

## Today's Martyrs – June 2012

**Friday June 1, 2012**



### **Egypt: Alexandria**

Amal Beshara (widowed in a [January 1, 2012](#) church bombing, expressed fear on the outcome of the presidential runoff but stated she will not leave the country)

Antwan (son of Amal Beshara)

**Saturday June 2, 2012**



### **India: Tamil Nadu**

Pastor C Wilson (**murdered**)



### **Pakistan: Essa Nagri, Karachi**

Kala Masih (abducted, badly beaten, released)

Liaquat Munawar Masih (activist, urged the family of Kala Masih to file a criminal complaint but was rebuffed: “They said we are Christian, police cannot give us protection and support while terrorists can again kidnap our son if we lodged [an] F.I.R. because terrorist are very strong and powerful here in Pakistan”, has called on Christians worldwide to pray for the Christians of Pakistan)

**Sunday June 3, 2012**



**China: Ankang city, Shaanxi province**

Zhang Kai (civil rights lawyer, **UPDATE:** will represent Feng Jianmei, who was forced by the government to abort her son after five months of pregnancy)



**Pakistan: Lahore, Punjab province**

Bishop Sebastian Shaw OFM (**UPDATE:** stated at a 'Symphony of Prayer for Peace': "Easter and Pentecost teach us harmony, sharing, unity among the different churches, unity between families, between individuals, between groups, between organizations and between different civilizations. They invite us not to consider anyone a stranger. They teach us to be steadfast in our faith and the courage to speak in the name of Jesus Christ. They teach us to stand firm in faith and be faithful to Jesus until our death, in martyrdom")



**Syria: Damascus**

Bishop Philip Tournyol Clos (stated after traveling in the country: "After a year of conflict, the reality on the ground is far from the picture that imposes disinformation in Western media...The picture for us is utter desolation: the church of Mar Elian is half destroyed and that of Our Lady of Peace is still occupied by the rebels. Christian homes are severely damaged due to the fighting and completely emptied of their inhabitants, who fled without taking anything. The area of Hamidieh is still shelter to armed groups independent of each other...All Christians (138,000) have fled to Damascus and Lebanon, while others took refuge in the surrounding countryside. A priest was killed and another was wounded by three bullets. Still a couple live there, but the five bishops have had to take refuge in Damascus and Lebanon.")



**Turkey: Antakya [Antioch]**

Fr Domenico Bertogli (spoke on the second anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Luigi Padovese)

Archbishop Ruggero Franceschini (officiated at a Mass in memory of Bishop Luigi Padovese)



## **Nigeria: Bauchi**

Augustine Effiong Ita (aged 32, an adolescent health specialist, **killed** in the car-bombing of his church)

Pastor Gaus Biyal (spoke on the car-bombing of two churches: “Vengeance belongs to the Lord; vengeance belongs to Jesus Christ who was persecuted for our sake. It is He that can fight on our behalf. He knows what to do. If we try to do it ourselves, we will die in the process.”)

Irmiya Hassan Dodo (aged 67, **killed** in the church bombing)

Pastor Johnson Elogva (spoke on the car-bombing of two churches: “The glass windows [at Living Faith] were shattered, the roof of the church building was shaking and almost collapsing on us. Our church members were scattered, and they were running and jumping through all available entrances out of the sanctuary. There was smoke and fire all over outside...Most of our members are critically ill in the hospitals. Some with first degree, second degree burns.”)

Joseph Kehinde Aiyedipe (aged 30, a student of the Federal Polytechnic, **killed** in the church bombing)

Rev Lawi Pokti (spoke on the car-bombing of two churches: “Twenty-five out of these [45 Christians] were injured by the bomb blast, while 20 sustained various degrees of injuries from the gunshots by soldiers [while trying to rescue bomb victims]”)

Pastor Mbami Godiya (spoke on the car-bombing of two churches: “Suddenly, there was a loud bang which brought part of my church building down. Our church [Harvest Field Church of Christ] became very dark as fire engulfed it. In the midst of this darkness and the cries from the members of my church, I shouted and called for calm, and asking them to lie down in case there were multiple explosions...Ten of my members who were injured were taken to the hospital. Seven were treated and discharged, and three are still in critical condition.”)

