

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – July 2014

**Tuesday July 1, 2014**



### **Uzbekistan: Syrdarya region**

**Christians caught in a police raid on a Palm Sunday dinner in a private home fined,  
UPDATE: fine upheld on appeal**

Aleksandr Kolomeytsev (fined US\$840)

Andrey Shevchenko (fined US\$2,100)

Konstantin Malchikovski (fined US\$2,100)

Nadezhda Matrosova (fined US\$400)

Oleg Buzakov (fined US\$840)

Sergei Kozin (fined US\$2,100)

Sergei Yermakov (fined US\$2,100)

Stanislav Shegai (fined US\$840)

Viktor Krylov (fined US\$840)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1980](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1980)



### **Iraq: Alqosh**

Radi Yusef (husband of Hana, father, fled from the ISIL militants)

Hana (wife of Radi Yusef, mother, fled from the ISIL militants)

### **Iraq: Bagdad**

Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako (**UPDATE:** appealed for the release of the abducted nuns and orphans in Mosul)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140701160530.htm>

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36003->

[ASIA IRAQ Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako s appeal for the release of the abducted nuns and orphans#.U7N42cLQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36003-)



### **Israel: Jerusalem**

Fr David Neuhaus SJ (condemned the murder of three rabbinical students)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36004->

[ASIA HOLY LAND Father David Neuhaus SJ sorrow and grief over the killing of the three teens it is necessary to put an end to the cycle of violence#.U7TXf8LQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36004-)



### **Central African Republic: Bambari**

Bishop Edouard Mathos (**UPDATE**: called for humanitarian aid for the 12,000 people who have taken refuge in the cathedral from Seleka fighters)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36002->

[AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICA Twelve thousand refugees in the Cathedral of Bambari the Bishop s appeal to Fides#.U7N7mMLQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36002-)



### **United Kingdom: East London**

Victoria Wastenev (occupational therapist, disciplined for praying for the health of a Muslim co-worker despite the co-worker agreeing to her prayer and despite a witness testifying he was pressured into making a statement against her, said "I fear I may have been entrapped by a colleague who encouraged me to discuss my faith, who willingly agreed that I could pray for her and who even accepted an invitation to a church charity event...There is undoubtedly a pattern of inequality of treatment of Christians and Muslims in the NHS. Regardless of allocated break times, Muslim staff can pray five times a day, which I am not objecting to, but Christians are often denied time off on Sundays or permission to take breaks during their lunchtime for prayer or religious worship")

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/christian-nhs-manager-suspended-for-praying-with-muslim-colleague>

Wednesday July 2, 2014



### **China: Hong Kong**

Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-Kium SBD (**UPDATE**: said that the government is unlikely to heed the call of 800,000 people who voted in the nonbinding pro-democracy referendum)

Rev Chu Yiu-ming (pro-democracy referendum leader)

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/cardinal-zen-doubts-hong-kong-cry-for-full-democracy-will-be-heeded-25387>



### **India: West Bengal state**

Auxiliary Bishop Savio Fernandes (called a state parliament member a "thug" after he threatened to send his agents to kill his political opponents and rape their wives)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Catholic-Bishop:-A-politician-who-incites-rape-is-a-thug-that-discredits-India-31513.html>



### **Turkmenistan: Seydi**

Bahram Shamuradov (aged 42 in 2014, arrested, refused to renounce his faith under police pressure, **UPDATE**: sentenced to four years' imprisonment on a fabricated charge of distributing pornography, transferred to a desert labor camp, beaten in prison)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1981](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1981)



### **Iraq**

Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako (**UPDATE**: wrote an essay on "the situation in Iraq...Are we heading towards a civil war? God forbid, but everything seems to be pointing in that

direction...We take this opportunity to renew our heartfelt thanks to all the people of good will, who are working on our behalf, and to all the faithful who are praying for us and who are close to us at this particularly difficult time")

### **Iraq: Sameraa**

Walid Khalid Yono (**killed**)

<http://indefenseofchristians.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Genocide-report.pdf>  
<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/For-Chaldean-Patriarch,-Iraq-is-moving-towards-civil-war-while-politicians-are-only-interested-in-oil-31511.html>



### **Israel: Jerusalem**

Patriarch Fouad Twal (**UPDATE**: condemned the murder of a 16-year old Palestinian boy in apparent retaliation for the murder of the three rabbinical students, said "...innocent people who are killed, all the children killed, are victims sacrificed on the diabolical altars of hatred. We pray for the parents and families of all these young people kidnapped and killed")

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/36010-ASIA\\_HOLY\\_LAND\\_A\\_young\\_Palestinian\\_kidnapped\\_and\\_killed\\_Patriarch\\_Twal\\_Stop\\_human\\_sacrifice#.U7TYUcLQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36010-ASIA_HOLY_LAND_A_young_Palestinian_kidnapped_and_killed_Patriarch_Twal_Stop_human_sacrifice#.U7TYUcLQcfg)



### **Sudan: Khartoum**

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (aged 27, wife of Daniel Wani, mother of Martin and Maya Wani, **UPDATE**: gave an interview from the U.S. Embassy which included a description of the birth of her daughter Maya and their re-arrest at the airport "I was only thinking about my children and how I was going to give birth. I was mostly scared of giving birth in prison...I gave birth chained. Not cuffs but chains on my legs. I couldn't open my legs so the women had to lift me off the table. I wasn't attached to the table" added that Maya may have been injured during birth "I don't know in the future whether she'll need support to walk or not", also is now the object of a lawsuit by her supposed Muslim relatives who are seeking to block her from leaving the country)

Maya Wani (**UPDATE**: injured while being born in prison)

### **Sudan: Karkaria Kain village, outside Al Atmor, South Kordofan state**

Rev Yousif Ismail (nearly killed in an air force bombing)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/A-new-problem-every-day-for-Mariam-Ibrahim-31514.html>  
<http://af.reuters.com/article/sudanNews/idAFL6N0PD4B320140702>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/soldier-shoots-civilian-christian-in-sudan-following-bombing-of-church-building/>



**Egypt: Toho village**

Kyrillos (son of Adel Abdel-Malak, abducted January 2014, **UPDATE**: ransom paid, not returned)

Adel Abdel-Malak (father of 'young' Kyrillos, paid a US\$17,000 ransom, son not returned)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55337#.U7TgqMLQcfg>



**United Kingdom: Edinburgh**

Colin Hart (The Christian Institute, is fighting the new Scottish law that appoints a Named Person to supervise and secretly meet with every child "The same state bodies will be involved in looking at all these families where there's no issue at all. So instead of finding that needle in the haystack [of cases where outside intervention is genuinely required] they're actually making the haystack much bigger. And that's going to make it much more difficult to find the vulnerable children")

Aidan Quinn (attorney for The Christian Institute, wrote "It would appear that the role which the Scottish Government envisages for the Named Person is one which might be thought to cut across and directly impact upon the rights and responsibilities of parents in relation to their own children, which are fundamental rights recognized within the legal order, notably under and in terms of Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights")

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/christian-charity-battles-scottish-law-assigning-a-state-official-to-every>



**Argentina: La Plata**

Archbishop Hector Aguer (condemned a video advertisement for a gay bar that was surreptitiously recorded inside the cathedral and which mocked the sacraments)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/gay-bar-films-ad-in-argentinean-cathedral-archbishop-calls-it-an-abominatio>



### **Cuba: Santiago de Cuba**

Pastor Esmir Torreblanca (married, father of two aged 2 and 7, home demolished by the government, now homeless)

Pastor Marcos A Perdomo Silva (described the attack on the home of Pastor Esmir Torreblanca)

<http://dynamic.csw.org.uk/article.asp?t=press&id=1737&search=>



### **United States – Oklahoma: Oklahoma City**

Archbishop Paul Coakley (criticized the city for allowing a Black Mass at the Civic Center)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/archbishop-coakley-asks-okla-civic-center-to-reconsider-black-mass-51554/>

**Thursday July 3, 2014**



### **Laos: Saisomboon village, Savannakhet province**

Varn (friend of Mrs Chen, under pressure to renounce the faith by authorities who threaten to seize her land and expel her from the village)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36015->

[ASIA LAOS Pressures on behalf of the authorities over a Christian woman to abjure faith#.U7YyX8LQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36015-ASIA_LAOS_Pressures_on_behalf_of_the_authorities_over_a_Christian_woman_to_abjure_faith#.U7YyX8LQcfg)



### **Pakistan: Lahore**

Asia Noreen Bibi (mother of five incarcerated on blasphemy charges since [November 2010](#) after receiving the death sentence; **UPDATE**: Muslim human rights activist Akeel Ali Mehdi said "We strongly condemn the attitude of the judiciary. Bibi has suffered enough, as has

her family. It is time for justice to be done, and she should receive the necessary care. The courts must immediately address her case")

Fr Ilyas John (confirmed that Asia Noreen Bibi's physical and psychological health is declining)

