

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – April 2018

Sunday April 1, 2018

Easter [Pascha] – Western calendar



Indonesia: Jakarta, West Java

Archbishop Ignatius Suharyo Hardjoatmodjo (**UPDATE**: spoke out against corruption after six politicians including one Christian were arrested)

Yohanes Handoyo Budhisedjati (**UPDATE**: said Catholics "need to uphold the spirit of a good governance which can unite all social elements")

Hargo Mandirahardjo (chairman of the Association of Catholic Graduates and Intellectuals in Indonesia, said he approved of the Archbishop's comments on corruption and added "We must continue to promote our national unity. If we don't, then who will?")

Church leaders thanked Muslims for attending Holy Week services in a demonstration against intolerance

Indonesia: Jakarta, West Java

Fr Antonius Benny Susetyo (**UPDATE**: said the attendance of the governor at Easter celebrations "gives us hope that the commitment to preserve unity remains strong in society")

Bonar Tigor Naipospos (**UPDATE**: said of the attendance of the governor at Easter celebrations "We need such examples to educate the public, that differences of beliefs should not make us hate and demean each other")

Indonesia: Ambon, Maluku province

Bishop Petrus Canisius Mandagi (thanked dozens of young Muslims for attending a Good Friday procession "This is an example of where religion becomes a unifying tool and this religious celebration becomes a bridge to strengthening relations")

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/jakarta-archbishops-easter-message-focusses-on-threats-to-unity/81949>

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/indonesian-muslims-defy-extremism-by-marking-holy-week/81948>



India: Bihabandh village, Orissa state

Fr Bipin Kishore Majhi (vestments destroyed in a church arson attack)

India: Bihabandh and Salangabahal villages, Orissa state

Bishop Kishor Kumar Kujur (denounced the arson attack against one church and the vandalism of another on Easter "It was a premeditated and planned attack. Both incidents occurred during the night, at about the same time. The parishes are 7-8 km away from each other. This is the work of the same group, which is against the Christian community")

Archbishop John Barwa (**UPDATE:** said "We did not expect such an attack in a secular country. These episodes of desecration that offend our religious sentiment must end...this year marks the tenth anniversary of the violence of Kandhamal" in which dozens of Christians were killed and hundreds displaced)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa,-statues-of-the-Virgin-and-Child-Jesus-destroyed-at-Easter-43511.html>

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/churches-attacked-in-indias-sensitive-odisha-state/81968>



Pakistan: Sankhatra village, Narowal district, Punjab province

Fr Francis Nadeem OFM Cap (**UPDATE:** reported on the eviction of 50 Christian families from their homes in a corrupt land grab, said "even some Muslim leaders condemned this injustice and asked the government to act immediately against the guilty")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64006->

[ASIA PAKISTAN Christian and Muslim leaders solidarity with Christian families thrown out from their homes](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64006-ASIA_PAKISTAN_Christian_and_Muslim_leaders_solidarity_with_Christian_families_thrown_out_from_their_homes)



Congo, Democratic Republic: on the road between Nyarukwangara and Karambi, Rutshuru, North Kivu province

Fr Celestin Ngango (abducted)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/63999->

[AFRICA DR CONGO Congolese priest kidnapped on Easter Sunday released](http://www.fides.org/en/news/63999-AFRICA_DR_CONGO_Congolese_priest_kidnapped_on_Easter_Sunday_released)



Nigeria

Pricilla Ayuba (aged 17, abducted in [Kurmin Kogi, Kaduna state](#) in [January 2018](#), forcibly converted to Islam; **UPDATE**: released)

<https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2020/04/nigerias-kano-state-governor-converts-christian-under-age-girl-to-islam/>

Monday April 2, 2018



Pakistan: Shah Zaman area, Quetta, Balochistan province

A family celebrating Easter was shot dead while going for ice cream

Pervaiz Masih (rickshaw driver, **shot dead**)

Tariq Masih (**shot dead**)

Imran Masih (**shot dead**)

Firdous Bibi (**shot dead**)

Rahib (aged 19, college student, **shot dead**)

Azhar Iqbal (aged 20, college student, **shot dead**)

Sunana Shakeel (aged 10, shot in both legs, hospitalized)

Mehwish William (aged 19, shot in her left leg, hospitalized)

