

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – September 1968

**Tuesday September 3, 1968**



### **Russia: Kirov**

Boris Vladimirovich Talantov (aged 65, widower of Nina Agafangelovna Talantova, signed an open letter on [March 30, 1968](#) which criticized the Moscow Patriarchate for its cooperation with the Soviet regime; arrested on [June 12, 1968](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment for anti-Soviet activities)

[http://orthodoxinfo.com/ecumenism/cat\\_tal.aspx](http://orthodoxinfo.com/ecumenism/cat_tal.aspx)

<http://russiascatacombsaints.blogspot.com/2010/12/33-boris-talantov.html>

**Monday September 7, 1968**



### **USSR: Caucasus region**

Fr Josaph ("old man", **beaten to death** by police agents who left him for dead and then attempted to stage a suicide by hanging, suicide by hanging was the official cause of death but he had managed to bend his limbs before he died and rigor mortis had set in before the 'hanging' so the evidence contradicted the verdict, the autopsy also contradicted the official verdict)

<http://www.orthodox.net/russianm/caucasus-mountains-hieromartyrs-martyrs-and-confessors-03-of-03.html>

**Wednesday September 16, 1968**



### **Iraq: Soriya**

Fr Hanna Yacoub Qasha (aged 49, beaten and then **shot dead along with the entire village** after an army convoy was attacked with a Kurdish land mine)

[https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26474392M/Doves\\_in\\_Crimson\\_Fields](https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26474392M/Doves_in_Crimson_Fields) - pg 163-164

**Sunday September 20, 1968**



### **Russia: Moscow**

Augustina Vasilovna Vashchenko (wife of Peter Pavolvich Vashchenko, detained on **June 18, 1968** while attempting to enter the U.S. Embassy, beaten; **UPDATE**: tried for assaulting a police officer, sentenced to three years' imprisonment in a labor camp)

Natasha Vashchenko (aged 54, sister of Peter Pavolvich Vashchenko, detained while attempting to enter the U.S. Embassy; **UPDATE**: tried for assaulting a police officer, sentenced to three years' imprisonment in a labor camp)

[https://openlibrary.org/books/OL4190509M/The\\_Siberian\\_Seven](https://openlibrary.org/books/OL4190509M/The_Siberian_Seven)

**Tuesday September 29, 1968**



### **South Vietnam**

Betty Ann Olsen (aged 33, missionary, nurse, U.S. citizen, captured in a **February 1, 1968** Communist raid on a leprosarium in **Ban Me Thuot**; **UPDATE**: **died of neglect and illness**)

<https://www.cmalliance.org/about/history/in-the-line-of-fire/olsen>

<https://www.pownetwork.org/bios/b/b601.htm>

<http://www.illyria.com/women/vnwlist.html>

**September 1968, date unknown**