### **Pakistan: Essa Nagri colony [ghetto]. Karachi**

Peter Noman (human rights activist, denounced the absence of the police while terrorists have begun to move into the Christian ghetto)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/As-Asia-Bibi's-health-worsens,-Christian-and-Muslim-activists-call-for-her-release-31525.html>

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/36013-ASIA\\_PAKISTAN\\_Terrorist\\_groups\\_settle\\_in\\_the\\_Christian\\_area\\_of\\_Essa\\_Nagri\\_in\\_Karachi#.U7YxIMLQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36013-ASIA_PAKISTAN_Terrorist_groups_settle_in_the_Christian_area_of_Essa_Nagri_in_Karachi#.U7YxIMLQcfg)



### **Uzbekistan; Tashkent**

Igor Kuliada (arrested while putting up posters with Bible verses, **UPDATE:** sentenced to three days' imprisonment and fined US\$19)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1980](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1980)



### **Turkmenistan: Dashoguz**

Mansur Masharipov (aged 32, **UPDATE:** arrested in his home, beaten in and on the way to prison, threatened with prison gang rape, forced to sign a document in Turkmen [which he does not know], transferred to a drug rehabilitation center where he was injected with an unknown substance that caused headaches, fever, vomiting, and partial paralysis)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1981](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1981)



### **Azerbaijan**

Pastor Ilya Zenchenko (**UPDATE:** announced that the government had approved the new Azeri translation of the New Testament, is resisting government pressure to limit the printing to 1,000 copies)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1984](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1984)



### **Iraq: Mosul**

Archbishop Amel Shamon Nona (**UPDATE:** reported that the air force has begun bombing ISIL targets in the city, which is causing thousands more to flee, also reported that there is no news regarding the missing nuns and orphans)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/36016-ASIA\\_IRAQ\\_Bombings\\_and\\_raids\\_against\\_churches\\_in\\_Mosul\\_for\\_the\\_release\\_of\\_the\\_nuns\\_and\\_orphans#.U7YwHMLQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36016-ASIA_IRAQ_Bombings_and_raids_against_churches_in_Mosul_for_the_release_of_the_nuns_and_orphans#.U7YwHMLQcfg)



### **Egypt: Minya**

Bishop Makarios (**UPDATE:** stated “The marches the Muslim Brotherhood organized few days ago and yesterday threatened to target a number of churches on the 1st anniversary of Morsi’s ouster. Moreover, they wrote sentences on walls inciting against Christians”)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55361#.U7Y5M8LQcfg>



### **Ukraine: Donetsk**

Fr Tikhon aka Sergey Kulbaka (abducted by DPR militants after fascist symbols were painted on his automobile)

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>



### **Nigeria: Mbalala**

James Yama (father of Jinkai, said "As far as we are concerned, not an inch of progress has been achieved since the day our daughters were taken away...we haven't seen anything tangible because no girl has been rescued, those who reunited with their families fled on their own. Personally, the abduction of my daughter and the events that followed demoralized my family. We no longer sleep in our houses, we no longer go to farms. My wife is now battling with blood pressure and we have to take her to hospital every week for medical attention. Even the clamor in the media has faded and we are left on our own. These days,



you hardly hear anything 'Chibok' which signifies that our predicament has been overtaken by events")

Jinkai (aged 19, schoolgirl, daughter of James Yama, abducted by Boko Haram on April 14, 2014)

Shettima Haruna (father of Margaret Shettima, said "It is like there is deception in the so-called rescue effort because no girl has been brought back, we feel something is significantly wrong somewhere")

Margaret Shettima (aged 18, schoolgirl, daughter of Shettima Haruna, abducted by Boko Haram on April 14, 2014)

Markus John (vigilante, said that if nothing is done soon the schoolgirls will never be recovered)

Mr Mutai Hona (two daughters abducted, **died** shortly after watching the Boko Haram video of the schoolgirls)

Habu Balla (said "There are Muslims and Christians in Chibok and all the affected villages and therefore, the challenges confronting us should be seen beyond religious, tribal or ethnic lines. We are now living in fear...because there is no security presence and as you are aware, most of the villages around have been attacked and destroyed by insurgents")

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201407030967.html?viewall=1>



### **Algeria**

Cala (aged 26, convert, forced to observe the Ramadan fast by her father)

Sirah (convert, said "My family puts tremendous pressure on me during Ramadan. They always insist that I have to fast, although they know that I converted to Christ. It is as if they refuse to admit that I became a Christian")

[https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article\\_3208248.html/](https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article_3208248.html/)



### **United States - California**

Yesenia Ruiz-Rojo (aged 21, discovered to have terminal cancer 15 weeks into her pregnancy, refused all treatments that would harm her child, gave birth to a healthy boy at 32 weeks, now in hospice)

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=122608>

Friday July 4, 2014



**China: Nanle county, Henan province**

Pastor Zhang Shaojie (husband of Wang Fengrui, met with police on November 16, 2013 at his registered church; charged with "fraud" and "disturbing public order" due to his continuing conflict against government expropriation of church property; **UPDATE:** convicted, sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment and fined US\$16,113)

**China: Hankou Prison, Hubei**

Gong Shengliang (aged 62 in 2014, father of Gong Huali, serving a sentence of life imprisonment since 2001 for "assault"; has suffered a stroke in prison on December 2, 2012; **UPDATE:** health is "rapidly deteriorating")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Protestant-pastor-gets-12-years-for-opposing-the-seizure-of-church-land-31540.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/court-sentences-three-self-pastor-to-12.html>

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/33219-breaking-news-china-pastor-gongs-health-deteriorating-in-prison-bosnewslife-in-depth>



**Egypt: Deir Barsha, Minya province**

George William (stated that the water company cut off the water supply to Christian villages for 15 hours to ensure delivery to Muslim villages)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55388#.U7ihRMLQcfg>



**Ireland: Dublin**

Niamh Uí Bhriain (Life Institute, commented on the government's upcoming abortion regulations "We heard endless calls for clarity last year in regard to abortion and medical treatments when the abortion bill was being pushed through the Dail and Seanad. Yet any debate on the reality of what this abortion act would bring about was always shouted down by the government and their allies in the media. Where is the clarity in these guidelines in relation to protecting mothers and babies? The reality is that this legislation allows for abortion until birth, yet when the question of late term abortion was raised in the Dail during the debate last year, this reality was ignored")

Claire Moore (Youth Defence, said that Prime Minister Enda Kenny had bullied and persuaded politicians to support the Abortion Act by insisting it was restrictive and would not result in abortions taking place, but the guidelines prove otherwise "The guidelines are a long time being published, because the government understands this is a contentious issue, and are afraid to spell out the reality of what their act entails - including the particularly dreadful horror of late-term abortion")

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/new-irish-guidelines-allow-abortion-up-to-birth-pro-life-group>



**United States – Texas: Deerfield Village, Harris County**

Pastor Donald Frazier (aged 69, **shot dead** by a burglar despite pleading for his life)

Jason Frazier (son of Pastor Donald Frazier)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/pastor-shot-in-head-with-own-gun-by-intruder-as-he-begged-for-his-life-in-tragic-fourth-of-july-attack-122858/>

**Saturday July 5, 2014**



**China: Nanle county, Henan province**

Zhao Guoli (**UPDATE**: released from jail)

Wu Guishan (**UPDATE**: released from jail)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/nanle-county-authorities-release-2-from.html>



**Myanmar**

Pastor Muan (recounted continuing persecution of the heavily Christian Chin tribe)

<http://crossmap.christianpost.com/news/widowed-christian-women-face-discrimination-in-egypt-christian-chin-tribe-faces-continuing-persecution-in-myanmar-11210>



### **Turkmenistan: Dashoguz**

Vepa Tuvakov (aged 30, husband of Bibi Rahmnova, arrested along with his wife and 4 year of son after receiving religious literature via train, threatened with death, beaten at the train station and in prison)

Bibi Rahmnova (aged 36, wife of Vepa Tuvakov, arrested along with her husband and 4 year of son after receiving religious literature via train, threatened with death, beaten at the train station and in prison)

Mansur Masharipov (aged 32, arrested in his home, beaten in and on the way to prison, threatened with prison gang rape, forced to sign a document in Turkmen [which he does not know], transferred to a drug rehabilitation center where he was injected with an unknown substance that caused headaches, fever, vomiting, and partial paralysis, **UPDATE:** fled from the rehab center, in hiding)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1981](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1981)



### **Iran: Shiraz, Anzali**

Seyed Alireza Ali Haghnejad, aka Matthias (**UPDATE:** arrested on a charge of 'enmity against God')

Soroush Rezayi (recent convert, arrested)

<https://hra-news.org/en/three-christians-arrested-anzali-north-iran>

<http://www.charismanews.com/world/44939-iranian-pastor-charged-with-war-against-god>



### **Lebanon: Beirut**

Emile Lahoud (former member of parliament, expressed 'regret' over the Free Sunnis Brigade's stated intent to "cleanse the Islamic Emirate of Bekaa in particular and Lebanon in general of churches")