Samuel Masih (aged 38, shot in the neck, hospitalized)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/four-catholics-killed-in-pakistan-terrorist-attack/81957>

<https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/bpca-assists-shooting-victims-and-families-of-those-slain-in-easter-terrorist-attack>



Iran: Tehran

Hadi Askary (aged 40, arrested without warrant by MOIS agents while fishing and picnicking with his wife in [Firuzkuh](#) on [August 26, 2016](#); sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment on

June 11, 2017; **UPDATE**: request for release on bail while pending appeal reported to have been denied)

<http://mohabatnews.com/en/?p=3953>



Iraq

Sr Ban Madleen (denied a visa to visit her ill sister in the UK)

Fr Benedict Kiely (founder of Nasarean.org, commented on the UK government's refusal to issue a visa to Sr Ban Madleen for her lack of recent travel there “Do they not know what happened [in Iraq] between 2014 and now?”)

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2018/04/02/iraqi-nun-displaced-by-islamic-state-denied-uk-visa/>



United States - New Mexico

Colonel Leland B H Bohannon (as of [October 20, 2017](#) had been stripped of his command at [Kirtland Air Force Base](#) and promotion to Brigadier General reversed after he declined to sign a thank you certificate for a retiring airman and his husband, had obtained the signature of a superior officer in a religious accommodation; **UPDATE**: subject of a letter for the Secretary of the Air Force to Congress which stated “[Col Leland Bohannon] had the right to exercise his sincerely held religious beliefs and did not unlawfully discriminate when he declined to sign the certificate...The Air Force has a duty to treat people fairly and without discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, or sexual orientation and [Bohannon] met that duty by having a more senior officer sign the certificate”)

<https://www.stripes.com/news/air-force-colonel-had-religious-right-to-refuse-signing-same-sex-spouse-appreciation-letter-1.520156>

Tuesday April 3, 2018



Philippines: Pontifical University of Santo Tomas, Manila

Fr Quirico Pedregosa Jr OP (seminary rector, said that church organizations need to help protect tribal peoples and their schools during military operations against Communist rebels)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/catholic-university-steps-in-to-aid-persecuted-filipinos/81912>



Mexico: Cuernavaca, Morelos state

Fr Moises Fabila Reyes (aged 83, abducted)

<https://cruxnow.com/global-church/2018/04/26/for-the-third-time-in-a-week-a-priest-is-found-dead-in-mexico/>

Wednesday April 4, 2018



Kazakhstan: Almaty

Teymur Sultan ogly Akhmedov (aged 61, husband, father of three sons, retired bus driver, arrested in [Astana](#) on [January 18, 2017](#) for sharing his religious beliefs with KNB secret police informants, denied cancer treatment; sentenced in [Astana](#) on [May 2, 2017](#) to 5 years' imprisonment followed by 3 years' prohibition on preaching; underwent surgery on [February 8, 2018](#), two tumors removed, one malignant; underwent another surgery on [March 27, 2018](#), cancer now stage III; **UPDATE**: released from prison with a presidential pardon)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2366

Thursday April 5, 2018



Vietnam: Hanoi

Pastor Nguyen Trung Ton (sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment for supporting democratic reforms)

Nguyen Van Dai (attorney, sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment for supporting democratic reforms)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/vietnam-jails-human-rights-lawyer-for-15-years/81999>



Kazakhstan: Kyzylorda

Pastor Serik Bisembayev (aged 47, worship service in his wife's home raided by police without warrant on [February 25, 2018](#), 30 worshippers were all questioned and video recorded, religious items seized, detained for fingerprinting and alcohol testing, asked why he had become a Christian and not a Muslim, told he would be investigated for 'inciting discord' which carried a 10 year maximum sentence' **UPDATE**: informed that his case would be closed due to lack of evidence)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2366



Congo, Democratic Republic: Bunyangula village

Fr Celestin Ngango (abducted on [April 1, 2018](#) on the road [between Nyarukwangara and Karambi, Rutshuru, North Kivu province](#); **UPDATE**: released)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/63999-AFRICA_DR_CONGO_Congolese_priest_kidnapped_on_Easter_Sunday_released

Sunday April 8, 2018

Pascha [Easter] – Eastern Calendar



Stanislav Kim (apartment raided by police during an Easter celebration, worshippers were forced to end their meal and go out into the street to record their names)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2380



