

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – November 2019

Friday November 1, 2019



Bangladesh

Hossain Ali (aged 68, likely convert, reported to have been **stabbed to death** by three Muslims on motorcycles for leading Christian prayer meetings in his home)

Bangladesh: Dhaka

Rita (family reported to have fled their home after an attack by 30 Muslims, said “How long will we be persecuted in this country?”)

Bangladesh: Nilphamri district

Pastor Roy (likely convert, husband of Swopna, reported to have said “I am Pastor Roy serving at Nilphamri Evangelical Cell Church. I am pastoring the area since 2014 and expanded the ministry and now I established four more churches. While I shared the Gospel I faced lots of problems because six families accepted Jesus from majority [i.e. Muslim] background. I was in prison but my faith was strong and therefore God rescued me from danger. Now we have 153 baptized members and God is increasing my ministry”)

Swopna (wife of Pastor Roy)

<https://barnabasfund.org/us/appeals/be-a-blessing-to-persecuted-christians-in-bangladesh>

Saturday November 2, 2019



India: Tamil Nadu state

Rev John Britto (aged 53, arrested after a neighbor claimed to have found burnt Hindu idols in his churchyard)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/-Tamil-Nadu,-a-Protestant-pastor-arrested,-accused-of-burning-Hindu-gods-48487.html>



Iran: Shiraz

Ismail Maghrebi-Nejad (aged 65, convert of 40 years, widower of Mahvash Mahmoudian, arrested on [January 23, 2019](#), charged with 'propaganda against the state and insulting the sacred Iranian establishment'; accused by a judge on [October 22, 2019](#) of apostasy, bail increased to US\$9,000; **UPDATE**: appeared in court, defense attorney approved)

<https://www.meconcern.org/2019/11/11/iran-hearing-for-ismaeil-maghrebinejad/>

Sunday November 3, 2019



Turkey: Kusadasi

Esma (aged 40, convert, high school teacher, removed from her teaching position after her conversion was reported by a newspaper)

<https://www.meconcern.org/2019/11/09/turkey-christian-convert-teacher-dismissed-from-duties/>



Nicaragua

Cardinal Leopoldo Jose Brenes Solorzano (aged 70, **UPDATE**: condemned the desecration of the graves of people killed in anti-government demonstrations, said "We must respect tombs, because a saint rests there. For us here they are saints, here we have buried them and here we come to pray for them")

http://www.fides.org/en/news/66898-AMERICA_NICARAGUA_Desecrated_tombs_of_killed_protesters_the_Church_calls_for_peace_justice_and_respect_for_all

Monday November 4, 2019



India: Gadiras village, Chhattisgarh state

Sodi Joga (convert, husband, father of a 5 year old daughter, expelled from his village along with his family, wrote in his police complaint that they had been harassed for three months "They would quarrel with us over trivial issues and link it with our Christian faith. We had been quiet and never said a word")

Dudhi Bandi (church elder, described the persecution of Sodi Joga and his family "The villagers demanded that Joga and his family must partake in the cleansing ritual, a puja, which would cleanse them of Christianity and restore them to their previous faith. But they refused to bow to the tribal deities. The villagers threw out the belongings, animals and chickens owned by Sodi Joga. Joga did not know where to go. It was his relatives and kinsmen who were threatening that they would kill him, his wife and 5-year-old daughter...I pray for the Lord's protection over them. Usually in such cases, the village council would let Naxals [Maoist militants] take over, and they won't hesitate to take lives. We had already counselled them and made them aware about these dangers")

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/12/animists-opposing-christianity-in-india-find-allies-in-maoists-police-hindu-extremists/>



Pakistan: Waqya Chak village, Arifwala district, Punjab province

Naseer Masih (catechist, described the destruction of the front door of his church by a mob under police observation: "Muslims do not want the church in the village because they have bad feelings towards Christians")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Punjab,-a-Muslims-mob-destroys-a-Catholic-church-48478.html>



France: Oloron-Sainte-Marie

Bishop Marc Aillet (condemned a "sacrilegious robbery" of a cathedral in which sacred items were stolen)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/french-cathedral-robbed-in-battering-ram-raid-12614>

Wednesday November 6, 2019



China: Chengdu, Sichuan province

Pastor Wang Yi (husband of Jiang Rong, son of Chen Yaxue, detained on [December 10, 2018](#), charged with 'inciting subversion of state power'; **UPDATE**: still jailed, attorney told by prosecutors that he would not be allowed to represent him because he had too many ties to him and his church)

<https://www.chinaaid.org/2019/11/pastors-lawyer-fired.html>



Cameroon: Moskota

David Mokoni (retired pastor, **killed** in a Boko Haram attack on his church, a boy with a hearing impairment was also killed, one man was shot in the leg and hospitalized)

<https://barnabasfund.org/us/news/pioneer-pastor-among-eight-murdered-in-cameroon-in-wave-of-brutal-attacks-by-boko-haram>

