

Today's Martyrs
2014-11-09 through 2014-11-15



Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh

Artur Avanesyan (aged 19, conscientious objector, arrested, sentenced to 30 months' imprisonment)

Dates: July 14 and September 30, 2014

Locations: Yerevan and Mardakert

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2014



China

Event: A house church has been banned from using their new worship center

Li Guozhi (church leader)

Su Tianfu (church leader)

Date: November 10, 2014

Location: Guiyang, Guizhou province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/11/guizhou-officials-ban-house-churchs.html>

Ms Yu (described how the local government forced the closure of a Christian school for orphans)

Date: October 10, 2014

Location: Fangshan district, Beijing

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2014/11/beijing-authorities-shut-down-school.html>



Egypt

Amgad Fakhry (abducted, ransom of nearly US\$70,000 demanded)

Date reported: November 10, 2014

Location: Kom Gharieb village, Suhag

Source: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1243&A=16425>

Dr Naguib Gibrael (lawyer for the Coptic Church, head of the Egyptian Federation for Human Rights, **UPDATE**: denounced the Salafis political parties as hypocritical and fanatical)

because they enticed Copts with promises of inclusion and then called for an Islamic Revolution on November 28, 2014)

Date: November 11, 2014

Source [with photo]: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1244&A=16446>

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:** appeal on his conviction and sentence of five years' imprisonment will be denied if he does not appear in court on November 18, 2014, prison authorities have not agreed to allow him to attend the hearing)

Date: November 12, 2014

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2014/11/3473245/>



India

Vijay Raj (attended a prayer meeting with Rev Rana and six parishioners that was interrupted by members of the Bajrang Dai, the youth branch of the RSS paramilitary organization, all were stripped naked, beaten, whipped and arrested)

Date: November 4, 2014

Location: Kotla, Madhya Pradesh state

Source: <http://persecutedchurch.info/2014/11/08/mp-radical-hindus-attack-christians/>

Event: Four Christians beaten by Hindu extremists after an attempt to extort money for the Diwali festival, fled for safety, homes invaded and looted, arrested for 'rioting' when they came out of hiding and were again attacked, homes attacked again four days later

Govind Janu Galat (aged 70, beaten, home looted)

Gulab Govind Galat (beaten)

Dilip Laxu Galat (severely beaten)

Sakaram Govind Galat (beaten)

Prem Barnabas (church leader, described the attack on the four Christians)

Dates: October 28 and November 1, 2014

Location: Kamseth village, Nasik district, Maharashtra state

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2014/11/christians-beaten-jailed-in-hindu-extremist-attack-in-maharashtra-india/>



Indonesia

Fr Saptono (forced to stop Mass by a mob of Islamists from the Islamic Defenders Front [FPI] and the Formasi [Forum of Indonesian Islamic community] who threatened arson, told parishioners to remove sacramentals from the church to prevent their destruction should the building be attacked, the mob left after he promised to stop saying Mass in the building)

Date: November 9, 2014

Location: Bandung, West Java province

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/West-Java:-Islamic-extremists-stop-Catholics-celebrating-Mass-32684.html>



Iran

Pastor Saeed Abedini (aged 32 in 2013, convert, US citizen, husband of Naghmeh Shariat Panahi Abedini, father of Rebekka and Jacob, convicted on [January 27, 2013](#) of undermining the government by spreading Christianity and sentenced to eight years in prison; **UPDATE:** mother has fled the country due to threats and intimidations)

Date: November 7, 2014

Source: http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9380:saeed-abedinis-mother-flees-to-the-us-following-threats-intimidation-in-iran&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279

Homayoon Shokoohi-Gholamzadeh (convert, husband of Fariba Nazemian, arrested during a home church meeting in Shiraz, Fars province on February 8 2012; sentenced to a total of four years and two months in prison on June 16, 2013; **UPDATE:** conditionally released from prison)

Date: November 10, 2014

Location: Adel-Abad prison

Source:

http://mohabatnews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9399:iranian-court-grants-christian-prisoner-conditional-release-from-adel-abad-prison&catid=36:iranian-christians&Itemid=279



Kyrgyzstan

Event: mother and daughter charged with fraud on March 20, 2013 after their church filed registration applications; UPDATE: acquitted on all charges, judge called the case 'fabricated', still under arrest while the prosecution appeals the dismissal

Nadezhda Sergienko (aged 54 in March 2013, mother of Oksana Koryakina)

