

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – August 1918

Saturday August 6, 1918



Iran: on the road outside Sain Qaleh

Captain Stanley George Savige (aged 28, Australian Army officer, former Sunday school teacher, fiancé of Lilian Stockton, led 8 Commonwealth [Australian, British, Canadian, and New Zealand] in a forced march to attempt to protect the Assyrians fleeing from Urima, met with William Ambrose Shedd at the rearguard of the Assyrians by the end of the day)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stanley_Savige

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26700159M/Debt_of_Honour

Sunday August 7, 1918



Iran: on the road outside Sain Qaleh

Captain Stanley George Savige (aged 28, Australian Army officer, former Sunday school teacher, fiancé of Lilian Stockton; **UPDATE**: with his 8 men and a handful of Assyrians and Armenians fought a daylong gun battle against hundreds of pursuing Ottoman troops so that up to 80,000 Assyrians could escape, in the following days acted as a rearguard to protect the Assyrians)

Ambrose Shedd (aged 53, husband of Mary Lewis Shedd, missionary, U.S. Consul, attempted to protect the Assyrians from attack, began to assist their escape from [Urima, Azarbaijan-e Gharbi](#) to the British Mandate in Iraq on [July 31, 1918](#); **UPDATE**: **died from cholera** on or about August 7, 1918 while pursued by Ottoman forces)

Mary Lewis Shedd (widow of William Ambrose Shedd, missionary, U.S. citizen, buried her husband in a shallow grave while pursued by Ottoman forces, later returned to find his remains had been dug up by animals)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Ambrose_Shedd
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stanley_Savige
https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26700159M/Debt_of_Honour

Sunday August 14, 1918



Russia: Saratov

Bishop Joseph Aloysius Kessler (aged 56, fled the city on foot before the arrival of the Bolsheviks, left behind a pastoral letter that declared them to be the anti-Christ and threatened excommunication for any who supported them, became the object of a country-wide manhunt)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0386>

Saturday August 20, 1918



Iran: Urmia

Patriarch Shimun XXI Paulos (aged 37, brother of Patriarch Shimun XXI Benyamin, succeeded his brother as Patriarch on [March 27, 1918](#) after he was killed in the Assyrian Genocide; **UPDATE:** fled with up to 80,000 Christians for refuge in the British Mandate of Iraq, 15,000 died in route, lived in a refugee camp, health broken)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shimun_XXII_Paulos

Monday August 29, 1918



Iran: Urima, Azarbaijan-e Gharbi

Archbishop Toma Audo (aged 63, shot in the face by a Persian robber on [July 27, 1918](#), forced to march miles by Ottoman Kurds, whipped and beaten, hospitalized; **UPDATE: died from sepsis** due to beatings and mistreatment by Ottoman forces while hospitalized)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toma_Audo

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Iran.htm

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26474392M/Doves_in_Crimson_Fields pg 144-146

August 1918, date unknown



Russia: on the Gulf of Finland coast

Fr Filozof Oranski (aged 58, husband of Jelena Zaozierska, father, arrested and **executed** by the Bolsheviks along with 30 others including two of his sons in the second half of August)

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filozof_Ornatski - with translation