Friday November 8, 2019



Uganda: Kakola village, Namutumba district

Ronald Rajab Nayekuliza (aged 48, convert from Islam, husband, father of four aged 12, 10, 7 and one pre-born, six piglets killed)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/christian-poisoned-by-muslim-brothers-in-eastern-uganda-sources-say/>

Saturday November 9, 2019



Philippines

Rev Dr Olav Fykse Tveit (World Council of Churches general secretary, expressed alarm and grave concern from [Norway](#) over the listing of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines, along with 17 other civil society organizations, as being fronts for the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army: "In the context of current Philippine politics, such 'red-tagging' in effect gives a green light to harassment and deadly attacks by security forces and militias against those listed")

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/wcc-gravely-concerned-about-red-tagging-of-council-of-churches-in-the-philippines>



China

Zhang Xiaomai (Christian bookstore owner, reported to have been detained, nationwide customer base harassed by police)

Mr D (former customer of Zhang Xiaomai, reported to have been contacted by the authorities by phone and asked about his past purchases of Christian books)

China: Luojiang, Fujian province

Bishop Vincent Guo Xijin (aged 61, underground bishop; **UPDATE**: has been under daily supervision and pressure by police to join the "independent" church)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mindong,-Msgr.-Guo-Xijin-hounded-by-police-to-submit-to-the-independent-Church-48528.html>

<https://www.chinaaid.org/2019/11/china-questions-christians-for-buying.html>



Nigeria

Monday Kura (aged 87, **stabbed to death** with machetes by Fulani Muslims as he slept)

Cardinal John Olorunfemi Onaiyekan (aged 75, **UPDATE**: resignation due to reaching retirement age accepted)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Onaiyekan



Chile

Bishops signed a letter decrying desecration of churches during civil unrest: "We are hurt by the mistreatment of people, constant looting and violence, wherever it comes from, it hurts when our churches and places of prayer are attacked without respect for God and for those who believe in Him. Churches and other places of worship are sacred"

Bishop Juan Ignacio Gonzalez Errazuriz

Auxiliary Bishop Luis Fernando Ramos Perez (**UPDATE**)

Archbishop Rene Osvaldo Rebolledo Salinas

Bishop Santiago Jaime Silva Retamales

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/66933-AMERICA CHILE Looted and desecrated places of worship the Bishops ask to apply the law and rebuild the social fabric](http://www.fides.org/en/news/66933-AMERICA_CHILE_Looted_and_desecrated_places_of_worship_the_Bishops_ask_to_apply_the_law_and_rebuild_the_social_fabric)

Sunday November 10, 2019



India: Ranbir Singh Pora area, Jammu district

The August 2019 abrogation of the Indian Constitution provisions regarding Jammu and Kashmir and the imposition of direct rule from New Delhi resulted in a curtailment of organized Christian worship

Pastor Mohan Lal Kaith (detained by police while leading worship in a parishioner's home, threatened, released in the evening)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/police-extremists-use-clampdown-in-jammu-and-kashmir-india-to-thwart-christians/>



Uganda: Kakola village, Namutumba district

Ronald Rajab Nayekuliza (aged 48, convert from Islam, husband, father of four aged 12, 10, 7 and one pre-born, six piglets killed on [November 8, 2019](#); **UPDATE**: poisoned with

pesticide by his relatives at his late father's memorial service in retribution for his conversion, hospitalized, released after 8 days)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/christian-poisoned-by-muslim-brothers-in-eastern-uganda-sources-say/>



United Kingdom: London

Roland Parsons (aged 72, husband of Frances, retired engineer, told by police that he could no longer display Christian phrases during his monthly speeches in Hyde Park's Speakers Corner, said he would challenge the police in court, police stated his banner "The Blood of Christ" had been illegally attached to a railing but he claimed it had seen such use for 20 years and that other speakers' banners were allowed to remain that day)

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7693963/Christian-banned-displaying-banner-proclaiming-beliefs-vows-challenge-court.html>

Monday November 11, 2019



India: Ranbir Singh Pora area, Jammu district

The August 2019 abrogation of the Indian Constitution provisions regarding Jammu and Kashmir and the imposition of direct rule from New Delhi resulted in a curtailment of organized Christian worship

Pastor Mohan Lal Kaith (detained by police while leading worship in a parishioner's home on [November 10, 2019](#), threatened, released in the evening; **UPDATE**: detained by police, threatened, released in the evening, later said “Then I told him [the police station officer] that, ‘I have not violated the Indian Constitution, and I abide by every word written in it as framed by its makers. If still you see fault in me, it is fine – you can forcefully frame me in any case that would incriminate me for sharing about Christ, but I will not stop’”, added that he had been threatened for months: “Every few minutes I received a message that the Bajrang Dal [the RSS paramilitary youth wing] and Ram Sevaks are aware of where I am, and that they are observing me closely, and that I should preach about Hindu gods while sharing about Christ, and that if I failed to do so they would punish me with death. The neighbors in the village keep watch on me, and if they see me going out for prayer, immediately the message passes on, and a mob of Ram Sevaks and Bajrang Dal reach there to disrupt the prayer service. They use filthy language, so that we can never have a proper dialogue with them”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/police-extremists-use-clampdown-in-jammu-and-kashmir-india-to-thwart-christians/>



