

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom



Laos

Mr A-boun (family of 4, received an eviction order from [Natahall village, Saybanghiang sub-district, Phin district](#) on [December 2, 2013](#), criticized at a 4 hour meeting on [March 11, 2014](#) for converting to an "American" religion, have appealed to the district religious affairs office)

Ms Achak (family of 2, received an eviction order from [Natahall village, Saybanghiang sub-district, Phin district](#) on [December 2, 2013](#), criticized at a 4 hour meeting on [March 11, 2014](#) for converting to an "American" religion, have appealed to the district religious affairs office)

Achan family (15 members refused on [September 8, 2013](#) to participate in animist rituals, are threatened with expulsion from [Nonsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for refusing)

Pastor Adang (told by police in [Savannakhet province](#) on [May 11, 2012](#) that Christians cannot pray at home or display crucifixes;

arrested on [September 11, 2012](#) in [Kengsainoy, Phin District, Savannakhet Province](#), held in handcuffs;

ordered by authorities on [October 18, 2012](#) to participate in animist rituals, has refused to do so)

Agae (arrested in a [December 29, 2018](#) police raid on a church in [Nakanong village, Savannakhet province](#), police destroyed the stage and sound system, cut off electricity, and seized cell phones)

Agoon (reported on [April 26, 2019](#) to have been arrested for illegal lumbering in [Savannakhet province](#), his non-Christian accomplices were not arrested, police beat him and demanded he renounce his faith)

Aked family (3 members refused on [September 8, 2013](#) to participate in animist rituals, are threatened with expulsion from [Nonsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for refusing)

Akeo (arrested in a [December 29, 2018](#) police raid on a church in [Nakanong village, Savannakhet province](#), police destroyed the stage and sound system, cut off electricity, and seized cell phones)

Anna (aged 50, arrested while eating lunch in [Boukham village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#) after a [September 28, 2014](#) worship service;

released from detention on [October 3, 2014](#))

Pastor Asa Sing (arrested on [June 6, 2012](#) in [Peeyeur village, Sing district, Luang Namtha province](#) without charge for "leading people to accept the Christian faith")

Asing family (6 members refused on [September 8, 2013](#) to participate in animist rituals, are threatened with expulsion from [Nonsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for refusing)

Autumn (U.S. citizen, reported on [April 13, 2019](#) to have been arrested for distributing Bibles and Christian literature in [Sing district, Luang Namtha province](#), detained in a hotel for six days)

Ayoung (arrested in a [December 29, 2018](#) police raid on a church in [Nakanong village, Savannakhet province](#), police destroyed the stage and sound system, cut off electricity, and seized cell phones)

Boulai (arrested in a [December 29, 2018](#) police raid on a church in [Nakanong village, Savannakhet province](#), police destroyed the stage and sound system, cut off electricity, and seized cell phones)

Mr Boun (5 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Pastor Bounchan Kanthavong (released after 13 years imprisonment)

Pastor Bounlerd (told by police in [Savannakhet province](#) on [May 11, 2012](#) that Christians cannot pray at home or display crucifixes;
arrested on [September 11, 2012](#) in [Alowmai, Phin District, Savannakhet Province](#), held in handcuffs; ordered by authorities on [October 18, 2012](#) to participate in animist rituals, has refused to do so)

Pastor Bounma (arrested on [February 5, 2013](#) in [Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for disseminating the Christian religion while copying a religious DVD)

Pastor Bounmee (arrested on [February 5, 2013](#) in [Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for disseminating the Christian religion while copying a religious DVD)

Mr Bountun (family of 4, received an eviction order from [Natahall village, Saybanghiang sub-district, Phin district](#) on [December 2, 2013](#), criticized at a 4 hour meeting on [March 11, 2014](#) for converting to an "American" religion, have appealed to the district religious affairs office)

Boontheong (disappeared on July 3, 2004 along with his wife and 7 year old son, whereabouts unknown and still sought from the government in [Vientiane](#) as of [January 12, 2013](#))

Bountheung Phetsomphone (aged 43 in 2015, husband, father of three, evicted from his home in [Nongpong village, Khamkerd District, Borikhamxai province](#), then arrested and imprisoned on [August 12, 2012](#);
arrested on [September 2, 2015](#) in [Nong-hang](#) for spreading Christianity)

Chai (aged 56, arrested while eating lunch in [Boukham village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#) after a [September 28, 2014](#) worship service;
released from detention on [October 3, 2014](#))

Chalar (arrested on [June 16, 2012](#) after being seen in a private home in [Phone Sampan village,](#)

Long district , Luang Namtha province learning about Christianity from the Wiwatdamrong brothers)

Champee (arrested in a December 29, 2018 police raid on a church in Nakanong village, Savannakhet province, police destroyed the stage and sound system, cut off electricity, and seized cell phones)