Egypt: Beni-Sweif

Rasha Khalaf Thabet (aged 18, abducted while travelling to visit her grandfather, forced into an automobile by three men)

<https://barnabasfund.org/en/news/egyptian-christian-young-woman-kidnapped>



Congo, Democratic Republic: Kyahemba

Fr Etienne Sengiyumva (**killed** after celebrating Mass)

Bishop Theophile Kaboy Ruboneka (**UPDATE**: reported on the murder of Fr Etienne Sengiyumva: "Around 3pm, after celebrating Mass in Kyahemba a circumscription of his parish, Fr Etienne had gathered his collaborators, when an armed man, accompanied by other people, entered the meeting room and killed the priest...it is difficult to say who was responsible of this terrible act. There are different armed groups in our region, at least 15, which cannot be dismantled despite the presence of the regular army and the Blue Helmets of MONUSCO [UN Mission in the DRC]...Fr Etienne is the third priest killed in the area. Investigations on the perpetrators of these deaths never lead to anything. On our behalf, we will do everything to identify Fr Etienne's murderers. In these cases, the witnesses fear for their lives and that of their loved ones and hardly offer useful information...I repeat: in our region there are so many armed groups that it is difficult to understand who commits the action. Here in North Kivu we live in total chaos. The situation in my diocese of Goma, like that of Butembo-Beni, is incredible. We are completely abandoned by everyone, we live only thanks to Providence. I ask the faithful of the universal Church to pray for our region so that they can rediscover peace")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/64003->

[AFRICA DR CONGO We are abandoned by all says the Bishop of Goma after the murder of Fr Etienne Sengiyumva](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64003-)

Monday April 9, 2018



Pakistan: Fateh Sher, near Sahiwal city

Razia Bibi (aged 12, alias, daughter of Razaq Masih, abducted, forced into an Islamic marriage)
Razaq Masih (aged 55, alias, father of Razia Bibi)

<https://www.christiansinpakistan.com/12-yr-old-pakistani-christian-girl-forcibly-married-to-a-disabled-muslim-man/>

Tuesday April 10, 2018



Iran: Babol

Mohammadali Yassaghi aka Estifan (aged 52, arrested, charged with 'propaganda against the establishment')

<http://meconcern.org/2018/07/05/iran-mohammadali-yassaghi-freed-from-detention/>



Congo, Democratic Republic: Seka-Mbote district, Boma

Fr Pierre Mavinga (beaten and robbed along with another priest, hospitalized, said "It was about 8 o'clock when a dozen hooded bandits, some in military uniform, invaded our premises, fired point-blank range with real ammunition. They beat us and took our phones, computers and a little money")

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/64030-AFRICA_DR_CONGO Two_priests_attacked_The_Church_is_intimidated_and_threatened_Church_sources_tell_Fides](http://www.fides.org/en/news/64030-<u>AFRICA_DR_CONGO</u> Two_priests_attacked_The_Church_is_intimidated_and_threatened_Church_sources_tell_Fides)

Thursday April 12, 2018



United States - District of Columbia

Michael Pompeo (aged 54, Secretary of State nominee, attacked by Senator Cory Booker in his nomination hearing for his traditional Christian views)

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/04/12/mike-pompeo-grilled-by-cory-booker-over-gay-marriage-stance-during-secretary-state-confirmation-hearing.html>

Friday April 13, 2018



United Kingdom: Scotland

The BBC posted an 'anti-homophobia' video on Facebook that said '[Jesus] saved a lot of time when he died for our crimes, that he would've wasted teaching small minds that love is no sin' and said of women receiving Communion 'But under all that din, it tastes like cardboard and smells like hate'

Bishop John Keenan (condemned the video "It is ridiculing and demeaning the faith of ordinary Catholics especially at a time when Catholics are experiencing more and more abuse and prejudice in Scotland...The BBC has to be careful. It has to ask itself if it has ceased to be a broadcaster in the public interest, and is just promoting particular interests. You cannot imagine it treating any other religion like this")

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2018/04/13/bbc-scotland-video-says-holy-communion-smells-like-hate/>

