015 'Good

Governance Day' on Christmas, including the National Service Scheme [NSS] camp for which students gain credits "Since the NSS camp is scheduled from December 19th to 25th, the students can return home only on the Christmas afternoon. So, I wrote to the NSS coordinator and to Kerala chief minister to prepone the camp so that the students can return on the Christmas Eve", was told the dates could not be changed)

Rt Rev P K Samantaroy (as of [September 17, 2012](#) is fearful of violence against [Kashmir](#) Christian schools;

criticized Prime Minister Modi's refusal to give a clear statement against the 'Ghar Wapsi - Homecoming' campaign by the RSS paramilitaries in [Amritsar](#) on [January 16, 2015](#) "Keeping silent on such sensitive issues construes his silent approval")

Fr P R John SJ (Principal, Vidyajyoti College of Theology, Delhi, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

P S Nehemiah Christie (Head – ADF India Tamil Nadu Legal Aid Center, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

P Melwin Mendonca, SJ (dean of St. Joseph University Institute, arrested without charge on his own suggestion after 100 Hindu rioters took over the school and beat students who refused to join their movement, held for hours, later released)

P Joseph Packiaraj (President – AICU Tamil Nadu, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor Pabita Mohan Kota (home attacked by a drunk Hindu who threw stones, pushed his daughter, and called for a repeat of the 2008 massacre from which his home is still unrepaired)

Pabitra (wife of Bijay Kr Sunseth)

Pastor Pabitra Kata (arrested on charges of proselytism before [May 3, 2012](#))

Pastor Padam Pande (described the burning of a [Chhotesalna, Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#) church on [April 2, 2013](#) following accusations of forced conversions)

Padmavathi (forced by a mob to stop a prayer service)

Pastor Paltu Ahirwar (beaten along with another Christian by Hindu extremists in [Bamnora village, Chattarpur district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [December 9, 2014](#))

Pandayya (husband of Seethamma, father of three, beaten and **burnt to death** on [January 13, 2016](#) in [K. Kamuduvalasa village, Makkuva Mandal, Vizianagaram district, Andhra Pradesh state](#), had been accused of performing black magic after a young boy in the village died of a leg infection)

Pandu Singh Vasuniya (aged 31, vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp; denied bail on [June 12, 2017](#))

Pappu Kumar (aged 16, brother of Sarita Kumar, skin on his stomach cut open on [September 4, 2015](#))

Pappu Sadhu (described an [August 21, 2016](#) Hindu attack on a prayer meeting in [Chaitama village, Korba district, Chhattisgarh state](#), 200 Hindu radicals later erected a concrete wall around their uncompleted church, said they were accused of illegal conversions and

threatened with dire consequences if they did not stop their prayer meetings)

Rev Paramajyothi (dragged from his [Mobanahalli village, Chitadurga district, Karnataka state](#) church by Hindu nationalists on [August 11, 2013](#), stripped and beaten while his family and congregation watched, three teeth broken, police later filed a complaint against him)

Pastor Paras Bilwal (arrested with two parishioners on [September 5, 2015](#) in [Amjhera, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) and charged with forced conversions)

Parbati Rabha (aged 17, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Parikhita Nayak (husband of Kanaka Rekha Nayak, father of two, home [near Raikia, Kandhamal](#) destroyed in the [August 25, 2008](#) pogrom, two Christian friends killed, brought to a Hindu temple on [August 26, 2008](#), beaten and threatened with death, refused to deny Christ, dragged with a cycle chain around his neck, **beheaded**)

Parimala (forced by a mob to stop a prayer service)

Parvez Samuel Koul (principal of Tyndale Biscoe School, under investigation by an Islamic court for proselytism;

the court ordered the state government to take over the management of all Christian schools)

Dr Pascoal Carvalho (on [May 9, 2016](#) condemned the rape and murder of a 28 year old Dalit [untouchable] law school student, said in [Mumbai](#) "The life of women is considered less important than that of men. Their exploitation starts even before birth, with sex-selective abortion; then continues with the industry of wombs for rent...Violence against women is not only the most widespread example of a human rights violation , gender bias is all too prevalent in India, causing grave concerns for women's safety in India. This horrific and brutal assault on the young women is another shame on the safety of our women...")

Bishop Patras Minj (said that police were clearly aware that the [September 11, 2015](#) sexual abuse charges against Fr Joseph Dhanaswami and Sr Christ Maria were false and were acting under pressure to tarnish Christians;

said of the on [January 9, 2017](#) acquittal of Sr Christ Maria, Fr Joseph Dhanaswami and Philomina Kerketta "We are relieved. It was a totally fabricated case aimed at tarnishing the image of the church. The attempts are to keep people away from the church")

Fr Patrick Xavier (found the body of Fr K J Thomas)

Pastor Paul Agustin (arrested on charges of 'inciting sectarian clashes' on [March 30, 2015](#) in [Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir state](#))

Pastor Paul Ciniraj (President of the Christian Ministers of the Churches in India - CMCI, condemned the [March 6, 2016](#) attack on the church in [Kachana colony, Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#), said "Persecution towards Christians, Dalits and other minorities are seemingly increasing throughout India. Priests, pastors, missionaries, evangelists and believers are being murdered, beaten, abducted and jailed. Women are being raped. Churches and institutions stoned, vandalized and demolished")

Rev Paul Munia (said "Pastor Bilwal and two Christians, Raju and Roop Singh, were visiting some church members in the Nankhodara area when the anti-Christian people manhandled them, threatened them with dire consequences if they visited the village again and filed a police complaint against them of forceful conversion [on [September 5, 2015](#)]")

Pastor Paul Praveen (stated that Pastor Mounesh "has relocated to another area for safety

measure")

Pastor Paul Tamizharasan (said "Pastor Sultan Masih was my neighbor and my friend" after his [July 15, 2017](#) assassination, added "The state of Punjab is very safe in India for Christians. There are Sikhs living here – they are also a religious minority in India. We are also a minority, but never before have we had any threats. But unfortunately this has happened and we are all shocked about how this is possible")

Fr Paul Thelakkat (on [August 27, 2014](#) dismissed the efforts of the Hindu nationalists in [Kerala state](#) to ban the use of wine at Mass "Combining the liquor ban and Mass wine issue together is an attempt communalize the issue by dragging in the Church";

reported on [October 12, 2016](#) to have said concerning ISIL activities in [Kerala state](#) "is trying to purge Christianity from their ancient lands. This is because they identify Christianity with West. In order to attack the West, they rightly or wrongly attack the Christians, even outside the West";

welcomed a [January 2, 2017](#) court ruling prohibiting electoral campaigning on the basis of religion, but pointed out it left standing a 1995 Supreme Court ruling that Hinduism was not a religion with regard to such laws, said "The court's interpretation of Hinduism has today led to demands of homogenization and assimilation of minority communities into the Hindu way of life. What remains to be seen is how will this secularism be implemented when the court itself sees Hinduism as part of secular India";

reported on [February 17, 2017](#) regarding activities by the RSS paramilitary organization "The RSS presence in Kerala is widespread, strong and active. Based on their ideology, they are a fascist organization. However, they are not in direct conflict with other communities, except in Kannur district where they are in a violent conflict with Marxists...relations between the RSS, Christians and Muslims have always been peaceful. Kerala has a long tradition of cordial relations between the various religions...The RSS does not want to disturb this model. I think the BJP [the RSS political wing] in this state is different from that in northern India. Here, its political leaders do not offend other religions. Kerala could become a model for the national party. India's future will depend on how the RSS is willing to accept democratic values and respect all religions. Even the Marxist Party, whose ideology was not at all democratic, has changed its attitude over the years and is open to democratic values. This could also happen to the BJP and the RSS")

Sr Pauline Chakkalakal DSP (Biblical theologian, coordinator of interfaith partnership, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Peramangalam Porinju Job (aged 67, **died of natural causes**, lauded as 'the Billy Graham of India' at his [August 27, 2012 New Delhi](#) funeral service)

Bishop Percival Fernandez (on [October 16, 2014](#) from [Mumbai](#) criticized current government efforts to rewrite history book as "dangers of distorting history in the impressionable minds of the young", such changes include encouraging students to draw an Undivided India ['Akhand Bharat'] that includes Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Tibet, Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan)

Pericho Prabhu (Christian activist in [Karnataka state](#), reported on [May 15, 2014](#) to have said of BJP candidate Narendra Modi's denial of knowledge of attacks on Christians "This is an utter lie, and what can we expect from a man who claims to be a Hindu Nationalist in front of television cameras; it is a danger for a country to have a person of this stature, as a choice for the Prime Minister")

Pervez Bhatti (on [June 19, 2016](#) protested the harassment of Christian women by workers of an

- 'urban political party' who would invade their homes in [Latifabad township, Hyderabad](#) and then file false police cases against their male relatives)
- Bishop Peter Machado (condemned a [September 7, 2015](#) attack on a Christian cemetery in [Bharatnagar, Shahapur. Maharastra state](#);
on [September 30, 2015](#) condemned an attack on a Christian cemetery in [Belgaum, Karnataka state](#), some of the dead had to be reburied)
- Rev Phil Oswald (U.S. citizen, missionary in [Delhi](#), as of [December 23, 2014](#) has been repeatedly targeted by Hindu nationalists in apparent entrapment attempts, has still had trouble renewing his visa)
- Philip Christy (All India Christian Minority Front president, reported on [July 25, 2016](#) to have called for Christians in all 29 states to demonstrate on October 1, 2016 against the continuing attacks on churches, said "Some communal forces attached to the [BJP] party are creating an atmosphere of fear among Christians by attacking them and their places of worship")
- Philomina Kerketta (school maid, arrested in [Chhattisgarh state](#) on [September 11, 2015](#) on sexual abuse charges at the instigation of Hindu radicals;
acquitted on [January 9, 2017](#) for lack of evidence)
- Phulo Netam (one of six female converts in [Nawagad, Jaitalkhar, Kondagoan, Chhattisgarh state](#) who were ordered by villagers on [July 12, 2015](#) to stop attending church, refused, beaten, fled the village)
- Br Pilar Eusebio Miranda (church newspaper editor, said after Hindu nationalists in [late August 2015](#) seized land owned by a religious order in [Nerul village, North Goa district](#) and built a temple on it with police assistance "The entire episode against the Salesians is stage managed. We had predicted before the elections that if the BJP comes to power, this will be the fate [of us]")
- Ponnachan George (missionary, abducted by terrorists from his Bible school in [Karbi Anglong district, Assam state](#), held for seven days, released on [July 30, 2012](#))
- Mr Poshetti (hosted a Christian prayer service in his home in [Nagepur village, Telangana state](#) which was attacked by Hindu radicals on [January 17, 2016](#), six Christians hospitalized with severe internal injuries, a four year old girl suffered a fractured leg)
- Prabha Anthony (wife of Rev V A Anthony, automobile stopped by Hindu extremists in [Satna, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 22, 2016](#), arrested on false forcible conversion charges along with her husband and another woman)
- Prabhakar Barela (aged 39, arrested on illegal conversion charges in [Sitabedi village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh](#) on [April 9, 2017](#))
- Fr Prabodh Pradhan (stated that the murder of Nayak Suryakant is the sixth unsolved murder of a Christian in his district this year)
- Fr Pradosh Chandra Nayak (sent a letter to police on [December 22, 2016](#) requesting protection for churches in [Raikia, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) during Christmas, said "Every year during the Christmas holidays, as a precautionary measure we ask the police protection, to guarantee the peace of the Christian community, who could still end up in the crosshairs of Hindu fanatic groups. We hope that nothing unpleasant happens, and that Christians can celebrate Christmas in peace. We will pray for the coming of Christ who is the Prince of peace")

Fr Pradosh Kumar Nayak (on [April 30, 2014](#) confirmed the third destruction of the home of Praful Digal, said "The last demolition shows that these groups are strong and determined to keep Christians out of the country")

Praful Digal (home in [Budruka village, Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) has been destroyed by Hindu extremists before [April 30, 2014](#) for the third time since 2007)

Rev Prakash Messey (church in [Bhiwani district, Haryana state](#) damaged in two vandalism episodes on [June 28, 2015](#) by four men on motorcycles, said it was "an attempt to provoke tensions in the community")

Prakash Pradhan (a resident of [Pikoredi village, Orissa state](#), as of [November 13, 2012](#) has been denied a caste certificate because he is a Dalit [untouchable] Christian, his Hindu brother was also denied a certificate due to his Christianity)

Br Pramod SDB (brother of Ghasiram Bagsingh, alleged that his brother and Aiba Padra, Shyamason Majhi, Sanatan Mallick, and Laxmi Kanta Nayak were well known, were unarmed, and that their [November 14, 2012](#) shootings had been arranged by the local village chief in [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#))

Pramod Das (Bethesda Charitable Endeavors, said after the government shut down the U.S. Christian charity Compassion International on [March 15, 2017](#) "We will have to completely stop the program now - it will affect the development of the children", had been assisting 258 children in slums and leper colonies in [Uttarakhand state](#))

Pramod Sahu (aged 38, convert, welder, beaten on [January 24, 2015](#) in his [Nalasopara, Mumbai](#) workshop by 25 members of the Bajrang Dal [the youth wing of the RSS paramilitary organization] when he refused to pray to a Hindu god, said "The attackers abused me in foul language and used the picture of Jesus Christ in my garage as an excuse to beat me up", police initially refused to file a report, bring treated for chest and back injuries)

Pramod Singh (attorney, president of the Christian Lawyers Association, reported on the August 31 2014 arrest of 12 pastors in Kulesra village, Surajpur district, Uttar Pradesh state "The police chief of the area even told us that 'this is a Hindu nation.' The police have changed colors with the change of government";

spoke out against the state of Maharashtra's introduction of a religious conversion bill: "This law will give the legitimacy [to persecute Christians] in the hands of the state and the non-state actors also, who would, or may be, holding the majority [intolerant] opinion...it has the tacit support of the government. These are the forces which want the society to be polarized. It basically comes...to control people, to control their destinies, to control their choice, subjugate them, to interfere in their very personal decisions";

met with the Delhi police chief on [September 15, 2015](#) to express concern over the threats to John Dayal;

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pranita Rabha (aged 7, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#), hospitalized with serious chest injuries and blood clots in her brain)

Pastor Prasan Pradhan (on [March 18, 2013](#) met with and prayed with the families of the seven Christians who were falsely accused in [Orissa state](#) of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati)

Pastor Prashant Bhatnagar (abducted in [Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra state](#) on [September 16, 2016](#),

threatened, abused, beaten, and urinated upon after having handed out religious literature)

Fr Prashant Olekar (educational activist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev Prashanth (arrested on [October 29, 2012](#) for baptizing 40 converts in [Chikkamatti village, Shimoga District, Karnataka state](#))

Prashanto Rabha (dragged from his home in [Deuphani village, Assam state](#) at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, later hospitalized in serious condition; has been released from the hospital as of [June 28, 2012](#), has no home left to return to)

Assistant Pastor Pratap Rawat (accused of illegal conversion on [March 1, 2015](#) in [Kasba Jobat village, Alirajpur district, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Pratap Singh (forced with his family to worship idols on [July 19, 2015](#) in)

Praveen Choudhary (arrested along with Prabha Anthony and Rev V A Anthony in [Satna, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 22, 2016](#))

Pastor Praveen Kumar (described repeated attacks against his parish in [West Delhi](#) in [August and September, 2014](#): “The RSS clad in their uniforms stopped some church members on their way to the church and chased them back to their homes. They teased and uttered vulgar words to the ladies from our church and deliberately offered prasad [food offered to idols] when the congregation came out from the church...The Station House Officer at that time was B.R. Sangla, and every time we asked for his help, he said that we were the ones creating trouble, and he threatened to lock us up. Finally, one member of the National Minority Commission, Abraham M. Patiani, helped us out by addressing our issue to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, who told the anti-Christian people not to bother us again”)

Predhuman Joseph Dhar (stated on [May 30, 2012](#) in [Srinagar, Kashmir](#) that the lack of government response to the [May 23, 2012](#) arson attack on Holy Family parish church showed the "abandonment" of the church by the government)

Prem (beaten in the [March 9, 2013](#) attack on the [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) home of Rev Robert Lobo, hospitalized)

Prem Barnabas (church leader, described the [October 28 and November 1, 2014](#) attacks on the four Christians in [Kamseth village, Nasik district, Maharashtra state](#))

Prem Taj Masih (pensioner, said on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Aligarh](#) "My forebears have been coming to this church since it was established in 1868. There is no sense of fear from the Hindu masses")

Premchand Ekka (family forced to flee [Kullu village, Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand state](#) on [June 10, 2015](#) along with their pastor by tribal people directed by Hindu extremists, returned on [June 22, 2015](#), homes were pelted with stones on [June 23, 2015](#))

Premchand Kujur (family forced to flee [Kullu village, Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand state](#) on [June 10, 2015](#) along with their pastor by tribal people directed by Hindu extremists, returned on [June 22, 2015](#), homes were pelted with stones on [June 23, 2015](#))

Prince Calvin (church general secretary, described a [March 12, 2016](#) church attack by a mob in [Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu state](#) "The attackers broke the main door of the church, damaged the furniture, altar and the stained glass", Christians were threatened with "dire consequences if they continued worshipping there")

Pritam (orphaned in anti-Christian violence)

Purna Mallick (father of five, **killed** on [July 5, 2015](#) by a mob which blamed his faith for the deaths of two people by illness in [Kesara, Mohana, Gajapati, Odisha state](#), his children were bathed in cow dung)

Bishop Purna Sagar Nag (said on [July 17, 2014](#) regarding villages banning non-Hindu religious activity “The situation could get worse. We have to be vigilant. Right now, it is confined to [Bastar] district [in [Chhattisgarh state](#)]; it may spread to other areas”)

Purnima Rabha (aged 3, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Pastor Purshottam (registered a complaint with police after the [February 25, 2013](#) beatings of Laxmi Amma and Rahel Amma)

Pushpa Devi (aunt of Sunil and Anil Kumar)

