

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom



United Nations

Archbishop Bernardito Auza (Permanent Representative of the Holy See [Vatican] to the United Nations, said on [April 17, 2015](#) in [New York City](#) "In Iraq and Syria, in Nigeria and Libya, in Kenya and in regions of the Asian subcontinent, the earth has been getting literally soaked with blood. We have seen barbaric images of Coptic Christians beheaded in Libya; churches filled with people blown up during liturgical celebrations in Iraq, Nigeria and Pakistan; ancient Christian communities driven out of their homes on the biblical Plain of Nineveh; Christian students executed in Kenya...The fate of those persecuted urges us to do all that we can to prevent further victims of attacks and abuses. Christians and other religious minorities of the Middle East and elsewhere plead for action, not in some abstract form, but in a manner that is truly conscious of their pain and suffering and their existential fear for their survival")

Farrukh Saif Harrison (attorney, said in [Geneva, Switzerland](#) on [September 18, 2017](#) that Christians are loyal Pakistani citizens, "Since 1987 to 2017, so far 222 cases of Blasphemy laws have been registered against Christians. This law has been used to settle down the personal vendetta against the oppressed and persecuted Christian community...By using Blasphemy law, many Christian Colonies [ghettos] and villages were set on fire by the fanatic Muslims. Shanti Nagar, Baminwala, Koriyan, Christian Colony Gojra and Badmi Bahag are few of such places which were destroyed and ransacked by the Muslim fundamentalists"

Bishop Joseph Bagobiri (Nigerian citizen, on [May 30, 2016](#) presented the report ***The Impact of Persistent Violence on the Church in Northern Nigeria*** in [New York City](#), in which was stated "Christian communities in the predominant Christian states in the Middle Belt areas are the most affected by the Muslim Fulani herdsmen forceful invasions and attacks. This is a blatant foreign invasion of the ancestral lands of the Christian and minority communities. In these middle belt states, the Fulani herdsmen have incessantly terrorized many communities, wiping out some from existence, and in places like Agatu in Benue State and Gwantu and Manchok in Kaduna State, these attacks assumed genocidal character, as between 150 – 300 vulnerable persons were killed overnight")

Fr Manoj Kumar Nayak (reported on [September 23, 2017](#) to have spoken on the situation in India at the UN Human Rights Council in [Geneva, Switzerland](#) "The Government of India fails to prevent the adoption anti-conversion acts in states such as Odisha, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand and Gujarat that restricts the rights of minorities to practice, propagate and profess their religion. In addition there are documented data about the increasing of criminalization of minorities, dalits [untouchables] and adivasis [aboriginals]. There is also the increase of hate speech delivered by State officials which lead to the incitement of violence and discrimination against religious minorities, in contrary to their responsibility to protect them")

Archbishop Silvano M Tomasi (reported on [May 27, 2013](#) to the UN in [Geneva, Switzerland](#) that

more than 100,000 Christians are killed for their faith each year;

rebutted an accusation by a UN representative on [May 5, 2014](#) in [Geneva](#) that opposition to abortion can be a form of torture;

said in [Geneva, Switzerland](#) on [December 9, 2015](#) that international humanitarian law is "increasingly ignored and violated" and that "The short attention span of the communications media, and of many others in the international community, should be challenged by regularly calling attention to the ongoing emergencies that seem to be multiplying in intensity and complexity")