Samuel Olusegun (aged 16, student of the Divine International School, **killed** in the church bombing)

Suru Gbangboshe (a final year student of Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, **killed** in the June 3 2012 church bombing in Bauchi)

**Monday June 4, 2012**



### **Nigeria: Abuja**

Bishop Ignatius Ayau Kaigama (**UPDATE**: stated "We are appalled and shocked by the two tragedies that hit Nigeria yesterday, the airplane crash in Lagos that killed 153 people, and the [car bomb suicide] attack on a Christian church in Bauchi [in which 15 died]"

**Tuesday June 5, 2012**



### **Indonesia: Tangerang**

Theophilus Bela (**UPDATE**: expressed concern that anti-Christian rights violations are increasing, with 40 in the first 5 months of 2012, compared to 64 in 2011, 47 in 2010, and 10 in 2009)

### **Indonesia: Mangkol village, Bangka-Belitung province**

Fr Fenansius Marianus Manse (told of how civil authorities have halted construction of a minor seminary)



### **Libya: Benghazi**

Bishop Sylvester Carmel Magro (stated that life is returning to normal: "Today, for example, we celebrate the Novena of Our Lady of Salvation, to whom the Filipinos are very devout. On the occasion of the main Mass of the week, which is celebrated on Friday morning, the church is always crowded with worshipers. It is the sign we have resumed the pace as it was before the war of 2011. The faithful are all foreigners: Filipinos and a large number of Africans, many of whom are in search of work and in need of material assistance")



### **United States - New Mexico: Albuquerque**

Elaine Huguenin (lost a court appeal over her refusal to photograph a same sex wedding)

**Wednesday June 6, 2012**



**China: Hunan**

Li Wangyang (imprisoned for nearly 22 years, did not change his views on the need for democracy despite torture that left him blind, deaf, and partially paralyzed, **died** according to authorities from "suicide")

Li Wangling (sister of deceased dissident Li Wangyang, has been placed under house arrest after his supposed "suicide" along with her husband and other family members)



**Laos: Peeyeur village, Sing district, Luang Namtha province**

Pastor Asa Sing (arrested without charge for "leading people to accept the Christian faith")



**India: Bachel, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh state**

Rev Shankarlal Karma (teenage daughter's funeral attacked by a Hindu mob armed with knives and sticks who then attempted to prevent the burial by filling in the grave)



**Pakistan: Bhondary Wala village, Narang Mandi district, Punjab province**

Rehmat Masih (protesting the seizure of a pre-1947 Christian cemetery by a wealthy landowner for farmland)

**Thursday June 7, 2012**



**China: Niuchan town, Jinghe county, Xinjiang**

Wang Lili (purse confiscated by police at a house baptism service)



**Uzbekistan: Tashkent**

Yelena Tsyngalova (appealed her expulsion - without a deportation hearing - to Russia with her teenaged sons but without her disabled mother for "Illegal production, storage, or import into Uzbekistan with a purpose to distribute or distribution of religious materials by physical persons")

**Friday June 8, 2012**



**India: Deuphani village, Assam state**

Bhageswar Rabha (forced to convert to Hinduism)

Mala Rabha (wife of Manesor Rabha, dragged from her home at midnight, threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when she refused, later hospitalized in serious condition)

Manesor Rabha (dragged from his home at midnight, threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, two other families later fled the village)

Michael Rabha (dragged from his home at midnight, threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, later hospitalized in serious condition)

Prashanto Rabha (dragged from his home at midnight, threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, later hospitalized in serious condition)



**Pakistan: Lahore, Punjab province**

Pastor Mehboob Yaqoob (arrested on false charges of fraud)

**Pakistan: Essa Nagri, Karachi**

Arshad Masih (brother of Aslam Masih)

Aslam Masih (home attacked with gunfire after his brother Arshad told a cell phone extortionist that the family had no money, family is now in hiding)



**Iran: Ahwaz**

Noorallah Ghobayti (**UPDATE**: still in prison)

**Iran: Tehran**

Farshid Malayeri Fathi (sentenced to six years imprisonment; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

**Iran**

Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani (**UPDATE**: still in prison under a death sentence for apostasy)

**Iran: Karaj**

Pastor Behnam Irani (**UPDATE**: still detained since April 2012 in Karaj, has been beaten in prison, experiencing internal bleeding, refused medical care)



**Syria: Qusayr**

Fr Paolo Dall'Oglio SJ (**UPDATE**: expelled along with other Christians by the rebel forces - he had joined the local Christians to pray and fast despite the surrounding violence)

**Syria: Damascus**

Patriarch Gregorios III Laham (stated "God can restore peace, brotherly love and mutual solidarity in Syria, in all its regions and among all its citizens...In the Eastern tradition of the Church, after Pentecost in the month of June is observed the 'Fast of the Twelve Apostles', chief among whom are Peter and Paul, whom the Church in the East and West alike commemorates on June 29. This fast begins this year on June 4 and ends on June 28. Now, after the escalation of violence, especially the widespread series of assassinations and kidnappings for ransom that has affected a great many members of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church and others, especially in Homs, we ask all the children of our patriarchal Eparchy of Damascus to fast and say special prayers every day, at home and in church...This is our response to the painful events that have caused weeping and heartbreak, implanting terrifying images and causing hatred and revenge...for all Christians that their hearts may be confirmed in true faith and united in thy Church; for leaders and members of Parliament, that they may be enlightened and follow the ways of

understanding, compassion and effectual co-operation for all the inhabitants of Syria, that their hearts may be confirmed in understanding and peace.")