Pushpa Kumari (wife of Manoj Kumar, beaten in [Jalalabad village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [April 25, 2017](#), forced to participate in Hindu rituals and denied water)

Pastor Pyare Lal (RSS paramilitaries were reported on [September 24, 2014](#) to have stoned his house in [Haridwar district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) and beat his youngest daughter, police took no action)

Pyaru Bihari (unconscious for 24 hours after being beaten at the funeral of Jaikant Pawar)

Pastor RC Paul (attacked by Hindu nationalists in [Sehkari Nagar, Bulandshahr, iUttar Pradesh state](#) during a [July 16, 2014](#) Bible study with sticks and hammers, other Christians including his young daughter injured in the attack, cross removed from the church and replaced with the Hindutva flag)

R D Lall (National Christian Forum, as of [August 21, 2016](#) said the attacks were part of a "a well-orchestrated move" to force Christians from [Chhattisgarh state](#))

R Laldinfela (aged 21, arrested in [Badwah, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 12, 2014](#) on false charges of coerced conversion, denied bail)

Pastor R Mahanta (arrested along with eight other Christians on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Balisuda, Sundergarh district, Orissa state](#) arrested on charges of forced conversions during their Christmas celebration)

Rev R Reuben (arrested for baptizing a 30 year old woman in [Gundur suburb, Trichy, Tamil Nadu state](#) on [July 18, 2013](#), is currently in jail, allegations include forcible conversion and contaminating a river [the location of the baptism])

Rabinarayana Marandi (convert, on [March 1, 2013](#) after refusing demands to contribute to a Hindu religious festival, driven from [Bhalutangara village, Kankadahada block, Dhenkanal, Orissa state](#))

Catechist Rabindra Kumar Parichha (**murdered**)

Pastor Rabindra Nath Tandi (described a [October 11, 2014](#) prayer meeting of 200 Christians in [Kalahandi, Odhisa state](#) which was attacked by 50 Hindus believed to be RSS paramilitaries, 25 were hospitalized with 3 in serious condition)

Pastor Raghav Rajendran (son of Mahalingam, also hospitalized after being injured in an anti-Christian riot on [June 23, 2012](#) in [Vanagiri Menavar village, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu state](#))

Raghuram Mandavi (son of Bagathram Mandavi, said he would convert to Hinduism in [September](#)

2016 to ensure that his father would be buried;

home in [Chhattigarh state](#) demolished by Hindu radicals in [February 2017](#), said "we don't have freedom to live as we want, all our movements are tracked closely by the Hindu radicals. Now that our homes are demolished, we do not have a place to live in the village, all our belongings including utensils and clothes became unusable. We are in this situation for no crime, except practicing the religion we like")

Rahel Amma (aged 60, beaten on [February 25, 2013](#) after visiting a sick friend in [Secunderabad, Andra Pradesh state](#), suffered minor bruises on her face)

Rahul Nayak (aged 26, son of Dhubaleswar and Bhubudi Nayak, was speaking on the phone when they were killed on [July 26, 2015](#) "I could hear my mother shrieking and protesting as if somebody was trying to [rape] her. My father was also shouting. Then I heard gunshots and the last words of my father: 'I am dying'. Afterwards, there was no response from the phone and soon it was switched off. It was a murder")

Fr 'Raj' (school in [Isagarh, Ashoknagar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) invaded by Hindu fundamentalists on [July 7, 2015](#), brutally beaten)

Rev Raj Bharat Patta (said on [May 12, 2014](#) that the Christian Secular Party may have little impact since it is so new, said "The number of Dalit Christians is much higher than what is projected in the census")

Raj Kamal Masih (brother of Pastor Sultan Masih, said "Anoop Masih heard the noise of shooting and came out of his room on the first floor. Seeing his dad lying on the road, he screamed and alerted everyone in the church building...My brother was a peace loving man. We don't have any enmity towards anyone. Since over two decades my brother is serving Christ")

Rev Raja Singh (described a failed attempt on by Hindus on [March 28, 2013](#) to shut a day care center opened by the Indian Evangelical Mission in [Mokhagoan, Chhattisgarh state](#))

Rajamman Johnson (described the [July 19, 2015](#) Hindu extremist attack on the family of Pastor Pratap Singh in [Nakhnool village, Rajasthan state](#) "The extremists had been following the movement of Pastor Singh closely for a long time, and then they dragged him back from his hiding place to forcefully convert him along with 10 members of his family to Hinduism in an hour-long Ghar Vapsi ceremony. About 600 people gathered in front of Pastor Singh's house, put up the idol of the Hindu god Hanuman, forced Pastor Singh and 10 family members to worship the idol and forced him to sign a paper which said, 'I am willing to be a Hindu'. They forced them to drink water procured from the Ganga River and put kumkum [red marks] on their foreheads to show that they were now Hindus...The extremists boldly claimed that they were the ruling [BJP] party in the state, and that they can stop whatever they like. The support they get from the police and the village head emboldened their actions")

Pastor Rajan Gill (manhandled in [west Delhi](#) on [July 18, 2015](#) along with two other pastors;

said of the [July 18, 2015](#) incident "Hurling verbal abused against us, about 15 extremists rushed towards me and started to push, kick and slap me, and they tore my shirt and beat me up. When one church member, Ranjinder Masih, came to defend me, he was mercilessly beaten up...The police simply told the crowd that they have beaten us enough, and that they will take us inside the police station now. I asked one police officer why they did not intervene when the mob beat us up right in front of the police station. He replied that it was not his duty to intervene outside the police station")

Rajata Bada Raita (aged 24, seriously injured when a Christian worship service in [Abasing village,](#)

- [Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) was attacked by Hindu radicals on [June 18, 2017](#), has continued hospital outpatient treatment)
- Rajath Pradhan (husband of Swapna Pradhan, hosted an [October 12, 2015](#) prayer meeting in his home in [Balanagar village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) that was attacked by Hindu radicals)
- Rev Rajeev Jose (invited along with other missionaries to a [March 25, 2015](#) ecumenical prayer meeting for an ailing elderly woman in [Rajapur Chungi, near Agra, Uttar Pradesh state](#), beaten along with members of the woman's family by Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary's youth wing] members for alleged forcible conversions)
- Pastor Rajendra Masih (beaten by nine Hindus for the public showing of a film about Jesus, arrested, released)
- Rev Rajesh (ordered to vacate his home by police after he conducted an Easter day service there, later that day he and six parishoners were assaulted by approximately 100 Hindu extremists when he tried to protest the police action at the police station - the police did nothing to stop the assault)
- Rajesh Malaki (state president of the National Christian Council, described the [February 25, 2015](#) attacks on the 20 Christians detained and beaten by police in [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#) for handing out Christian literature "...we were shocked to see the utter impunity and the scant regard for law as practiced by the police themselves...The RSS workers tried to threaten us and hurled abuses at us, as we were speaking in favor of the Christians, but the police did not stop them. Since our group was an interfaith group and influential members of the community were part of it, we were not attacked and the police were willing to listen to us")
- Pastor Rajesh Parthe ([Mandla district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) church destroyed by arson on [September 26, 2014](#), crosses outside the church also destroyed)
- Rajesh Singh (beaten with iron rods until unconscious [between Bhaini Kalan village and Gharaunda city, Karnal district, Haryana state](#) on [August 9, 2015](#))
- Pastor Rajesh Yadav (assaulted on [January 18, 2013](#) during an invasion of a prayer meeting in [Saranggath, Raigarh district, Chhattisgarh state](#), arrested, released on bail)
- Rajesh Yadav (aged 45, convert, husband of Rosalin Yadav. **died after a long illness** on [July 4, 2015](#), denied a Christian funeral, body turned over to Hindu relatives)
- Raju (home entered by a mob of 20 Hindu radicals during a prayer service in [September or October 2012](#), beaten along with his daughter, along with his wife was taken to a Hindu temple and forced to worship)
- Raju (attacked on [February 16, 2013](#) while conducting a prayer meeting in [Gulai village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), arrested, not granted bail)
- Raju (aged 22, beaten by 15 Hindu radicals on [December 31, 2014](#) in [Appampally village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) in an attempt to force his conversion to Hinduism)
- Raju (arrested on forced conversion charges in [Amjhera, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 5, 2015](#))
- Fr Raju Alex (Secretary – Catholic Council of India, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Pastor Raju Dewangan (assaulted on [January 18, 2013](#) during an invasion of a prayer meeting in

- [Saranggarth, Raigarh district, Chhattisgarh state](#), arrested, released on bail)
- Rev Dr Raju Thomas (said a police report had been filed on the [March 26, 2015](#) attack by 20 Hindu extremists on a Lenten service in [Agra, Uttar Pradesh state](#) in which several people were beaten then taken to the police station for protection, no action had been taken)
- Rakesh (arrested without charge on [June 20, 2012](#) after attending a prayer meeting in [Pati village, Bhalwani district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), released)
- Rev Rakesh Dass (described how local officials stood by while a mob on [March 13, 2013](#) demolished a church on [Guriya village, Chhattisgarh state](#) land owned by Pastor Budhram Baghel)
- Rev Rakesh Goyal (a [July 27, 2014](#) Sunday worship service with 25 parishioners invaded by 30 Hindu activists in [Nagda town, Madhya Pradesh state](#), questioned by armed police as to his conversion activities)
- Pastor Ram Chander Vish Prasad (assaulted along with his wife and other church members - including a recent convert - by Hindu extremists armed with iron bars)
- Rev Ram Hari (arrested in [Salempur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [May 10, 2017](#); released on bail of US\$310 on [May 20, 2017](#))
- Ram Naresh (aged 35, arrested on [June 27, 2017](#) after a worship service in [Pujaripurvah village, Uttar Pradesh state](#) for 'unlawful assembly' and detained for 9 days, Bibles and literature seized, later accused of vandalizing an idol)
- Pastor Ram Prakash (aged 52, hut attacked by 25 Hindu radicals on [March 9, 2016](#), ordered to leave [Karoate village, Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh state](#), threatened with loss of his land, brother and sister-in-law beaten, hut set afire, roof and furnishings destroyed, brother hospitalized;
- chased by Hindu radicals on three motorcycles on [March 24, 2016](#), run off the road, leg injured when he fell off his motorcycle, beaten, hospitalized)
- Rev Ram Yesh (said of the [July 21, 2016](#) arrest Rev Ramlal Kori and Nandalal "Police held them all day [22 July] on the pretext of providing them protection, but then in the evening sent them to prison")
- Rama Soreng (aged 21, arrested on [January 18, 2013](#) during a prayer meeting in a [Gudikhamari village, Baripada district, Orissa state](#) private home on charges of proselytism)
- Pastor Ramesh (church service in a school in [Dubkia village, Shamshabad, Uttar Pradesh state](#) reported on [May 3, 2017](#) to have been interrupted by Hindu radicals, police ordered him to stop such activities, home invaded and wife attacked resulting in her hand being broken)
- Pastor Ramesh Basuniya (arrested during an [August 9, 2015](#) church service in [Padlava, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state](#) while a Hindu mob threw stones at him and his parishioners, police refused to accept his family's bail money, local media accused him of throwing stones at Hindus)
- Rev Ramesh Chandekar (church one of three attacked by Hindu radicals just prior to the [May 12, 2015](#) dedication of a missionary orphanage in [Indore, Madhya Pradesh state](#), crucifix, holy vessels, and microphone damaged or destroyed)
- Pastor Ramesh Masaniya (told to stop preaching on [September 5, 2015](#) by Hindus in [Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#), tried to file a police report against the Hindus but found a report had already been filed against them, parishioners went ahead with a service without the pastors and were attacked by 150 Hindus, 14 parishioners were arrested for "luring people to

Christianity")

Fr Ramesh Poojari (beaten in the [March 9, 2013](#) attack on the [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) home of Rev Robert Lobo, hospitalized with a serious head injury)

Pastor Ramesh Salomon (aged 32, attacked on [September 28, 2013](#) while leading a prayer service in [Mandya district, Karnataka state](#) by 20 Hindu radicals)

Pastor Rameshwar Mishra (aged 41, husband, jailed by police on [September 14, 2016](#) when he refused to cancel an upcoming revival event in [Sitaram Purwa, Sitapur district](#);
attacked at the [September 18, 2016](#) revival by 15-20 Hindu extremists, police joined in the beating, eardrum ruptured, arrested, threatened with further beatings until he prayed to Hindu deities, refused;

released on [September 23, 2016](#) with serious internal injuries, never charged;

left the area in [October 2016](#) when police threatened to arrest anyone caught praying with him)

Pastor Ramgopal (detained without charge during a [June 26-28, 2012](#) church gathering in [Rahika village, Sitapur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#), released only after signing a statement promising not to conduct any more prayer services in the area)

Ramkreet Ram (husband of Sasikala Kumari, beaten in [Jalalabad village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [April 25, 2017](#), forced to participate in Hindu rituals and denied water)

Rev Ramlal Kori (abducted from [Gadra village, Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) by Hindu radicals on [July 21, 2016](#), taken into a forest, beaten, tied to a tree and left for hours, untied by police who arrested them on forced conversion charges;

released on bail on [July 27, 2016](#))

Ramnath (husband of Survati, beaten on [March 27, 2013](#) in [Uttar Pradesh](#))

Rev Rampal (arrested in [Nodia, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [February 7, 2016](#) for celebrating religious rites without permission)

Pastor Rampal (aged 55, convert, bicycle repair shop owner, forced into a Hindu temple and forced to bow before idols in [October 2015](#);

threatened with death by Hindu radicals who had invaded a [December 2015](#) prayer meeting, bicycle shop vandalized;

caught with Bibles while getting off a bus with Pastor Bal Raja in [January 2016](#), beaten, escaped;

home in [Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh state](#) attacked by Hindu radicals on [February 19, 2016](#), left hand broken, wife suffered a back injury, daughter suffered several severe cuts on her head, hands and leg, all were threatened with death, police refused to file a complaint and advised him to stop Christian services, said "The best thing that has happened to me is Jesus. I am joyful that I am chased and beaten up for His name's sake. And we will continue to carry the banner of Christ, and one day the attackers will also see Christ")

Pastor Rampath Nath (accused of forced conversions in [Pali village, Ramgarh district, Jharkhand state](#) on [March 10, 2014](#))

Pastor Rampath Nayak (described the [February 8, 2015](#) attack on Shanti, Samudri, Sonamati and Yasoda in [Navardi, Chatra, Jharkhand state](#), said "They are all recovering, except that Yasoda is still complaining of pain in the left part of her chest")

Rev Rana (a [November 4, 2014](#) meeting with seven parishioners in [Kotla, Madhya Pradesh state](#)

- was interrupted by members of the Bajrang Dai, the youth branch of the RSS paramilitary organization, all were stripped naked, beaten, whipped and arrested)
- Pastor Rani Gil (sexually assaulted and stabbed on [August 23, 2015](#) in [Batala, Gurdaspur, Punjab state](#), another pastor assaulted, church and cross urinated on)
- Ranjeet (arrested in [Nodia, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [February 7, 2016](#) for celebrating religious rites without permission)
- Rev Ranjeet Prasad (arrested in [Salempur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [May 10, 2017](#);
released on bail of US\$310 on [May 20, 2017](#))
- Ranjinder Masih (aged 36, beaten on [July 18, 2015](#) for 15 minutes in front of a police station in [West Delhi](#) by an RSS mob before police intervened, eardrum damaged)
- Archbishop Emeritus Raphael Cheenath SVD (aged 82 in 2016; released a study on [June 7, 2013](#) in [Bhubaneswar](#) showing that the victims of the 2008 anti-Christian pogrom in [Orissa state](#) have received only a fraction of the compensation needed to restore their lives;
deplored the [October 3, 2013](#) sentencing of seven Christians to life imprisonment for the 2008 assassination of Hindu nationalist leader Laxamananda Saraswati despite a lack of evidence and Maoist claims of responsibility, the assassination led to a pogrom in which over 100 Christians were killed;
died of natural causes in [Mumbai](#) on [August 14, 2016](#), had been living outside his diocese due to death threats)
- Raphael D'Souza (AICU Maharashtra State President, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Rev Ratnababu (had chili powder thrown in his eyes by Hindu extremists before he and his wife were assaulted)
- Ratnam (father of Arun, Mudugula caste member, said in [New Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2017](#) concerning the government's 1950 order that removed legal protections for Christian [and Muslim] untouchables "We dreamed of my son doing a dignified job and thought our fate of doing menial job is over forever. But, my son did not get the admission to study engineering as we cannot afford to pay without the help of the government. We are denied this help because we follow the Christian faith")
- Ravi Babu (beaten during the [March 26, 2013](#) invasion of the [Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#) home of K. Kamalamma)
- Ravindra Bhuyan (injured when a Christian worship service in [Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) was attacked by Hindu radicals on [June 18, 2017](#), detained, released)
- Ravindra Jadhav (described on [January 6, 2013](#) how Christians in [Manor, Vikramgad, Tamsai, Palghar, Malvan and Pochade villages, Thane district, Maharashtra state](#) must travel 20 km to worship safely)
- Raymond Dias (religious display of Our Lady of Fatima in [Daund, Maharashtra state](#) vandalized on [March 9, 2016](#), said "I went to call other people and we found that no valuables had been stolen. So we realized that the act was done only to offend our religious feelings. The statue has a silver crown and several other valuable items, but nothing was touched")
- Reena Behl (aged 51, mother of Pastor Vishaal Behl, beaten by four Hindu nationalists on [August 13, 2013](#) in [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#) and threatened with death for her not telling them the

whereabouts of her son and daughter-in-law)

Rekha (beaten and disowned by her parents for converting to Christianity)

Rekha Bai (elderly woman, convert, widow, reported on [July 27, 2017](#) to have been fired from her job after she told her employer about her conversion, beaten, homeless, sheltered by another Christian, said "Now I wanted to live for Jesus Christ and live like a testimony. Nobody was there to care for me, no family member, no well-wisher, but now I have whole Christian community to care for me and worries about me more than I do. My own husband and my boss where I used to work never cared for me during my life time, but these unknown people with great love are helping me and caring for me, which really surprises me")

