

Today's Martyrs
2015-08-16 through 2015-08-22



Canada

Eric Brubacher (street missionary, witnessed the stabbing of a fellow missionary by a pro-homosexual activist, the missionary was hospitalized and released)

Date: August 14, 2015

Location: Ottawa, Ontario

Source: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/christian-man-stabbed-on-busy-street-after-sharing-beliefs-on-homosexuality>



China

Pastor Lu Jingxiang (**UPDATE**: youth summer camp raided by police, said “They snatched our cameras, and the principals took our students away. I asked them ‘Why do you need to send your special police for children this young? Why do you treat us like terrorists?’ After that, they finally left”, one church member detained and released)

Date: July 28, 2015

Location: Chuxhou, Anhui province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/08/anhui-officials-raid-house-churchs.html>



Egypt

Fr Felopatir Mina (application to construct a school rejected by zoning officials, land purchased after Christian students who currently attend school in a nearby village were harassed by Muslim men)

Date reported: August 16, 2015

Location: Ezbet Dous village, Beni Suef province

Source: <http://www.mendirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64013>

Ibrahim Girgis Atallah Ibrahim (aged 54, husband of Josephine Morris Hanna, disappeared during the August 2013 government crackdown on the Muslim Brotherhood; **UPDATE**: still missing)

Josephine Morris Hanna (wife of Ibrahim Girgis Atallah Ibrahim; **UPDATE**: said police did not care and were not serious about the case)

Date reported: August 16, 2015

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64015>

Mariam Atef Aziz (aged 17, missing)

Date: late July 2015

Location: eastern Alexandria

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64053>

Dr Michael Iskandar (aged 27, son of Eman Ramzi Fahim, has been persecuted by the psychology and neurology department chair at his hospital)

Eman Ramzi Fahim (real estate manager, mother of Dr Michael Iskandar, reported on her son's persecution at the local hospital)

Date reported: August 19, 2015

Location: Damanhour, Beheira province

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64050>

Mariam Malak Zakry Tadros (aged 16, student ranked first in her class in Minya, exams altered on or before July 26, 2015 to give her a failing grade; **UPDATE**: appealed to President al-Sisi for help)

Date: August 19, 2015

Source: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1448&A=19991>



India

Fr Nitish Jacob (said after his church was burglarized and cash stolen “This is the third theft or attempted theft from this church [in less than a year]”)

Bishop Anthony Chirayath (said of the police “They are inactive, and don’t take any action when churches are attacked. They don’t take seriously our complaints. What can we do? It is the duty of the police to investigate and take action against the culprits”)

Date: August 13, 2015

Location: Ganj Basoda, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh state

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/proof-of-impunity-seen-in-church-robbery-indian-christian-leaders-say/74093>

Rahul Nayak (aged 26, son of Dhubaleswar and Bhubudi Nayak, was speaking on the phone when they were killed “I could hear my mother shrieking and protesting as if somebody was trying to [rape] her. My father was also shouting. Then I heard gunshots and the last words of my father: ‘I am dying’. Afterwards, there was no response from the phone and soon it was switched off. It was a murder”)

Bhubudi Nayak (aged 45, wife of Dhubaleswar, mother of Rahul, Saul, Paul, two girls, and one other, shot dead by security personnel during a rape attempt)

Date: July 26, 2015

Bhubudi Nayak (aged 45, wife of Dhubaleswar, mother of Rahul, Saul, Paul, two girls, and one other, shot dead by security personnel during a rape attempt; **UPDATE**: body recovered after protests)

Sushant Nayak (President of Kandhamal Baptist Union, said “This is a clear murder. The hair of the lady had been cut to give the impression that she was a Maoist. All the testimonies we have heard point to fact it was [a] rape attempt [by security personnel]”)

Date: July 28, 2015

Source [warning - graphic]: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2015/08/3976958/>



Iraq

Pastor Maher Fouad (along with a deacon survived unhurt a bombing of the garage where he sought bus repairs, several others killed)

Date: August 11, 2015

Location: Bagdad

Source: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/pastor-leading-iraqs-only-christian-radio-station-not-touched-after-bomb-explodes-in-garage-where-he-went-to-fix-church-bus-142985/http://gospeltoiraq.com/media.html>



Kazakhstan

Yklas Kabduakasov (aged 54, arrested by KNB secret police for spreading 'religious discord' by discussing his faith with others and offering Christian books to others, ordered held in a two-month pretrial detention)

Date: August 14-15, 2015

Location: Astana

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2092



Kyrgyzstan

Event: Police raid a worship service in a rented cafe, all were threatened with being shot if they moved, police were accompanied by an imam who demanded they revert to Islam

Arstan Botokhanov (detained)

Bakytbek Kubanychbek Uulu (detained, beaten)

Chorobek Kadyrov (detained, beaten, strangled, passed out. "thought he was going to die")

Eldiyar Ormonov (detained)

Iskander Kambarov (detained)

Islamedin Kombarov (detained, beaten)

Manas Bilal Uulu (detained, beaten, strangled, passed out)

Nurlan Usupbayev ('viciously' beaten by police on [April 16, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: detained, beaten, strangled, police opened an administrative case against him and listed his fine as four times that allowed by statute)

Razan Korgolov (detained, beaten)

Tynchtyk Olzhobayev (police "viciously beat him so that his screams of terror and pain could be heard throughout the building" because he recorded the raid and would not relinquish his cell phone to them)

Zhakonchir Asanbayev (detained)

Date: [August 9, 2015](#)

Location: [Osh City, Osh region](#)

Nurlan Usupbayev ('viciously' beaten by police on [April 16, 2013](#); detained on [August 9, 2015](#), beaten, strangled, police opened an administrative case against him and listed his fine as four times that allowed by statute; **UPDATE**: stopped on a public street by police, detained for 40 minutes)