### **Lebanon: Beirut**

Fr Samir Khalil Samir SJ (**UPDATE**: commented on the Internet posting of a video reportedly of a Tunisian Muslim convert to Christianity being beheaded by Islamists)

**Saturday June 9, 2012**



### **Pakistan: Sukeheki**

Chiragh Masih (father of Ramzan Masih, stated that the blasphemy charge against his son is part of an extortion plot against his family)

Ramzan Masih (aged 25, mentally handicapped, tricked into converting to Islam in 2010 by a banned Islamist group, now charged with blasphemy)



### **Saudi Arabia**

Helen Tamene Gebre (Ethiopian citizen, domestic worker, arrested on [December 15, 2012](#) with 28 other women and 6 men for attending a Christian service in a private home, **UPDATE** still detained without charge)

**Sunday June 10, 2012**



### **Pakistan: Karachi**



Amil (accused by employer of theft after refusing to convert to Islam, beaten and tortured by police after being unable to pay a bribe, is unable to walk)

Jawed (accused by employer of theft after refusing to convert to Islam, beaten and tortured by police after being unable to pay a bribe)

### **Pakistan: Chunian**

Pastor Aurangzeb (brother of Muzamal Arif)

Muzamal Arif (kidnapped, forced into marriage and to convert to Islam, raped)

Naveed Saqib (brother of Muzamal Arif)



### **Iran: Teheran**

Hooman H. (Christian convert arrested on [April 28, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: released on bail)

Ladan N. (Christian convert arrested on [April 28, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: released on bail)



### **Lebanon: Beirut**

Fr Samir Khalil Samir SJ (**UPDATE**: published an analysis of the fighting in Syria that shows dozens of Sunni jihadists from Algeria, Kuwait, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia - including teenagers - are being armed in Turkey and funneled into Syria from there to fight the Syrian Alawites, this analysis shows why Syrian Christians are distrustful of the rebel factions)



### **Egypt: Imbaba, Cairo**

Alfons Ghatas (deacon, commented on the inferior materials used in the reconstruction of his church after the [May 7, 2011](#) arson attack, and the large debt the church now owes despite the inferiority)

Salah Aziz (church attendant, **died** in the [May 7, 2011](#) arson attack)

Rev Sarabamoun Abdo (described the Divine Liturgy celebrated in his church 5 days after the [May 7, 2011](#) arson attack: “If you saw the crowds of people in the service just after the attack on the church, and how that strengthened people’s faith...As the Bible says, ‘The gates of hell will not prevail against you’”)



### **Nigeria: Jos**

Celina Malo (neighbor of the bombed church, home damaged in the explosion)

Esther Solomon (neighbor of the bombed church who saw that some children had remained in the church when the bomb detonated, home damaged in the explosion)

Archbishop Ignatius Ayau Kaigama (**UPDATE**: stated "Boko Haram terrorists want to spark a war between Christians and Muslims...The government must do all it can to protect Christians and prevent further attacks, which cause panic and sow death in the population")

Mark Lipdo (**UPDATE**: reported on a car suicide bombing of a church that killed 2 and wounded more than 40, of which several may not survive)

Pastor Monday Uzoka (in critical condition following the suicide car bombing of his church)

Peter Uzoka (son of Monday Uzoka, taken to the hospital after his church was car bombed)

Rahab Gunat (stated that the suicide bomber "was seen trying to go to the ECWA church, but he was prevented from doing so by members of the Boys Brigade [Boy Scouts] who were keeping watch over the church. From there, he went to the St. Peter's Catholic Church, but was denied entry too, but when he found that there was no security in this church, he crashed into it.")

Victory Uzoka (daughter of Monday Uzoka, witnessed the bombing of her church)

### **Nigeria: Biu**

Hamidu Wakawa (witnessed the shooting of a church service: "Three gunmen came to the premises of the church and started firing at people outside the church before going into the main building to carry on their killings...Many people have been killed and wounded.")