Rekha Khatoon (beaten by a mob - which included her parents - after she thanked Jesus for being healed from an illness)

Rev Richard Howell (said on [March 31, 2014](#) regarding the nomination of Narendra Damodardas Modi for Prime Minister by the Hindu nationalist BJP party "The perception among certain pockets of the Christian community is that the scale of persecution of Christians will increase";

said on [April 17, 2014](#) after Hindu nationalist Prime Minister candidate Narendra Modi remarked in a television interview that he was unaware of any attacks on Christians and their places of worship in India "What he said was an utter lie. The onslaught against Christians by Right-wing groups has always been cause for concern. The Bajrang Dal, the youth wing of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, has been attacking members of the Christian community and vandalizing churches across India...How can he forget the gruesome attacks on tribal Christians in Gujarat's Dangs district in 1998 during the NDA regime when members of the Right-wing cadres burnt down churches?";

as of [September 4, 2014](#) is documenting atrocities against Christians;

signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities";

said during an [August 30, 2015](#) demonstration in [New Delhi](#) of 7,000 Christians against persecution "But ground realities have not changed. Christians are still being targeted in different states")

Richard James (said following the arrest of two ministers in [Kesla village, Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 7, 2015](#) "the constitution guarantees following any religion of our choice and the radicals are infringing upon our rights";

- said on [January 14, 2016](#) "police [in [Dahar village, Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh state](#)] were hand in glove with the right-wing Hindu activists";
- said after the [July 10, 2017](#) arrest of Fr Leo D'Souza in [Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) that "police are hand in glove with the right-wing Hindu activists...[they] have been unleashing a reign of terror against minority groups, especially Christians")
- Rinjee Bhutia (aged 12, daughter of Dominic and Christina Bhutia, forced to watch the [June 21, 2014](#) attack in [Git Dabling village, West Bengal state](#) in which her parents were killed, seriously wounded, saved her 7 year old sister by hiding her under a bed)
- Rita Dsa (along with 5,000 Christians protested a [Mumbai](#) development plan on [July 18, 2016](#) that will remove protections for churches and cemeteries "We are very concerned that most of our churches in the city are not shown correctly. For example, Mahim Church, which is more than 400 years old, isn't marked correctly. Hundreds of churches and graveyards are either wrongly listed or excluded")
- Sr Rita Puthenkalam SCN (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Pastor Ritesh Basra (reported on the [January 10, 2013](#) disruption of the dedication of a 'Prayer Tower' by protesters in [Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh state](#))
- Rev Robert Lobo (home in [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) attacked by 30 Hindu fundamentalists during a night prayer vigil on [March 9, 2013](#), beaten and hospitalized; attacked on [March 8, 2013](#) when a group of Hindus invaded a prayer meeting in [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka state](#), hospitalized with six other Christians)
- Pastor Robert Solomon D'Souza (church in [Gangammalaya, Bangarapet, Karnataka state](#) attacked by Hindu fundamentalists on [November 23, 2014](#), eight wounded, church vandalized, threats made to not rebuild, detained by police for questioning)
- Pastor Roberts (beaten in the [June 5, 2013](#) noontime attack on Telugu Baptist Church in [Mahehwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Hyderabad territory, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)
- Rev Robin Masih (attacked on [June 14, 2014](#) along with parishioners by 15 Hindu extremists while leaving a prayer service in [Gayatri Nagar, Madhya Pradesh state](#), Bible burned)
- Robin Ratnakar David (attorney, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Fr Rocky Shah (said in [Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on or before [November 28, 2016](#) that the Sunday after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign was Mission Sunday "People offered high denomination notes which they normally do not do")
- Rodemma (aged 65, widow of Pastor Krupiah)
- Pastor Roderick Gilbert (met with the state Home Minister to describe the [May 12, 2015](#) Hindu attack on the church in [Indore, Madhya Pradesh state](#))
- Rev Dr Roger Gaikwad (National Council of Churches in India, arrested in [New Delhi](#) on [December 11, 2013](#) with other priests, pastors, and nuns who were demonstrating for equal rights for Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims, several were beaten by police; protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2015](#) the continuing exclusion of Christian and Muslim Dalits ["untouchables"] from Scheduled Caste status, thus making them inferior to Hindu, Sikh, and Buddhist Dalits, said "India became republic the day the Constitution was signed

on 10th August 1950 - it was a Black Day for Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims because they have been denied equal rights with other Dalits. It is a tragedy of being Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims in the country. The government must give equal rights to them";

said of [Maharashtra state's](#) decision to again hold the 2015 'Good Governance Day' on Christmas, including the National Service Scheme [NSS] camp for which students gain credits "There is definitely a deliberate attempt to undermine the importance of Christmas. The move cannot be seen in isolation from what is happening in the country. The BJP government has been keen on suppressing the minorities, their culture and icons at different levels")

Pastor Ronald Emmanuel Sinclair (beaten on [May 10, 2015](#) in [Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Rev Ronald John (State Chairman of the Telangana Christian Joint-Action-Committee, said on [April 28, 2014](#) "There is huge discrepancy when it comes to delivery of justice for religious minorities in this country, and with Modi as Prime Minister, India will become an even more unsafe place for religious minorities";

said on or after [January 16, 2015](#) "The attacks have increased since the BJP formed the government at the center last year. Christians here are living as second class citizens";

said after the [March 5, 2015](#) attack on Pastor CH Prabhudas' church "Attacks on Christians are growing on an increased scale. The situation [for] Christian minorities here in Mahabubnagar district is going from bad to worse. The reason for the increased attacks on Christians is that there has been wide hate propaganda by the right wing Hindu nationalists organizations lately";

reported on [July 23, 2015](#) to have said "There has been double standard and a bias when it comes to filing cases on the perpetrators dealing with attacks on religious minorities. We demand both union and state government to ensure impartial actions both by administration and police";

said of the [October 12, 2015](#) attack in [Balanagar village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) "This is a highly condemnable act and the perpetrators should be punished under the law. The Christian community across the Mahabubnagar district are deeply distressed";

said on [December 17, 2015](#) "Mahabubnagar District has experienced severe persecution in the last 11 months. Apart from countless minor incidents in the district, there have been reports of severe incidents where churches were torched or vandalized. In one case in Pebber, we saw one of the most shocking incidents of Hindu radicals mercilessly stamping children and women, causing serious injuries. It is the Christian unity that can counter this systematic infiltration of hate by the communal forces in the district";

reported on [February 1, 2017](#) to have said of the abuse of Kusuma Anjeneya Swamy "This is a very unfortunate incident. The ultra-Hindu nationalists are taking the law into their own hands [which] is unacceptable. This shows how minorities are being treated in this nation")

Roop Singh (arrested on forced conversion charges in [Amjhera, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 5, 2015](#))

Pastor Rosaiah (beaten in the [June 5, 2013](#) noontime attack on Telugu Baptist Church in [Mahehwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Hyderabad territory, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)

Rosalin Yadav (widow of Rajesh Yadav, attempts to secure a Christian funeral for her husband were denied by the authorities)

Roshini (beaten by mob on Christmas 2011, head injured)

Rev Roy Shepherd (church in [Kodungallur, Thrissur district, Kerala province](#) attacked most likely by RSS paramilitary members on [August 20, 2016](#), said his parishioners were now afraid)

Pastor Rudresh (beaten at the bus station in [Kondhapally village, Karnataka state](#) on his way to speak at a [January 26, 2017](#) prayer meeting)

Fr Rueben Tellis (stated on [September 26, 2012](#) that a Catholic should be placed in the Central Board of Film Certification)

Runita Damor (wife of Pastor Ajmer Singh Damor, beaten by Hindu radicals who attacked a [September 10, 2015](#) prayer meeting, f in [Fattiguda, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state](#) led with her 18 month old baby)

Ruta (wife of Gornath Chalanseth)

S Babu (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism; acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)

Fr S Emmanuel (AICUF National Adviser, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev S P David (filed a police report after the [March 6, 2015](#) attack against the Christian funeral in [Pali village, Haryana state](#), no arrests have been made)

Rev S Suresh Rajan (prevented by the local government on [September 21, 2012](#) from using a newly completed community hall in [Vivekanandapuram, Tamil Nadu state](#))

Prof S V Antony (educationist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Sr Sabrina Edwards IBVM (social worker, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Sabu (beaten by Hindu extremists who had invaded St Thomas School in [Uttara Kannada, Karnataka state](#) on [August 25, 2013](#), later arrested on a charge of forcible conversion of the schoolchildren despite the absence of anti-conversion laws in the state)

Sachin Sahay (network engineer, said on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Aligarh](#) "So far, I don't feel insecure, but we should be free to follow our own faith")

Sachin Shenge (husband of Manisha Shenge, abducted in [Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra state](#) on [September 16, 2016](#), threatened, abused, and beaten after having handed out religious literature)

Sadanandan Singh (beaten by a Hindu mob on [May 25, 2014](#) for receiving Rev P G Vergis in his home in [Kaliyaganj village, Bihar state](#), daughters and younger children also attacked)

Sadavir (husband of Jani, father of three, abducted by Maoist militants on [January 22, 2015](#) in [Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh state](#), tied to a tree, beaten in front of his wife, mother, and sister, **died when his chest was pierced with a trishula**, a Hindu three pronged spear)

Sagar Bai (aged 50, beaten by Hindu radicals who attacked a [September 6, 2015](#) worship service in [Barkhat village, Bagh block, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Ms Sahu (one of 65 worshippers attacked and beaten on [March 6, 2016](#) in a church in [Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#) by 20 Hindu radicals, women had their clothes torn, one child was thrown on the floor)

Sajan K George (President of the Global Council of Indian Christians, said that the country's Christian minority was living in a "climate of terror";

said that the [May 23, 2012](#) arson attack on Holy Family church in [Srinagar, Kashmir](#) was "premeditated" and called on the state government to protect religious minorities;

on [August 17, 2012](#) expressed concern that the recent influx of Hindu refugees fleeing Pakistani religious persecution will result in adoption of a refugee law - none currently exists - which would discriminate against Christian refugees

described a [February 8, 2013](#) Hindu nationalist attack on a [Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh state](#) church that resulted in more than 30 Christians seeking hospital attention for major injuries, but who after treatment were asked to leave by staff who feared the hospital would be attacked;

on [March 18, 2013](#) met with and prayed with the families of the seven Christians who were falsely accused in [Orissa state](#) of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati;

said on [May 3, 2013](#) in [Mumbai](#) "Since the Bharatiya Janata Party (Hindu nationalist party or BJP) came to power in Karnataka, attacks against Christians have multiplied and all religious minorities in the state feel threatened...In 2012, the GCIC recorded 41 cases of anti-Christian attacks. In 2013, we are already at seven. However, these figures refer only to destroyed churches, and imprisoned or assaulted Christians. If we were to account for every episode of intimidation, harassment, insults or temporary detentions, the number would be much higher";

on [May 9, 2013](#) commented on the defeat of the Hindu Nationalist party BJP in the May 5 2013 state election "the population of Karnataka has also launched a great message to all parties, in view of the general elections of 2014: we must stop the political use of religion, protect minorities and work for the common good";

deplored the [September 30, 2013](#) conviction of seven Christians in [Orissa state](#) for the 2008 assassination of Hindu nationalist leader Laxamananda Saraswati despite Maoist claims of responsibility, the assassination led to a pogrom in which over 100 Christians were killed;

spoke in [Mumbai](#) on the 15th anniversary [[January 23, 2014](#)] of the deaths of Rev Graham Staines and his sons Phillip and Timothy [aged 9 and 7] at the hands of Hindu extremists;

commented on the [February 10, 2014](#) arrest of David and Beth Grant "In the West, it is common to see Hindu sadhus [holy men] freely proselytising. Moreover, hundreds of foreign tourists visit our country and take part in religious services or hear public speeches by Hindu clerics without problems. Unfortunately, when Christian missionaries come to India, they are not accorded the same reciprocity and often end up facing threats, abuse and arrests";

called the [February 27, 2014](#) destruction of a church hall in [Pradhanpada village, Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#) by Hindu fundamentalists to be "shameful";

said on [March 15, 2014](#) that the acquittal of 6 of the 9 who raped Sr Meena Barwa in 2008 "clearly indicates an institutional prejudice against the Christian community";

reported on the [May 25, 2014](#) desecration of the stations of the cross in the Cristu Jyothi ashram in [Warangal, Andhra Pradesh state](#);

denounced the [June 11, 2014](#) destruction of a church and 30 homes of Christians for the extension of a street in [Behera slum, Nayapalli district, Bhubaneswar, Orissa state](#), particularly during the current heat wave;

described a [June 16, 2014](#) attack on 150 Christians in [Sirisguda](#) after they refused to pay a 'donation' to a local Hindu temple, and the [June 17, 2014](#) beating of two clergymen and the destruction of their Bibles in [Madhya Pradesh](#);

on [July 31, 2014](#) said "In Madhya Pradesh the absolute lack of political will to control the most dangerous elements encourages the Hindu fundamentalists to harass and intimidate the vulnerable Christian community";

called the [August 12, 2014](#) arrest of the four women in [Pulittadi, Karnataka state](#) "a matter of serious concern, because not only did they target innocent faithful, but are likely to tear the fabric of society. The Hindu nationalist forces want to spread a feeling of suspicion towards Christians";

reported on [September 3, 2014](#) demonstrations by non-Christian parents against a school uniform logo depicting Mary at an [Indabettu village, Karnataka state](#) Catholic school that he charged was orchestrated by "the ultra-nationalist Hindu groups, who want to create distrust and disharmony among the different communities...Mary is revered by all Indians, irrespective of their religion. Many non-Christians make pilgrimages to Marian shrines, and this makes what happened even more shocking";

expressed thanks from [Mumbai](#) on [October 17, 2014](#) that the Karnataka state government officially rejected a 2011 report that exonerated Hindu-nationalist Sangh Parivar organizations from their role in the 2008 anti-Christian pogrom, the report had been accepted by the state government in 2011 when it was controlled by the Sangh Parivar affiliated BJP party;

condemned an [October 25, 2014](#) attack by 40-50 members of the Bajrang Dai [a Hindu nationalist youth organization] in which 12 Christians were injured in [Madota village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#);

described the [October 26, 2014](#) forced conversion of 310 Christians to Hinduism in [Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#), the third such case in two months;

said "In secular India, freedom of worship is deteriorating for Christians. Two attacks on the same day [[January 11, 2015](#)], in two different states of the country, are proof that extremist groups feel encouraged to attack Christians because they are not restrained by the law";

on [January 21, 2015](#) refuted VHP [Vishwa Hindu Parishad] accusations that Hinduism is threatened by Christianity: "the last government census shows a decline in the proportion of Christians in the country, from 2.60 per cent in 1971, they dropped to 2.44 per cent in 1981, to 2.34 per cent in 1991, to 2.30 per cent in 2001";

spoke of a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) which was attended by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks and which was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children, said "What happened today is a sign that the atrocities against the tiny Christian community continue to escalate, whilst the authorities remain silent before the growing intolerance";

said on [February 5, 2015](#) "The Indian Government this week denied entry permits [visas] to Archbishop Arthur Roche and Archbishop Protase Rugambwa, who were scheduled to attend a conference on 'Liturgy and Life' in Bangalore between 3 and 9 February. The two Vatican officials had applied for their visas in mid-December but were turned down. No reason is cited for the denial of visas";

said after the [February 10, 2015](#) defeat of the Hindu nationalist BJP party in the National

