

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – February 1979

Tuesday, February 13, 1979



Russia: Samara

Alexander Ogorodnikov (aged 28, Christian Seminar member, husband of Yelena Levashova, father of Dima; arrested in [Redkino](#) for parasitism on [November 20, 1978](#); trial in [Konakovo](#) ended on [January 11, 1979](#), refused to confess or show remorse, sentenced to 1 year's imprisonment in Komsomolsk-na-Amur, beaten by police in public after he refused to turn over his trial notes; **UPDATE**: arrived)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26180614M/Dissident_For_Life - page 107

Monday, February 19, 1979



Iran: Shiraz

Fr Arastoo Sayiah (husband, father of two sons, **killed** in his office, “severely mutilated” body found by his eldest son, family later fled the country)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL4256365M/The_Hard_Awakening - page 37-38

<http://vocir.org/2015/01/02/the-first-christian-persecution-martyr-at-the-beginning-islamic-revolution-in-iran/>



Russia: Moscow

Tatiana Shchipkova (Christian Seminar member, teacher, home in [Smolensk](#) raided by police on [April 21, 1978](#), Christian underground literature seized; confessed to her students that she

was a Christian on [June 7, 1978](#), fired from her position and stripped of her degrees;
UPDATE: present during a police raid, struck a policeman, later charged with
'hooliganism')

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26180614M/Dissident_For_Life - page 110

Saturday, February 24 1979



India: Mokama, Patna

Fr Francis Louis Martiseck SJ (aged 66, U.S. citizen, **killed**)

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

February 1979, date unknown