Iraq

Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako (**UPDATE**: called for three days of fasting and prayer "for an end to the chaos and violence that are bloodying the country")

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2019-11/iraq-cardinal-sako-appeal-prayer-fasting-peace.html>

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/66928->

[ASIA IRAQ Chaldean Patriarchate three days of fasting to call for peace to return in Iraq](#)



Syria: Deir el-Zor province

Three clergy were shot by the Islamic State [ISIL]

Fr Abraham Petoyan aka Fr Hanna Bidu (father of Fr Hovsep Hanna Petoyan, **shot dead**)

Fr Hovsep Hanna Petoyan (aged 46, husband, father of three, son of Fr Abraham Petoyan, **shot, hospitalized, died**)

Deacon Fati Sano (shot, hospitalized)

Metropolitan Boutros Marayati (**UPDATE**: said "In the city of Qamishli many Christian refugees also fled from Deir ez-Zor, when that city was devastated by war. He [Fr Hovsep Hanna Petoyan] also carried out his pastoral work among them, and for a long time he also followed the projects implemented with the help of international groups to rebuild the church and the houses of the Christians in Deir ez Zor, destroyed by the war. For this reason he went to Deir ez Zor every two weeks to check the progress of the work. He had already carried out six trips to that city so dear to the memory of the Armenians, where there is the shrine of the martyrs of the genocide, also devastated during the conflict...For us they are martyrs. And what happened to them is a confirmation that the war is not over here, as we had hoped")

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/66941->

[ASIA SYRIA Armenian priest and his father killed in Deir ez Zor Archbishop Marayati for us they are martyrs And the war is not over](#)

<https://www.persecution.org/2019/11/11/two-syrian-armenian-priests-gunned-one-wounded/>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/ISIS-is-targeting-Syrias-Christians.-Vicar-of-Aleppo:-We-are-under-siege-48523.html>



Ireland: Malahide

Fr Jimmy McPartland (reported on an attack on a monastery in which people invaded the chapel, swore at the elderly nuns at prayer, and proceeded to vandalize it)

<https://catholicherald.co.uk/news/2019/11/14/daytime-vandalization-of-irish-carmelite-monastery-shocks-locals/>

Tuesday November 12, 2019



China: Hong Kong

Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Ha Chi-Shing OFM (**UPDATE**: issued a statement on Facebook calling on police and demonstrators to act with restraint after a major riot at City University triggered by police caused at least 60 injuries)

China: Luojiang, Fujian province

Bishop Vincent Guo Xijin (aged 61, underground bishop; beginning on [November 9, 2019](#) has been under daily supervision and pressure by police to join the "independent" church; **UPDATE**: forced into an automobile by police on [November 12, 2019](#) in an effort to bring him to a meeting of "independent" clergy, instead taken to the residence of the official bishop in Ningde and held in custody)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mindong,-Msgr.-Guo-Xijin-hounded-by-police-to-submit-to-the-independent-Church-48528.html>

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Tear-gas,-bullets,-hydrants-against-stones-and-Molotovs:-scenes-of-war-at-the-Chinese-university-of-Hong-Kong-48527.html>



India

Minakshi Singh (reported: "Atrocities against Christians are on the rise. In 2014, about 150 episodes of violence against the community were reported. In 2016, the count rose to 200 and in 2017 it went up to 270 accidents. In 2018, there were 292 episodes of violence against Christians. In 2019 [until September] 247 cases were reported, 60 of which in the

state of Uttar Pradesh. In the past year, 40 churches have been closed due to violence. In Chhattisgarh, communities and other Christian groups even face a social boycott. We ask the government to end the harassment towards pastors, priests and violence against the Christian community")

A C Michael (United Christian Forum; **UPDATE**: said "Religious minorities, like Christians and Muslims, are targeted by nationalist Hindu groups. For this reason urgent measures are needed against the groups responsible for this violence", also spoke against so-called 'Freedom of Religion Acts' in seven Indian states: "These laws should be immediately withdrawn to ensure total religious freedom")

Bishop Emeritus Karam Masih (said: "Our rights should be protected. We are peace loving people. The government should do everything to keep peace. The government should support constitutional values")

India: Parihara village, Garhwa district, Jharkhand state

Rev Basant Kumar Paul (husband and father, attacked by 8 or 9 RSS paramilitary members in his home during a prayer meeting, hospitalized, elderly mother beaten, son hospitalized with a broken leg, wife hospitalized in critical condition with a coma, personal property stolen)

Rev Patsy David (reported on the attack on Rev Basant Kumar Paul: "fanatics came to the house church, and started abusing and beating everyone...[he was able to reach] the police station and file a complaint, and then fainted. After that the police took him to hospital, where he was admitted")