Sunday April 15, 2018



Pakistan: Shahdara

Pastor Yousuf Aziz (church attacked with a firebomb "We have not received any threats and we are not in conflict with anyone, this criminal act is shocking for all of us, everything was burnt: mats, rugs, chairs, furnishings, crosses, sacred books like the Bible, hymn books, catechism books...The members of the community are in tears in seeing their Church like this, we pray for the guilty and leave everything in God's hands. God will protect his people")

http://www.fides.org/en/news/64047-ASIA_PAKISTAN_A_church_burned_in_Lahore_by_unknown_persons



Uzbekistan: Mubarek, Kashkadarya region

A worship service was raided by SSS secret police

Vladimir Khanyukov (**UPDATE**: present during the raid, said "As soon as the officials arrived at the Church they began filming the worshippers without asking our permission. They also without showing a search warrant confiscated our Christian literature")

Vitaly Provodin (called the regional police headquarters to complain about the raid, was subsequently arrested and interrogated)

Uzbekistan: Urgench

Stanislav Kim (apartment raided by police during an [April 8, 2018](#) Easter celebration, worshippers were forced to end their meal and go out into the street to record their names; **UPDATE**: apartment raided again by police during a worship service, said "Officers conducted an unauthorized search, and confiscated a Bible and Children's Bible in Russian, a New Testament in Uzbek, a Bible commentary book, a Baptist song book, 12 copies of 'Herald of Truth' Baptist magazine, 30 Baptist post-cards, and a personal diary. Police ignored our demands to show their identity documents and the legally-required warrant for the search", all adults were taken to a police station and questioned for four hours, added "When we told the police that their actions are unlawful, and refused to sign any papers, the officers threatened that they may open a criminal case against us")

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2380

Monday April 16, 2018



Philippines: Quezon City

Sr Patricia Fox (aged 71, Australian citizen; **UPDATE**: arrested for 'illegal political activity')

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/philippine-authorities-arrest-71-year-old-australian-nun/82076>



China

Pastor Chen Shixin (husband of Wang Hong, arrested in [Lieshan District, Huaibei, Anhui province](#) on [April 12, 2017](#) and charged with 'damaging forestry resources'; arrest formalized on [May 18, 2017](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/11/church-warned-not-to-allow-children-in.html>



Kazakhstan: Maktaaral

Beket Saryev (acquitted on a charge of sharing the faith)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2392

Tuesday April 17, 2018



Philippines

Sr Patricia Fox (aged 71, Australian citizen; arrested in [Quezon City](#) on [April 16, 2018](#) for 'illegal political activity'; **UPDATE**: released after a prosecutor found no probable cause for the arrest)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/philippine-authorities-arrest-71-year-old-australian-nun/82076>



Myanmar

Assistant Pastor Dom Dawng Nawng Latt (aged 65, cousin of La Jaw Gam Hseng, disappeared on [December 24, 2016](#), had told media of the December 3, 2016 bombing of the church in Mongkoe township; sentenced on [October 27, 2017](#) to 4 years' and three months' imprisonment; **UPDATE**: released in a general amnesty)

La Jaw Gam Hseng (aged 35, cousin of Dom Dawng Nawng, church youth leader, disappeared on [December 24, 2016](#), had told media of the December 3, 2016 bombing of the church in Mongkoe township; sentenced on [October 27, 2017](#) to 4 years' and three months' imprisonment; **UPDATE**: released in a general amnesty)

Pastor Zau Ra (secretary of the Kachin Baptist Convention, reported on the release of Assistant Pastors Dom Dawng Nawng Latt and La Jaw Gam Hseng: "They were freed around 4 p.m. yesterday, and they are on their way back home. We are happy that they were freed,

but they spent one year and five months in prison. It is not good for them, their family and even for the convention. They were arrested for being suspicious and sentenced into prison. It was a waste of time, and it was not fair”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/04/two-pastors-in-burma-freed-from-prison>

Wednesday April 18, 2018



Pakistan: Sialkot

Asma Yaqoub (aged 25, subjected to an acid attack after she resisted being forced into an Islamic marriage, hospitalized)

<https://www.christiansinpakistan.com/the-cecil-iris-foundation-demands-justice-for-asma-yaqoob/>



Nigeria: Jebbu-Miango village, Plateau state

Adam Sunday (aged 38, **killed**)

Jatau Akus (aged 39, **killed**)

Chohu Awarhai (**killed**)

Marcus Mali (aged 22, **killed**)