Ms Chan (died of natural causes on June 22, 2014 in Saisomboon village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province after a two year illness, denied a Christian burial)

Chanthanarm (aged 18, arrested while eating lunch in Boukham village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province after a September 28, 2014 worship service;

released from detention on October 3, 2014)

Cheu (aged 20 or more, alias, convert, reported on July 24, 2017 to have said “One day, my brother and uncle came to me and lied to me. They invited me to go to their house which I agreed to without hesitation. Little did I know that when we arrived at my uncle’s house, they would beat me and tie me up with a rope. They told me that I need to return to my old faith, they would continue to beat me. They bound me with a rope with my hands behind my back. My brother, an average-sized man but with a solid build, used the side of his palms to hit my neck and face over and over again. I was tied from seven in the morning until seven at night. After that, I prayed and prayed and told God to forgive them and myself. After praying, I lied to my brother and uncle and other people and told them that I would return to my old faith. So they untied me. After they took off my ties, I slept at my house. I went to my wife very early the next morning to pick her up since my in-law’s house is very far from my house. We hopped on a bus to escape and came here. Until now, my uncle and brother and my family still don’t know where I am, and I heard that they are looking for me. I also heard that the village chief, my brother and uncle said that if I come back to our home in our village, they would hit me over and over again until I die...Nothing can stop my belief now, and I will not go back to the Hmong culture of worship. I will continue believing in Jesus instead. I will sacrifice myself to God. I will follow however God wants me to do. I will follow”)

Mrs Cheu (2 Christians in family, summoned on August 30, 2013 to a village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Dong (convert, wife of Sakien, banned from her Chumpoy village, Sanamsai district, Attapeu province home on January 23, 2013 due to her conversion, now living in an unfinished building without walls)

Jonasa Wiwatdamrong (Thai citizen, arrested on June 16, 2012 after being seen in a private home in Phone Sampan village, Long district , Luang Namtha province teaching about Christianity;

released on August 24, 2012 after paying a small fine although he was never charged)

Mr Hasadee (detained after praying with Ms Chan while she was dying in Saisomboon village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province, accused of murder after her death on June 22, 2014 and held in handcuffs and wooden stocks;

murder charges dropped on August 6, 2014, still in detention;

convicted of 'unlicensed professional medical care' on February 12, 2015 for having prayed

for the dying Ms Chan;

sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and together with the other defendants fined US\$2,758;

objected on [April 24, 2015](#) to a [Pakse, Savannakhet province](#) court document which stated that he was withdrawing his appeal of his conviction, said that his signature on the document had been forged)

Joseph (U.S. citizen, reported on [April 13, 2019](#) to have been arrested for distributing Bibles and Christian literature in [Sing district, Luang Namtha province](#), detained in a hotel for six days)

“Kai” (Church leader and evangelist, police called to arrest him after he arrived at his new assignment prior to [April 29, 2014](#), released him after they recognized him as a high school classmate and friend who told them he was "visiting Christians")

Kai (arrested for celebrating Christmas 2011, still detained)

Kaithong (arrested for celebrating Christmas 2011, still detained)

Ms Kaithong (activist, appealed a [May 20, 2014](#) decision to prevent three schoolgirls in [Saisomboon, Atsaphangthong district](#) from taking their final exams due to their being Christians;

detained after praying with Ms Chan while she was dying in [Saisomboon village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#), accused of murder after her death on [June 22, 2014](#) and held in handcuffs and wooden stocks;

murder charges dropped on [August 6, 2014](#), still in detention;

convicted of 'unlicensed professional medical care' on [February 12, 2015](#) for having prayed for the dying Ms Chan;

sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and together with the other defendants fined US\$2,758;

objected on [April 24, 2015](#) to a [Pakse, Savannakhet province](#) court document which stated that she was withdrawing her appeal of her conviction, said that her signature on the document had been forged)

Kert (arrested in a [December 29, 2018](#) police raid on a church in [Nakanong village, Savannakhet province](#), police destroyed the stage and sound system, cut off electricity, and seized cell phones)

Khammorn family (8 members refused on [September 8, 2013](#) to participate in animist rituals, are threatened with expulsion from [Nonsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for refusing)

Khamsone Baccam (taken by police in January 2007, whereabouts unknown and still sought from the government in [Vientiane](#) as of [January 12, 2013](#))

Pastor Khamsorn (arrested after holding a worship service, released after signing a document under duress requiring him to stop worship services)

Khamsorn (discharged from the military in [late May 2012](#) as a result of his conversion to Christianity in [Alowmai village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#))

Khamla (detained by the police, questioned about his recent conversion to Christianity, and

released with an ultimatum to "abandon the Christian religion or you will be expelled from the village", approximately 145 other Christians in three villages given the same ultimatum)