Shibu Thomas (Persecution Relief; **UPDATE**: reported on the attack on Rev Basant Kumar Paul: "Fanatics are taking full advantage of it [the 2017 anti-conversion law] and are beating and assaulting innocent people. False complaints [about forced conversions] are being filed against Catholic nuns, priests, pastors and [Protestant] believers. They strike and lynch Muslims at will. Ghar Wapsi ['homecomings' - forced conversion to Hinduism] have become regular features. The Chief Minister [state governor] and others are mum about it. They should speak, loud and clear. Tribals are being harassed and forced into reconversion [editor: this is a slight misstatement, since tribals generally were never Hindus]")

[http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hindu-radicals-attack-Christian-pastors-family-in-Jharkhand,-leaving-his-wife-in-a-coma-\(photos\)-48549.html](http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hindu-radicals-attack-Christian-pastors-family-in-Jharkhand,-leaving-his-wife-in-a-coma-(photos)-48549.html)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/66934->

[ASIA INDIA Violence increases Indian Christians claim their constitutional rights](#)



Pakistan: Yousafabad

Amir Masih (sanitation worker, reported to have been accused of blasphemy and Quran desecration after he found pages from the Quran in the trash he was collecting and took them to a Muslim owned shop for verification, abducted and taken to a mosque where the

loudspeakers called for his punishment and the burning of Christian homes, rescued by police who then calmed the situation)

<https://barnabasfund.org/us/news/police-intervene-to-help-pakistani-christian-attacked-by-muslim-mob-after-%E2%80%9Cblasphemy%E2%80%9D-charge>



United States – Texas: Waco

Judge Dianne Hensley (censured by the Commission on Judicial Conduct for recusing herself from performing same sex weddings)

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/texas-judge-files-lawsuit-against-state-agency-after-she-was-warned-about-not-conducting-same-sex-weddings>

Wednesday November 13, 2019



China: Ningde, Fujian province

Bishop Vincent Guo Xijin (aged 61, underground bishop; beginning on [November 9, 2019](#) has been under daily supervision and pressure by police to join the "independent" church; forced into an automobile by police in [Luojiang, Fujian province](#) on [November 12, 2019](#) in an effort to bring him to a meeting of "independent" clergy, instead taken to the residence of the official bishop in Ningde and held in custody; **UPDATE:** 'escaped' from custody at the residence of the official bishop, returned home, expected to be arrested again)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mindong,-Msgr.-Guo-Xijin-hounded-by-police-to-submit-to-the-independent-Church-48528.html>



Nigeria: Agom village, Kaduna state

Monday Kura (aged 87, **stabbed to death** with machetes by Fulani Muslims as he slept)

Emmanuel Agom (aged 48, **shot dead** by Fulani Muslims as he slept)

Gabriel Yakubu (reported via texting on the murder of Monday Kura and Emmanuel Agom:

“The Fulani herdsmen cut Monday Kura, 87 years, with a machete until he died, while

Emmanuel, 48 years, was shot dead with a gun. Sir, we need your prayers as my village is on fire and we are not getting any protection from the government”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/muslim-fulani-herdsmen-kill-two-christians-in-kaduna-state-nigeria/>



United Kingdom

Robert Charles Douglas "Rob" Ffello (aged 53, convert, former Member of Parliament, 'deselected' by his political party 36 hours after it had nominated him to stand for Parliament on the grounds that he had "put himself outside the standards we would expect for a Liberal Democrat candidate", alleged his Christian views were the reason)

<https://christianconcern.com/comment/rob-ffello-to-sue-lib-dems-for-discrimination/>
<https://www.robffello.co.uk/proposedclaim>

Thursday November 14, 2019



Russia: St Petersburg

Olga Glamozdinova (fined US\$155 in [September 2017](#) for hosting her church's services in her home in [Veselyi, Rostov oblast](#) as an 'unintended purpose'; appealed her case to the Constitutional Court on [October 8, 2019](#); **UPDATE**: won her case before the Constitutional Court, which ruled that worship services in private homes are permitted to meet the spiritual needs of the residents)

<https://barnabasfund.org/us/news/christian-wins-landmark-case-in-russia-over-right-to-worship-in-private-homes>
<https://barnabasfund.org/en/news/christian-brings-landmark-case-in-russia-over-right-to-worship-in-private-homes>



Nigeria: Agban village, Kaura county, Kaduna state

Four Christian farmers were killed as they slept in their beds

Hosea Ayuba (relative of Williams Adamu, **killed**)

Ado Adamu (killed)

Abagu Danladi (killed)

Kusa Danladi (killed)

Williams Adamu (relative of Hosea Ayuba, said the attack was “one too many”)

Gideon Akut (reported on the murders)

Didam Ashio (reported on the murders: “Please help me pray for my dear Agban community”)

Derek Christopher (reported via text “Hosea Ayuba, Ado Adamu, Abagu Danladi and Kusa Danladi were killed by armed Muslim Fulani herdsmen. They were attacked with machetes, and their corpses had machetes cut wounds. The herdsmen came to the area in a minivan and a motorbike”, villagers then pursued the killers, captured two, and turned them over to police)