Rev Samson Bukar (described an attack on a church service in which gunmen opened fire on the congregation, killing an usher and wounding several more)

**Monday June 11, 2012**



### **Vietnam: Nghe An**

Fr Nguyen Van Huong (protested the government seizure of a church in which parishioners were beaten)

**Vietnam: Chau Binh commune, Quy Chau district, Nghe An province**

Nguyen Van Vi (new home raided by the authorities while it was being blessed by local clergy)

Tra Van Luong (beaten during the raid on the home of Nguyen Van Vi)



**Sri Lanka: Kandy**

Amila Tharanga (aged 13, beaten by a teacher when he could not name the parents of Buddha)

Gashan (brother of Amila Tharanga)

P G Tilakaratne (father of Amila Tharanga)



**Pakistan: Quetta, Balochistan**

Philip Ganta (described a bomb attack on a bus that killed six Christians and injured 10 who were returning from the Dubai School of Preaching)



**Uzbekistan: Fergana Region**

Abdubannob Ahmedov (four year sentence which was to have expired in July 2012 extended for two and a half more years)



**Iraq: Erbil**

Archbishop Bashar Matti Warda (stated: “We see it [a New Evangelization] as strengthening our relationship with Jesus who suffered and was crucified. This means reflecting on our wounds and not just bearing them, but taking these wounds with joy that we have participated in the suffering of Our Lord. We believe that true Christianity is a persecuted Christianity. That's true all over the world”)



### **Syria: Qusayr**

Maurice Bitar (**shot dead** by a sniper while buying bread for his family)

### **Syria: Damascus**

Bishop Mario Zenari (apostolic nuncio, **UPDATE**: stated "Syria has started its slide into hell. In addition to material destruction, the conflict is tearing at the heart. The destruction of homes, the dead and the wounded can be quantified, but the disintegration of the soul is impossible to measure...The death of innocent youth and their use as human shields or soldiers is an unacceptable crime...Sadly, beside the war on the ground, a media war is being waged so that we can't believe what anybody is saying")



### **Egypt: Azaziya**

Farid Edward (aged 21, activist)

Montaser Qalbek (commented on the upcoming presidential runoff election: "Our goal is a civil state")

### **Egypt: Cairo**

Youssef Sidhoum (editor of the Coptic newspaper al-Watani, **UPDATE**: stated "There is a Brotherhood strategy to work toward building an Islamic country...We don't believe [the campaign promises to Christians by the Muslim Brotherhood candidate]. They just want to lure people to vote for Morsi.")

**Tuesday June 12, 2012**



### **Pakistan: Dhomala Narowal city, Sialkot region, Punjab province**

Anisha Moris (aged 13, kidnapped from her home on [March 29, 2012](#) and raped, beaten by a mob after she reported the crime, forced out of her home and onto the streets; **UPDATE**: police are refusing to prosecute her assailants)

Asher (uncle of Anisha Moris, beaten by mob, forced out of his home and onto the streets, **UPDATE**: stated that his family was "paying a huge price for being poor ... and for being Christian")

Nosheen (aunt of Anisha Moris, beaten by mob, miscarried twin girls, forced out of her home and onto the streets; **UPDATE:** police are refusing to prosecute her assailants)



### **Syria: Homs**

#### **Christian clergy have been working toward reconciliation despite personal exposure to gunfire**

Fr Abdallah

Fr Alaa

Fr Iyad

Fr Khazal

Fr Michelle

**Wednesday June 13, 2012**



### **Indonesia: Indonesian Papua**

Pastor Albert Yoku (called on the government to end the violence in their province)

Bishop Leo Laba Ladjar (said he was concerned about the escalation of fatal "accidents")

Rev Lipiyus Binilux (called on the government to end the violence in their province)



### **China: Guodong village, Hejiayi town, Zizhou county, Shaanxi province**

Liu Xinxing (detained [January 13, 2012](#) for engaging in Christian activities - "suspicion of organizing and using a cult to undermine law enforcement", sentenced to 18 months of re-education through labor on [February 13, 2012](#), **UPDATE:** is suing the government for incarcerating her without informing her of the sentence)

Xue Yuxia (detained [January 13, 2012](#) for engaging in Christian activities - "suspicion of organizing and using a cult to undermine law enforcement", sentenced to 18 months of re-education through labor on [February 13, 2012](#), **UPDATE** :is suing the government for incarcerating her without informing her of the sentence)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/09/shaanxi-christians-sentenced-to-labor.html>



## **Iraq**

Bishop Shlemon Warduni (pleaded with the general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in [Atlanta, Georgia, USA](#) to pressure the U.S. government into aiding Christians in Iraq: "We beg you to do something for us, we want only peace, security and freedom. You can tell everybody Iraq was very rich, but now is very poor, because of the war and much discrimination. We want to cry out to you: we want peace, justice, stability, freedom of religion. No more war, no more death, no more explosions, no more injustice.")