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55401#.U7iftsLQcfg>



**Egypt: Qlusna village, Samalout, Minya**

Mariam Younan (aged 33, shot in the leg during an altercation between two families, hospitalized in critical condition)

**Egypt: Kalabsha village, Kom Ombo, Aswan**

Remon Makram (beaten and robbed, police refuse to act)

**Egypt**

Mamdouh (convert, husband of Madiha, father of three, **died of natural causes**)

Madiha (convert, widow of Mamdouh, mother of three, thrown out of the extended family after her conversion, now homeless)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55404#.U7ieL8LQcfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55402#.U7ievsLQcfg>

<http://crossmap.christianpost.com/news/widowed-christian-women-face-discrimination-in-egypt-christian-chin-tribe-faces-continuing-persecution-in-myanmar-11210>



**United Kingdom: Liverpool**

Alex Peverely (street preacher, hate crime charges resulting from his defense of traditional marriage dropped by prosecutors)

<http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/freedom-of-speech/victory-as-cps-drops-case-against-street-preacher>

**Sunday July 6, 2014**



**China: Kuerle, Bayin'gholin Mongol Autonomous Prefecture**

**Six pastors detained for organizing a summer camp for elementary school students**

Dai Jin

Deng Wenjun

Shi Chuanxin

Peng Jun

Tian Yang

Wang Ruyu

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/xinjiaang-sees-multiple-persecution.html>



**Bangladesh: Boldipukur, Rangpur district**

Bishop Sebastian Tudu (**UPDATE**: condemned an attack on a church by 50 robbers who rounded up clergy and religious and seized US\$13,000 worth of property, said "It is a typical attack against us. Muslims are trying to put pressure on Christians because we are a minority. We want security from local authorities. We want peace and justice")

Fr Livio Priest PIME (visited the robbed church with Bishop Sebastian Tudu)

Fr Jerome Rozario TOR (visited the robbed church with Bishop Sebastian Tudu)

Rosaline Costa (human rights activist, reported on the recent church robbery by over 50 Muslims, said the attackers were looking for land deeds but failed to find them, 3 nuns were the victims of attempted rape, 12 perpetrators have been arrested)

Fr Anthony Sen (gave additional details on the attack on a church and convent in his diocese)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Fifty-people-hold-up-Catholic-church-in-Boldipukur-31566.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/12-Muslims-arrested-from-group-that-attacked-the-church-of-Boldipukur-31596.html>

[http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/08/article\\_3276328.html/](http://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/08/article_3276328.html/)



**India: Belar village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh state**

Arun Pannalal (president of Chhattisgarh Christian Forum, described a village assembly which has banned all non-Hindu religious activity, said "The situation is becoming worse. The anti-Christian propaganda is becoming stronger")

[https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article\\_3222907.html/](https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article_3222907.html/)



**Kenya: Hindi, Lamu county**

**Gunmen kill at least 13 Christians in two villages, including some after they refused to convert to Islam**

Ken Mangara (aged 12, student, **killed**)

Kenya Kazungu (aged 30-plus, **killed**, found with a Bible on his back)

Steve Gichohi (**killed** when his home was set on fire)

Simon (husband, father of Annah and Karuiki, **killed** by Somali terrorists)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/christians-killed-in-attacks-in-coastal-region-of-kenya/>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2015/03/two-christians-attacked-church-building-burned-in-coastal-kenya/>



### **Egypt: Luxor**

Thabit Fathi (policeman, falsely accused of arson in the burning of his own home)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55416#.U7tXgcLQcfg>

**Monday July 7, 2014**



### **China: Beijing**

Pastor Lou Yuanqi (**UPDATE**: detained at an airport at the request of his provincial police)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/xinjiang-sees-multiple-persecution.html>



### **Pakistan: Peshawar**

Hayat Bhatti (expressed concern over a government advertisement to fill the vacant presidency of the church-owned Edwards College, called it unconstitutional)

### **Pakistan: North Waziristan**

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (**UPDATE**: expressed surprise over the government refusal to aid Christians and Hindus displaced by the military offensive against the Tehreek Talban Pakistan [TTP] since most are employees of the military)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/christians-protest-over-re-appointment-of-principal-at-edwards-college-peshawar/>

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenews.php?hnewsid=4915>



### **Turkmenistan: Dashoguz**

Vepa Tuvakov (aged 30, husband of Bibi Rahmnova, arrested along with his wife and 4 year of son after receiving religious literature via train, threatened with death, beaten at the train station and in prison, **UPDATE**: released)

Bibi Rahmnova (aged 36, wife of Vepa Tuvakov, arrested along with her husband and 4 year of son after receiving religious literature via train, threatened with death, beaten at the train station and in prison, **UPDATE**: released)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1981](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1981)



### **Kenya: near Hindi**

**Two killed when suspected Islamists set fire to the church in which they were hiding**

Joseph Kangethe (**killed**)

Kenda Masha (**killed**)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/christians-killed-in-attacks-in-coastal-region-of-kenya/>



### **Central African Republic: Bambari**

Fr Jesus Martial Dembele (spoke on the Seleka rebel attack on the refugees living at the cathedral "We don't have the exact death toll yet, but many people have been killed. As I'm speaking to you, they are still there")

Fr Firmin Gbagoua (said that the Seleka rebels attacked the refugees at the cathedral out of the belief that anti-balaka militia members were among them)

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-centralafrica-attacks-20140707,0,2758353.story>



### **Poland: Warsaw**



Dr Bogdan Chazan (under government investigation as of June 10, 2014 for refusing to perform an abortion; **UPDATE**: fined US\$23,000, fine under appeal, given his well-known pro-life activities the case appears to be a sting operation designed to overturn existing abortion restrictions)

Ireneusz Wołoszczuk (attorney and professor, stated that Dr Bogdan Chazan had broken no laws, said the legal attack and fine against him were "scandalous")

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/polish-conscience-tested-the-case-of-professor-chazan>



### **Nigeria: Maiduguri, Borno state**

Bishop Oliver Dashe Doeme (**UPDATE**: has established an assistance program for more than two thousand women who have been widowed by Boko Haram)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36043->

[AFRICA NIGERIA More than two thousand women widowed largely by the Boko Haram insurgency assisted by the Diocese of Maiduguri#.U7tMIMLQcfg](#)



### **United States – Louisiana: East Feliciana**

Fr Jeff Bayhi (ordered by the state supreme court to divulge the contents of a confession, his diocese has condemned the ruling and stated that it will not comply)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/us-court-orders-priest-to-reveal-confessional-details/71361>

**Tuesday July 8, 2014**



### **Pakistan: Peshawar**

Michelle Chaudhry (President of the Cecil & Irish Chaudhry Foundation, reported that many Christians injured in the double suicide bombing of All Saints Church on [September 22, 2013](#) are still suffering and in need of physical and mental health services)

<http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/many-wounded-in-the-peshawar-church-blast-still-in-need-of-funds/>



### **Kazakhstan: Petropavl**

Ramil Nizamov (aged 22, caught in a police raid on a Sunday worship service, fined US\$500,  
**UPDATE:** sentenced to 5 days' imprisonment for refusing to pay the fine)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1979](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1979)



### **Madagascar: Morarano**

Fr Ferdinand (abducted by bandits who killed three in his village)

Fr Romuald Romyzafy (condemned the abduction of Fr Ferdinand and others)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36068->

[AFRICA MADAGASCAR Catholic priest taken hostage by bandits has been released#.U79S58LQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36068-)



### **Egypt: Wadi Natrun, Beheira**

Nabil Ghattas (farmland seized in April 2014, as of July 8, 2014 has been unable to secure its return)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55450#.U7y23cLQcfg>



### **Ukraine: Donetsk**

Fr Yury Ivanov (abducted)

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>



### **Russia: Moscow**

Archpriest Vladimir Vorobiev (rector of St Tikhon Orthodox University of Humanities, reported that 35,000 New Martyrs from the Soviet era has been entered into the university's database, added that more than 200,000 Christians were martyred in the 1937-39 timeframe alone, with half being executed)

<http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/72154.htm>



### **Argentina: La Rioja**

Bishop Enrique A Angelelli Carletti (**killed** in a suspicious automobile accident on August 4, 1976; **UPDATE**: two former military officers were convicted and sentenced for his murder)

Bishop Marcelo Colombo (present in court for the sentencing of the killers of Bishop Enrique A Angelelli Carletti)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/36045-AMERICA\\_ARGENTINA\\_After\\_38\\_years\\_the\\_killers\\_of\\_the\\_Bishop\\_who\\_fought\\_for\\_hope\\_and\\_dignity\\_have\\_been\\_condemned#.U7yslsLQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36045-AMERICA_ARGENTINA_After_38_years_the_killers_of_the_Bishop_who_fought_for_hope_and_dignity_have_been_condemned#.U7yslsLQcfg)