Nigeria: Girei area, Yola, Adamawa state

Professor Felix Ilesanmi (university chaplain, abducted from his home on the [Modibbo Adama University of Technology campus](#) five uniformed and armed men)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/four-christian-farmers-killed-by-muslim-fulani-herdsmen-in-kaduna-state-nigeria-sources-say/>



Chile: Valdivia

Msgr Nelson R Huaquimil (reported to have issued a statement condemning another church desecration "We are deeply saddened by the destruction that the Church of San Francisco de Valdivia has suffered, we know that the most important thing in every situation is always the people, and five Dehonian brothers, consecrated persons at the service of the community live there. They are fine, but they are experiencing a natural state of helplessness and pain. It pains us that they entered the Church and the Blessed Sacrament was desecrated, the sacred images, the furnishings destroyed and general damage to this heritage")

http://www.fides.org/en/news/66950-AMERICA_CHILE_San_Francisco_de_Valdivia_Temple_desecrated



United States - Michigan

Fr Don LaCuesta (sued for stating Christian beliefs about suicide at the funeral of a suicide victim)

<https://christianpost.com/news/mom-files-lawsuit-against-priest-for-suggesting-son-who-died-by-suicide-might-not-go-to-heaven.html>

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/woman-sues-priest-for-offering-catholic-teaching-about-suicide-at-sons-funeral>

Friday November 15, 2019



Vietnam: Nghe An province

Nguyen Nang Tinh (aged 43, husband of Nguyen Thi Tinh, father of one, music teacher, active in church charity groups and Christian media, arrested in [Nghe An](#) on [May 29, 2019](#), had for years visited and materially supported many families of Catholic and Protestant prisoners, held in isolation; indicted on [September 17, 2019](#); trial postponed after prosecutors refused before [October 17, 2019](#) to allow his defense attorneys access to evidence; **UPDATE**: convicted, sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment, denied that he was the owner of the Facebook page that was the evidence against him)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Catholic-music-teacher-sentenced-to-11-years-for-anti-state-propaganda-48562.html>



Pakistan: Lahore

Gonila Gill (aged 38, wife of Husnain Jamil, mother, reported her family has been persecuted because her Muslim husband did not require her to convert to Islam, resigned from her journalism job, recently said "People are vile when they talk rubbish about my faith. However, I will not lose hope and remain steadfast in my religion...[I] received from God the gift of an honest husband, respectful of me and our son who we chose to baptize as a Christian. I am very grateful to him because he helps me and takes care of me, although he is also forced to endure the cruelty of people. He supports my son and I in our Christian life. He often comes to Mass with us and participates in prayers. I am lucky to be surrounded by people who love me, by friends who support me. I feel a sense of insecurity in living in this society, and I am very worried about my son's future")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Lahore,-a-Christian-journalist,-persecuted-at-work,-resigns-48553.html>



United States – California: San Francisco

A Federal civil trial jury found Christian investigative journalists guilty of multiple crimes while they exposed Planned Parenthood's illegal sale of unborn baby parts, including the harvesting of organs prior to death, fined them over \$2 million in compensatory and punitive damages

David Daleiden (**UPDATE**: fined \$125,000 in punitive damages)

Sandra Merritt (**UPDATE**: fined \$25,000 in punitive damages)

Albin Rhomberg (board member, fined \$70,000 in punitive damages)

Troy Newman (board member, fined \$50,000 in punitive damages)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/court-rules-daleidens-undercover-videos-caused-substantial-harm-to-planned-parenthood-82553>

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/jury-daleiden-pro-life-group-owe-planned-parenthood-870k-in-damages-for-undercover-videos.html>

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/breaking-jury-rules-against-daleiden-pro-lifers-who-exposed-planned-parenthoods-sale-of-baby-body-parts>

Saturday November 16, 2019



Turkey: Istanbul

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I aka Dimitrios Arhondonis (**UPDATE**: residence invaded by four masked men in his absence, nothing was apparently taken, police later captured the four in a gun battle in which one of the four was wounded)

<https://orthochristian.com/125987.html>

<https://orthochristian.com/125753.html>



Ukraine: Rososhka village, Rakhov district, Transcarpathian region

Fr John Deket (threatened with death, wife assaulted)

<https://orthochristian.com/125650.html>



Nigeria

Fr Teofilo Ndulue (abducted)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/67032->

[AFRICA NIGERIA This year alone 9 priests kidnapped in the State of Enugu](http://www.fides.org/en/news/67032-)



Nicaragua: Masaya

Fr Edwin Roman (held by police in his church along with relatives of political prisoners who had begun a hunger strike, police turned off all utilities to the church and arrested all who tried to bring food and water)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/67010->

[AMERICA NICARAGUA The health of the parish priest of Masaya hospitalized i
s improving](http://www.fides.org/en/news/67010-)