## **Italy: Rome**

Chiara Corbella Petrillo (aged 28, wife of Enrico, mother of Maria Grazia Letizia [deceased], Davide Giovanni [deceased], and Francesco, **died of cancer**, had delayed treatment to ensure that Francesco would be born healthy)

Enrico Petrillo (aged 33, widower of Chiara Corbella Petrillo, father of Maria Grazia Letizia [deceased], Davide Giovanni [deceased], and Francesco)

Francesco Petrillo (aged 1, son of Enrico and Chiara Corbella Petrillo)

<http://catholicexchange.com/chiara-corbella-petrillo>

<http://www.chiaracorbella Petrillo.it/en/>

**Thursday June 14, 2012**



## **Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh City**

Fr Joseph Ho Dac Tam (is encouraging all parishioners to promote evangelization and to proclaim the Good News)

N. T. H. (a disabled woman aged 68: "I used to think that missionary work was the preserve of religious and priests. I came to realize that each believer is called to proclaim the Good News.")

N. P. T. (aged 30, once convinced that mission "was done only in other countries or in remote areas [but I now perform it] in town and in my office."

T. V. Q. (stated that it is crucial to learn to live correctly the Word of God so as to be able to get involved in "missionary works for others.")



### **Pakistan**

Asia Bibi (mother of five still incarcerated on blasphemy charges after death sentence, **UPDATE:** was the subject of a demonstration in front of the Pakistani High Commission [embassy] in [London, United Kingdom](#) on the third anniversary of her arrest)

### **Pakistan: Ballo Key, Lahore, Punjab**

Farzana Bibi (widow and mother of five kept in de facto enslavement by a brickmaker along with her children, forced to donate a kidney to reduce her debts)

**Friday June 15, 2012**



### **India: Mitrapur village, Balasore district, Orissa state**

Pastor Evangelist Baidhare (beaten and seriously injured, the attackers then turned on his rescuers and attacked 12 Christian families: 20 were beaten, some rapes were attempted, homes were looted, and the victims likely fled into the jungle)



### **United Kingdom: Margate, Kent**

Andrea Williams (**UPDATE:** chief executive of the Christian Legal Center, said she was appalled by the decision against Dr Richard Scott)

Dr Richard Scott (disciplined by the General Medical Council after he suggested Christian spirituality to a depressed patient despite given no chance to rebut the charge)

**Saturday June 16, 2012**



**Pakistan: Punjab**

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (**UPDATE**: called on the President of Pakistan to end the slavery of thousands of bonded-labor Christians in the brick kiln industry)



**Uzbekistan: Bukhara**

Oksana Shcherbenova (Kazakh citizen, detained for discussing religion with others on [May 10, 2013](#), deported after 15 days incarceration)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1725](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1725)



**Iran: Mashhad, Khorasan-e-Razavi province**

Ehsan Behrouz (convert to Christianity, university student, incarcerated without charge and in secrecy since [October 23, 2011](#); **UPDATE**: released from prison)

**Sunday June 17, 2012**



**North Korea**

Jo Chung-Hee (convert and former Communist party member, testified in [Seoul](#) that the country's labor camps hold at least 200,000 – 20% are Christian - and the decline from the 2008 peak of 900,000 is due to famine)





## **Iran: Shiraz**

Fariba Nazemian (convert, wife of Homayoon Shokoohi-Gholamzadeh, arrested during a home church meeting on [February 8, 2012](#), charged with “acts harmful to the Islamic Regime”, in need of medical attention; **UPDATE**: still in detention)

Homayoun Shokouhi (convert, arrested during a home church meeting on [February 8, 2012](#), charged with “acts harmful to the Islamic Regime”; **UPDATE**: still in detention)

Mohammad-Reza Partoei (convert, arrested on [February 8, 2012](#), **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Mojtaba Hosseini (convert, arrested at a house church along with up to nine others on [February 8, 2012](#); **UPDATE**: still in detention)

Vahid Hakkani (convert, arrested during a home church meeting on [February 8, 2012](#), charged with “acts harmful to the Islamic Regime”; **UPDATE**: still in detention)



## **Nigeria: Wusasa area of Zaria city, Sabon Gari area of Zaria city, Trikania area of Kaduna city, all in Kaduna state**

Andrew Gani-Ikilami (executive director of the Wusasa Business School, stated on Sunday's church car bombings: "One of the churches is an ECWA church located here in Wusasa where we are, and many children are affected")

Bishop George Jonathan Dodo (described Sunday's car bomb attack: "I was preaching during the second morning Mass, when around 9, we heard a loud explosion. The car bomb created a crater 2 feet deep, all around there was broken glass, rubble and burning cars")

John Shiklam (journalist stated “All I can say is that it is true there were attacks on three churches in the state, and as a result, a fight broke out between Muslims and Christians”, 24 died and 125 wounded at the Evangelical Church Winning All, 16 killed at Christ the King Catholic Church, and at least 10 killed at Shalom Church)

Archbishop Matthew Man-oso Ndagoso (**UPDATE**: described the situation as "calm" after Sunday's car bomb attacks)

Dr Taylor Adeyemi (medical director at St Luke’s Anglican Hospital stated “40 injured Christians have been brought to the hospital, and the majority of them are children. Three have died, and others are still being treated.”)