Oksana Koryakina (aged 33 in March 2013, daughter of Nadezhda Sergienko)

Date: October 7, 2014

Location: Osh

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2015



Libya

Paula Samir Naguib (son of Samir Naguib, **killed** by Islamists while driving a microbus)

Samir Naguib (father of Paula Samir Naguib)

Khidr Adli (cousin of Paula Samir Naguib, reported on his cousin's murder)

Date: November 11, 2014

Location: Benghazi

Source [with photo]: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=57930>
and <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=57900>



Nigeria

Archbishop Ignatius Ayau Kaigama (**UPDATE**: said "It is time for our politicians to put aside the election campaign and unite to fight Boko Haram" after a teenage suicide bomber attacked a public high school, killing at least 47 students and 3 teachers and injuring at least 98, added "Unfortunately I am not surprised to hear that such attacks continue, because the strategy adopted to combat Boko Haram does not appear believable. It is particularly disturbing to see how much Boko Haram continues to advance in Borno and Adamawa States, despite the significant deployment of military forces and security in those areas")

Fr James John (said people "have lost all confidence in the government and security forces...Nigerians, Christians and Muslims alike, have been left alone and defenseless")

Date: November 10, 2014

Location: Potiskum, Yobe state

Sources: http://www.fides.org/en/news/36724-AFRICA_NIGERIA_Archbishop_Kaigama_Politicians_must_abandon_the_electoral_struggle_and_unite_to_fight_Boko_Haram#.VGGG-MLwsfg

and <http://www.misna.org/en/other/bomb-blast-at-secondary-school-we-are-defenceless-10-11-2014-813.html>
and <http://www.osundefender.org/?p=194025>

Event: A female suicide bomber attacked the Federal College of Education

Mary Okafor (student, said “We saw bodies on the ground between the library and the female hostel. Among the bodies were two dismembered women who we believed were the bombers. At least 10 students were killed and several others injured. They have all been moved to the general hospital. We have all been asked to vacate the school. The authorities in the town have asked all schools to close”)

Dr Nathaniel Adediran (college provost, said “We thank God for answering our prayers because God did not allow the enemy to succeed”)

Date: November 13, 2014

Location: Kontagora, Niger State

Source: <http://www.vanguardngr.com/2014/11/female-suicide-bomber-hits-college-niger/#sthash.foafInzI.dpuf>



North Korea

Kenneth Bae (**UPDATE**: freed from captivity, has left the country)

Jonathan Bae (son of Kenneth Bae)

Date: November 8, 2014

Source [with photo]: <http://www.rfa.org/english/news/release-11082014140520.html>



Pakistan

Salman (aged 5, son of Shahzad Masih and Shama Bibi, orphaned after his parents were burned alive)

Sonia (aged 3, daughter of Shahzad Masih and Shama Bibi, orphaned after her parents were burned alive)

Date: November 4, 2014

Location: Kot Radha Kishan, Kasur, Punjab province

Source [with photo]: <http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/help-children-of-shahzad-and-shamma/>

Fr Andrew Nisari (**UPDATE**: reported that the ownership of St Francis High School has been returned to the church)

Date: November 12, 2014

Location: Lahore

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/36746-ASIA_PAKISTAN_The_state_has_given_the_St_Francis_school_back_to_the_Church#.VGSmiMLwsfg



Syria

Elias (university teacher, said "The situation in Tel Tamr is worrisome. It is not easy to live next to roads leading to a group that sees you as an infidel and wants to kill you. Despite this, we remained, because the land is ours")

Charbel Moussa (said "The war taught us that only weapons could protect us. We carry them today to defend our families and children from harm and protect our land and property from the threat of takfiris")

Umm Odisho (elderly woman, prays for her country in church each day)

Babel Sarkis (literature student, said "I am used to the simple life, which is more beautiful than anywhere outside Syria. I only miss my friends. I talk to them every day [on the Internet]. No one is happy outside Syria. Most of them want to come back despite the luxury and enticement of the west")

Date: November 8, 2014

Location: Tel Tamr, al-Hasaka

Source: <http://www.aina.org/news/20141108164045.htm>

Fr Saliba (has lost half his parish due to emigration)

Fr Gabriel (church destroyed on **July 29, 2012**, said of an insurgent group "Nusra totally destroyed our church there and all our houses. We thought we would be able to return in about 15 days...")

Date reported: November 13, 2014

Location: Qamishli

Source: <http://www.aina.org/news/20141113031842.htm>

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