**Wednesday July 9, 2014**



### **Iran**

Pastor Saeed Abedini (aged 32 in 2013, convert, US citizen, father of 2, arrested during a family visit, convicted on January 27, 2013 of undermining the government by spreading Christianity and sentenced to eight years in prison; **UPDATE**: has been the object of a publicity campaign for his release by the Brazilian Center for Law & Justice at the FIFA World Cup games in [Brasília, Brazil](#))

<http://www.charismanews.com/opinion/44595-save-saeed-movement-impacts-world-cup>



### **Kazakhstan: Astana**

Pastor Emeritus Bakhytzhan Kashkumbayev (aged 66 in 2013, convert from Islam, convicted on February 17, 2014 of harming the health of a church member, sentenced to four years imprisonment, sentence suspended, ordered to pay US\$ 10,800 to the alleged victim who continues to deny that she was harmed, will appeal the sentence; appeal denied, **UPDATE:** case of harming the health of a second church member still under investigation)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1976](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1976)



### **Iraq: Mosul**

Archbishop Amel Shamon Nona (**UPDATE:** described how the church has dug 8 wells to supply water after the ISIL insurgents turned off the local water supply, said there was still no news about the missing nuns and orphans)

Ronnie Hanna (waterpipe merchant, shop confiscated by ISIL insurgents)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mosul-Archbishop:-IDPs-without-water-and-electricity,-faithful-dig-wells-for-Christians-and-Muslims-31579.html>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55487#.U79YssLQcfg>



### **Ukraine: Donetsk**

Mikhail Cherenkov (former rector of Donetsk Christian University, reported on the seizure of the university by DPR militants)

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>



### **Nigeria: Abuja**

Hamatu Juwanda (aged 50, forced to renounce Christianity, husband killed, fled to Cameroon then the capital)

Clement Nwankwo (Policy and Legal Advocacy Center, said “The army is unable to fight the war. The police are unable to maintain security. To me there are only two responses. Military force: Subdue them. And good governance. You’ve got to deliver development. You’ve got to end corruption. That’s what brings it to an end”)

<http://thenationonline.net/new/women-kids-in-boko-haram-caves/>



### **United States – Ohio: Cleveland**

Ian (verbally and physically attacked by a pro-abortion sympathizer who was later issued a summons by police)

Seth Drayer (videotaped the attack on Ian by a pro-abortion sympathizer, also threatened)

### **United States – Florida: Tampa**

Sara Hellwege (midwife, denied employment due to her pro-life views)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/no-uterus-no-right-to-talk-about-it-abortion-supporter-in-burger-king-shirt-violently-abuses-pro-life-intern-in-video-123179/>

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/tampa-medical-center-rejected-job-applicant-because-she-is-pro-life-lawsuit>

**Thursday July 10, 2014**



### **Australia**

Major Bernard Gaynor (aged 35, married, father of 6, fired from the army reserve after filing a complaint that military policy prohibiting involvement in political and anti-religious events was violated when the army allowed personnel to participate in the 2013 Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras - and after the army's Quick Assessment agreed with many of his charges, is also being sued by a homosexual activist for US\$93,100 for 'vilification' for objecting to Toronto gay men exposing themselves to children and for criticizing an Australian judge who favors the legalization of incest)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/australian-soldier-father-of-6-fired-after-criticizing-army-for-joining-gay>

<http://bernardgaynor.com.au/>



### **Madagascar: Morarano**

Fr Ferdinand (abducted by bandits who killed three in his village, **UPDATE**: released along with three other abductees)

Fr. Luca Treglia (confirmed the release of Fr Ferdinand)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/36068-AFRICA\\_MADAGASCAR\\_Catholic\\_priest\\_taken\\_hostage\\_by\\_bandits\\_has\\_been\\_released#.U79S58LQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36068-AFRICA_MADAGASCAR_Catholic_priest_taken_hostage_by_bandits_has_been_released#.U79S58LQcfg)



### **Sudan: Khartoum**

**New medical examinations indicate permanent damage to Maya Wani's legs is unlikely, damage had been feared due to her mother being shackled in prison while giving birth**

Maya Wani (newborn)

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (aged 27, wife of Daniel Wani, mother of Martin and Maya Wani)

<http://www.assistnews.net/Stories/2014/s14070043.htm>



### **Egypt: Wadi Natrun, Beheira**

Eman Fayek Atallah (land seized in April or May 2014, has been unable to secure its return, police refuse to act)

### **Egypt: Al Sharqiya**

Magid Zahi (aged 37, brother of Hani Nabil Zahi, abducted, no ransom demanded)

Hani Nabil Zahi (brother of Magid Zahi)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55483#.U79X6sLQcfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55563#.U8XsmMLQcfg>



### **Poland: Warsaw**

Dr Bogdan Chazan (fined US\$23,000 for refusing to perform an abortion; **UPDATE**: dismissed from Holy Family hospital, said “This decision today is the beginning of the attack on the conscience of doctors and persons holding managerial positions in health care, breaking

the consciences of those who follow the rules of natural law, and above all do not agree with killing a man”)

Archbishop Henryk Hoser (supported Dr Bogdan Chazan, called the actions against him “ethically unacceptable, unjustified, out of proportion, unjust, absurd and legally doubtful”)

Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz (called the firing of Dr Bogdan Chazan “a dangerous precedent, violating the rights of all people, not just Catholics”)

<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/leading-polish-pro-life-ob-gyn-sacked-fined-for-refusing-abortion-says-it-w>

**Friday July 11, 2014**



### **India: New Delhi**

Dr John Dayal (member of the National Integration Council; **UPDATE:** wrote "A recent report from India's Intelligence Bureau demonizing non-government organizations [NGOs] and several activists including a Catholic priest - the late Father Thomas Kocherry - was a precursor of more direct action to come. All were accused of working against Indian national interests...[Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas] Modi's government carries a deadly political baggage that seeks to [divide people along the lines of religion or egg them on into violence], polarize communities, pitting the majority faith against religions that it brands as alien...This can be seen in a move in June by several village councils in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region to ban entry of Christian workers, and prevent Christian worship, in their areas. It was prompted by the hardline Hindu groups such as the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Akhil Bharatiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram. The village council diktat is that only Hindu religious workers will be allowed into village areas in the tribal belt. This is of course entirely illegal, and violates the constitutional provisions of freedom of expression and movement. The coercive methodology of branding every tribal as a Hindu, and make him or her oppose Christians, injures the secular nature of society and the peace that has existed there for such a long time")

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/silencing-dissent-and-sowing-hate-in-india/71391>



### **Pakistan: Rawalpindi**

Zafar Bhatti (aged 42 in 2012, unemployed due to health reasons, illiterate, arrested on blasphemy charges on [July 23, 2012](#) for allegedly sending 3 blasphemous text messages to extremist Islamic cleric Molvi Abrar Ahmed; **UPDATE**: hearing set for July 12, 2014)

<http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/headlinenewsd.php?hnewsid=4919>



#### **Uzbekistan: Kashi**

Gulzhahon Kuzebayeva (home entered and searched by police without warrant, friends under constant questioning by police)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1980](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1980)



#### **Kazakhstan: Semey**

Anatoly Stakhnev (case opened by prosecutors on January 16 or 17, 2014, fined 50 MFIs; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment for refusing to pay his fine)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2004](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2004)



#### **Iraq: Zayona, Bagdad**

Nourmeen Basil Mikhael (**killed**)

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

**Saturday July 12, 2014**



#### **China**

Gao Zhisheng (aged 50, **UPDATE**: still in prison, family is uncertain that he will be released at the end of his sentence)



<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/rfa-will-gao-zhisheng-be-truly-free.html>



**Sudan: Losher, west of Al Atmor, South Kordofan state**

Akhnouk Jamal (aged 27, farmer, shot in the back and stomach by a government soldier while picking fruit, hospitalized, recovering)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/soldier-shoots-civilian-christian-in-sudan-following-bombing-of-church-building/>



**Egypt: Wadi Natrun, Beheira**

Archbishop Yohanna Al Maqari (called on the president to intervene to protect Abu Maqar monastery from arson threats)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55516#.U8HnEcLQcfg>

**Sunday July 13, 2014**



**Egypt: Abu Maqar Monastery, Wadi Alnatron**

Basilios Almaqari (monk, stated that the 2750-acre archeological area surrounding his monastery has been seized by thugs)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55530#.U8M7EsLQcfg>

**Monday July 14, 2014**



**China**

**UPDATE: daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughter of imprisoned Pastor Zhang Shaojie have escaped China via a Christian 'underground railroad' to Southeast Asia and have been allowed entry to the United States**

Zhang “Yunyun” Huixin (wife of Sun Zhulei, mother of Sun “Jesse” Jiexi)

Sun Zhulei (husband of Zhang “Yunyun” Huixin, father of Sun “Jesse” Jiexi)

Sun “Jesse” Jiexi (aged 1, daughter of Zhang “Yunyun” Huixin and Sun Zhulei)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/persecuted-daughter-of-imprisoned-nanle.html>