**Monday June 18, 2012**



### **Pakistan: Lahore**

Fr James Channan, OP (**UPDATE:** stated that forced conversions and marriages are "contrary to human dignity, human rights, fundamental freedoms of every individual, inscribed by God in every human being...as Christians, we strongly support the project of a new law that would prevent such abuses, especially those that affect Hindu and Christian religious minorities")



### **Syria: Homs**

Fr Boutros Al Jamal (failed to negotiate the release of hundreds of civilian hostages)

Fr Boutros Al Zein (described the rebel kidnappings of hundreds of civilians: "among them there are about 400 Christian civilians, mostly elderly and women, victims of authentic kidnapping, blocked in the streets of Al Bustan Diwan and Hamidiyyeh. Civilians were collected and directed towards the border of these two streets, becoming human shields to prevent the attack of regular Syrian forces")

Fr Maximos Al Jamal (failed to negotiate the release of the hostages)



### **Jordan: Amman**

Fadi (aged 24, Iraqi refugee, will not return to Iraq after having been kidnapped and terrorized in 2009, is trying to emigrate to the U.S.)

Emanuel (aged 23, Iraqi refugee, will not return to Iraq, is trying to emigrate to the U.S.)

Lena (aged 34, Iraqi refugee, will not return to Iraq after just missing a 2010 terror attack on the Chaldean Catholic cathedral which killed her nephew, funds are running out, is trying to emigrate to the U.S.)



### **Palestine: Jerusalem**

Mosab Hassan Yousef (convert, is now making a movie on Muhammed and Islam)



**Sudan: Khartoum**

Mohammed Khidir Khalil (convert, wife forced to divorce him, has been prohibited from seeing his children)

**Sudan: Haj Yousif, Khartoum**

Rt Rev Ezekiel Kumir Kondo Kuku (church demolished by the government)

**Tuesday June 19, 2012**



**India: Jawanga village, Dakshin Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state**

Akhilesh Edgar (Evangelical Fellowship of India, described how 15 Christians were driven into a Hindu temple and forced to worship, then beaten and driven from the village)

Asaram Bech (personally aided 15 Christians after they were driven into a Hindu temple and forced to worship, then beaten and driven from their village)

Pastor John Nag (personally aided 15 Christians after they were driven into a Hindu temple and forced to worship, then beaten and driven from their village)



**Nigeria: Enugu**

Bishop Emmanuel Chukwuma (reported a rumor that Boko Haram is planning mass poisonings of Christians in the south of the country)



**Syria**

Patriarch Gregorios III Laham (**UPDATE:** inaugurated the Synod of the Greek Melkite Catholic Church in Beirut, Lebanon, stated "We urge all parties involved in the country and abroad, to participate in the construction of a new Syria, on the model of a plural democracy...violence has exceeded all limits [and] is destroying the nation")



**United States – Missouri: St. Louis**

Ali Bahkti (convert, former Islamic Revolutionary Guard, subject of a fatwa from Iran which calls for his death)

Pastor Mike Salazar (pastor for Ali Bahkti, subject of a fatwa from Iran which calls for his death)

**Wednesday June 20, 2012**



**Philippines: Balanga town, Bataan province**

Charito Zuniga (wife of Joe Frank Zuniga)

Harry Roque (lawyer for the family of Joe Frank Zuniga, stated “We are looking into the possible involvement of state agents because a lot of Church workers are either killed or kidnapped these days”)

Joe Frank Zuniga (lawyer and church leader, disappeared)



**India: Pati village, Bhalwani district, Madhya Pradesh state**

Arjun (arrested without charge after conducting a prayer meeting, released)

Rakesh (arrested without charge after attending a prayer meeting, released)

**India: Hubli village, Keshavapura district, Karnataka state**

Bhavani (arrested for distributing Christian literature at a bus station)

Pastor Manjunath (arrested for distributing Christian literature at a bus station)

Stella (arrested for distributing Christian literature at a bus station)



**Iran**

Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani (in prison under a death sentence for apostasy, **UPDATE:** his immediate and unconditional release is the subject of U.S. Senate Resolution 385 which has unanimously passed the Foreign Relations Committee)