Kingnamosorn (arrested for celebrating Christmas 2011, held in stocks before release)

Kuey family (6 members refused on [September 8, 2013](#) to participate in animist rituals, are threatened with expulsion from [Nonsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for refusing)

Lachorm family (9 members refused on [September 8, 2013](#) to participate in animist rituals, are threatened with expulsion from [Nonsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for refusing)

Mr Lahaw (family of 4, received an eviction order from [Natahall village, Saybanghiang sub-district, Phin district](#) on [December 2, 2013](#), criticized at a 4 hour meeting on [March 11, 2014](#) for converting to an "American" religion, have appealed to the district religious affairs office)

Lhang (alias, sentenced to 8 months' imprisonment in [December 2015](#) along with his brother and another Christian, all later released, brother unable to properly walk after they were confined to a cell too small to stand or lie down, family in [Baan Hua Phu Cha](#) has allowed neighbors to steal their food)

Ma (arrested for celebrating Christmas 2011, still detained)

Manivanh (aged 60, arrested while eating lunch in [Boukham village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#) after a [September 28, 2014](#) worship service; released from detention on [October 3, 2014](#))

Fr Mario Borzaga OMI (**killed** in 1960)

Mr Muk (detained after praying with Ms Chan while she was dying in [Saisomboon village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#), accused of murder after her death on [June 22, 2014](#) and held in handcuffs and wooden stocks;

murder charges dropped on [August 6, 2014](#), still in detention;

convicted of 'unlicensed professional medical care' on [February 12, 2015](#) for having prayed for the dying Ms Chan;

sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and together with the other defendants fined US\$2,758;

objected on [April 24, 2015](#) to a [Pakse, Savannakhet province](#) court document which stated that he was withdrawing his appeal of his conviction, said that his signature on the document had been forged)

Nani (aged 17, convert, sister of Nha Phong, dragged from a worship service in the [autumn of 2016](#) by their family, beaten, tied up for four days, refused to renounce Jesus, said "Our mother never hit us, but our father did. He did this after the head of the village told him to. Dad listened to the authorities who did not want us to go to church. He didn't want my Bible in the house, so he took my Bible and hid it somewhere I couldn't find it. I found it later, so now I can read my Bible again...It has been really hard to not obey our father, who is the head of the family. But we want to obey Jesus more than anyone. We know that Jesus died for us, and we do not want to go back to our old religion. Even if it is difficult,

we want to follow Jesus";

arrested with seven other Christians in [May 2017](#), later relocated to her Christian cousin's village)

Neal (aged 21, arrested while eating lunch in [Boukham village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#) after a [September 28, 2014](#) worship service;

released from detention on [October 3, 2014](#))

Neuy (aged 40, husband, father of three, arrested on [September 2, 2015](#) in [Nong-hang](#) for spreading Christianity)

Mr Nga (7 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Nha Phong (aged 16, convert, sister of Nani, dragged from a worship service in the [autumn of 2016](#) by their family, beaten, tied up for four days, refused to renounce Jesus;

arrested with seven other Christians in [May 2017](#), said "The head of the village told our mum that if we, her daughters, continue to go to church, they will throw us in jail. They said that we should get out of the village", later relocated to her Christian cousin's village)

Mrs Nit (3 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Pastor Onlaew (arrested on [September 11, 2012](#) in [Kapang, Phin District, Savannakhet Province](#), held in handcuffs and footstock;

ordered by authorities on [October 18, 2012](#) to participate in animist rituals, has refused to do so)

Paul Thoj Xyooj (catechist, **killed** in 1960)

Petsamone (aged 40, arrested while eating lunch in [Boukham village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#) after a [September 28, 2014](#) worship service;

released from detention on [October 3, 2014](#))

Phanthakorn Wiwatdamrong (Thai citizen, arrested on [June 16, 2012](#) after being seen in a private home in [Phone Sampan village, Long district, Luang Namtha province](#) teaching about Christianity;

released on [August 24, 2012](#) after paying a small fine although he was never charged)

Rev Phupet (prayer service with 80 people raided by police on [May 25, 2014](#) in [Donpalai](#), 53 Bibles seized)

Pitsamai (convert, wife of Sanien)

Puphet (arrested for celebrating Christmas 2011, still detained)

Mr Puphet (detained after praying with Ms Chan while she was dying in [Saisomboon village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#), accused of murder after her death on [June 22, 2014](#) and held in handcuffs and wooden stocks;

murder charges dropped on [August 6, 2014](#), still in detention;

convicted of 'unlicensed professional medical care' on [February 12, 2015](#) for having prayed for the dying Ms Chan;

sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and together with the other defendants fined US\$2,758;

objected on [April 24, 2015](#) to a [Pakse, Savannakhet province](#) court document which stated that he was withdrawing his appeal of his conviction, said that his signature on the document had been forged)