### **India: Vile Parle, Mumbai**

Agnelo Pereira (arrested for desecration of a crucifix, hundreds convinced of his innocence protested the arrest)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mumbai,-ancient-crucifix-desecrated-a-second-time-31623.html>



### **Kyrgyzstan**

Bishop Feodosy aka Sergei Gazhu (Russian citizen, leader of the Russian Orthodox Church in the country, visa to work as a missionary not renewed, no reason given)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1978](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1978)



### **Iraq: Mosul**

**Two nuns and three orphans have disappeared in an ISIL held area; UPDATE: released, have returned to Kurdistan**

Sr Miskintah

Sr Utoor Joseph

Hala Salim

Sarah Khoshaba

Aram Sabah

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Chaldean-Patriarch-overjoyed-at-release-of-nuns-and-children,-they-are-well-31622.html>



### **Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh: Yerevan**

Artur Avanesyan (aged 19, conscientious objector, arrested)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2014](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2014)



### **Egypt; Nag Al-Siagh, Luxor**

Amira Hafez Waheeb (aged 15, as of [April 11, 2014](#) has been abducted for more than 40 days;

**UPDATE:** still missing, police have taken no action)

Hafez Waheeb (father of abduction victim Amira Hafez Waheeb)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55542#.U8SgcsLQcfg>



### **Ukraine: Donetsk**

Fr Tikhon aka Sergey Kulbaka (abducted by DPR militants after fascist symbols were painted on his automobile, **UPDATE:** released after suffering health issues from maltreatment)

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>



### **Algeria**

**Family evicted from their home after the landlord discovered they were Christian, now living with another Christian family**

Rasmi

Maysan

David (aged 2, son of Rasmi and Maysan)

<http://crossmap.christianpost.com/news/persecution-on-the-rise-in-algeria-christians-and-churches-there-even-have-no-places-to-worship-and-banish-out-the-house-11316>

**Tuesday July 15, 2014**



**India: Gadiya and Parapur villages, and Kue Mari village, Chhattisgarh state**

Rev Vijayesh Lal (national director of the Religious Liberty Commission for the Evangelical Fellowship of India, **UPDATE**: said that Christians in two villages have been ordered to leave “or suffer the consequences”, also wrote a letter to the state Chief Secretary concerning a Christian who lost his home to arson despite paying extortion “Today he is living under a plastic sheet with his family that includes three children and his elderly parents. I humbly request you to please intervene in his situation and provide him some relief and protection”)

[https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article\\_3222907.html/](https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article_3222907.html/)



**Ukraine: Gorlovka, Donetsk**

Fr Viktor Vonsovich (abducted by pro-Russian rebels, released ten days later, ordered to leave under threat of death)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ukraine-facing-religious-war-as-Moscow-Patriarchate-attacks-Greek-Catholics-31823.html>



**Nigeria: Dille village, Askira-Uba local government area, Borno state**

Pastor Taiwo Dokun (**killed** by Boko Haram insurgents, whereabouts of his widow and three children unknown)

<http://www.thisdaylive.com/articles/killing-of-rccg-pastor-by-boko-haram-causes-apprehension/183915/>

**Wednesday July 16, 2014**



**China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province**

Zhang Zhi (has decided to physically oppose the demolition of his church)

Ye Wanjing (has decided to physically oppose the demolition of his church)

<http://www.persecution.org/2014/07/21/the-voice-of-chinese-christians-we-are-ready-to-be-imprisoned-and-die-for-our-faith/>



**India: Bangalore**

Archbishop Bernard Moras (**UPDATE**: denounced the sprayed drugging and rape of a 17-year old postulant in her convent by three men)

**India: Sehkari Nagar, Bulandshahr, iUttar Pradesh state**

Pastor RC Paul (attacked by Hindu nationalists during a Bible study with sticks and hammers, other Christians including his young daughter injured in the attack, cross removed from the church and replaced with the Hindutva flag)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Bangalore,-17-year-old-novice-gang-raped-31656.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Uttar-Pradesh,-Church-of-the-Nazarene-attacked:-Pastor-and-faithful-beaten-31668.html>



**Afghanistan: Sohadat village, Herat province Sohadat village, Herat province**

Fr Alexis Prem Kumar SJ (aged 47, Jesuit Refugee Service, citizen of India, abducted on June 2, 2014 while travelling to a refugee camp; **UPDATE**: still missing)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/jesuits-working-to-free-abducted-priest-in-afghanistan-28021/>



**Azerbaijan**

Kamran Shikhaliyev (inducted into a military unit in Lankaran despite his declaration of conscientious objection, convicted of "fraudulently evading military service" on April 16

2014, sentenced to one year in a disciplinary military unit on May 6 2014; **UPDATE:** appeal denied)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1983](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1983)



### **Sudan: Khartoum**

Rev Kori El Ramli (secretary-general of the Sudan Council of Churches, expressed surprise at the government announcement that no new church building permits will be authorized, also said that Christians are being forcibly relocated to areas where the government has demolished churches)

[https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article\\_3221521.html/](https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article_3221521.html/)



### **Egypt: Beba, Beni Suef**

Erini (daughter of Atef Ishak Abdel Massih, not hired for a civil engineering position because she is a Christian)

Atef Ishak Abdel Massih (father of Erini)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55593#.U8c5a8LQcfg>

**Thursday July 17, 2014**



### **India: Chhattisgarh state**

Rev Aneesh Andrews (described how poor Christian families have been denied government rations of staples such as wheat, rice and sugar, and access to village water sources, said “In some places, the passing of the resolution has been followed by attacks on pastors and pulling down of village churches. It is not just passing of a resolution. This is a ploy to harass Christians”)

Bishop Purna Sagar Nag (said “The situation could get worse. We have to be vigilant. Right now, it is confined to [Bastar] district; it may spread to other areas”)

### **India: Delhi**

Archbishop Anil JT Couto (**UPDATE:** said "Though it could be considered as just another ban on Christian missionaries at the behest of fundamentalist groups and bigoted political functionaries, who are now greatly encouraged, it is a grave assault on the fundamental rights of individuals and peoples' groups", added that the non-Hindu religious activity ban in [Chhattisgarh state](#) will lead to violence)

### **India: New Delhi**

Colin Gonzalves (attorney, told by the Supreme Court that the state of Odisha is not obligated to compensate the 300 churches destroyed in the 2007 anti-Christian rioting)

[https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article\\_3222907.html/](https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article_3222907.html/)

<http://www.christiantoday.co.in/articles/no-compensation-for-odisha-churches-damaged-during-riots-supreme-court/7956.htm>



### **Iraq: Mosul**

**Family driven out of their homes to [Erbil](#) by the ISIL, disabled parents unable to escape**

Fadi Suleiman (aged 23, brother of Samir Bayous Suleiman)

Samir Bayous Suleiman (aged 27, brother of Fadi Suleiman, married and father of a 1 year old child)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140801181653.htm>



### **Lebanon: Bekaa Valley**

Mataab (aged 2, son of Kamila, Syrian refugee since January 2014, suffered malnutrition and diarrhea in the refugee camp, recovering)

Kamila (mother of Mataab and six others, Syrian refugees since January 2014)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/07/malnourished-syrian-refugee-children-bear-the-toll-of-conflict/>



### **Sudan: Khartoum**

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (aged 27, **UPDATE:** the lawsuit brought against her by her Muslim relatives to attain custody over her has been dropped)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/meriam-ibrahims-islamic-relatives-drop-lawsuit-against-christian-mother-could-allow-family-to-leave-for-us-123442/>



**Ukraine: Hrabove, Donetsk Oblast**

Sr Philomene Tiernan (aged 77, Australian citizen, **killed** in the shooting down of the Malaysian Airlines flight while returning from a spiritual retreat in France)

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/hundreds-mourn-australian-nun-who-died-in-the-mh17-plane-tragedy-25693>



**Macedonia: Skopje**

Archbishop Jovan of Ohrid aka Zoran Vraniskovski (aged 47, sentenced on July 3, 2013 to three years in prison and church property seized for alleged money laundering, charges widely viewed as resulting from his efforts to reunify the Serbian and Macedonian Orthodox Churches; **UPDATE**: appeals court has upheld his conviction and sentencing)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/08/the-court-of-appeals-confirmed-archbishop-jovan-remains-in-prison-in-the-next-three-years/>

**Friday July 18, 2014**



**China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province**

Pastor Zhan Yingsheng (church slated for demolition, has resigned his position and moved into the church clock tower to fast and pray)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/wenzhou-pastor-resigns-prepares-self.html>



**Sudan: Khartoum**



Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (aged 27, wife of Daniel Wani, mother of Martin and Maya Wani, given refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum on June 27, 2014; **UPDATE**: is now the object of a new lawsuit by her supposed Muslim relatives who are seeking to annul her marriage)

[https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article\\_3226132.html/](https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/07/article_3226132.html/)