Capital Territory elections by the AAP anti-corruption party "Millions of people voted against the BJP out of disgust for the actions of violent radical nationalist forces and their distortion of history and science...is a triumph of our democratic system, the consequence of growing intolerance toward minorities, the desecration and vandalism against five churches in Delhi, and the complicit silence of the federal government in the face of violence against the Christian community";

described the [February 13, 2015](#) vandalism of a parochial school in [Vasant Vihar, south Delhi](#), said "The public security situation is getting worse";

opposed the [February 24, 2015](#) statement of the leader of the RSS paramilitary organization that "the main purpose of Mother Teresa in serving the poor was to convert them to Christianity", said "Mother Teresa often exhorted those who came to her to be good Hindus, Muslims, Christians or Sikhs. This blasphemous comment on the Saint, a holy person loved and venerated by millions of people of all castes, creeds and nationalities, reveals the divisive and dangerous nature of Mohan Bhagwat";

reacted in [Mumbai](#) on [March 17, 2015](#) to a leader of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad who said that the [March 13, 2015](#) gang rape of a 72 year old nun was part of Christian and not Hindu culture "We condemn in the strongest possible terms the comments made by the VHP joint general secretary Surendra Jain. How low he can get shows how dangerous he is. Rape is wrong, a terrible and despicable act...Vile, vulgar and deliberately malicious comments show how dangerous the mind-set of Hindu radicals is. Our women are a risk with such elements in Indian society";

called from [Mumbai](#) on [April 13, 2015](#) for the arrest and prosecution of Hindu Mahasabha leader Sadhvi Deva Thakur under the religious incitement laws for her statement that the federal government should impose emergency rule and forcibly sterilize all Christians and Muslims, she also called for the erection of a statue to honor Nathuram Godse, the RSS paramilitary member who assassinated Mahatma Gandhi in 1948, and for Hindu idols to be placed in all churches and mosques;

said of the [April 16, 2015](#) vandalism of four statues of Mary at an [Agra](#) church "Recently Arun Jaitley, Minister of Finance, said there is 'evidence that most of the attacks on churches have no religious reasons'. Will the media tell the truth now?...Such hostility against the Christian minority is only increasing, while the government does nothing to stop them and the radical right-wing Hindus continue with their diatribes, such as the recent request of forced sterilizations for Christians. The goal of the Hindutva brigade is still to create a Hindu Rashtra, a Hindu nation where minorities are second-class citizens";

said of the cancellation of the [May 4, 2015](#) church meeting of 5,000 Christians by the local government in [Dhar District, Madhya Pradesh](#) "the presence of many people is just an excuse to cancel. In fact, the government of Madhya Pradesh is not new at large scale religious events. In February 2011, almost 2 million people attended the Narmada Samajik Kumbh, a gathering organized by Hindu nationalist groups who openly engaged in hate propaganda against Christians";

said after Hindu radicals attack three churches just prior to the [May 12, 2015](#) dedication of a missionary orphanage in [Indore, Madhya Pradesh state](#) "religious freedom is on a downward spiral" in India;

said of the [May 12, 2015](#) attack of a center for mentally disabled children in [Pipaldhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#) "This is an attack not only against the sisters but also against children, those with more difficulties. All this makes the misdeed worse. The attack is an affront against society itself, to which the women religious offer a tireless and generous

service by caring for needy children. The sisters re-educate children that society marginalizes. The authors of the crime show a lack of morality. Their night-time raid reflects the darkness of their minds and hearts";

condemned a [June 3, 2015](#) attack on an occupied mission school in [Madhyamgram, North 24 Parganas district, West Bengal state](#) in which furnishings and food was destroyed, offensive graffiti written on the walls, and disinfectant poured into the water filtration system;

condemned on [September 22, 2015](#) a Hindu employer who cut out the tongue of a Hindu employee who had asked for a raise, police refused to file a report because they said the injury could have been an accident, also condemned a Hindu extremist threat to cut out the tongues of two Hindu writers who were critical of Hindu epic poems, said "these provocative statements encourage sectarian tensions and provoke a sense of insecurity among the minorities. India is a secular democratic republic and these comments endanger social peace in the country";

on [September 29, 2015](#) reported on attempts by the Hindu nationalist group Vishwa Hindu Parishad [VHP] to ban the sale of beef in Jharkhand state - the slaughter of beef is already prohibited "Banning beef in BJP ruled states is an ominous sign of growing intolerance and communal division. Since the BJP's landmark victory under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the aspirations and actions by Hindu majority groups and organizations that support the idea of a Hindu state have gained prominence...The beef ban is specifically aimed at minorities, many of their members would be deprived of their livelihood as well as staple food";

said after the RSS paramilitary organization called on [October 31, 2015](#) for the government to enact strict population controls on religious minorities "Raising the Muslim bogey by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh is dangerous and divisive. [Extremists] are twisting the data to stir fears among Hindus about Muslims";

on [November 17, 2015](#) condemned comments by a leader of the RSS paramilitary organization who alleged that Christian churches and priests serve Maoists guerrillas;

said in [Mumbai](#) on [December 10, 2015](#) "The denial of justice to Dalit [untouchable] Christians goes against the letter and the spirit of Articles 14, 15, 16 and 25 of the Constitution of India on equal justice, equal opportunities and freedom of religion. It is a tragedy that nearly 75 per cent of India's Christians, some 20 million, belong to Scheduled Caste communities, and are denied statutory and constitutional benefits because of the 1950 Presidential Order. The worst thing is that when a Dalit decides to convert to Christianity, he or she loses all the advantages related to his social affiliation";

reported on a [December 31, 2015](#) Hindu attack on a Christian prayer service in [Bannur Jodukatte Puttur, Karnataka state](#) in which the Christians were arrested to 'calm tempers': "The police should have only dispersed the mob that had gathered outside the church...they [instead] acted against people who were praying in a private place";

said of the [January 31, 2016](#) arrest of Rev Sebastian Marin, Vaibhav Tare, and Vishnu Kudve on witchcraft charges "Pentecostal Christians see no contradiction in prescribing medicine, and, at the same time, trusting God for divine healing. People go to this center, as well as Pentecostal-run facilities to pray, hoping to receive physical healing...Jesus is the Healer and there's nothing magic about praying or laying hands. The arrest of the three Christians is unfair and has, as its sole purpose, to intimidate the community";

reported on an [April 3, 2016](#) prayer meeting attack by Hindu in [Kawardha district, Chhattisgarh state](#) in which worshippers were threatened and Bibles seized;

described a [June 18, 2016](#) church arson in [Telangana state](#) "The Pentecostal pastor had just built and inaugurated the building at the beginning of the month and it was reduced to dust by strangers";

said of the three Christians and three others who were killed on [July 8, 2016](#) between [Baligunda and Malapanga, Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#) by police who claimed they were attacking Maoists rebels "This is not an isolated case. Dalits and Tribals are being killed all the time. Our people are not Maoist. They are struggling to survive and lead a life of dignity despite veiled threats and the climate of insecurity present in the district...[this is a]sinister warning for Christians";

condemned a [July 14, 2016](#) arson attack on a church in [Karnataka state](#);

described a [September 11, 2016](#) attack on a church packed with worshippers in [Shyampur village, Siddharth Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) in which Hindu radicals pelted the building with stones, said "No one was hurt, but the fact has created a climate of suspicion and distrust in the district";

documented the [December 11, 2016](#) desecration of a church in [Udupi district, Karnataka state](#);

condemned the [February 20, 2017](#) decapitation of a statue of Mary the mother of Jesus in [Kurla district, Mumbai](#);

said after the [February 28, 2017](#) wedding of Avnish and Anukampa was interrupted by Hindu radicals "With this [current anti-conversion] law the fascist forces oppress and humiliate the tiny Christian population, even during a special event such as marriage...What is more serious is that the police are saffronized and collaborate with Hindu extremists";

condemned the [April 12, 2017](#) desecration of a crucifix in [Santacruz West, a suburb of Mumbai, Maharashtra state](#) with a garland made of slippers;

reported on the [May 6, 2017](#) desecration of a statue of Mary the mother of Jesus [Our Lady of Vailankanni] in [Ghodbunder village, 35 miles from Mumbai](#);

said after the cathedral in [Bongaigaon, Assam state](#) was vandalized on [June 20, 2017](#), the tabernacle was broken: "I do not think we can call it a simple robbery. The frequency of anti-Christian hostility is increasing, causing communal tensions";

commented on the [July 10, 2017](#) cemetery desecration in [Goa](#) "In June, the All India Hindu Convention met in Goa. The result was desecration and insecurity for the minority. During the meeting, Sadhvi Saraswati, president of Sanatan Dharma Prachar Seva Summit, said those who eat cow should be hanged in public, and said 'I ask Hindus to take up arms to defend our cow, our mother'";

spoke after another Christian cemetery was damaged in [Caranzalem, Goa state](#) on [July 26, 2017](#) while Francis Pereira [the alleged perpetrator] was in jail, said "Christians are easy targets. Pereira's arrest is just a smoke screen to divert attention from the deep suffering of Christians...since the Hindu Janajagruthi Summit [HJS] had its rally at the beginning of the year, minorities live in a climate of insecurity. More than 150 groups of saffron [Hindu nationalists] participated in that meeting, who outlined an action plan for [the creation] of a Hindu Rashtra [Hindu nation]";

reported on the [August 1, 2017](#) detention of two unnamed Nepalese couples in [Ahodia](#) on forced conversion charges;

said the [September 5, 2017](#) arrests in [Kavalapadoor village, Bantwal Taluk, Dakshina](#)

[district, Kachada, Karnataka state](#) demonstrate growing "intolerance towards the Christian faith. The renewed audacity of extreme right-wing groups is a serious threat to democratic India. Based on simple suspicions, nationalist activists capture, interrogate, and intimidate Pentecostal Christians. On the contrary, women were not doing anything illegal. Increasing religious intolerance is taking violent forms in India... 'Gau Rakshas' [cow watchers] or vigilantes, who also question what people are eating";

described how 13 indigent Christian tribal families in [Rehaladag village, Pasarar, Latehar district, Jharkhand state](#) were denied food assistance on [September 13, 2017](#) after they refused to pay a tax to fund a Hindu festival;

described an [October 28, 2017](#) police raid on a meeting of 1,500 Christians in [Dudhi, Uttar Pradesh state](#) which had been approved by local authorities "Hindu radicals put pressure on the police to stop organizers. Christians were not doing anything illegal, they were not breaking the law, or creating problems for public order. By contrast, the extremists caused confusion with their fabricated allegations. Nighttime arrests and detention are a serious violation of religious freedom", seven were charged and released the next day;

on [November 20, 2017](#) described the November 15, 2017 arrest of a Christian in Balod district, Chhattisgarh state, the November 19, 2017 arrest of 19 Christians in Damoh district, Madhya Pradesh state, and fallout from the October 23, 2017 incident in which Christian children were pulled from a train by Hindu radicals: "It is really encouraging that the Madhya Pradesh High Court has rebuked the police and ordered the opening of an investigation into the case of children who were attacked";

spoke regarding the police raid on a church in [Kalibai village, Dewas district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) during a [December 10, 2017](#) Advent service "Christians are increasingly intimidated and harassed. There is a palpable fear among [them], especially during this period of Advent, where prayer services and functions take place in small churches in preparation for the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. [Anti-conversion laws are] an instrument of harassment by radical right-wing groups, with which they can accuse Christians of forced conversions and push the police to quickly detain them")

Saji Mathew (arrested on false conversion charges along with seven parishioners in [Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan state](#) on [April 9, 2017](#), released)

Rev Sajju K John (evening prayers on [February 6, 2016](#) with 20 other Christian leaders in [Robertsganj, Uttar Pradesh state](#) interrupted by Hindu radicals, forced onto the street, beaten, arrested by police but released without charge)

Sakaram Govind Galat (beaten by Hindu extremists in [Kamseth village, Nasik district, Maharashtra state](#) on [October 28, 2014](#) after an attempt to extort money for the Diwali festival, fled for safety, homes invaded and looted, arrested for 'rioting' when they came out of hiding and were again attacked, home attacked again four days later on [November 1, 2014](#))

Mr Sam (attended a prayer meeting in [Kotla, Madhya Pradesh state](#) with Rev Rana and six parishioners on [November 4, 2014](#) that was interrupted by members of the Bajrang Dai, the youth branch of the RSS paramilitary organization, all were stripped naked, beaten, whipped and arrested)

Sam Francis (said on or before [June 3, 2015](#) "The tiny Christian community [in [Chhattisgarh state](#)] is shaken by these incidents and there is 'a feeling of insecurity' within the Christian community with the almost daily occurrence of attacks against them")

Rev Sam Francis (described the attack on the [September 10, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Fattiguda, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state](#) led by Pastor Ajmer Singh Damor)

Bishop Samantroy (signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities")

Samari Kasabi (aged 55, mother of Sukura, stripped naked, **beaten to death**, and burned by her neighbors in [Dokawaya village, Chhattisgarh state](#) in [early December 2016](#), other Christians in the village converted to Hinduism as a result)

Sambru Khurami (beaten by Hindu extremists on [June 10, 2013](#) in [Dangarguda village](#), hospitalized and released)

Samson (hospitalized on [August 24, 2013](#) with bleeding from his nose and ears after being beaten by Hindu nationalists in [Ilkal Bagalakote, Karnataka state](#))

Samson Christian (member of the All India Christian Council, condemned the bulldozing and conversion to a parking lot of a Christian cemetery that dated to the British period, called for immediate protection of Christian and Muslim minorities in Gujarat)

Samudri (convert, beaten by eleven Hindu radicals who dragged her from a [February 8, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Navardi, Chatra, Jharkhand state](#) while her husband worked in the fields)

Pastor Samuel (released on or near [April 2, 2013](#) from [Jharkhand](#) prison after serving 8 years for false insurgency charges, converted 20 fellow inmates to Christianity)

Samuel (described the [July 31, 2016](#) partial demolition of the centuries old St Peter's Cathedral in [Tarapet, Andhra Pradesh state](#) "Taking the shrine's history and prominence into consideration, VMC [Vijayawada Municipal Corporation] officials should leave the structure untouched. They carried out the demolition without informing the church authorities or serving a notice")

Samuel B Pujari (said during a [July 18, 2016](#) march and fast by thousands of Christians of all denominations to protest a church attack in [Tumakuru](#) "The attack is not just an attack on the church. But it is a conspiracy to disturb communal harmony in the district. Christians have been living in the district for the last 200 years. They have served people at times the region was hit by plague")

Samuel Das (said of the [August 21, 2016](#) mob attack in [Chaitama village, Korba district, Chhattisgarh state](#) "wanted us to demolish the building after we finished more than half of the construction. We took up the matter from local police station, district officials and to the state Chief Minister. But no one came to our help...The situation in this area is so bad that if you want to be a Christian, you will have to prepare to be martyred. The Hindu activists have a free hand to do anything they want to do as the police and the administration back them")

Samuel Jaykumar (National Council of Churches in India, said on [January 15, 2015](#) "The silence of the prime minister encourages those forces which want to create tension in society. Attacks even on places of worship are not taken seriously";

attended a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks and which was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children;

said that the [October 31, 2015](#) call by the RSS paramilitary group for the government to enact strict population controls on religious minorities "is trying to make these different [Indian] identities into one, which is a very dangerous trend that will take away the diversity of the country";

reacted to the [February 16, 2016](#) announcement by the federal minister for social justice and empowerment that the government would continue its discriminatory policy against Christian and Muslim Dalits [untouchables], said "Though we knew about the stand of the government, it has now come out clearly on the issue. This is very humiliating for Dalit Christians and Muslims";

reported on [July 25, 2016](#) to have said "There are incidents of violence against Christians happening all over. Just because it is not happening at a prominent place or not being reported in the media does not mean it is not taking place";

reacted on [August 10, 2016](#) to Prime Minister Narandra Modi's speech against 'cow vigilantism' "It is just to pacify the Dalits and other minorities. Keep in mind that an election is coming next year in Uttar Pradesh", added that Modi did not mention similar attacks on Muslims;

on [November 22, 2016](#) criticized a proposed national education policy, said the proposal would advance the "communalization and commercialization" of education;

criticized the BJP party on [June 23, 2017](#) for nominating Dalit [untouchable] leader Ram Nath Kovind for President "We hope and expect that the president upholds the constitutional and secular values")

Pastor Samuel Karjee (described the [June 18, 2017](#) attack on the church in [Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) "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' forced by police that prohibited worship outside the home and with visitors "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")

Pastor Samuel Kim (beaten unconscious by Hindu extremists on [October 11, 2012](#) in [Kannur village, Karnataka state](#), hospitalized, then the next day his attackers attempted to slit his throat while he lay in his hospital bed)

Samuel Mark (son of Rev Gandham Padma Rao, said of the [January 27, 2017](#) attack on his father "My dad went to visit the families who had been attending our church over years now. He had no business to do with the assailants. He didn't bother anyone. He didn't even respond to them when they shouted at him. All of a sudden, they began kicking him on the road. Don't you see it was all planned?")

Samuel Philip (reported on the [September 2, 2012](#) attack on the [Bhanpuri village, Balod district, Chhattisgarh state](#) home of Daminbai Sahu)

Pastor Samuel Ramachandran (on [July 8, 2012](#) commented on the anti-Christian riot on June 23, 2012 in Vanagiri Menavar village, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu state)

Samuel Roberts (activist, said of the [February 25, 2015](#) police attack on the 20 Christians who were handing out religious literature in [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#) “We are filing a first information report against two police constables who beat them up mercilessly despite any provocation. This is a clear violation of one’s freedom of speech”)

Sanakya Rabha (aged 20, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Sanatan Badmajhi (father of four, as of [December 19, 2012](#) is still in [Orissa state](#) prison after four years, falsely accused of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati; convicted on [September 30, 2013](#) and sentenced to life imprisonment; still imprisoned as of [March 14, 2016](#))

Sanatan Mallick (aged 27, farmer, **shot dead** on [November 14, 2012](#) by security forces in [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) who allegedly mistook him for an armed Maoist rebel)

Sanda Rabha (aged 21, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Sandani Rabha (aged 22, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))

Rev Sandeep Claudius (reported on the [September 3, 2012](#) attack on the [Bhanpuri village, Balod district, Chhattisgarh state](#) homes of Deherram Sahu, Sarjoram Sahu, Janakbai Sahu, and Ubhayram Sahu)

Rev Sandeep Kumar (reported from [New Delhi](#) on [July 28, 2017](#) to have said of current persecution "They want to create a kind of fear into the life of Christians that they should not follow the Christ...Surely this has not weakened us but it is strengthening us and helping us to how we need to get together in the Lord and grow in the Lord and pray for each other and lift up each other in prayer...this is motivating people to come closer to look to the Lord in prayer and to depend on the Lord – and the people are growing")

Sangeeta Siri (aged 14, daughter of Maner Sori, **raped and murdered** in [Jattarbeda village, Kondagaon district, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [July 22, 2016](#) in retribution for the conversion of her parents 18 years ago)

Sanjay Kumar Masih (arranged bail on [May 20, 2017](#) for the six clergy arrested in [Salempur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [May 10, 2017](#), said “The situation in Uttar Pradesh is very alarming for Christians”)

Pastor Sanjay Kumar Ravi (convert, said of the [May 8, 2016](#) attack against his parishioners in [Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#) “About 100 people from three neighboring villages were waiting when we reached the place and started to tell us that it is wrong for us to pray to Jesus and that we should follow Hinduism and perform puja [Hindu rituals] to the idols only", gave his personal testimony on his conversion, after all of the Christians refused “They shouted to each other to bring kerosene oil so that they could burn us all”, suffered a painful internal injury in his chest, lacerations on his hands and abrasions all over his body, filed a police report;

said of the [May 10, 2016](#) police response to the [May 8, 2016](#) attack “We were forced to sign the bond [that stated they would worship only in their homes], we have no other choice as we have nowhere else to stay except in the village...Our names were also cut off from the list where houses were allotted to the [Dalit] villagers by the state authorities”)

Pastor Sanjay Nag (beaten in a [January 13, 2013](#) attack on a Sunday worship service in [Ghaspara, Raipur district, Chhattisgarh state](#))

Pastor Sanjay Singh (prayer meeting in [Uttar Pradesh state](#) reported on [September 24, 2014](#) to have been disrupted by Hindu radicals, accused of forced conversions, 13 Christians arrested)

Sannamma (aged 50, wife of Shidda Naik, beaten by a mob of 40 Hindu nationalists for over six hours on [September 13, 2013](#) in [Nirayanpalya village, Chamrajnagar district, Karnataka state](#) in an attempt to convert her back to Hinduism, hospitalized with internal injuries and multiple contusions)

Fr Santosh D'Sa (said after the [April 16, 2015](#) vandalism of St Mary's Church in [Agra](#) "Fringe elements are thriving because the Prime Minister doesn't utter a word against them")

Pastor Santosh Kumar (aged 80, targeted by name by Hindu radicals in the [Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh state](#) home of Pastor Rampal on [February 19, 2016](#), beaten into unconsciousness, hospitalized, vehicle destroyed)

Pastor Santosh Kumar (said of Pastor Ram Prakash's attackers "The accusation they levied against the pastor is completely untrue")

Sarbjit (widow of Pastor Sultan Masih)

Pastor Sardar Solanki (said "At 9:30 in the morning [on [February 20, 2016](#)], three Christian families were summoned to the public meeting [in [Dingara, Buldhana, Maharashtra state](#)], where the Hindu extremists told them not to pray and observe Christianity any more in the village...[later] the police and the villagers did not allow me or any other Christian leaders to enter into the village, and, for now, all kinds of Christian meetings have been closed down")

Sarita Kumar (aged 18, sister of Pappu Kumar, sustained stomach wounds on [September 4, 2015](#))

Sarjuram Sahu (husband of Janakbai Sahu, driven from his family and [Bhanpuri village, Balod district, Chhattisgarh state](#) by 600 Hindu extremists on [September 3, 2012](#), family now prohibited from using the village well or collecting rainwater)

Pastor Sarvajit Bharti (verbally abused on [September 4, 2015](#), motorbike vandalized, said of his parishioners in [Hututag village, Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#) "Four of them received treatment for 10 days, while the rest were given first aid and some medicines. Since April of this year we have been pressured to choose between Christ and our lives, and we are constantly threatened to be chased out from the village if we do not denounce Christ")

Sasikala Kumari (wife of Ramkreet Ram, beaten in [Jalalabad village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) on [April 25, 2017](#), forced to participate in Hindu rituals and denied water, said "How will we survive if we don't grow our crops?")