**Syria: Homs**

Fr Abdallah Amaz (stated "The [new] truce gives us hope, we now appeal to all so that we can start the long-awaited release of civilians, including women, children under ten in need of care")



**Nigeria: Bauchi**

Rev Lawi P Pokti (**UPDATE:** reported rumors that Boko Haram is planning up to 300 suicide bombings of churches in the coming weeks: "We should pray and watch. We should also remember that Jesus said in the world there is tribulation but with Him there is peace")

**Thursday June 21, 2012**



**China: Hong Kong**

Patrick Poon (stated that the government's action plan on civil rights is a "vanity project" and "window dressing" done in response to foreign criticism and without any intention of implementing change)

**China: eastern**

Fr John Baptist (stated "China needs to be great in the sense that it allows its people to live with their rights protected.")

**China**

Jiezi (webmaster, stated "There may be twists and turns in the process, but I hope to see human rights properly implemented and protected one day")

**China: northern**

Fr Andrew (stated “The Catholic Church in China is still subject to political interference, particularly on the issue of bishop appointments. In this regard our faith is not respected, our conscience is persecuted and our freedom is abused. It seems this atheistic government is sparing no effort to change the nature of a religion”)



### **Saudi Arabia**

Helen Tamene Gebre (Ethiopian citizen, domestic worker, arrested with 28 other women and 6 men for attending a Christian service in a private home on [December 15, 2011](#),  
**UPDATE:** still detained without charge)

**Saturday June 23, 2012**



### **India: Vanagiri Menavar village, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu state**

Mahalingam (**died in hospital after being injured** in an anti-Christian riot)

Rajendran (son of Mahalingam, also hospitalized after being injured in an anti-Christian riot)



### **Pakistan: Mohabat Khan Bhurgari village, Tando Mohammad Khan district, Hyderabad division, Sindh province**

Mushtaq Masih (working to reverse the seizure and vandalism of a Christian graveyard)

Saleem Masih (working to reverse the seizure and vandalism of a Christian graveyard)



### **Turkmenistan: Bereket - formerly Gazanjyk**

Nazargeldy Chariyev (sentenced to a 2 year suspended sentence for refusing military service)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1733](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1733)



### **Azerbaijan: Khachmaz Region**

Nadezhda Ryzhkova (detained without charge for distributing Christian literature)

Stepanida Sheludyakova (detained without charge for distributing Christian literature)

Timofei Aparshev (detained without charge for distributing Christian literature)



### **Iraq: Kirkuk**

Saieb Danial Ishak (**killed**)

<http://indefenseofchristians.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Genocide-report.pdf>

**Sunday June 24, 2012**



### **Egypt: Luxor**

Bishop Youhannes Zakaria (welcomed the statements by Mohammed Morsi - the Muslim Brotherhood winner of the presidential runoff election - that he would work to represent all Egyptians and to restore the tourist industry and thus the major employment of his flock)

### **Egypt: Cairo**

Fr Greiche Rafiq (stated after the electoral victory of Mohammed Morsi: "The Muslim Brotherhood have a poor track record in the history of their relations with Christians. They have always been supporters of a policy that wants to implement Sharia law and Islamization of Egyptian society in dress, in the workplace and traditions of everyday life...From experience, we know what the policy of the Muslim Brotherhood is. Beautiful words are good, but we need facts.")

### **Egypt: Basra village, Alexandria**

Fr Severus (Divine Liturgy interrupted by a Muslim mob who demanded that the visiting Christians leave and not return, church threatened with destruction if they return, when called the police sided with the mob)

**Monday June 25, 2012**



**India: Mangalore**

Aloysius Paul Dsouza (expressed pain over vandalism of a church, apparently done to increase sectarian strife)



**Kyrgyzstan**

Aleksandr Shumilin (reports that his church is unable to get materials printed by local printers due to fears of government reprisals)



**Egypt: Shubra neighborhood, Cairo**

William (photocopy store manager, stated “There is a lot of fear among Copts,” he said. “We did not have our rights under Mubarak, so what about under the Brotherhood?”)

**Egypt: Cairo**

Salwa (said “My daughter is fearful and is considering emigration. She is pessimistic about the future. But I console her all the time.”)