### **Egypt: Al-Arish**

Amir Wadie Ramses (unable to pay the US\$1.4m ransom demanded by his father's abductors)

### **Egypt: El-Motiah village, Assiut**

Ashraf Ibrahim Boulus (house seized by 'thugs', **UPDATE**: court order for the return of the property ignored by the authorities, has appealed four times to the Interior Ministry but no action taken)

### **Egypt: Mantot village, Abu Qurqas, Minya**

Eilia Mishael (asked authorities to return guards for his church)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55642#.U8nqD8LQcfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55631#.U8nrK8LQcfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55629#.U8ntI8LQcfg>

**Saturday July 19, 2014**



### **Iraq: Mosul**

Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako (**UPDATE**: reported how the ISIL has demanded that Christians convert, pay the jizya tax, or leave, said "cars equipped with loudspeakers are driving through the city, telling Christians to flee. At checkpoints, militias are seizing cars, money and papers from Christians, before letting them go...with nothing")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Baghdad-patriarch:-as-the-time-for-dialogue-is-no-more,-Christians-flee-Mosul-31662.html>



## **Cameroon: Douala**

Archbishop Samuel Kleda (held a day of prayer in the face of continuing Boko Haram attacks, said "We want to entrust Cameroon as well as all other countries in war to the Lord. The insecurity raging on our borders, in particular those with Nigeria, has created a psychosis in our population. In these situations, you must put yourself in the hands of the Almighty")

[https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/09/article\\_3361988.html/](https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/09/article_3361988.html/)

**Sunday July 20, 2014**



## **China: Gaoliying Town suburb, Beijing**

### **Police briefly detain more than 40 parishioners during a raid a house church**

Pastor Li (said "There were more than 40 who came to the gathering. They were all taken to a vehicle and hauled to the local police station where they booked the information of the worshippers. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon, the last two men came out")

He (missionary, **UPDATE:** described details of the police raid)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/worship-service-in-beijing-interrupted.html>



## **Sri Lanka**

Godfrey Yogarajah (General Secretary of National Christian Evangelical Alliance; **UPDATE:** said "Many pastors have been beaten and threatened to halt their prayer meetings. People have logged complaints in police stations but it is very rare that culprits are identified... Many of the mobs who have attacked prayer gatherings have been led by Buddhist monks")

### **Sri Lanka: Polonnaruwa**

Pastor OS Fernando (president of the Pastors' Fellowship Group, denied that Christians bribe potential converts)

<http://www.ucanews.com/news/radical-buddhist-group-threatens-evangelicals-in-sri-lanka/71462>



### **Iraq: Qaraqosh**

Fr Nizar Semaan (reported on the ISIL takeover of the Mar Behnam Monastery)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/36125->

[ASIA IRAQ The Syrian Monastery of Mar Behnam in the hands of the militia of the Islamic Caliphate#.U83DOMLQcfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/36125-ASIA_IRAQ_The_Syrian_Monastery_of_Mar_Behnam_in_the_hands_of_the_militia_of_the_Islamic_Caliphate#.U83DOMLQcfg)



### **Syria: Yacubiyah**

Fr Dhiya Azziz (slightly injured when a missile hit his monastery, room destroyed in the explosion)

Fr Pizzaballa (reported on the missile attack on the monastery)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140724082643.htm>



### **Egypt: Meshta, Sohag province**

Medhat Gamil (aged 33, abducted while working in his field)

### **Egypt**

Bishop Armiya aka Mohammed Hegazy (aged 31 in 2014, Egypt's 'most famous' convert, arrested before December 5, 2013 in Minya province and charged with "inciting sedition by communicating to a US-based [Coptic] channel unfounded information on Copts persecution in Egypt"; **UPDATE**: released on bail)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55738#.U83MrcLQcfg>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/noted-convert-in-egypt-released-in-appeal-quickly-imprisoned-again/>

**Monday July 21, 2014**



**China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province**

**Police raid church to remove cross, 10 parishioners injured**

Zhang Zhimin (aged 30, skull fractured, has been vomiting blood)

Mr Xu (has a few stiches)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/christians-hospitalized-after-wenzhou.html>



**Bangladesh: Mithapukur, Rongpur district**

**2,500 Catholics demonstrate for justice after the July 6 2014 attack on clergy and religious in Boldipukur**

Bishop Sebastian Tudu (**UPDATE:** said "We want a proper investigation and exemplary punishment for those who targeted priests and nuns")

Fr Albert Rozario (said "We Christians are peaceful, we do not want any conflict. We only want peace and religious harmony, but often become victims")

Nirmol Rozario (general secretary of the Bangladesh Christian Association, said "We, too, are members of this nation. Christians have fought for the independence of the country. We want peace and justice. We want security for the priests and the sisters of our Church")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Bangladesh,-2,500-Catholics-protest-attack-on-Boldipukur-church-31684.html>



**Iraq: Erbil, Kurdistan**

Salim Toma (former member of parliament, said "First the massacre of the Christians must be stopped, and then like other people we should have a place to live. Unfortunately, there has not been a serious position [toward the Christians]. Only the Kurdistan Regional Government has opened the door and embraced them. Checkpoints are open for them; schools have become shelters for the Christians; many local NGOs are assisting, too")

**Iraq**

Bishop Barnaba Yousif Habash (called in [Newark, New Jersey, United States](#) for protection for the Yezidi religious minority, who are threatened by the ISIL advance "Their situation is considered worse than ours")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140721113837.htm>

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/07/21/plight-of-iraqs-yezidi-minority-is-even-worse-than-that-of-christians-says-bishop/>



### **Lebanon: Beirut**

#### **Iraqi family driven out of their homes and country by ISIL, disabled parents unable to escape**

Fadi Suleiman (aged 23, brother of Samir Bayous Suleiman)

Samir Bayous Suleiman (aged 27, brother of Fadi Suleiman, married and father of a 1 year old child)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140801181653.htm>



### **Egypt**

Bishoy Armiya aka Mohammed Hegazy (aged 31, Egypt's 'most famous' convert, released on bail, **UPDATE**: arrested again on 2009 charges of "defaming Islam", charges were filed after he attempted to have his religious affiliation changed on his government ID card)

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/noted-convert-in-egypt-released-in-appeal-quickly-imprisoned-again/>



### **Ukraine: Mramornoe village, Simferopol region, Crimea**

Metropolitan Kliment (**UPDATE**: home destroyed by arson)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue24217.html>

**Tuesday July 22, 2014**



### **China: Sichuan province**

Cao Xuemei (arrested for distributing Gospel flyers)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/sichuan-authorities-threaten-to-cut-off.html>



### **Iraq: Mosul and Irbil, Kurdistan**

Zaid Qreqosh Ishaq (nephew of Ishaq Lazar Gago, forced to flee the ISIL under threat of death, now a refugee, said "On our way, we had to go through an area where they [the Islamic State] had set up a checkpoint. They asked us to get out of the car. We got out. They took our things and our bags, our money, everything we had on us")

Ishaq Lazar Gago (aged 45, mechanic, uncle of Zaid Qreqosh Ishaq, forced to flee the ISIL under threat of death, now a refugee, said "Our future is uncertain. Our house is now gone. They put it under their name and wrote 'Islamic State' on it")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140723091246.htm>

**Wednesday July 23, 2014**



### **China: Xinmin, Shenyang province**

Bo Ai (**UPDATE:** taught a Chinese Christian Faith and Legal Training Camp)

Pastor Gou (invited Bo Ai to teach at his church)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/northeastern-chinese-house-churches.html>



### **Uzbekistan: Khalkabad village, Pap district, Namangan region**

Valentina Razzakova (home raided by police during a worship service, Christian books seized)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1993](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1993)



### **Iran**

Amir (age 32, sentenced to death for transporting a truckload of Bibles, execution date set for the week of August 11, 2014)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue24364.html>



### **Iraq: Mosul and Ayn Kawa, Kurdistan**

Rawan Jinan (aged 25, wife, mother of two boys aged 4 and 18 months, forced to flee the ISIL under threat of death, now a refugee, described ISIL acts of intimidation in churches, added "They did not only enter the churches. They also went into the shrine of Prophet Younis [the Old Testament prophet Jonas], which they demolished. They also demolished monasteries", also described the looting of their possessions "They opened the can of baby milk and poured its contents into the street. We begged them to give us a bottle of water for the children, to quiet them, but they opened the water bottles and poured out the water in front us")

### **Iraq: Mosul and Irbil, Kurdistan**

Salwan Noel Miskouni (aged 35, forced to flee the ISIL-Islamic State with his family under threat of death, now a refugee, said "If [the Islamic State] leaves we will probably go back but if they stay it's impossible - because they will slaughter us")

### **Iraq: Qaraqosh**

Fr Amanoel Adel Kalloo (has taken refuge with more than 470 families after forced to flee the ISIL under threat of death, said "The [militants] want to erase our history and break our faith")