Sunday November 17, 2019



India: Narayanpur district, Chhattisgarh state

Ramesh Kumar Usendi (convert, along with other converts were denied Adivasis [aboriginal] certificates, which are needed for higher education, said “We travelled about 62 kilometers [38.5 miles] to reach the district office and submitted our applications and waited for hours. The official called us and asked us if I and the youths were Christian. We answered, ‘Yes.’ He was very angry that we applied for caste certificates and started using filthy language against us. The officer then tore our application letters and dumped them in the dust bin and asked us to never appear before him...In the Hindu *Sanghatan* [Hindu Union] meetings, they are told that Christian Adivasis would compete against them for government jobs. They want to limit our access to higher education and government benefits. In Orcha village alone, there must be at least 500 to 600 Christians who suffer this social inequality. Christian youths have at least studied 10th grade, but most of them do not possess a caste certificate”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/12/animists-opposing-christianity-in-india-find-allies-in-maoists-police-hindu-extremists/>



Ethiopia: West Hararge

Serkalem [Erikeselam] Moges (aged 39, wife, mother of a three week old baby, teacher, religious teacher, reported to have been **stoned to death** at her home by militant Muslims)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/orthodox-christian-school-teacher-killed-by-islamic-radicals-in-ethiopia/>



Egypt: Nassiriya village

Shinoda Aziz (stabbed in the abdomen by a Muslim when he refused the Muslim's order to his family to stop sitting in front of their home and go inside, hospitalized in critical condition, mother stabbed in the head, younger brother stabbed in the face)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/coptic-christian-family-attacked-in-upper-egypt-adult-son-in-intensive-care/>

Tuesday November 19, 2019



India: Andhra Pradesh state

Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy (reported to have been accused by Hindu nationalist BJP party leader Kanna Lakshminarayana of supporting false conversions and plotting to demolish Hindu temples)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Andhra-Pradesh-Hindu-nationalist-claims-Christian-Chief-minister-is-behind-forced-conversions-48586.html>



Turkey: Diyarbakir

Pastor Jin Wook Kim (aged 41, husband of Jung In Jiang, father of one son and expectant father, South Korean citizen, **stabbed to death**, had received death threats for his missionary work)

Jung In Jiang (widow of Pastor Jin Wook Kim, mother, South Korean citizen, gave birth to a daughter 5 days after his murder, later wrote a letter to his murderer forgiving him and stating she will pray for him to go to heaven, said she will stay in Turkey)

<https://www.persecution.org/2019/11/20/christian-evangelist-murdered-southeast-turkey/>
<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Diyarbak%C4%B1r,-the-wife-of-murdered-Korean-missionary-forgives-his-killer-48708.html>



Nigeria

Professor Felix Ilesanmi (university chaplain, abducted from his home on the [Modibbo Adama University of Technology](#) campus in the Girei area of Yola in Adamawa state by five uniformed and armed men on [November 14, 2019](#); **UPDATE**: released)

Fr Teofilo Ndulue (abducted on [November 16, 2019](#); **UPDATE**: released)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/67032-AFRICA_NIGERIA_This_year_alone_9_priests_kidnapped_in_the_State_of_Enugu
<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/four-christian-farmers-killed-by-muslim-fulani-herdsmen-in-kaduna-state-nigeria-sources-say/>

Wednesday November 20, 2019



China: Xinxiang, Henan province

Pastor Li Juncai (arrested along with three other parishioners while protesting the government's [February 20, 2019](#) removal of a cross from the roof of their church; **UPDATE**: still in jail, elderly mother still in residence in their church despite no utilities to prevent its demolition)

<https://www.chinaaid.org/2019/11/the-elderly-mother-of-pastor-li-juncai.html>

Thursday November 21, 2019



India

The August 2019 abrogation of the Indian Constitution provisions regarding Jammu and Kashmir and the imposition of direct rule from New Delhi resulted in a curtailment of organized Christian worship

Pastor Vishnu Dev (said from [Ludhiana district, Punjab state](#) “It has always been difficult for missionaries and pastors to serve in Jammu and Kashmir region, but the latest move taken by the Indian government abrogating Article 370 has stirred the anger of dominant Islamic community...At the most, five families would gather in a house and would pray in secret. Microphones and large congregations have disappeared. It is saddening that the religious freedom situation for Christians in the valley is only getting worse”)

India: Srinagar, Jammu

Pastor Lance Thomas (husband, under constant surveillance by police and Hindu extremists including phone taps, said “I can’t communicate much over the phone right now, and because of the Internet clamp down, it would be very difficult to write an email also, as only one government cyber-cafe is open”)

India: Rajouri district, Jammu

Pastor Jeewer Joeswa (said “In Kashmir Valley, the curfew is still on, There are very few churches in the region, and nowhere will you find open worship as a congregation. All Sunday gatherings are done secretly inside a Christian’s home, hiding from the police and neighbors...It was a total blackout – we had no access to phone lines or Internet when the government was deciding to abrogate Article 370. The connections were restored in Jammu Region in a couple of days, but Srinagar still suffers an Internet clampdown, and we could not reach our pastors and Christians there for weeks”)

