Today’s Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – January 1999

Saturday January 9, 1999

Brazil: Sao Paulo

Jose Barbosa de Andrade (aged 33, police officer, drowned while attempting to rescue a homeless man)


Wednesday January 20, 1999

Indonesia: Pattimura University, Ambon, Maluku

Islamists from Lasker Jihad attacked a Bible camp attended by 125 teens

Roy Pontoh (aged 15, slashed to death with a machete, when his attacker asked who he was he said “A soldier of God”, when asked what that meant his last words were "A soldier of God is ready to die for Christ...Jesus!")

Pastor Meiky Sainyakit (killed along with his driver while hiring a truck to bring the attendees home)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26123571M/Heroes_Of_Our_Faith

Italy: Ponte Chiasso, Como
Fr Renzo Beretta (aged 76, killed by a Moroccan immigrant for money)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/isolated_cases.htm
http://archive.thetablet.co.uk/article/30th-january-1999/26/murdered-for-five-pence-officiating-at-the-funeral

Friday January 22, 1999

India: Manoharpur village, Keonjhar district, Odisha state

Christian missionaries from Australia killed while they were sleeping when their automobile was firebombed, allegedly by a member of Bajrang Dal – the youth branch of the RSS paramilitary organization

Gladys June Staines (widow of Dr Graham Stuart Staines, mother of Esther, Philip and Timothy Staines, denied allegations that they were luring people to convert to Christianity)

Dr Graham Stuart Staines (aged 58, husband of Gladys June Staines, father of Esther, Philip and Timothy Staines, burned to death)

Philip Staines (aged 10, son of Dr Graham Stuart Staines and Gladys June Staines, brother of Timothy and Esther Staines, burned to death)

Timothy Staines (aged 6, son of Dr Graham Stuart Staines and Gladys June Staines, brother of Philip and Esther Staines, burned to death)

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

Sierra Leone: Freetown

Sr Aloise Maria Ansama Antony MC (aged 34, Indian national, killed by rebels, had been held as a hostage)

Sr Sueva Maria Sujila Asakra MC (aged 43, Bangladeshi national, killed by rebels, had been held as a hostage)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Sierra_Leone.htm
Saturday January 23, 1999

Sierra Leone: Freetown
Sr Bernadette Nzembali MC (aged 30, Kenyan national, killed by rebels)
http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Sierra_Leone.htm

Tuesday January 26, 1999

Dominican Republic: Santo Domingo
Fr Cipriano Ibanez (aged 72, Spanish national, shot dead in a carjacking)

Wednesday January 27, 1999

China: Shanghai
Sr Teresia Zhou Shuying OCD (aged 90, died)
http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/China2.htm

January 1999, date unknown