Fr Yosef (has taken refuge with more than 470 families after forced to flee the ISIL under threat of death)

Firaz Petros (aged 27, said "We're barely earning enough to live")

Archbishop Basile Casmoussa (has taken refuge with more than 470 families after forced to flee the ISIL under threat of death, said "Our faith is being tested")

### **Iraq: Bagdad**

Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako (**UPDATE**: condemned the ISIL-Islamic State cleansing of Christians "The heinous crime of the Islamic State was carried out not just against Christians, but against humanity. How in the 21st century could people be forced from their houses just because they are Christian, or Shi'ite or Sunni or Yazidi? Christian families have been expelled from their houses and their valuables were stolen and ...their houses and property expropriated in the name of the Islamic State. This has never happened in Christian or Islamic history. Even Genghis Khan or Hulagu didn't do this", 200 Muslims joined his church service and held up leaflets reading 'I am Iraqi, I am Christian')

Bishop Shlemon Warduni (**UPDATE:** said Muslim leaders had remained silent about the ISIL attacks on Christians "We haven't heard from clerics from all sects or from the government. The Christians are sacrificed for Iraq")

### **Iraq: Tilkif, Kurdistan**

Fr Paul Thabit Mekko (described an ISIL attack on his town and the fearful reaction of the Christians refugees)

### **Iraq**

Archimandrite Emanuel Youkhana (reported on the continuing persecution of Christians)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140723124308.htm>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140723090236.htm>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140723090511.htm>

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140723090236.htm>

<http://www.aleteia.org/en/world/article/isis-attacks-iraqi-town-where-christians-from-mosul-took-refuge-5899045356699648>

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/iraqi-abbot-calls-for-action-to-ensure-local-christians-future-55186/>



### **Egypt: Minya**

Ibrahim Atta (aged 40, auditor, abducted by armed men)

### **Egypt: Luxor**

Gaber Aziz Dryass (carpenter, prevented from working in his workshop)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55801#.U9B6vsLQcfg>

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55790#.U9B06cLQcfg>



### **India: Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh state**

**A school's flood control wall was demolished by Hindu nationalists shouting "Victory to Lord Rama!", courts had sided with the school**

Sr Archana (school principal, condemned the illegal demolition of the school wall)

Bishop Alangaram Durairaj (condemned the illegal demolition of the school wall)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/In-Madhya-Pradesh:-nationalists-shout-victory-for-Rama-after-Catholic-school-wall-demolished-31728.html>



Thursday July 24, 2014



### Syria: Damascus

Fr Feras Lufti (said "I was in the home of a Christian lady who had died a little earlier. Her family and friends sent for me to pray with them. After the prayer, when I was about to leave, a man stopped me. From the way he expressed himself, I immediately understood he was a Muslim. He was very emotional and he cried. He told me that he had prayed for the soul of the departed with two suras from the Quran and asked me if God would accept his prayer for this good soul. I asked him, 'Why did you pray for her?' He replied that the deceased had taken care of his grandchildren and fed them. It turned out that this man's daughters, widowed because of the war, were refugees in Damascus and had not been able to find a place to live except in the Christian Quarter. There they found a solidarity among women that they had not expected. I saw him later in the church, accompanied by his two daughters")

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140724082643.htm>



### Sudan

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim Ishag (had been sentenced to death for apostasy, **UPDATE**: left the country for Italy)

Daniel Bicensio Wani (husband of Meriam Yahia Ibrahim Ishag; **UPDATE**: left the country for Italy)

Martin Wani (aged 20 months, son of Daniel Wani and Meriam Yahia Ibrahim Ishag; **UPDATE**: left the country for Italy)

Maya Wani (daughter of Meriam Yahia Ibrahim Ishag and Daniel Wani; **UPDATE**: left the country for Italy)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pope-meets-Meriam,-thanks-her-for-her-courageous-witness-of-faith-31715.html>



### Vatican City

Pope Francis aka Jorge Mario Bergoglio SJ (**UPDATE**: met with Meriam Yahia Ibrahim Ishag and her family after their flight from Sudan, thanked her "for the courageous witness of perseverance in the faith")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pope-meets-Meriam,-thanks-her-for-her-courageous-witness-of-faith-31715.html>

**Friday July 25, 2014**



**China: Taizhou, Zhejiang province**

Lemon Huang (described a police raid on her church in which two crosses were removed “Some wore police uniforms, with helmets and shields, some were plainclothes police and some wore red armbands — just like the Red Guards during the Cultural Revolution”)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/nyt-china-removes-crosses-from-two-more.html>



**Iran**

Raizal (convert, sister of Reza, fled to Turkey)

Reza (convert, brother of Raizal, fled to Turkey)

Afshin (convert, fled to Turkey after the arrest of Pastor Saeed Abedini)

[http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=8947:revival-in-iran-i-want-to-be-a-christian&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279](http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8947:revival-in-iran-i-want-to-be-a-christian&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279)



**United States – Missouri: Carthage**

Pastor Kent Hogan (National Guard unit refused permission to be honored at Vacation Bible School)

<http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2014/07/25/military-bars-troops-from-attending-vacation-bible-school/>

**Saturday July 26, 2014**



**China: Nanle county, Henan province**

Fan Ruizhen (received a demolition notice for the Nanle County Christian Church, has been leading the church since the arrest and conviction of Pastor Zhang Shaojie)

**China: Wanning, Hainan**

Pastor Wang Dao (**UPDATE:** reported on the closure of another Christian kindergarten for spurious reasons)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/nanle-county-christian-church-land.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/authorities-shut-down-2-church-run.html>



**Iran: Tehran**

Pastor Farshid Malayeri Fathi (**UPDATE:** wrote a letter from Evin prison that stated "In each of our lives, there are nights: nights of loneliness, nights of nightmare, nights of fever and pain, endless nights of prison...When a child has a bad night, his father or his mother lies beside him during the night, tenderly stroking his forehead, kissing his cheeks over and over, calling his name in the most lovely voice and they keep looking at the child's face until that bad night passes over. Then the child opens his eyes and thinks his father has just come to him. He was not able to sense his father's breath while he was battling with his nightmares")

<http://www.assistnews.net/Stories/2014/s14070108.htm>



**Libya: Tripoli**

Fr Amado Baranquel (said that a 50 year old Filipino construction worker was murdered "for not being a Muslim", added that 13,000 Filipinos are panicking due to anarchy and the destruction of airports and seaports, requested prayers)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Filipino-priest-warns-that-the-lives-of-13,000-Filipinos-in-Libya-are-in-danger-31730.html>

**Sunday July 27, 2014**



**India: Nagda town, Madhya Pradesh state**

Rev Rakesh Goyal (Sunday worship service with 25 parishioners invaded by 30 Hindu activists, questioned by armed police as to his conversion activities)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Madhya-Pradesh:-government-encourages-radical-Hindus-to-persecute-Christians-31772.html>



**Thailand**

**Family threatened with death in Pakistan, escaped country for Thailand, asylum request requires visa renewals they cannot afford, are about to be deported**

Sarfraz Sagar (husband)

Shazia (wife)

Roni

Naiha

Rijeka

Roshni

<http://www.inquisitr.com/1377974/legal-immigrants-face-deportation-due-to-lack-of-money-christian-family-fears-execution-in-pakistan/#Ahdueu2Oc62K14f2.99>



**Ukraine: Donetsk**

Pastor Alexander Kobzev (abducted)

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>



### **Nigeria: Kano**

Ugochukwu Okoli (aged 32, **killed along with his wife, father and maid** by thrown explosives when leaving church, at least two others killed and eight injured)

Gabriel George (described the Boko Haram church attack that killed five and wounded eight)

Bishop John Namazi Niyiring (**UPDATE**: called for more security around churches)

### **Nigeria: Zar Mubeng village, Hong local government area, Adamawa state**

Dauda Daniel (village chief, retired wing commander, missing after a Boko Haram attack, nine killed)

### **Nigeria: Lube village, Hong local government area, Adamawa state**

Lazarus (described a Boko Haram attack on his village, said most people escaped)

<http://thenationonlineng.net/new/man-loses-dad-wife-maid-in-kano-bombing-as-30-die-in-adamawa/>

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/07/four-christians-killed-in-bomb-attack-in-northern-nigeria/>

**Monday July 28, 2014**



### **China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province**

Qu Linuo (evangelist, described the toppling of another cross from the top of a church by the government)

Zheng Changye (aged 36, described a police attack that seriously injured three parishioners during an unsuccessful attempt to remove a cross from a church)

### **China: Pingyang county, Wenzhou city, Zhejiang province**

Zhang (described a 2 AM police raid on a church in an unsuccessful attempt to remove a cross "We did not want them to get close, so we joined up to stop them getting in, but they came at us and beat us")

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/33410-breaking-news-china-topples-cross-from-church-in-massive-crackdown>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/reuters-chinese-police-clash-with.html>



### **Tajikistan**

Zara (convert, beaten and restricted to home by her husband)