Rev Sunday Zibeh (described the attack “The four victims were construction workers working on site when they were attacked...The sad reality is that the Nigerian government headed by President Muhammadu Buhari, himself a Muslim and a Fulani man, has not acted in any way to end these attacks”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/06/two-christians-ambushed-killed-in-central-nigeria/>

Thursday April 19, 2018



China: Beijing

Xu Yonghai (**UPDATE:** said "[W]e gathered for a Bible study on Friday, April 20. On April 19, the police showed up at my house and asked me: 'Who is going to attend the gathering tomorrow? Will there be reporters?' A few reporters visit our church frequently and attend the Bible study sessions. Two reporters had planned to come on April 20", one reporter cancelled when he saw the police outside the church)

<http://www.chinaaid.org/2018/05/christian-times-chinese-officials.html>



Mexico: Cautitlan Izalli

Fr Ruben Alcantara (aged 50, **stabbed to death**)

<https://cruxnow.com/global-church/2018/04/26/for-the-third-time-in-a-week-a-priest-is-found-dead-in-mexico/>

http://www.fides.org/en/news/64056-AMERICA_MEXICO_Priest_murdered_in_his_office



United States - North Carolina: Fort Bragg

Major Scott Squires (U.S. Army chaplain, reported to have been recommended for disciplinary action after a same sex couple attempted to register for a marriage retreat and he attempted to find another chaplain to take his place, issued a statement: "I was shocked the investigator concluded that I should be reprimanded for doing something I'm required to do under Army regulations and my endorser's [church's] rules. I hope the Army sees that I was simply following Army regulations and the tenets of my church")

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/army-chaplain-faces-career-ending-punishment-following-sbc-marriage-guidelines-223117/>

Friday April 20, 2018



Mexico: Guadalajara

Fr Juan Miguel Contreras (aged 33, **shot dead** in church)

<https://cruxnow.com/global-church/2018/04/26/for-the-third-time-in-a-week-a-priest-is-found-dead-in-mexico/>
www.fides.org/en/news/64075-AMERICA_MEXICO_Bishops_ask_after_yet_another_priest_is_assassinated_why_hav_e_we_lost_respect_for_life

Sunday April 22, 2018



Pakistan: Lahore

Asma Yaqoub (aged 25, subjected to an acid attack in [Sialkot](#) on [April 18, 2018](#) after she resisted bring forced into an Islamic marriage, hospitalized; **UPDATE: died of her injuries**)

<https://www.christiansinpakistan.com/the-cecil-iris-foundation-demands-justice-for-asma-yaqoob/>

Monday April 23, 2018



Philippines

Sr Patricia Fox (aged 71, Australian citizen; arrested in [Quezon City](#) on [April 16, 2018](#) for 'illegal political activity'; released on [April 17, 2018](#) after a prosecutor found no probable cause for the arrest; **UPDATE: visa revoked**)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/australian-nun-defies-philippine-order-to-leave/82402>



Ivory Coast: Nianda

Fr Bernardin Brou (aged 41, **shot in a roadside robbery attempt**, hospitalized, **died**)

Fr Theophile Ahi (witnessed the shooting of Fr Bernardin Brou)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/64085-AFRICA_COTE_D_IVORE_Priest_killed_in_road_robbery

Tuesday April 24, 2018



Kazakhstan: Oskemen

Anastasiya Krivoruchenko (fined 35 MFIs and banned for 3 months for selling an icon online)
Natalya Orekhova (fined 35 MFIs for selling a children's Bible online)

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2392



Nigeria: Ukpor-Mbalom, Benue state

Muslim Fulani gunmen attacked a church during Mass, killing 19, then burned 50 homes

Fr Joseph Gor (**killed**)

Fr Felix Tyolaha (**killed**)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/nigerias-bishops-call-for-processions-to-honor-those-killed-in-church-attack-16760>

http://www.fides.org/en/news/64086-AFRICA_NIGERIA_Two_priests_among_victims_in_central_Nigeria_massacres

Wednesday April 25, 2018



Belarus: Bilevo

Fr Klemens Werth SJ (Russian citizen, denied government permission to practice his ministry in Vitebsk on [November 23, 2016](#); denied again on [November 30, 2017](#); **UPDATE**: has been building a new church "I am supposed to serve in this church, but so far I cannot work in it as a priest")