Satish Babu (priest, detained by police on [February 25, 2015](#) with 19 others for handing out Christian literature in [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#), said "We had come to propagate Christ's message and did nothing to violate law and order here. But we were attacked by miscreants on the streets and then brutally beaten up by the police for no fault of ours")

Fr Satish Makhhal (described the [July 10, 2015](#) desecration of his [Taherpur, West Bengal state](#) church "He [the church watchman] and parishioners who came for morning prayers found the tabernacle missing. After a short search they found the tabernacle in the church compound. It was broken opened and the consecrated host was strewn around")

Fr Savarimuthu Shankar (spokesperson of the Archdiocese of Delhi, said "We see a clear pattern in these attacks", the [December 14, 2015](#) grotto attack in [Vikaspury district, New Delhi](#))

being the fourth in seven weeks;

said that an ecumenical group of Christian leaders met with the Prime Minister around Christmastime 2014 and he "refused to make a statement about attacks on Christians", claiming the attacks were "media hype";

[New Delhi](#) church vandalized on [February 2, 2015](#), tabernacle forced open and consecrated hosts scattered on the altar and floor, said "It is getting very disturbing now. The community is left with no option but to come out on streets and protest", police dismissed the case as simple theft;

attended a peaceful march in [Delhi](#) on [February 5, 2015](#) by hundreds of Christians to protest government and police inaction in the face of anti-Christian attacks and which was attacked by police who had invoked an anti-insurrection law, dozens or hundreds were beaten and detained including priests, nuns, elderly, and children, said "They did not even spare the women and the elderly. They were even kicking the people who fell down on the ground after the crackdown...We are not demanding [justice and protection] as Christians, we are demanding as citizens of India";

spoke on the [February 5, 2015 Delhi](#) police action against Christians protesting Hindu extremist violence "The way the police manhandled elderly nuns, priests and people showed the sheer brutality of the Delhi police, and I witnessed every bit of it";

said after the [February 10, 2015](#) defeat of the Hindu nationalist BJP party in the National Capital Territory elections by the AAP anti-corruption party "We are convinced that violence in Delhi had an impact on the vote: This result proves that the campaign of hatred does not pay and that those who use religion for political purposes is a loser. I believe this vote is also a message to the central government of India";

spoke in [Delhi](#) of the [March 13, 2015](#) gang rape of a 72 year old nun "We should know that there is already a vicious atmosphere against Christians in the country, which encourages criminals to attack Christians";

met with the Delhi police chief on [September 15, 2015](#) to express concern over the threats to John Dayal;

on [February 13, 2016](#) in [New Delhi](#) rejected a proposal by the RSS paramilitary organization to create a separate Christian organization with its structure;

responded on [February 22, 2016](#) to the government granting special rights to the Jat caste after members rioted in [Haryana](#), killing 16 and injuring 150 "This proves that with muscle power, you can do anything. Giving reservation to such an influential class is a gross injustice to people who really deserve these special rights...it has become easy for every community to demand it and have it by indulging in violence";

said in [Delhi](#) on [September 7, 2016](#) after Archbishop Couto described three cases of illegal denial of ambulances or hearses for use by low caste people "The archbishop is speaking for people of all faiths and is pointing out a tough social issue...human rights are violated every step of the way in this country";

said on or before [November 28, 2016](#) after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign "So far no parish [of the [Delhi](#) diocese] has reported any remarkable difference";

welcomed a [January 2, 2017](#) court ruling prohibiting electoral campaigning on the basis of religion, but pointed out it left standing a 1995 Supreme Court ruling that Hinduism was not a religion with regard to such laws, said "This is going to create more confusion and

- not going to serve the purpose of a secular and democratic country";
 said in [New Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2017](#) concerning the government's 1950 order that removed legal protections for Christian [and Muslim] untouchables "It's a discrimination based on one's religion and it's unconstitutional. The State has denied and deprived Christians of their rights and privileges enshrined in the constitution")
- Auxiliary Bishop Savio Fernandes (called a [West Bengal state](#) parliament member a "thug" on [July 2, 2014](#) after he threatened to send his agents to kill his political opponents and rape their wives)
- Fr Savio Fernandes (said he doubted that someone of Francis Pereira's age could have by himself caused all of the cross and cemetery damage in [Goa](#) [Pereira was arrested on [July 15, 2017](#)])
- Savita Buria (vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp;
 granted bail on [May 27, 2017](#))
- Savitri Korram (one of six female converts in [Nawagad, Jaitalkhar, Kondagoan, Chhattisgarh state](#) who were ordered by villagers on [July 12, 2015](#) to stop attending church, refused, beaten, fled the village)
- Rev Sebastian Marin (arrested on witchcraft charges on [January 31, 2016](#) for having prayed over the sick in a clinic in [Vasai village, Maharashtra state](#))
- Fr Sebastian Poomattathil (said of the attack on a 47-year old nun who on [June 20, 2015](#) was found bound, unconscious, and half naked at a nursing home in [Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#), "It should be seen as part of the ongoing attacks on religious minorities. It is targeted. They came prepared and did not disturb the other two women in the building";
 quoted a judge in [Chhattisgarh state](#) on [January 3, 2017](#) as saying that the police investigation was 'totally negligent' when he acquitted two men accused of the [June 20, 2015](#) drugging and rape of a nun)
- Seethamma (wife of Pandayya, mother of three, beaten and **burnt to death** on [January 13, 2016](#) in [K. Kamuduvallasa village, Makkuva Mandal, Vizianagaram district, Andhra Pradesh state](#), had been accused of performing black magic after a young boy in the village died of a leg infection)
- Sefali Rabha (aged 30, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))
- Selina Bibi (beaten during invasion of the home of Aimazan Bibi)
- Fr Seraphym (Russian citizen, deported on [January 18, 2016](#), had arrived in [Chennai](#) to serve the pastoral needs of Russian diplomats)
- Fr Shaiju Chacko (said in [Jammu and Kashmir state](#) on or before [November 28, 2016](#) after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign "Our collections are a bare minimum and we hardly get any high value currency. Therefore, the move has not affected the church here at all")Shakisala (beaten in the [March 9, 2013](#) attack on the [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) home of Rev Robert Lobo, hospitalized)
- Shamlal (hosted a [December 25, 2014](#) Christmas celebration in his home in [Sukta Dam, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) with 13 Christians, chased from his home by a Hindu mob,

all were rescued by police then arrested for forcible conversions, released 5 days later)

Shankar Singh (claims to be a "followers of Jesus" but "not Christian", arrested under the anti-conversion law during a Hindu festival on [January 14, 2016](#) in [Dahar village, Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), said "I have faith in Jesus and regularly pray to him")

Rev Shankarlal Karma (teenage daughter's funeral in [Bacheli, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh state](#) attacked on [June 6, 2012](#) by a Hindu mob armed with knives and sticks who then attempted to prevent the burial by filling in the grave)

Shantharam (beaten in the [March 9, 2013](#) attack on the [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) home of Rev Robert Lobo, hospitalized)

Shanti (convert, beaten by eleven Hindu radicals who dragged her from a [February 8, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Navardi, Chatra, Jharkhand state](#) while her husband worked in the fields)

Shakuntala (hosted Pastor Ashok Nahar, Arjun Singh, and Anand Kumar in her [Sawalikeda village, Khalwa block, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) home at the time of the [February 16, 2013](#) attack against them)

Mrs Shamala (said after the [November 2, 2016](#) church demolition in [Telangana](#) "There were around 10 of us inside the church having a prayer meeting. Our fellow believers pulled us out, but then we were manhandled by the male policemen when we refused to get out of the way of the bulldozer")

Sharmila Damore (vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp; granted bail on [May 27, 2017](#))

Shibu Thomas (founder of Persecution Relief, reported on [August 1, 2017](#) to have been supporting at least five Christian families in [Jharkhand state](#) "whose bread-winners were killed just because of their Christian faith"; signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Shidda Naik (husband of Sannamma)

Pastor Shiju (attacked by a mob of 30 Hindus while leading a [June 14, 2015](#) worship service for 400 Christians in [Attingal, Kerala state](#), 200 radical Hindus joined the attack, suffered severe internal injuries, threatened with being burned alive)

Shirley (arrested on [August 12, 2014](#) in [Pulittadi, Karnataka state](#) after accusations of handing out Christian literature and visiting a Hindu family, later released)

Shiv Shankar Masih (convert, dalit [untouchable], said that a member of parliament in [Gaya district, Bihar state](#) offered him a government job on [December 28, 2014](#) if he would revert to Hinduism, the previous evening RSS paramilitaries attacked the hamlet of 45 Christian dalit families but were driven off)

Shivaram Tekam (prosecuted and fined for attending [April 17, 2017](#) Easter services in [Junwani village, Chhattisgarh state](#), forced to give offerings to the local Hindu deity "I had to do this because I attended church on Easter Sunday", later told a local pastor "They can stop me from going to church but they cannot take Jesus from my heart. I will find ways and secretly come to church")

Shri Alwan Masih (Church of North India General Secretary, protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 12, 2014](#) the continued discrimination against Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims)

Shri Lal Khatiyani (husband of Asha Devi, home in [Balwanazir, Kaliyanganj, Bihar state](#) invaded by Hindu nationalists on [May 26, 2014](#), beaten, hospitalized)

Shubha (arrested on [August 12, 2014](#) in [Pulittadi, Karnataka state](#) after accusations of handing out Christian literature and visiting a Hindu family, later released)

Shyam Sunder (aged 23, convert, Bible student, beaten unconscious on [October 9, 2013](#) by drunken Hindu extremists with a plow head after he tried to stop an attack on Pastor Arun Toppo in [Milan Patra, Koriya district, Chhattisgarh state](#), revived twice so that the beating could continue, the local hospital refused to admit him without police permission)

Shyamason Majhi (aged 50, farmer, **shot dead** on [November 14, 2012](#) by security forces in [Kandhamal district, Orissa state](#) who allegedly mistook him for an armed Maoist rebel)

Shyamlal (home in [Borgaon-Bujurg village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) raided by police on or before [December 29, 2014](#) after allegations of forced conversions made, police said no evidence of forced conversions was found but ten Christians were arrested including three children under the age of six for having insulted Hinduism)

Siddamma (home in [Sainagara village, Hubil district, Karnataka state](#) invaded by 20 Hindu activists during a prayer meeting led by Pastor Nathaniel Shubas on [July 15, 2012](#), who was then beaten and arrested)

Pastor Sikandar Kumar (aged 45, attacked along with his congregation in [Jadhua village, Bihar state](#) by Hindu radicals on [February 10, 2017](#);

lured from his home on [April 5, 2017](#) by a boy on a bicycle, severely beaten by Hindu radicals, lost his hearing due to neurological damage)

Simanto Dalabehera (aged 42, beaten on [February 15, 2013](#) by police under suspicion of association with local Maoists in [Patachanda village, Balarampur panchayat, Dharakot block, Orissa state](#))

Bishop Simon John (commented in [Delhi](#) on [December 15, 2014](#) after leaked documents showed that the Federal government was considering creating a 'Good Governance Day' for schoolchildren on Christmas Day "The situation is alarming. This Christmas looks like it is not a pleasant one";

signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities")

Rev Simon Stanley (beaten on [August 3, 2014](#) by 10 Hindu nationalists in the [Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu state](#) home of Mr Bagavathi)

Pastor Simon Tandy (threatened by Hindu radicals during an invasion of a [January 31, 2016](#) worship service in [Kanker district, Chhattisgarh state](#);

injured after Hindu extremists deliberately crashed their automobile into him as he and his wife rode their motor scooter on [February 5, 2016](#))

Siporah Singh (wife of Brother Jibaratna Bira, Christmas celebration attacked by 100 Hindu radicals on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Deogarh, Khandua district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), threatened with death, fled into the jungle with 25 parishioners, found the next day and beaten along with her daughters, charged with forcible conversions by the police and jailed)

Sirba Dugal (house in [Budrukia village, Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#) demolished by Hindu extremists for the third time on [April 12, 2014](#))

Rev Sisir Nayak (arrested on [July 5, 2015](#) on false charges of conducting illegal conversions in [Raiguda village, Keonjhar district, Orissa state](#), denied bail)

Sleeva Galilee (one of the founders of the new Christian Secular Party, which as of [May 12, 2014](#) is fielding 66 candidates - mostly Dalit Christians - in the election)

Soilengri (suffered a head injury when she fell trying to flee an attack on an [October 11, 2014](#) prayer meeting in [Kalahandi, Odhisa state](#) by RSS paramilitaries)

Solomon Raju (president of the Twin Cities Christian Youth Fellowship, said during a [May 2, 2015](#) demonstration of over 400 Christians and others in [Hyderabad, Telagana state](#) against recent attacks against Christians "Pastors carry the Bible and preach the message of love. They don't carry weapons and they don't force anybody to change their religion. The government must ensure that there is freedom to practice and propagate a religion of one's choice, as our constitution guarantees")

Rev Solomon Rongpi (described attacks on two churches in [Imphal, Manipur state](#) on [December 17, 2016](#) in which the attackers threw stones and posted signs reading "No one is allowed to worship and celebrate Christmas without prior permission", the attacks came after militants from mostly Christian tribes attacked a police station and killed 3 policemen following their loss of tax exempt status)

Somari Komra (aged 40, prosecuted and fined for attending [April 17, 2017](#) Easter services in [Junwani village, Chhattisgarh state](#), forced to stand in the village square, said "I will not stop going to church and I am ready to pay the fine and face the consequences of social boycott")

Somashekarwas (husband of Kusumabhai, physically threatened on [August 3, 2013](#) to reconvert to Hinduism, accused of practicing forced conversions after refusing to leave his [Bijapur district, Karnataka state](#) village)

Sonamati (convert, beaten by eleven Hindu radicals who dragged her from a [February 8, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Navardi, Chatra, Jharkhand state](#) while her husband worked in the fields)

Sonia Gandhi (widow of Rajiv Gandhi, opposition Congress party leader, threatened with "direct action" by Hindu radicals on [May 12, 2015](#) if she dedicated a missionary orphanage in [Indore, Madhya Pradesh state](#))

Pastor Srirangam Shanthakumar (beaten by 20 Hindu extremists, finger cut off)

Fr Stan Fernandes (educationist, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Stanislaus Jebamalai SJ (reported from [New Delhi](#) on [November 3, 2015](#) to have organized a

petition which denounced "well-orchestrated efforts" by Hindu extremists to use the government against non-Hindus, said "A very dangerous trend is gaining momentum in the country, which tolerates violence against minorities of all kinds...It is coming to you, it will be too late if you wait till it comes to you")

Fr Stanislaus Tirkey (said of the illegal conversion allegations made on [January 3, 2017](#) by the leader of the RSS paramilitary organization "The allegation is completely false. They do this occasionally. Since elections are nearing they want to divert the attention of the people from real issues like poverty")

Stanley (attacked by Hindu radicals on [January 28, 2016](#) after the death of a child patient in an AIDS clinic in [Ettimada, Tamil Nadu state](#), drove with the attackers in pursuit until they saw a police jeep, stopped but the police refused to protect them, the attackers told the victims to call on Jesus to protect them, hospitalized, released on [January 31, 2016](#))

Fr Stanley Kozhichira (media director of Delhi archdiocese, said [December 1, 2014](#) church arson in [Dilshad district, Delhi](#) "The sanctuary, sacristy and the first floor balcony of the church is completely gutted. It seems to be a deliberate act as we could smell kerosene on the spot")

Pastor Stephen Raj (said of his trip to [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#) on [February 25, 2015](#) "We went to Rajasthan with a plan to go around preaching and sightseeing for four days, but it lasted only a few hours. As soon as we started, a man came and asked, 'What is this?' He took our leaflet and went. He must have called the police...When we reached the place we were staying, they started abusing us and called the police again. The police came and took us to the police station in two jeeps. They made us stretch out our palms and beat us severely with wooden lathis. Those who pulled their hands back after the first beating came in for more beatings. Many of us have bruises and blood clots on our palms six days later")