**Nigeria: Rafin Pa, Zankwa**

Pastor Yunana Kinge (**killed**)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2015/10/nigerias-slain-indigenous-missionaries-leave-legacy-of-faith/>

**Tuesday June 26, 2012**





**China: Foshan, Guangdong province**

Wen Mu (Chinese Theological Association President, forced to close a teachers training camp after it was raided by local State Security)

Pastor Zhu Jiehua (forced to close a teachers training camp after it was raided by local State Security)



**Pakistan: Lahore, Punjab**

Rana Asif Mahmood (provincial parliament member, denied a cabinet position because he was born Christian but the national ID system had assigned him to Islam due to his name - the computer is not programmed to allow a change of religion from Islam to any other religion, his son cannot obtain an ID card which identifies him as a Christian because the computer is not programmed to allow a registered Muslim to have a Christian child)



**Belarus: Rogachev, Gormel region**

Kirill Dashkovsky (awaiting trial for attending an illegal worship service)

Nina Volchkova (charges dropped for hosting an illegal worship service in her home)

**Wednesday June 27, 2012**



**India: Rahika village, Sitapur district, Uttar Pradesh state**

Pastor Ramgopal (detained without charge during a church gathering, released only after signing a statement promising not to conduct any more prayer services in the area)

**India: Ahmedabad, Gujarat state**

Fr Cedric Prakash (criticized Purno Agitok Sangma, the Christian candidate for president who denied evidence of anti-Christian pogroms in Kandhamal)



### **Turkmenistan**

Matkarim Aminov (**UPDATE**: freed from prison)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1733](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1733)



### **Syria: Homs**

**Christian clergy have been working to aid Christian families trapped while the army is beginning true urban counter-guerilla warfare around them**

Fr Abdallah Amaz (**UPDATE**)

Fr Maximos Al Jamal (**UPDATE**)

Fr Michel Naaman (**UPDATE**)

**Thursday June 28, 2012**



### **China: Zhanggongqiao village, Qili-banshichu, Langzhong city, Sichuan province**

Chen Dawei (husband of Xie Deyue)

Xie Deyue (seven months pregnant, arrested without warrant on [May 29, 2012](#) for running a house church in her home, interrogated and released, rearrested the following day after church furnishing were seized, **UPDATE**: fined 200 yuan)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2012/08/sichuan-langzhong-church-leader.html>



### **India: Deuphani village, Assam state**

Mala Rabha (wife of Manesor Rabha, dragged from her home at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when she refused, later hospitalized in serious condition; **UPDATE**: has been released from the hospital, has no home left to return to)

Manesor Rabha (dragged from his home at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused; **UPDATE**: has been released from the hospital, has no home left to return to)

Michael Rabha (dragged from his home at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, later hospitalized in serious condition; **UPDATE**: has been released from the hospital, has no home left to return to)

Prashanto Rabha (dragged from his home at midnight on [June 8, 2012](#), threatened to renounce Christianity, beaten when he refused, later hospitalized in serious condition; **UPDATE**: has been released from the hospital, has no home left to return to)



### **Turkmenistan**

Dovran Matyakubov (**UPDATE**: freed from prison)

[http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article\\_id=1733](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1733)

**Friday June 29, 2012**



### **Pakistan: Nankana City**

Tania Rubeeca (aged 22, abducted and forced to convert to Islam and to marry a Muslim, "sold" to another couple, freed after her family paid over 90,000 rupees, was unable initially to talk but later described repeated beatings and rapes, police have taken little action)

**Sunday June 30, 2012**



### **Lebanon**

Dr Habib Malik (American University in Beirut, commented in [Washington, DC](#) on the 'Arab Spring': "This charade of arch-repressors like Saudi Arabia and Qatar leading a crusade versus regional dictators, with American and Western backing, has to end.")



### **Nigeria**

Pastor Abraham Ekeneh (commented on Boko Haram's declaration of war against Christians: "I always sense the fear in the atmosphere during Sunday services but we still don't relent. We cannot stop attending Sunday services because if we do, it means we have helped them to achieve their objective.")

**June 2012, date unknown**



### **Vietnam: Kontum**

Bishop Michael Hoang Duc Oanh (protested plans to tear down the diocesan Compassion Center which was 'borrowed' by the government in 1978)



### **China: Beijing**

Liu Fenggang (under house arrest for travelling to the China-Burma border and aiding some of the tens of thousands of Kachin Christians who have fled from the civil war into China)



### **Kazakhstan: Taraz**

Pastor Yerzhan Ushanov (conviction on a charge of "severe damage to health due to negligence" overturned by the Supreme Court - charge was incurred when he prayed for the healing of a sick man)



**Cuba: Havana**

Francisco Rodriguez (has received threats of physical violence from the authorities for his church's outreach to the homeless and juvenile delinquents)

**Cuba**

Caridad Caballero Batista (prevented from attending church since [March 4, 2012](#))

Esteban Sade Suarez (husband of Caridad Caballero Batista, prevented from attending church since [March 4, 2012](#))

Pastor Omar Gude Perez (has been refused a permit to leave the country despite being offered asylum in the USA)