Sakien (convert, aged 52, husband of Dong, ill, banned from his [Chumpoy village, Sanamsai district, Attapeu province](#) home on [January 23, 2013](#) due to his conversion, now living in an unfinished building without walls)

Sanien (convert, son of Sakien, husband of Pitsamai)

Ser family (official papers seized in 2012, given official notice on [June 7, 2013](#) that they 'should' leave their [Sanam](#) home)

Pastor Shu (alias, attacked by a relative with a gun in [January 2017](#), fled, arrested when he tried to file a complaint)

Rev Singkeaw Wongkongpheng (**stabbed to death** on [September 8, 2015](#) by five men in his home in [Na-ang village, Chomphet district, Luang Prabang province](#), son pursued and severely injured one attacker who was hospitalized and identified as a possible police officer)

Mr Sit (4 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Pastor Somkaew (arrested on [February 5, 2013](#) in [Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for disseminating the Christian religion while copying a religious DVD)

Sompong (arrested for celebrating Christmas 2011, still detained)

Pastor Sompong Supatto (arrested while eating lunch in [Boukham village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#) after a [September 28, 2014](#) worship service;

as of [October 3, 2014](#) "continues to be held with wooden stocks on his legs and handcuffs, in a position of restriction and torture")

Somwang (arrested in a [December 29, 2018](#) police raid on a church in [Nakanong village, Savannakhet province](#), police destroyed the stage and sound system, cut off electricity, and seized cell phones)

Mr Sorn (family of 10, received an eviction order from [Natahall village, Saybanghiang sub-district, Phin district](#) on [December 2, 2013](#), criticized at a 4 hour meeting on [March 11, 2014](#) for converting to an "American" religion, have appealed to the district religious affairs office)

Sort (aged 40, arrested in [Loynam village, Nong district, Savannakhet province](#) on [May 29, 2014](#), tied by police to a pole and mocked for his faith, imprisoned)

Mrs Souk (4 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Mrs Sun (2 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting

and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Sunya family (6 members refused on [September 8, 2013](#) to participate in animist rituals, are threatened with expulsion from [Nonsung village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#) for refusing)

Mrs Ta (3 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Taam family (official papers seized in 2012, given official notice on [June 7, 2013](#) that they 'should' leave their [Sanam](#) home)

Thong family (official papers seized in 2012, given official notice on [June 7, 2013](#) that they 'should' leave their [Sanam](#) home)

Mr Tiang Kwenthonthong (detained after praying with Ms Chan while she was dying in [Saisomboon village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#), accused of murder after her death on [June 22, 2014](#) and held in handcuffs and wooden stocks;
murder charges dropped on [August 6, 2014](#), still in detention;
convicted of 'unlicensed professional medical care' on [February 12, 2015](#) for having prayed for the dying Ms Chan;
sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and together with the other defendants fined US\$2,758;
objected on [April 24, 2015](#) to a [Pakse, Savannakhet province](#) court document which stated that he was withdrawing his appeal of his conviction, said that his signature on the document had been forged;
reported on [September 21, 2015](#) to have **died in prison**, had been denied medical care for his diabetes)

Tongkoun Keohavong (ordered on [August 6, 2012](#) by authorities in [Nahoukou village, Utumpon district, Savannakhet province](#) to renounce his faith, replied "God is real. When we believe, we are healed from sickness and immediately delivered from the possession of evil spirits. We cannot deny the reality of God's power", along with 40 others was threatened with violence and eviction)

Tonglai (discharged from the military in [late May 2012](#) as a result of his conversion to Christianity in [Alowmai village, Phin district, Savannakhet province](#))

Mr Tuey (7 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Varn (friend of Mrs Chen, under pressure as of [July 3, 2014](#) to renounce the faith by authorities who threaten to seize her land and expel her from [Saisomboon village, Savannakhet province](#))

Mr Wandee (7 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a [Nongdaeng](#) village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Wang (denied a Christian burial)

Pastor Wanna (released after a year in jail)

Wanta (arrested for celebrating Christmas in [2011](#), still detained)

Wayne (U.S. citizen, reported on [April 13, 2019](#) to have been arrested for distributing Bibles and Christian literature in [Sing district, Luang Namtha province](#), detained in a hotel for six days)

Mr Yar (6 Christians in family, summoned on [August 30, 2013](#) to a village meeting and ordered that all family members recant Christianity or suffer eviction, celebrated Sunday worship two days later)

Yeng (alias, church leader, home destroyed by arson in [January 2017](#))

Pastor Yohan (released after a year in jail)