Fr Stephen Rawat (attacked along with 20 parishioners on [December 14, 2016](#) for singing Christmas carols in a private home after a procession from Mass in [Tikariya village, near Banswara, Rajasthan state](#), hospitalized with 7 parishioners, said "I have no enemies, I was beaten because of my Christian faith...[the RSS paramilitary organization has a nearby hostel] where the ideology [Hindutva] is imparted to young people. It is not improbable that they were behind this attack against Christians")

Stella (arrested on [June 20, 2012](#) for distributing Christian literature at a bus station in [Hubli village, Keshavapura district, Karnataka state](#))

Sr Stella Kaiprampatt (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Bishop Stafen Lepcha (condemned the [June 21, 2014](#) attack on the Bhutia family)

Stephan Rajkumar (aged 40, arrested in [Majhgawan, Satna district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [October 3, 2015](#) for forced conversions)

Subai Netam (one of six female converts in [Nawagad, Jaitalkhar, Kondagoan, Chhattisgarh state](#) who were ordered by villagers on [July 12, 2015](#) to stop attending church, refused, beaten, fled the village)

Rev Subhash Chand (church in [Kaimri village, Hissar district, Haryana state](#) mobbed on [February 11, 2015](#) by Bajrang Dal [RSS paramilitary youth organization] members;

returned to his village on [March 16, 2015](#) to find his church had been vandalized burglarized, and converted into a Hindu temple by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, filed a police report, Chief Minister [governor] Khattar responded with false accusations against him before the state assembly, has moved his family to a nearby city for safety)

Bishop Subodh Mondal (signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities")

Pastor Sudhakar (beaten in a church meeting in [Pebbair village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) that was attacked by RSS paramilitaries and Bajrang Dal youth members on [April 8, 2015](#), leg broken, hospitalized)

Sudhama Patel (father of Umesh Patel, home in [Chhattisgarh state](#) ransacked by a mob of more than 50 Hindu extremists on [July 17, 2016](#), beaten, hospitalized in serious condition)

Sudri Kashyap (pregnant wife of Sularam Kashyap, beaten by Hindu radicals in her home in [Kuther village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) and hospitalized on [October 8, 2016](#); evicted from the hospital in [Jagdapur, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) by police on [October 15, 2016](#) after giving testimony about the attack to an aid worker)

Suganti Kacchap (one of several new Christians beaten on [March 27, 2015](#) in [Kullu village, Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand state](#), dragged for nearly a kilometer, suffered severe head injuries and has had continuing pain for months, fled the village with her family for good)

Suhas Chakma (leader of the Ong Asian Center for Human Rights, criticized laws which grant greater social benefits to Hindus at the expense of the Dalit [untouchable] Christians)

Sujatha (beaten in the [March 9, 2013](#) attack on the [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) home of Rev Robert Lobo, hospitalized)

Sujit Williams (president of the Grand Council of Christians [Isai Maha Sangh], said on [June 23, 2013](#) that the new [Madhya Pradesh state](#) anti-conversion law "violated the provision of various Articles in the Constitution of India")

Pastor Sukadeb Digal (arrested on false charges of carrying out illegal and fraudulent conversions)

Sukant Challanset (had left Dhubaleswar and his wife after a [July 26, 2015](#) prayer service in [Pangalipdar village, in Kandhamal district, Odisha state](#), accosted by armed CRPF officers, questioned at gunpoint, released after disclosing the whereabouts of Dhubaleswar and his wife)

Sukhdev Negi (**killed** in front of his wife and three children by Maoist guerrillas on [August 12, 2015](#) in [Gudsakal, Bhairamgarh, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh state](#))

Pastor Sukhchain Masih ([February 20, 2013](#) pastoral meeting in [Deori, Surguja district, Chhattisgarh state](#) cut short after attack by Hindu protestors)

Suki Bhai (60 years old, beaten at the funeral of Jaikant Pawar)

Sukru Kashyap (aged 60, father of Sularam Kashyap, beaten by Hindu radicals in his home in [Kuther village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) and hospitalized on [October 8, 2016](#); evicted from the hospital in [Jagdalpur, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) by police on [October 15, 2016](#) after giving testimony about the attack to an aid worker; **died of his injuries** on [October 31, 2016](#), prevented from being buried by local Hindus, was able to be buried the next day with police protection)

Sularam Kashyap (husband of Sudri, son of Sukru Kashyap, beaten by Hindu radicals in his home in [Kuther village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) and hospitalized on [October 8, 2016](#); evicted from the hospital in [Jagdalpur, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state](#) by police on [October 15, 2016](#) after giving testimony about the attack to an aid worker; prevented from burying his father on [October 31, 2016](#) by local Hindus, was able to bury him the next day with police protection)

Pastor Sultan Masih (husband of Sarbjit, father of Anoop, Ali Shah and Hanok, brother of Raj Kamal Masih, **shot dead** by two assailants on motorcycles outside his church in [Salem Tabri, Punjab state](#) on [July 15, 2017](#), had no known enemies, police initially refused to perform a full investigation)

Pastor Sumati Prakash Kharadia (attacked on [March 20, 2016](#) by a mob of 25 Hindu extremists in [Sabli village, Rajasthan state](#), hospitalized with multiple fractures)

Pastor Sumatlal Bihoniya (school in [Dhupera, Seoni, Madhya Pradesh state](#) destroyed on [July 4, 2015](#), fled village, local police refused to file his complaint)

Sumitra Singh (wife of Dharaya Singh, threatened on [June 10, 2016](#) with expulsion from her village in [Palamu district, Jharkhand state](#))

Sundar Rachiya (aged 18, attacked on [February 18, 2013](#) during a prayer meeting in [Roshni village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), dragged to a police station, not charged)

Sundar Singh (investigated the Asroi village, Aligarh district incident, said on [September 4, 2014](#) in [New Delhi](#) "This is mere propaganda and a ploy to intimidate Christian congregations as a whole. Saffron [Hindu fundamentalist] groups are behind it")

Rev Sunder Paul (described the attack on a church meeting in [Pebbair village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) by RSS paramilitaries and Bajrang Dal youth members on [April 8, 2015](#), said "The SHO [police station] booked the attackers under petty sections, while they should be booked under more serious sections of the Indian Penal Code as they hurt our religious sentiments by hurling verbal abuse against our faith, and our friend Pastor Sudharkar is still battling for life in the hospital")

Sunil Kumar (aged 36, brother of Anil Kumar, security guard at a [New Delhi](#) Christian school **killed** by robbers on [July 15, 2016](#), US\$315 taken, had been a former student at the school)

Fr Sunil Luke (said on [December 25, 2014](#) in [Aligarh](#) there were no incidents this year)

Sunil Mallick (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Sunil Nayak (signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor Sunil Parichha (on [March 18, 2013](#) met with and prayed with the families of the seven Christians who were falsely accused in [Orissa state](#) of the murder of Hindu leader

Laxamananda Saraswati)

Rev Sunil Raj Philip (executive secretary of the Commission on Dalits, National Council of Churches, spoke on [October 21, 2014](#) about Social justice minister Thavar Chand Gehlot's comment that the government should not aid Christian Dalits ['trampled upon', untouchables] because there are none "Whether Christians or Muslims do not have caste system is not the issue. The fact is that caste identity till today is a dominant identity in India and results in all forms of discrimination...Nobody can escape the Indian caste system by converting to other religions. After the conversion, they do not live in vacuum but in a casteist society itself...[Minister Gehlot's statement] is meant to fool the citizens of India pretending that casteism does not affect these religions. The minister is trying to cover up the fact that casteism in India is a product of Hinduism and it has spread its web to the entire social matrix of India...The fact that the minister admits that if this reservation is granted to Dalit Christians and Muslims, Hindu Dalits will convert [to these faiths] is a telling point about forced allegiance to a religion. The State is actually involved in inducement through giving of reservations";

said on [March 13, 2015](#) that the Maharashtra state assembly's total ban on the possession and consumption of beef will further impoverish the Dalits [untouchables] and that it is a "vicious effort of the Hindutva [Hindu nationalist] forces to 'beef up' communal tension in India and make political gain out of it")

Pastor Sunil Salvation (said "We were given police protection for both the previous burials [in [Pali village, Haryana state](#)] that we conducted, but March 6 [2015], being a holiday on account of the festival of Holi [Hindu festival of colors], we decided not to bother the police and perform the burial ourselves...We were beaten mercilessly. The ambulance in which we were carrying the body was also broken; the glass windows were shattered. The spade with which we were digging the ground was taken up by someone in the mob, and he swung it at the ambulance driver with full force. Thankfully the driver ducked, and the spade did not hit him. If it had, the driver would not have survived")

Sunil Varghese (beaten by Hindu extremists who had invaded St Thomas School in [Uttara Kannada, Karnataka state](#) on [August 25, 2013](#), later arrested on a charge of forcible conversion of the schoolchildren despite the absence of anti-conversion laws in the state)

Sunitha (aged 28, fainted during the [November 2, 2016](#) church demolition in [Telangana](#), hospitalized)

Fr Sunny Jacob SJ (Secretary, JEA, South Asia, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev Sunny Oommen (reported on [September 7, 2015](#) to have been arrested for leading prayers in a private home in [Kesla village, Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), released after 5 hours)

Pastor Sunny Tyagi (convert, beaten on [August 26, 2016](#) by 10 Hindus who invaded a private home in [Gonda district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) to stop the service he was leading, other worshippers were threatened)

Pastor Sura Mahat Samal (attempted to leave a [June 24, 2013](#) pastoral meeting in [Canalpada village, Duagarh district, Orissa state](#) that was raided by Hindu extremists, injured when the attackers blocked the car in which he was riding with motorcycles)

Suraj (beaten in the [March 9, 2013](#) attack on the [Moodubelle village, Udupi, Karnataka](#) home of Rev Robert Lobo, hospitalized)

Surendra Kumar (detained and beaten by police in [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#) for handing out

Christian literature on [February 25, 2015](#), said “We had left the spot. But those people opposed to us followed us till the place where we were staying. There again, they called the police. The police picked us up and took us to the police station. We were made to get out of the police van by being kicked and then, inside the police station, the cops lined us up and hit us with belts on our hands and wrists”)

Pastor Suresh (beaten by mob)

Suresh (family severely beaten on [August 31, 2013](#) in a home invasion in [Thimdoli, Belgaum, Karnataka state](#) by Hindu extremists, taken to a temple and tried to force them to worship)

Suresh Athram (prevented from building a home in [Pandahrewani village, Maharashtra state](#) by Hindu militants during [April 2013](#), wife assaulted, police unable to get the two sides to compromise)

Rev Suresh Kithan Siddle (denounced the [November 20, 2012](#) demolition of the Blessing Youth Mission church in [Chippagirl Gowtown village, Karwar district, Karnataka state](#) by Hindu nationalists following the forced detention of its members in their homes)

Pastor Suresh Lakhra (beaten by 35 Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary organization's youth wing] members on [April 10, 2016](#) at the end of a religious conference in [Nabinagar, Aurangabadin district, Bihar state](#), arrested by police)

Pastor Suresh Mandloi (told to stop preaching on [September 5, 2015](#) by Hindus in [Dhar, Madhya Pradesh state](#), tried to file a police report against the Hindus but found a report had already been filed against them, parishioners when ahead with a service without the pastors and were attacked by 150 Hindus, 14 parishioners were arrested for "luring people to Christianity")

Fr Suresh Mathew (Chief Editor, Indian Currents, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Survati (wife of Ramnath, maimed during a [March 27, 2013](#) attack on her [Uttar Pradesh](#) home, hand severed)

Pastor Sushant Gyanic (Christian conference in [Piprod, Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#) attacked on [July 18, 2015](#) by up to 50 Hindu extremists, attendees beaten, vehicle vandalized)

Sushant Nayak (President of Kandhamal Baptist Union, said after the [July 28, 2015](#) recovery of the bodies of Dhubaleswar and Bhubudi Nayak “This is a clear murder. The hair of the lady had been cut to give the impression that she was a Maoist. All the testimonies we have heard point to fact it was [a] rape attempt [by security personnel]”)

Pastor Sushant Pradhan (on [March 18, 2013](#) met with and prayed with the families of the seven Christians who were falsely accused in [Orissa state](#) of the murder of Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati)

Fr Sushil John Soren (attacked by a man with a machete on [June 20, 2016](#) in [Tezpur diocese, Assam state](#), hands seriously injured when he warded off a blow to his neck, hospitalized)

Pastor Sushil Lima (aged 45, arrested on [August 23, 2015](#) on forced conversion charges while visiting an elderly Christian in [Kanheipur village, Odisha state](#), released later in the evening)

Sushila Devi (aged 59, wife of Pastor Lalta Ram, beaten on [May 22, 2016](#) along with four other women when all tried to protect him during an attack by Hindu radicals, hand fractured, face and back injured)

Suverthamma Moses (wife of Pastor Nama Moses, struck on the head with an iron bar and stabbed on [December 28, 2013](#) when answering a late-night door knock at home in [Narketpally town, Nalgonda district, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)

Swapna Pradhan (aged 25, wife of Rajath Pradhan, expectant mother, beaten along with 40 other Christians during an [October 12, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Balanagar village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#), miscarried)

T Alexander (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism; acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)

T J Joseph (university professor, acquitted on [November 13, 2013](#) in a trial in [Thodupuzha, Kerala state](#) on a charge of insulting Islam, a Muslim mob had previously cut off his right hand)

T James (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism; acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)

T Joseph (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism; acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)

Fr T K John SJ (theologian, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Professor T K Oommen (published a report concerning Indian perceptions on Christian conversions)

T Monohar (described the [December 13, 2014](#) attack on Pastor Bhimudu Nayak and his parishioners while they were singing Christmas carols)

T Sebastian (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism; acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)

Tapas Bin (aged 35, **beheaded** by his father-in-law a few days prior to [June 3, 2013](#) in [Teliamura village, West Tripura district](#) for refusing to convert to Hinduism)

Taruna Kumar Nayak (detained after a Christian worship service in [Abasing village, Gajapati district, Odisha state](#) was attacked by Hindu radicals on [June 18, 2017](#), denied food and water, forced to sign an 'agreement' that prohibited worship outside the home and with visitors, released)

Mrs Tehmina Arora (attorney, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Tejai Mandavi (sister of Lalita and Tija Mandavi, all sisters and three other Christian converts were expelled from [Nawagad, Jaitlkhar, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [August 25, 2015](#))

Auxiliary Bishop Teleshore Billung (criticized the Hindu nationalist BJP party in [Jharkhand state](#) on [May 4, 2017](#) for advocating a new forced conversion law "The party has used the media to carry false news of conversion from Hinduism and reconversion to Hinduism to prepare the ground for an anti-conversion law")

Cardinal Teleshore Toppo (received an extortion letter in [Ranchi](#) on [June 8, 2015](#) demanding US\$781,915 to prevent his murder, the letter was reputed to be from the People's Liberation Front of India, a Maoist Communist Party of India splinter group;

reported on [July 23, 2015](#) to have said "The government has not come out to protect and defend [from persecution]. The Prime Minister has only once spoken in defense of the constitution and he promised to protect the Christians and other minorities. But that was only a promise";

criticized the [Jharkhand state](#) government on [August 1, 2017](#) for working to pass an anti-conversion law, said "Forced conversions do not exist. We are free people with a free will and a free conscience and intelligence. No one can force another to convert";

met with Chief Minister [Governor] Draupadi Murmu in [Ranchi, Jharkhand state](#) on [August 22, 2017](#) and petitioned her to not sign the new anti-conversion law;

reported on [September 14, 2017](#) to have been burned in effigy at a BJP rally;

reported on [November 3, 2017](#) to have criticized the [Jharkhand state](#) government after it voted to ban from voting people who had more than 2 children "It is a human rights violation. Restricting our people, who generally have more than two children, to contest the election is blocking our people from coming up in life. The government wants to demoralize and suppress tribal people and crush any emerging leadership")

Sr Tessie (said on or before [December 30, 2015](#) "Until 2010 her [Sr Bertilla Capra's] visa was renewed every five years, then annually. This time, last November [[2015](#)], her request for renewal was refused. She asked for at least a temporary visa for three months to find a solution, but was denied this")

Fr Thankachan Jose (accused on [March 20, 2015](#) of converting Hindus by a mob, windows and earthen pots smashed at his residence in [Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh](#), said "Though our Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, it is being violated openly")

Thansangliana (aged 22, arrested in [Badwah, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 12, 2014](#) on false charges of coerced conversion, denied bail)

Fr Theodore Fernandes (condemned the [December 15, 2013](#) vandalism of a 133 year old crucifix at his [Mumbai](#) parish)