India: Taraibeda village, Kondagaon district, Chhattisgarh state

Pastor Sadhu Kashyap (abducted from a house church worship service on [April 16, 2017](#), beaten, arrested on charges of causing annoyance in public places by singing or uttering obscenities, voluntarily causing hurt and criminal intimidation, hospitalized, later said “...we had decided to hold the worship service as it was Easter Sunday, and the believers were observing fast the previous three days. Suddenly two persons barged inside the home church and asked me to come out, and that they wanted to talk to me. I reluctantly went to enquire what the matter was. They held my hands tight, caught me by the collar and took me onto the road...Some of them kicked me with shoes and beat me up with sticks. I almost fell unconscious, and they boarded me on a vehicle and took me to the police station in Kondagaon. I remember that I was fainting, and they stopped at a hotel, sprinkled some water on my face and forcefully made me drink the water. Later I was handed to the police. My health was degrading, and I was soon fully unconscious”;
UPDATE: charges dismissed)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/police-extremists-use-clampdown-in-jammu-and-kashmir-india-to-thwart-christians/>

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/12/animists-opposing-christianity-in-india-find-allies-in-maoists-police-hindu-extremists/>

Friday November 22, 2019



India

Auxiliary Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas SFX (**UPDATE**: reported on continuing harassment of Catholic adoption agencies "It is not just the sisters of Mother Teresa who are under attack. The Jesuits are under investigation in two proceedings, then also the Ursuline nuns. They attack us because the sisters look after people who are rejected in society, dying and suffering. They would like to paint us like thieves, sellers of children. They know that if they physically attack us, we become stronger. While it is easier to attack ourselves morally. They want us to lose credibility but we are strong in faith. Let us move forward in our service of love for the poor. It is the Lord who gave us this task")

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Bishop-Mascarenhas:-Attacks-on-Sisters-of-Mother-Teresa-continue-48618.html>



Nicaragua: Masaya

Fr Edwin Roman (held by police in his church on **November 16, 2019** along with relatives of political prisoners who had begun a hunger strike, police turned off all utilities to the church and arrested all who tried to bring food and water; **UPDATE**: hospitalized after the Red Cross negotiated the police withdrawal from the church)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/67010-AMERICA NICARAGUA The health of the parish priest of Masaya hospitalized is improving>

Sunday November 24, 2019



India: New Delhi

The last five men convicted of the August 2008 murder of Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati have been released on bail by order of the Supreme Court

Bhaskar Sunamajhi (husband of Debaki, father of one; **UPDATE**: release ordered)

Budhadeb Nayak (husband of Nilandri, father of five; **UPDATE**: release ordered)

Durjo Sunamajhi (husband of Gumili, father of five; **UPDATE**: release ordered)

Munda Badmajhi (husband of Bandigudali, father of four; **UPDATE**: release ordered)

Sanatan Badmajhi (husband of Badusi, father of four; **UPDATE**: release ordered)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa,-five-Christians-accused-of-guru-Laxamananda-murder-released-on-bail--48656.html>

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/67033->

[ASIA INDIA Five innocent Christians released in jail in Orissa released on bail](http://www.fides.org/en/news/67033-)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/11/falsely-accused-of-killing-hindu-leader-in-india-five-christians-ordered-to-be-freed/>

Monday November 25, 2019



India: Mirtur village, Bijapur district, Chhattisgarh state

Anjali Kadi (aged 17, daughter of Ramvati Kadi, **died after a month long battle with malaria, denied burial**)

Ramvati Kadi (mother of Anjali Kadi, told by the village chief that her daughter's burial would be permitted only if she converted to the Adivasi religion, refused)

Pastor Chapdi (described the conflict over the burial of Anjali Kadi: “The villagers threatened Ramvati Kadi, saying that she is only a woman and that she cannot perform the last rites without the support of village council. But she stood firm in faith and declined their offer. The villagers along with at least 200 Hindu extremist RSS [Rashtryia Swayamsevak Sangh paramilitaries] and Bajrang Dal activists did not let us bury the body for two days...We spent an entire day pleading with them to allow the burial. They finally agreed [under police pressure] and gave a small piece of land under a tree”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/12/animists-opposing-christianity-in-india-find-allies-in-maoists-police-hindu-extremists/>



Nigeria: on the Imilike-Nsukka Road

Fr Malachy Asadu (abducted)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/67032-AFRICA_NIGERIA_This_year_alone_9_priests_kidnapped_in_the_State_of_Enugu

Tuesday November 26, 2019



India: Perigaon village, Rayagada district, Odisha state

Pastor Bibudhan Pradhan (helped parishioners after they were attacked by Adivasi [aboriginal tribal] radicals on [November 26, 2019](#): “They were horrified by what happened...The drunk men abused the Christian families in filthy language and forcefully searched their homes for Bibles. The Christians tried hard to resist them to no avail. They gathered the Bibles from Christian homes at one spot at the center of the village, poured kerosene and lit fire”; **UPDATE**: attacked, said “After we concluded the prayers and community lunch service, a batch of around 15 tribal men came with axes, surrounded the church and threatened that they will chop us into pieces. They took us inside the village and held us hostage for more than four hours. They abused us in vulgar language, words that I can’t utter with my mouth, and threatened us that their gods and goddesses will swallow us alive for propagating Christianity in an Adivasi [indigenous tribal] hamlet”, released, church building destroyed in an arson attack that night)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/12/axe-wielding-tribal-animists-set-bibles-church-building-ablaze-in-eastern-india/>