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2387

Thursday April 26, 2018



Mexico: Morelos state

Fr Moises Fabila Reyes (aged 83, abducted in [Cuernavaca, Morelos state](#) on [April 3, 2018](#);

UPDATE: [found dead of an apparent heart attack](#))

<https://cruxnow.com/global-church/2018/04/26/for-the-third-time-in-a-week-a-priest-is-found-dead-in-mexico/>

Friday April 27, 2018



Belarus

Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz (**UPDATE:** appealed the expulsion of Fr Krzysztof Poswiata, appealed denied, said "The law speaks about five offences and not two or three. This is real discrimination against foreign clergy. It means that foreigners are divided into two sorts: an ordinary individual and a priest...nobody questions that Belarusian laws are to be obeyed, but this legal aspect should be taken into consideration")

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2387

Sunday April 29, 2018



Philippines: Gattaran, Cagayan province

Fr Mark Anthony Yuaga Ventura (aged 37, [shot dead](#) while blessing children after Mass)

Philippines: Koronadal City, South Cotabatom

Two persons were injured in a church bombing

Dindo Zamora (aged 39, hospitalized in serious condition)

Generosa Sumargo (aged 44, hospitalized in serious condition)

Wisian Phoebe Lumingkit (said “We were still inside the church attending the christening then. It started late actually. Supposed to be, the ceremony is already done by 12 noon. By exactly 12 noon on my watch, there was a loud explosion near the side entrance of the church. Everyone panicked but the priest told us to remain calm”)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/priest-shot-dead-after-mass-in-northern-philippines/82175>

<https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1718563>



India: Baburia Khera, Uttar Pradesh state

Pastor Kamlesh Kuma (husband of Shashikala, described a Hindu attack on his church: "They manhandled women, beat them, pulled their clothes, spoke to them in a filthy language and disgraced them", threatened with death, said when police arrived “Instead of taking action against our plight, the police began to question us as to, ‘Why are you running a church? You are not supposed to worship here...otherwise you will get killed and we can do nothing to help you’”)

Shashikala (wife of Pastor Kamlesh Kuma, described a Hindu attack on her church “They were looking for the pastor, saying, ‘We will kill him today’. We had hidden him inside a room and locked the room from outside. They went on hunting for him everywhere. This is how we were able to save his life...I saw Ram Prasad fall on the floor bleeding profusely after being hit by a brick, but the attackers continued kicking him and hitting him with wooden sticks until he lay motionless on the floor...The neighbors just stood watching us in fear during the attack. No one came to our rescue for fear of getting beaten up”, said police questioned parishioners for evidence of illegal conversions, received medical treatment)

Ram Prasad (aged 55, beaten into unconsciousness, hospitalized)

Mithlesh (received medical treatment)

Kalavati (received medical treatment)

Maya (received medical treatment)

India: Bihar state

Three Christians were arrested at their church on allegations of illegal conversion

Rajini (sister of Sarah, arrested)

Sarah (wife of Subash, sister of Rajini, arrested)

Subash (husband of Sarah, arrested)

<https://persecutionrelief.org/update-bro-subash-released-after-26-days-in-jail-bihar/>
<https://morningstarnews.org/2018/05/pastors-wife-hides-husband-from-hindu-extremists-seeking-to-kill-him-in-northern-india/>

Monday April 30, 2018



Belarus: Gatovo, Minsk region

Fr Krzysztof Poswiata (Polish citizen, forced to leave the country after the government denied extension of his permits due to 3 traffic violations)

Fr Yuri Barok (**UPDATE**: said "If it were a Belarusian priest, his driving license would be suspended. But since it's a Polish priest, there's no proportion in punishment. The issue is not his speeding - it's just a good excuse to get rid of him")

http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2387

April 2018, date unknown



China: Hebei province

Bishop Cui Tai (aged 68, disappeared in [mid-April 2018](#); **UPDATE**: allowed to return home, banned from religious activities, weighted only 52 kilograms due to ill health)

<https://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-bishop-and-priests-released-for-lunar-new-year/84473>



Iran

Fatemeh "Mary" Mohammadi (aged 19, convert, arrested in [November 2017](#) while attending an underground house church; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment, released with time served)

<https://articleeighteen.com/news/4242/>

Today's Martyrs

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<http://todaysmartyrs.org/events/>

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