Auxiliary Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas SFX (condemned on [May 16, 2015](#) an order from the education district in [Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh state](#) that Christian priests are not to be addressed as 'Father' in parochial schools as an "unconstitutional abuse of power, and once again evidence of how a small harmless community that is contributing so much to nation building is being harassed and taunted";

denounced from [Ranchi](#) on [June 18, 2015](#) the resolution passed by the All India Hindu Convention to close all Christian schools in the country "A demand nothing short of absurd. Those who attend our schools do so of their own free will, because they receive an excellent education in these institutions. Most Hindus do not agree with these radical forces. These extremists want to destroy the country. They are playing with the secular fabric of our great nation";

condemned the attack on a 47-year old nun who on [June 20, 2015](#) was found bound, unconscious, and half naked at a nursing home in [Raipur, Chhattisgarh state](#), said "This is not just a crime against a Christian nun. It is a crime against the very dignity of women of India. It shows a complete lack of respect for our mothers, sisters and daughters. More importantly these events trouble us as citizens of a great nation traditionally known for its religious tolerance";

condemned the murder [September 28, 2015](#) of a Muslim man and the near-fatal beating of his son by Hindu radicals for allegedly eating beef in his home in [Bisara village, Uttar Pradesh state](#) "What is happening in our beloved country is really distressing. Divisive forces seem to be taking the upper hand";

reacted on [August 10, 2016](#) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech against 'cow vigilantism' "We are happy that the prime minister has finally spoken out and that he has spoken very strongly. But Dalit [untouchable] and minority groups would be happier if

action could be seen at the ground level";

said on or before [August 23, 2016](#) "Unfortunately, false news [of the arrest of Bishop Thomas Aquinas and three priests] was published by some newspapers and periodicals. According to the Diocese of Coimbatore the news is false, malafide and defamatory";

welcomed a [January 2, 2017](#) court ruling prohibiting electoral campaigning on the basis of religion, but pointed out it left standing a 1995 Supreme Court ruling that Hinduism was not a religion with regard to such laws, said "The judgment could have been more complete and global had the court pronounced that seeking votes on the basis of the Hindu religion is against the secular ideals of India";

said on [April 12, 2017](#) following several attacks on Christians on Palm Sunday "We are distressed that people have begun taking the law into their own hands in various matters. This is not good for the country and not good for social and religious harmony. We call upon the prime minister to rein in these unruly forces and restore India's image";

on [August 12, 2017](#) condemned a "shameful" [Jharkhand state](#) government television advertisement that attacked Christian missionaries: "We would like to know what the prime minister, who repeats 'with all, for the growth of all' as his slogan thinks of this blatant misuse of power by a chief minister [governor]";

signed a [September 6, 2017](#) statement by the Catholic bishops condemning the assassination of journalist Gauri Lankesh by likely Hindu nationalists "We salute her for the courage with which she wrote, the conviction with which she lived her life and the boldness with which she fought the forces of evil, hatred and corruption...The murder of this versatile and brave journalist follows other crimes of hatred of recent times: the murders of Sahitya Academy Award Winner and Writer M M Kalburgi in Dharwad, thinker Govind Pansare in in Kohlapur, thinker Narendra Dabholkar in Pune, the mob lynchings by Gau Rakshaks in the name of protecting cows, political killings in Kerala and other such hate crimes";

reported on [September 14, 2017](#) to have written a letter to Prime Minister Modi "I am making this appeal to you with much sorrow and anguish but also with hope. You must be aware of the recent happenings in Jharkhand, a State ruled by the Bharatiya Janata Party. You might be aware that there is spiraling hatred being created by the Chief Minister [Governor] belonging to your Party, which if not controlled immediately, could take the State and its people down the streets of violence and hate... Here is the burning of effigy of probably the most prominent and respected religious leader in Jharkhand. Cardinal Telesphore P. Toppo, as you would be aware, is a non-controversial leader, respected not only in Christian circles but also in civil society and by Tribals and non-Tribals...History shows us that hatred which begins as a tiny spark can engulf into an unstoppable fire. As you know the burning of effigies can very well turn into physical violence...I appeal to you, honorable Prime Minister, with trust and hope to intervene and curb the spread of hate created by the Chief Minister of Jharkhand. Jharkhandis and Jharkhand deserves better. If the Chief Minister is unable to control his ideological hatred, then it is time for him to go";

wrote on [October 9, 2017](#) "It is with great sadness and sorrow that we have learnt from sections of the National Press of an unfortunate incident in which members of a sect calling themselves Christians, have burnt images of Hindu deities and our Indian National Flag in Lunglie District of Mizoram. We have been in touch with the local Catholic Bishop of Aizawl, Bishop Stephen Rotluanga, who is upset about the happenings...We are shocked that anyone could show disrespect to members of another religion in the name of Christ. We remind these misguided youth about the episode in the Bible when Jesus wanted to visit a Samaritan village, the people of the village refused to accept him and two of his

close disciples asked him 'Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' And the Gospel says – 'But Jesus turned and rebuked them. And they went to another village'...We exhort the miscreants to give up their wrong ways and pray that they may see the light. God bless India";

reacted to an [October 30, 2017](#) newspaper editorial which called for India to become a Hindu state "India is a secular country and it will also remain so. It was not born out of religion and we do not want it to turn it into some religion-based country";

criticized [Uttar Pradesh state](#) Chief Minister [state governor] Yogi Adityanath on [November 13, 2017](#) for rejecting secularism and equating the government of Prime Minister Modi with a Hindu deity;

said on or before [November 28, 2017](#) "It was with a heavy heart, we received the news that the Holy See cannot visit India. A Holy Visit would have been a prestige for the whole country in the eyes of the world. The Pope is visiting two smaller countries and not India: as an Indian, it hurts...In this climate of vigilantism and murderous lynchings, the Pope would have come as a Messenger of Peace, bringing a salve to the people who are powerless in the face of the forces of hate and evil, we are really disappointed that the Pope Francis will not visit India. The Prime Minister and Foreign Minister have never said 'no' to a papal visit, only that they are always considering it. I am hopeful the Holy See can visit us soon as we are in continuous talks with the government. A papal visit would be a pride for India and all Indians";

condemned the [December 14, 2017](#) attack on the 10 priests and 30 seminarians in [Satna, Madhya Pradesh state](#): "[They were] conducting a routine Christmas carol singing program which has been the practice during the Christmas season for the last 30 years...The charge of conversion on which the priests and seminarians were detained is frivolous and laughable. The violence perpetrated by groups who claim to be 'nationalists' and have taken upon themselves the mantle of protecting 'nationalism' and 'religion' is disgraceful...The complicity of the police who arrested the seminarians and stood by helplessly as the priests and seminarians were assaulted is disgusting and appalling. Such misuse of the police force and the breakdown of law and order is not tolerable in a democracy and in a civilized society...What is even more shocking is that eight priests who later went to inquire about the detained priests and seminarians were also taken into custody. Shamefully, the situation outside the police station was allowed to be so hostile that even those who wanted to approach the detained persons could get no access to them...The Catholic Bishops' Conference of India condemns the behavior of the goons who even went on to torch the vehicle of the priests. All right-thinking Indians will hang their heads in shame at these terrorists who have taken on the garb of 'religious police'. We are absolutely sure that they do not speak in the name of our very broad-minded and peace-loving Hindu brethren";

reported on [December 25, 2017](#) to have said "There are open letters being written to schools in Uttar Pradesh asking them not to celebrate Christmas. What is going on in this country? This is not about Hindus, Christians, Muslims or Sikhs. It is about our beloved India...They are injecting poison in society; they are spreading rumors like those of 'forced conversion' ...In Satna, instead of arresting those who attacked and manhandled the priests, they have filed cases against the priests. This is unheard of. But people in the villages have fear, not only because these mobs and gangs are going around threatening people, but because the police simply seem to be standing by. This is what is worrying, not for Christians alone. This is a worrying sign for the country...We will continue living our faith. Christians have grown most when they have been persecuted";

commented after 900 radical Hindu ABVP students attempted to invade [St Mary's Post Graduate College, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [January 4, 2018](#) and consecrate it to a Hindu deity: “The Madhya Pradesh police assured church authorities full police protection. The priests who manage the College, however feel that the situation is potentially very dangerous as over 900 activists were expected to gather in violation of police orders. There was already an aggression earlier on 30 December [2017] despite the presence of 20 policemen. We need to pray more...Calm has returned to the place now as only policemen on watch have remained in the area. We thank once again the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singhji and the Madhya Pradesh police force. And a big thank you for your prayers. The Fathers and Sisters and other personnel are in a state of shock. Do continue to pray for them”)

Pastor Thinothy (beaten in the [June 5, 2013](#) noontime attack on Telugu Baptist Church in [Mahehwaram Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Hyderabad territory, Andhra Pradesh state](#), hospitalized)

Pastor Thomas Abraham (attacked and beaten at a [February 8, 2013](#) revival meeting and Bible study graduation along with 300 other Christians of all ages while police watched in [Rajnandgaon city, Chhattisgarh state](#), now missing)

Bishop Thomas Aquinas OSB (falsely accused on or before [August 23, 2016](#) in media reports of having been arrested in [Coimbatore](#) in a criminal investigation of a former priest)

Bishop Thomas Dabre (wrote from [Pune](#) on [December 22, 2014](#) "We are aware of certain trends and events taking place in our beloved country. We hear of arson, burning of a church, imposition of Hindu practices and methods by means of *Ghar Wapsi* [reconversion]. Some recent events are disturbing, like moves to declare the Gita as India's national scripture, to declare 25 December, Christmas day, as Good Governance Day, or to employ pressure tactics not to call Christian priests as 'Father' but as *Acharya* or *Guruji*. They are unjust, forced attempts to imposed *sarasvati puja*. At present, the *Ghar Wapsi* campaign has created an atmosphere of fear and anxiety among Muslims and Christians...Conversion is a right enshrined in the Constitution and there can be no debate on this issue. Christians do not indulge in forced conversions. We neither practice nor recognize conversions by force, fraud and enticement. Forced conversions and their sensationalized and thus organized promotion are provocative...";

said of [Maharashtra state](#)'s decision to again hold 'Good Governance Day' on Christmas, including the National Service Scheme [NSS] camp for which students gain credits, that the government “should be sensitive, especially to religious minorities”)

Archbishop Thomas D'Souza (denounced the [March 13, 2015](#) rape of a 72 year old nun and the beating of three elderly nuns during an armed robbery at a parochial school convent in [Ranagath, West Bengal](#), all were hospitalized;

said after the [March 22, 2015](#) threats in [Nagrakata, Malbazar subdivision, Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal state](#) "The sisters will never leave their mission. We are not afraid of these threats...it is not clear who is behind these threats. The author of these letters threaten to burn down the school and church if the sisters do not leave. The case is already in the hands of the police and district officials have assured the sisters and provided the necessary protection";

condemned the [June 6, 2017](#) burglary and vandalism of a church in [Ranagath, West Bengal](#) in which the tabernacle was profaned, the church was only yards away from the location of the [March 13, 2015](#) gang rape of a 72-year old nun)

Archbishop Thomas Ignatius Macwan (said on [December 9, 2015](#) of religious freedom in [Gujarat](#)

state "Difficulties arise in the case of the baptism of catechumens because the draconian laws passed [in 2003 and 2006] by the then government of Narendra Modi prevent us from welcoming the newly baptized into our communities, unless a judge gives his consent", police go so far as to inspect baptismal records to ensure compliance)

Archbishop Emeritus Thomas Menampampil (spoke against ethnic violence at an [August 25, 2012](#) prayer service organized by the Daughters of St Paul in [Guwahati](#);

called on people "for a well thought-out solution [to the tribal conflict]. Meanwhile, pray for Manipur" after attacks on two churches in [Imphal, Manipur state](#) on [December 17, 2016](#);

said after the cathedral in [Bongaigaon, Assam state](#) was vandalized on [June 20, 2017](#), the tabernacle was broken: "The surrounding area is not inhabited by groups that could be called anti-Christian or anti-minority")

Fr Thomas Panackal (said on or before [November 28, 2016](#) that his parish in [Bhopal](#) had collected 1,500 rupees a week [US\$22] but that had been reduced by a third after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign)

Bishop Thomas Pulloppillil (on [July 24, 2012](#) called for an end to Tribal-Muslim violence in [Bongaigaon, Chirang and Kokrajhar districts, Assam state](#): "Many Catholics in my diocese are in the middle of the mayhem")

Archbishop Thumma Bala (condemned the [April 25, 2016](#) abduction and beating of Bishop Gallela Prasad "It's amazing that such violent atrocities have been perpetrated against a senior member of the minority community...against a person who has devoted his whole life to God and to the service of the needy and the marginalized";

reported on the [May 21, 2017](#) desecration of a church in [Keesara village, Godamakunta, near Hyderabad, Telangana state](#) by a mob of 100 Hindus only 8 days after it had been consecrated, said his diocese would conduct "reparation service after the police have completed the investigation", the church had been named Our Lady of Fatima and consecrated on the centennial of the reputed apparitions in Portugal)

Tija Mandavi (sister of Lalita and Tejai Mandavi, all sisters and three other Christian converts were expelled from [Nawagad, Jaitkhar, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh state](#) on [August 25, 2015](#))

Pastor Tilas Bedia (convert, brother of Chandra Bedia, beaten along with his 60 year old mother in [Pali village, Ramgarh district, Jharkhand state](#) on [March 4, 2014](#), on [March 5, 2014](#) was again beaten and then paraded half naked through the streets and driven from the village, later was accused of forced conversions on [March 10, 2014](#))

Pastor Timothy (detained by [Vasnathvihar, Moulali, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#) police on [March 25, 2013](#) due to a complaint alleging forced conversions)

Pastor Timothy (beaten in a church meeting in [Pebbair village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) that was attacked by RSS paramilitaries and Bajrang Dal youth members on [April 8, 2015](#), hands fractured)

Pastor Timothy (leader of a local pastor's fellowship, said after the [July 22, 2015](#) death of Pastor Krupiah, "More often it is the rural pastors who are the targets of the right wing Hindu nationalist groups. These pastors have no medical insurance and without adequate support, which will make things more difficult when they become victims of persecution")

Rev Timothy Chaitanya Murmu (arrested in [Manohar, Odisha state](#) on [May 20, 2015](#) on false

- charges of forced conversion after baptizing 16 people)
- Timothy Ganupalli (reported on [February 1, 2017](#) to have said of the abuse of Kusuma Anjeneya Swamy "We want to hold peaceful protest rally. Having a peaceful protest rally is not against the law of the land, but what prompted the police to deny the permission for the rally? It is our right")
- Tinku Ram (beaten [between Bhaini Kalan village and Gharaunda city, Karnal district, Haryana state](#) on [August 9, 2015](#))
- Tirath Patta (aged 35, seminar in [Dumartola, Bajag village, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) interrupted by police on [February 20, 2013](#), questioned but not charged)
- Toko Teki (general secretary of Arunachal Christian Forum, criticized the RSS paramilitary organization on or before [December 7, 2015](#) for its complaint of the growth of Christianity in the northeast states "The people of Arunachal are animists and not Hindus, as claimed by RSS. Yet, all the animists have been included among Hindus in census after census. Many of them are becoming Christians. That is why our numbers are growing. The pattern is the same in the other north-eastern states...We not anti-nationals. We are no less patriotic than any other. RSS is trying to generate hostility towards Christians")
- Fr Tom Kottathil (aged 35, beaten by a gang on [September 15, 2014](#) in [Changanacherry](#), hospitalized, three suspects arrested)
- Fr Tom Mangattuthazhe (Secretary, UCF of [Karbi Anglong District, Assam](#), signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Tomson Thomas (described the [July 17, 2016](#) attack on the Patel family in [Chhattisgarh state](#))
- Ubhayram Sahu (driven from family and [Bhanpuri village, Balod district, Chhattisgarh state](#) by 600 Hindu extremists on [September 3, 2012](#), family now prohibited from using the village well or collecting rainwater)
- Udal Padan (severely cut on his leg and chest during an attack on an [October 11, 2014](#) prayer meeting in [Kalahandi, Odhisa state](#) by RSS paramilitaries)
- Umed Rabha (aged 32, beaten in an attack by 100 Hindu extremists on [April 17, 2015](#) in [Amtola village, Golpara district, Assam state](#))
- Umesh Patel (arrested on [May 10, 2016](#) on forced conversion charges for publicly handing out brochures on the Gospel in [Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh state](#))
- Umesh Patel (student, son of Sudhama Patel, home in [Chhattisgarh state](#) ransacked by a mob of more than 50 Hindu extremists on [July 17, 2016](#), beaten, hospitalized in serious condition)
- Usha Devi (present when Hindu radicals interrupted her [April 7, 2017](#) church service in [Dathauli area, Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh state](#), said: "[I] have found peace and God. But now I feel extremely scared")
- Rev V A Anthony (husband of Prabha Anthony, automobile stopped by Hindu extremists in [Satna, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 22, 2016](#), beaten, arrested on false forcible conversion charges along with his wife and another woman)
- V Baby (arrested in [Balya, Karnataka state](#) in [September 2007](#) on accusations of proselytism; acquitted in court in [Puttur, Karnataka state](#) on [December 16, 2015](#) and released)
- Pastor V Joseph (said that on [May 12, 2015](#) police in [Indore, Madhya Pradesh state](#) stood at the gate and allowed the attackers to storm the church and later arrested Christians "They kept hitting us, alleging that we were involved in religious conversion and fake

- healings...Police, even after knowing our innocence registered a case against us", later met with the state Home Minister to describe a Hindu attack on their church)
- Pastor V Timothy (sustained a leg injury during an armed attack on a [June 4, 2013](#) pastoral meeting in [Thukkugudu, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh state](#))
- Vadde Janardhan (aged 50, convert, farmer, assaulted with a large rock by the local RSS paramilitary leader in [Appampally village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) on [October 28, 2014](#);
[November 23, 2014](#) birthday party for his 3 year old granddaughter interrupted by 70 Hindu radicals, Christian guests beaten)
- Vaibhav Tare (arrested on witchcraft charges on [January 31, 2016](#) for having prayed over the sick in a clinic in [Vasai village, Maharashtra state](#))
- Fr Valeriano Vaz (said on or before [November 28, 2016](#) that [Goa](#) state tax collectors have begun to investigate clergy who have exchanged money to help parishioners after the government demonetized large denomination banknotes and capped daily and weekly ATM withdrawals in an anti-corruption campaign: "For you and me this may be a Good Samaritan act but officials may raise queries")
- Dr Varghese Manimala (Philosopher, Theologian, Teacher & Activist, signed ***An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*** concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))
- Sr Valsa John (**murdered** in her home)
- Rev Valson Thampu (said on [April 4, 2014](#) "Election 2014 offers us little freedom of choice. The only option is between corruption and communalism...Money and media power has reached its nadir in this election. It is a media-powered election with the results being declared even before the voting has begun. This is an insult to democracy...[Hindu nationalist] Modi's hype is built on publicity")
- Vani (aged 31, widow, mother of an 8 year old girl, jailed for 15 days for illegal conversion in mid 2014, converted 14 women while in prison, later converted a guard, reported on [March 6, 2015](#) to have **died of a heart attack**)
- Vanlalsawma (aged 45, arrested in [Badwah, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 12, 2014](#) on false charges of coerced conversion, denied bail)
- Vardhan Kujur (family forced to flee [Kullu village, Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand state](#) on [June 10, 2015](#) along with their pastor by tribal people directed by Hindu extremists, returned on [June 22, 2015](#), homes were pelted with stones on [June 23, 2015](#))
- Fr Varghese Vallikatt (Kerala Catholic Bishops Council deputy secretary general, reported on [October 12, 2016](#) to have reacted to a report that the Islamic State has planned to attack Christians in [Kerala state](#) and that a terror cell had been broken up by the National Investigation Agency "We cannot take the threat lightly. The spread of IS militancy poses a threat to all mankind";
said after a Communist state government demolished a hilltop Cross in the [Pappathshola hills, Kerala state](#) on [April 20, 2017](#), and the Chief Minister [Governor] issued an apology "The demolition of the cross has pained the entire Christian community")
- Pastor Vicky (reported on or before [July 2, 2016](#) to have been denied permission to hold a conference, evening prayer service in [Panchkula, Haryana state](#) interrupted by 100 Hindu radicals with sticks, several worshippers including women and children required medical treatment)