Egypt

Ramy Kamel (Coptic activist, **UPDATE**: reported to have been arrested for posting videos of Christians being forcibly evicted from their homes in the south of the country)

Mina Thabet (**UPDATE**: said that Ramy Kamel had been threatened with arrest by the security services for weeks for his social media posts which documented persecution, said the arrest was “farcical”, added “The Sisi government is waging a war against its opposition, rather than a war against terrorism”)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Coptic-Christian-activist-arrested-for-terrorism-and-spreading-false-news-48652.html>



Greece: Piraeus

Metropolitan Seraphim Mentzenopoulos (**UPDATE:** administrative office attacked with rocks and bottles in the night, glass protecting an icon of Christ on the facade damaged, said “I regret the behavior of some of our brethren who thus encroach upon our holy faith. I pray for their repentance and salvation”)

<https://orthochristian.com/125914.html>



United States – Michigan: Grand Rapids

Fr Scott Nolan (aged 33, attacked in the media for privately asking a judge in a civil same sex marriage to not take Communion)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/michigan-diocese-supports-priest-accused-of-lgbt-eucharist-discrimination-31574>

Wednesday November 27, 2019



India: Daraura village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh state

Three Christians were arrested at a prayer meeting on forced conversion and contempt for other religions charges

Kapildev Ram

Omprakash

Ajay Kumar

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Uttar-Pradesh,-three-evangelical-Christians-arrested-for-forced-conversions-48678.html>



Nigeria

Bitrus Bwala (college lecturer, abducted along with 10 other Christians by the Islamic State West Africa Province [ISWAP])

Fr Malachy Asadu (abducted on the [Imilike-Nsukka Road](#) on [November 25, 2019](#); **UPDATE**: released)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/67032->

[AFRICA NIGERIA This year alone 9 priests kidnapped in the State of Enugu](#)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2020/01/muslim-fulani-herdsmen-kill-13-christians-wound-three-in-central-nigeria/>

Thursday November 28, 2019



Russia: Moscow

Metropolitan Afanasios Kikkotis (church reported to have been ordered to close after his patriarch in Egypt recognized the Constantinople side of the Kievan schism against Moscow and despite his personal opposition to the recognition)

<http://asianews.it/news-en/Moscows-Egyptian-church-closes:-breaking-of-relations-with-Patriarch-of-Alexandria-48666.html>

Friday November 29, 2019



China: Chengdu, Sichuan province

Qin Defu (church elder, forced to the ground during a [December 10, 2018](#) police search of his home; reported on [December 21, 2018](#) to have been charged with 'illegal business operations'; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment)

<https://chinaaid.org/2019/11/church-elder-receives-four-year-sentence.html>



Pakistan

Peter Jacob (National Commission for Justice and Peace director; **UPDATE:** praised the creation of a parliamentary committee to investigate ways to protect girls and young women from forced conversions, said teenage girls “have faced threats and violence, abduction and rape under the pretext of conversion to Islam”)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/New-parliamentary-committee-on-forced-conversions-is-an-encouraging-sign-48682.html>



Uganda: Lwebitati village, Kitumbi parish, Mubende district

Florence Namuyiga (aged 27, convert, mother of three aged 2, 5, and 7, beaten by her husband after she refused to attend a mosque service, later said "I began bleeding with serious injury on my left arm. That evening he did not come to the house but slept in the house of one of my co-wives")

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/12/christian-mother-in-uganda-loses-marriage-for-turning-to-christ/>

Saturday November 30, 2019



Uganda: Lwebitati village, Kitumbi parish, Mubende district

Florence Namuyiga (aged 27, convert, mother of three aged 2, 5, and 7, beaten by her husband on [November 29, 2019](#) after she refused to attend a mosque service, later said "I began bleeding with serious injury on my left arm. That evening he did not come to the house but slept in the house of one of my co-wives"; **UPDATE:** divorced by her husband, evicted from her homestead along with her children, later said “I have been supporting my three children by washing peoples’ clothing around the village. Indeed life is quite difficult for me and the children. I have realized that following Jesus is not easy. Sometimes I spend sleepless nights thinking on my future and that of my small kids, especially their school fees”)

<https://morningstarnews.org/2019/12/christian-mother-in-uganda-loses-marriage-for-turning-to-christ/>

November 2019, date unknown



China: Chengdu, Sichuan province

Government officials in late November 2019 removed four adopted children from a Christian family and invalidated their adoptions on the grounds the children were 'trapped by an evil religion', the remaining daughter "cries and twitches", issued an eviction notice, water to their home has been disconnected

Pei Wenju (husband of Jing Jianan)

Jing Jianan (wife of Pei Wenju)

<http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Early-Rain-Covenant-Church-in-Chengdu:-arrests,-convictions,-violence-48712.html>

<https://www.chinaaid.org/2019/12/as-christmas-approaches-early-rain.html>

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