Sabina (convert, cousin of Madina, beaten and restricted to home by her father)

Madina (convert)

<https://www.opendoorsusa.org/pray/prayer-updates/2014/july/new-believer-in-tajikistan-clings-to-christ>



### **Egypt: Al-Tatalyah village, El Quseya, Assuit**

Rev Roius Nabih (described the extortion of Christians)

### **Egypt: Meshta village, Tama, Sohag province**

Medhat Gamil Zaka (aged 33, abducted on July 20, 2014 while working in his field; **UPDATE:** released after family paid a US\$28,000 ransom)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55900>  
<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55929#.U9lhusLwsfg>



### **Sierra Leone: Freetown**

Br Themis Adams (Australian citizen, former rock musician, threatened with violence during a riot on or before [June 30, 2013](#) at the Orthodox Mission, said that he has been in "imminent danger" at least 50 times but "My escape each time was due solely to the grace of God"; **UPDATE:** has been preparing for the arrival of the Ebola epidemic)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/07/a-former-rock-star-turned-missionary-prepares-to-tackle-the-ebola-virus-that-has-already-killed-660-people-in-three-west-africa-states/>

**Tuesday July 29, 2014**



### **Egypt: Deir Mawas, Minya**

Atta Khalifa Atta (aged 45, abducted while returning home from work a week ago)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55936#.U9lhJsLwsfg>



### **Cameroon: Blangoua**

Pastor Kesvere Jean Marcel (missionary, married and father of eight, abducted and **murdered** by suspected Boko Haram gunmen)

<http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue24242.html>

<http://www.opendoorsusa.org/press/2014/july/07-29-Newsflashes-from-the-Persecuted-Church>

**Wednesday July 30, 2014**



### **North Korea**

Kenneth Bae (U.S. citizen; **UPDATE**: still being held in prison, health still fragile)

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/07/31/world/asia/bae-north-korea/>



### **China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province**

Bishop Vincent Zhu Weifang (aged 87, Patriotic Catholic Association [official church] member, wrote that the government's campaign to demolish crosses and entire churches is destabilizing society, called on people to pray for a change of heart among their leaders and apologized for taking too long to protest, local priests joined in a petition to the government that stated "Do not destroy democracy, harmony and social stability. Do not let your stupid acts be teased in history")

### **China: Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region**

## **Two Christians arrested for illegally publishing children's books, UPDATE: arrest application approved by prosecutors**

Li Jiatao (wife of Ma Jiawen)

Huang Quirui

Pastor Wang Dao (**UPDATE**: reported on their arrest)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Wenzhou-bishop-and-priests-slam-government's-campaign-against-crosses-and-churches-in-Zhejiang-31804.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/wenzhou-christians-detained-others.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/08/authorities-shut-down-2-church-run.html>



### **Uzbekistan: Bostanlyk**

Pastor Arkadiy Belik (**UPDATE**: believed to be the subject of an upcoming administrative case by the authorities after the church summer camp was raided)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1993](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1993)



### **Ukraine: Krasnoarmiisk**

Rev Igor Sergienko (accused by armed men of hiding separatists, ordered to leave in two days under threat of death)

### **Ukraine: Amvrosiyevka District**

Archpriest Yevgeny Podgorny (held by government military personnel, beaten, cross torn from him, tied and hooded, residence searched, automobile and money seized, 16-year old son threatened with death, rescued by parishioners)

### **Ukraine: Donetsk**

Fr Yury Ivanov (abducted, **UPDATE**: released)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ukraine-facing-religious-war-as-Moscow-Patriarchate-attacks-Greek-Catholics-31823.html>

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/2014/08/ukrainian-military-are-pressuring-donbas-orthodox-christians-metropolitan-onufry/>

<http://www.rmfreedom.com/news/2014/8/12/chronology-of-terror-for-july-dnr-and-lnr-militants-target-d.html>





### **Russia: Taganrog**

#### **UPDATE: several Christians convicted of belonging to an extremist organization and involving a minor in the commission of a crime, sentences suspended**

Yury Baklushin (sentenced to 5 years 6 months' imprisonment, suspended)

Aleksandr Skvortsov (sentenced to 5 years 6 months' imprisonment, suspended)

Aleksei Koptev (sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment, suspended)

Nikolai Trotsyuk (sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment, suspended)

Sergei Trotsyuk (fined US\$1,650, fines waved)

Andrei Goncharov (fined US\$1,400, fines waved)

Karen Minasyan (fined US\$1,400, fines waved)

Oksana Goncharova (acquitted)

Tatyana Kravchenko (acquitted)

Kirill Kravchenko (acquitted)

Vladislav Kruglikov (acquitted)

Roman Voloshchuk (acquitted)

Vladimir Moiseyenko (acquitted)

Vyacheslav Shchekalev (acquitted)

Kirill Chetverikov (acquitted)

Vladimir Kozhukhov (acquitted)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1986](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1986)



### **Liberia: Monrovia**

Nancy Writebol (missionary, in serious condition with an Ebola infection, others including a U.S. doctor also infected)

<http://www.bosnewslife.com/33440-mission-watch-christian-doctor-missionary-infected-with-ebola-breaking-news>

**Thursday July 31, 2014**



### **New Zealand: Redwood suburb, Christchurch**

Daniel Khalid Muidh Alzahrani (aged 42, convert, Saudi citizen, refugee, polio sufferer, returned to Saudi Arabia under suspicious circumstances with the aid of the Saudi embassy, told friends that he feared abduction after his conversion, left a half-eaten meal behind in his apartment, police are satisfied he left voluntarily)

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/10417951/Fears-for-Saudi-christian-converts>



### **China: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province**

Yan Xiaojie (summoned by police)

Ji Mengzi (summoned by police)

### **China: Sichuan province**

Pastor Li Ming (said that local officials are cancelling food subsidies for 80 impoverished Christian families, also described the arrest of Cao Xuemei)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/summons-notices-increase-with-zhejiang.html>

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/07/sichuan-authorities-threaten-to-cut-off.html>



### **India**

Sajan K George (president of the Global Council of Indian Christians - GCIC; **UPDATE:** said "In Madhya Pradesh the absolute lack of political will to control the most dangerous elements encourages the Hindu fundamentalists to harass and intimidate the vulnerable Christian community")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Madhya-Pradesh:-government-encourages-radical-Hindus-to-persecute-Christians-31772.html>



### **Turkmenistan: Dashoguz**

Vepa Tuvakov (aged 30, husband of Bibi Rahmnova, arrested along with his wife and 4 year of son after receiving religious literature via train, threatened with death, beaten at the train station and in prison, released, **UPDATE**: charged with hooliganism for resisting police)

Bibi Rahmnova (aged 36, wife of Vepa Tuvakov, arrested along with her husband and 4 year of son after receiving religious literature via train, threatened with death, beaten at the train station and in prison, released, **UPDATE**: charged with hooliganism for resisting police)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=1981](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=1981)



### **Syria: Aleppo**

Fr Joseph Bazuzu (**UPDATE**: described a missile attack on his church that killed three parishioners including two sisters)

<http://www.aina.org/news/20140801081012.htm>



### **Egypt: Minya province**

Bishoy Armiya aka Mohammed Hegazy (aged 31 in 2014, Egypt's 'most famous' convert, arrested again on July 21, 2014 on 2009 charges of "defaming Islam", charges were filed after he attempted to have his religious affiliation changed on his government ID card"; **UPDATE**: attorney denied access to him in prison)

### **Egypt: Abu Korkas village, Minya province**

Nabil Boules Mahrous (brother attacked by local Muslims)

<http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55989#.U9x-qMLwsfg>

[http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55976#.U9x\\_X8Lwsfg](http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=55976#.U9x_X8Lwsfg)



### **Cuba: Santa Clara**

Rev Homero Carbonell (has accepted asylum in the U.S. after years of harassment by the government)

<http://dynamic.csw.org.uk/article.asp?t=press&id=1760&search=>

July 2014, date unknown



**Turkmenistan: Ashgabad**

Merdan Amanov (aged 19, sentenced to 1 year imprisonment for refusing military service due to conscientious objection)

[http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2002](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2002)



**Palestine: Shofat neighborhood, East Jerusalem**

Pastor Steven Khoury (**UPDATE**: moved his congregation's church out of its rented building after Islamist threats against the landlord)

Hany Khayo (church administrator, said "Some of those [pressures to move] in the community were from traditional Christians, believe it or not. Traditional Christians did not want us there. They said, 'You guys are not Christians. What Christianity do you represent? If you're not an official church, then God doesn't hear your prayers.'")

<http://morningstarnews.org/2014/08/palestinian-church-forced-out-of-building-in-east-jerusalem-israel/>



**Ukraine: Lugansk**

Archpriest Vladimir Kreslyanskiy (**killed** by pro-government artillery shelling in the last week of July 2014, five children orphaned)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ukraine-facing-religious-war-as-Moscow-Patriarchate-attacks-Greek-Catholics-31823.html>