Pastor Victor Babu (arrested on [April 19, 2012](#) in [Mahadevapura town, Bangalore district](#) for organizing a Vacation Bible School - hymnals were seized as evidence, later released)

Rev Victor Dass (described a [March 6, 2015](#) attack by Hindu nationalists on a Christian funeral procession in [Pali village, outside Delhi](#), mourners beaten and told that the body of the Christian would pollute the village and that their opposition to the burial was part of Swachh Bharat [Clean India] campaign, casket left behind as the mourners fled)

Archbishop Victor Henry Thakur (protested the [September 2, 2014](#) attack on Fr Ligo Mathew and his teachers;

announced that all Christian schools in [Chhattisgarh](#) state would close for one day on [July 1, 2015](#) in protest over the [June 20, 2015](#) rape of a nun, said "Civil society is appalled and outraged at the violence against the nun, and whilst the administration is working towards capturing the culprits, people are not satisfied at the slow pace of the investigations, and want speedy justice. Around 30 different civil society organizations, and various women's groups, are working together because, as they put it, it is not only a Church issue. It is an issue affecting women and humanity...I have met the nun and her faith is unwavering. Even though she is going through a trauma, her dedication and commitment to Mission is resolute. She is filled with fortitude, evident in the way she recorded her statement. The sister is eager for the culprits to be brought to justice as this will send a strong message to perpetrators of such heinous crimes against women and will continue to serve selflessly for the dignity, equality and justice of women and girls")

Assistant Pastor Vijay Bahadur (said "Pastor [Lalta] Ram was beaten up severely on his body, hand, leg and head. The cut in his head was two inches deep, and he started to bleed profusely and fell unconscious on the ground...The policemen at the station told us to close down the church and questioned us about whether we are forcibly converting anyone. They further claimed that because of the church and the preaching, all the sorcerers in the area had lost their businesses, as the people no longer believed in them but in Jesus")

Vijay Meda (aged 17, vacation Bible school volunteer, arrested in [Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [May 21, 2017](#) on forced conversion charges while escorting Christian children to a Vacation Bible Study summer camp; denied bail on [June 12, 2017](#))

Pastor Vijay Meshram (arrested on [April 23, 2013](#) along with his wife in [Gondia district, Maharashtra state](#) on false charges of forced conversion)

Vijay Mohar (community leader, three members of his church arrested on 'forced conversion' charges)

Pastor Vijay Purusu (witnessed the [October 25, 2014](#) attack on Irma Markami and his family "In front of our eyes, they mercilessly beat up the Christians – kicking them, they pushed them down to the ground, stomped on them and beat them up with clubs and their hands")

Vijay Raj (attended a [November 4, 2014](#) prayer meeting with Rev Rana and six parishioners in [Kotla, Madhya Pradesh state](#) that was interrupted by members of the Bajrang Dai, the youth branch of the RSS paramilitary organization, all were stripped naked, beaten, whipped and arrested)

Vijay Russel (President, New Delhi YMCA, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev Vijayesh Lal (Religious Liberty Commission national director, said on [April 17, 2014](#) after Hindu nationalist Prime Minister candidate Narendra Modi remarked in a television

interview that he was unaware of any attacks on Christians and their places of worship in India “Surprisingly, Modi pretends to be ignorant and unaware about such attacks on Christians. If this is the case then why should we trust his promises of a secular India as mentioned in the BJP’s election manifesto?”;

said that Christians in [Gadiya and Parapur villages, Chhattisgarh state](#) have been ordered to leave “or suffer the consequences”, also wrote a letter on [July 15, 2014](#) to the state Chief Secretary concerning Antu Ram who lost his home in [Kue Mari village, Chhattisgarh state](#) to arson despite paying extortion “Today he is living under a plastic sheet with his family that includes three children and his elderly parents. I humbly request you to please intervene in his situation and provide him some relief and protection”;

said of the [December 1, 2014, Delhi](#) church arson “Normally, in churches, there is a distance of about 20 feet between the altar and the pews, but the entire area was burnt. The burning is so thorough that nothing remains except the outer structure. This could not have been done except by design. Plus there was reportedly the stench of kerosene sensed all over the church. Foul play cannot be ruled out”;

signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities”;

said after the [January 24, 2015](#) attack on Pramod Sahu “It was only when interventions were made by lawyers and Christian leaders that an FIR [police report] was finally registered on Jan. 29 [2015]. Pramod Sahu had to approach a private hospital by himself to take care of his injuries. Had the police taken the case seriously, the medical examination would have been sooner...I spoke to Sahu while he was getting his treatment done at the private hospital, and he was in much fear. He complained that people who beat him up were continuously following him and watching him closely. He feared for his life”;

said of the [February 5, 2015 Delhi](#) police action against Christians protesting Hindu extremist violence and the arrest of Fr Dominic Emmanuel “He is one of the most recognized faces from the Christian community, and he was dragged badly and pushed onto a bus in a brutal manner. He later told me that the attack from the police had left him in a lot of pain”;

said after the [March 6, 2015](#) attack against the Christian funeral in [Pali village, Haryana state](#) “Things have changed in the last few months, and now more than ever the minority Christian community in Haryana is being victimized by hate crimes. We are concerned and urge the chief minister [governor], Mr Khattar, to intervene in the situation to restore the confidence of the community”;

described the [June 14, 2015](#) attack by BJP and RSS members on a Christian prayer service in [Attingal, Kerala state](#) “The attack took place without any provocation,” Lal. “The attackers targeted not only the 200 worshippers but also the pastor present. Shouting anti-Christian slogans, they broke the furniture, musical instruments, fans and scattered the lunch kept for the church members...The attackers even misbehaved with a physically challenged man who was seated on a chair during the attack. They pushed him and asked him to get up and go away. Many Christians were manhandled during this attack on religious freedom. Even the police acknowledge this”;

reported on [November 14, 2015](#) on a Hindu attack on Christians “In one incident not long ago about 35 kilometers from Delhi, 13 pastors were gathered in the house of another pastor. They were praying. It was prayer meeting. There was no preaching or evangelizing. They were attacked and beaten. They were taken to the police station where they were told: ‘This is a Hindu nation. Your kind of prayers are not allowed.’ They were released later that day after many hours in custody”;

said after the [May 25, 2016](#) assault in [Jalandhar, Punjab state](#) “The situation for Christians in Punjab is getting difficult. This also coincides with the rise of the RSS [paramilitary organization] in the state”;

signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Vimlendra Jhariya (aged 25, seminar in [Dumartola, Bajag village, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) interrupted by police on [February 20, 2013](#), questioned but not charged)

Vinay Stephen (Dalit leader, Delhi, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders*, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Fr Vincent (church personnel director, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Bishop Vincent Barwa (said on [May 4, 2017](#) that the BJP proposal in [Jharkhand state](#) for advocating a new forced conversion law is a "game to divert the attention of people from real issues")

Archbishop Vincent Concessao (spoke on [August 1, 2012](#) in [New Delhi](#) against the discrimination against Christian and Muslim Dalits [untouchables];

protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 12, 2014](#) against the continued discrimination against Dalit [untouchable] Christians and Muslims;

attended a [March 19, 2015](#) protest in [New Delhi](#) on the 300th day of Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas Modi's administration and issued a report entitled *300 DAYS – Documenting Hate and Communal Violence under the Modi Regime*, which listed 168 incidents of anti-Christian violence in that time, said “I am standing before you not as a Christian but as a citizen of the country. The state of affairs is dangerous. We have to raise our voices against what is happening”)

Pastor Vincent Dass (described the [September 13, 2013](#) attack on Sannamma in [Nirayanpalya village, Chamrajnagar district, Karnataka state](#))

Fr Vincent Ekka (said that conversions do occur after illegal conversion allegations were made on [January 3, 2017](#) by the leader of the RSS paramilitary organization "But conversion is never done forcefully or in any fraudulent manner", added that the Hindu caste system is to blame "In such circumstances, if people find a religion more meaningful and satisfying, they will naturally move toward it")

Vincent Rozario (responded to the [April 16, 2015](#) church vandalism in [Agra](#) in which a statue had a dog chain wrapped around its neck “This is the beginning and it is not good. We have been hearing about attacks on churches in Delhi and elsewhere in the country but we were very sure nothing of this sort would happen here. This is very distressing”)

Vinod Nayak (described the forced reconversion of Christians to Hinduism)

Pastor Virendar Bhaskar (reported on [September 24, 2014](#) to have been attacked by Hindu extremists in [Jashpur district, Chhattisgarh state](#), arrested for "for deliberate and malicious acts that offend religious sentiments", released on bail)

Rev Virendar Kumar (aged 42, said of the [March 6, 2015](#) attack against the Christian funeral in [Pali village, Haryana state](#) “The Christians were beaten very severely as the mob targeted the Christians individually. Each and every Christian was being beaten up by 10-12 people from the mob. Around 35-plus Christians are hospitalized in different hospitals in Faridabad. Some are seriously injured. Only those who escaped early escaped the beating. I was one of them. It was a mostly young crowd, but because of color on their faces due to the festival, we cannot identify them...How can this happen in a country where law and order is supposed to prevail?”;

church in [Pali village, Haryana state](#) attacked by Hindu extremists on [March 8, 2015](#), later summoned by police to answer a complaint that the woman buried in the Christian funeral two days earlier was actually Hindu)

Virginia Saldanha (former Secretary, CBCI Women’s Commission & FABC Laity Commission, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Rev Vishaal Behl (mother Reena Behl - also a Christian – beaten on [August 13, 2013](#) in [Jaipur, Rajasthan state](#) by four Hindu nationalists and threatened with death for her not telling them the whereabouts of her son and daughter-in-law)

Pastor Vishnu Dev (said of the [May 25, 2016](#) assault in [Jalandhar, Punjab state](#) “The Hindu extremists intended to spread fear and teach [Anoop] Masih a lesson for speaking for the Christian community”;

said after the [July 15, 2017](#) murder of Pastor Sultan Masih “He and his family are serving Christ for decades and they are at peace with everyone. But four days before he was shot, I met him, and he told me, “Please pray for us, as we continue standing for Christ, many enemies are standing up against us. Please pray for us”)

Vishnu Kudve (arrested on witchcraft charges on [January 31, 2016](#) for having prayed over the sick in a clinic in [Vasai village, Maharashtra state](#))

Vishram Korku (aged 22, attacked on [February 18, 2013](#) during a prayer meeting in [Roshni village, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state](#), dragged to a police station, not charged)

Vivien Ashima Kaul (retired history professor, commented on the [February 2, 2015](#) church desecration in [New Delhi](#) "It's so sad")

Walter Cyril Pinto (Business Development Associate, Udupi, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Walter J Maben (Chairman, Karnataka Missions Network Mangaluru, Karnataka, signed *An Open Letter to the Heads of all Churches and other Christian Leaders* concerning Hindu nationalism, which was published on [August 4, 2017](#))

Pastor Walter Masih (hosted the 20 Christians who were detained and beaten by police in [Jaipur](#),

- [Rajasthan state](#) for handing out Christian literature on [February 25, 2015](#) said “Soon the mob increased and the police arrived. Instead of confronting the mob, who were trespassing and hurling abuses, the police rounded up the Christians in two Jeeps and took them to the Mansarovar police station, where they were beaten up by policemen”)
- Fr Wilfred Fernandes SDB (Hindu nationalists in [late August 2015](#) seized land owned by a religious order in [Nerul village, North Goa district](#) and built a temple on it with police assistance, said the mob threatened to attack "our people" if the land was developed by Christians)
- Pastor William John (church meeting in [Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore North, Karnataka state](#) disrupted by Hindu extremists in [September 1, 2013](#), beaten along with another parishioner, managed to escape in his automobile)
- Wilson (church in [Gangammalaya, Bangarapet, Karnataka state](#) attacked by Hindu fundamentalists on [November 23, 2014](#), legs broken, hospitalized, seven others wounded, church vandalized, threats made to not rebuild)
- Pastor Wilson (severely injured after more than 60 Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary youth wing] members attacked a church in [Hosanagar, Shimoga district, Karnataka state](#) on [March 15, 2015](#), hospitalized more than 70 kilometers away because local hospitals refused to treat him due to fears of attack)
- Fr X D Silvaraj (described the [September 10, 2012](#) police attack on Our Lady of Lourdes church in [Idinthakarai village, Tamil Nadu state](#))
- Pastor Y Prathap (beaten in a church meeting in [Pebbair village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) that was attacked by RSS paramilitaries and Bajrang Dal youth members on [April 8, 2015](#), upper lip cut, said “The extremists with knives and clubs stormed the prayer meeting and randomly beat up the Christians, including one pregnant woman and children, and threatened to stab the Christians with their knives...It was only after four days that an FIR [police report] was registered against the attackers following the state home minister’s instruction to make the arrests”)
- Yasoda (convert, beaten by eleven Hindu radicals who dragged her from a [February 8, 2015](#) prayer meeting in [Navardi, Chatra, Jharkhand state](#) while her husband worked in the fields, partially stripped, said “I asked them what crime did I do for them to do this to me and asked them to stop, but they would not stop and said that I should stop following Christ and stop praying to Jesus, and that then all this will cease”)
- Yasodamma ([as of July 27, 2012](#) arrested for missionary activity in a public area located near a Hindu temple in [Tirumala, Andhra Pradesh state](#))
- Pastor Yesu Tidam (beaten in a church meeting in [Pebbair village, Mahabubnagar district, Telangana state](#) that was attacked by RSS paramilitaries and Bajrang Dal youth members on [April 8, 2015](#), hands fractured)
- Pastor Yohan Maraiah (aged 55, dragged from his home in [East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh state](#) by Maoist guerrillas on [July 29, 2016](#), beaten and tortured, **throat slit**, body dumped on a road, church set afire)
- Pastor Yohannan Adam (church service of 150 worshippers including 11 U.S. tourists in [Dathauli area, Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh state](#) interrupted by Hindu radicals on [April 7, 2017](#))
- Archbishop Youhanon Mar Demetros (signed a joint statement with other church leaders in [New Delhi](#) on [December 19, 2014](#) condemning anti-Christian activities: "...This Christmas season, therefore, we come to you with a heavy heart and great concern of the sense of

apprehension and fear in our community at the incidents of violence against our Churches and personnel in various parts of the country...These acts of violence do not stand alone, nor are they isolated incidents. They are quite part of a series of interconnected actions by various non-State actors closely associated with the ruling dispensation. The official celebrations of a good governance day on Christmas day as detailed in government circulars sent to educational institutions throughout the country to organize compulsory events on a day that is holy to us, Members of the Union Council of Ministers have called for national laws against conversion, and a Common Civil Code, politically targeting the Christian and Muslim communities without saying it in so many words...What is more dangerous, and threat to national peace and harmony, is the well thought out campaign in the name of Ghar Wapsi [Coming Home], which is organized not just by fringe elements, but by senior members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party. Their pronouncements question the identity and patriotism of India's several religious minorities")

Bishop Yvon Ambroise (bank accounts frozen by the [Tamil Nadu](#) state government in response to his position on the nuclear power plant)

Yusuf Dass (said after the [March 26, 2015](#) attack by 20 Hindu extremists on a Lenten service in [Agra, Uttar Pradesh state](#) "There is a feeling of insecurity among the Christian community with the frequent occurrence of physical attacks against the churches and the Christians, the 'homecoming' programs and the hate speech and campaigns by the top leaders of the Sangh Parivar and ministers of the BJP almost on a daily basis. We have submitted a letter to the state minority commission addressing these issues")

Fr Z Devasagayaraj (secretary for Scheduled Class/Backward Class and tribal affairs in [New Delhi](#), on [December 12, 2014](#) condemned the new proposal for a national law banning religious conversion, said "Even Hindus who want freedom from caste oppression and untouchability will be restricted to follow the religion";

protested in [Delhi](#) on [August 10, 2015](#) the continuing exclusion of Christian and Muslim Dalits ["untouchables"] from Scheduled Caste status, thus making them inferior to Hindu, Sikh, and Buddhist Dalits, criticized the government for maintaining that granting equality to Christian Dalits will facilitate conversions: "By saying this, they are undermining their own religion. People do not convert on a whim";

reacted to the [February 16, 2016](#) announcement by the federal minister for social justice and empowerment that the government would continue its discriminatory policy against Christian and Muslim Dalits [untouchables], said that the government's decision "is against the multicultural, multireligious nature of our country";

said during a [September 16, 2016](#) rally near the parliament building in [New Delhi](#) concerning government neglect of Dalits "We welcome any movement which speaks for the Dalits and their welfare";

criticized the BJP party on [June 23, 2017](#) for nominating Dalit [untouchable] leader Ram Nath Kovind for President because he maintained that Islam and Christianity as alien religions and should not be protected by law)

Zonunmawia (aged 20, arrested in [Badwah, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh state](#) on [September 12, 2014](#) on false charges of coerced conversion, denied bail)