Date: [August 11, 2015](#)

Location: [Osh City, Osh region](#)

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2091



Nigeria

Pastor James Eni (**beheaded** by a career criminal)

Date: [August 16, 2015](#)

Location: [Old Netim, Akamkpa local government area, Cross River state](#)

Source: <http://www.vanguardngr.com/2015/08/i-ll-do-it-again-if-says-man-who-beheaded-pastor/>

Fr Dennis Osuagwu CMF (**shot dead** in a road ambush)

Date: August 15, 2015

Location: Nekede, Imo state

Source: <http://www.fides.org/en/news/38316->

[AFRICA NIGERIA Claretian Missionary priest killed in road ambush#.VdKJMsLlsfg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/38316-AFRICA_NIGERIA_Claretian_Missionary_priest_killed_in_road_ambush#.VdKJMsLlsfg)



Pakistan

Event: Prison officials announced an end to Sunday worship for Christian prisoners

Hashmat Barkat (attorney, said "Restricting the right of Christian prisoners to profess freely their own religious faith is a clear violation of Article 20 of the Constitution of Pakistan...This example of freedom denied to Christian prisoners increases the sense of fear, deprivation, pessimism, and insecurity among minorities, particularly Christians")

Fr Khalid Rashid Asi (**UPDATE:** said ""The government has to foster a climate of tolerance and respect for minorities and ensure the protection of minority rights through the law")

Date reported: August 18, 2015

Location: Faisalabad, Punjab province

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Faisalabad's-central-prison-denies-Christian-prisoners-the-right-to-a-Mass-35069.html>

Event: Four Christians arrested on blasphemy charges after one referred to his deceased minister father as a prophet

Pastor Aftab Gill (brother of Unitan Gill, arrested)

Unitan Gill (brother of Pastor Aftab Gill, arrested, released on bail)

Date: August 15, 2015

Location: Gujrat, Punjab province

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5557>
and <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5556>



Sudan

Event UPDATE: Two pastors are allowed to leave the country, had been prevented from doing so by the NISS secret police on August 6, 2015

Rev David Yein Reith

Rev Yat Michael

Date: August 19, 2015

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2015/08/freed-pastors-arrive-home-from-sudan-after-ordeal-of-false-charges-travel-ban/>



Syria

Kayla Mueller (aged 26, U.S. citizen, humanitarian aid worker, abducted from an [Aleppo](#) hospital by ISIL in [August 2013](#), confirmed on [February 10, 2015](#) to have been killed while in ISIL captivity; **UPDATE**: had refused to join two Yazidi girls in an October 2014 escape attempt because she thought that her American appearance would put the two girls at greater risk of recapture, had been sexually assaulted by ISIL leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi)

Date reported: [August 14, 2015](#)

Source: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/isis-leader-repeatedly-raped-us-hostage-kayla-mueller-who-refused-to-escape-to-save-yazidi-girls-142859/>

Event: Female ISIL captives have been forced to appear in videos in which they said if they were not ransomed then they would be sold as sex slaves

Susan Elias

Hannaa Assaf Youssef

Date: [July 27, 2015](#)

Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3199105/ISIS-post-pictures-Christian-women-kidnapped-Syria-threatening-sex-slaves-ransom-not-paid.html>

Fr Antoine Boutros (aged 50, husband, father of a daughter, missing on [July 12, 2015](#) near [Shahba](#), [Sweida](#) with his Muslim driver; **UPDATE**: freed, his driver is still missing)

Date: [August 15, 2015](#)

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2015/08/3975611/>

Fr Elias Ganji (said that the 2 week cutoff of water to the city is especially harming children and the elderly)

Date: [August 18, 2015](#)

Location: [Aleppo](#)

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64035>



Tanzania

Cecian Peter (**killed** by 50 radical Muslims after seen carrying a Bible)

Date: [June 27, 2015](#)

Location: Morogoro

Source: <https://barnabasfund.org/news/Tanzanian-Christians-unlawfully-arrested-attacked-and-killed-for-their-faith>



United States - Nebraska

Fr James Netusil (described the video of a criminal attack on a 76 year old parishioner in the church vestibule “After the first kid grabbed her purse, the second one hits her, and there’s no point to it. It was just evil”)

Date: August 16, 2015

Location: Omaha

Source: <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/elderly-woman-brutally-attacked-in-church-responds-with-forgiveness-60714/>

United States - New Mexico

Pastor Kevin Glenn (wrote on Facebook after a bomb exploded at his church “A house of worship should be a place of peace; making the act of violence especially troubling for us all. Only our Lord is able to provide ultimate security to each of us through Jesus Christ. However, in our daily lives we must be wise and vigilant to do everything possible to provide an environment within which all can feel both welcome and secure”)

Date: August 2, 2015

Location: Las Cruces

Minister Norman Story (called police after the church groundskeeper discovered an explosive device in a sprinkler box, police detonated the device)

Date reported: August 20, 2015

Location: Las Cruces

Source: <http://christiannews.net/2015/08/20/bombs-found-planted-at-new-mexico-churches/>

United States - Oregon

A Christian couple was found guilty on or before February 4, 2015 of discrimination for refusing to bake a cake for a same sex wedding despite serving same sex couples in other ways, had already closed their business due to harassment; attempt to raise funds on the internet to pay their fine was closed down by GoFundMe on the grounds that they were criminals; ordered on July 2, 2015 to pay \$135,000 in punitive damages, ordered to cease discussing their religious motivations for their actions; **UPDATE:** discovered to have been sending free cakes to homosexual activists with the words "We really do love you!" on the cakes)

Aaron Klein (husband of Melissa Klein)

Melissa Klein (wife of Aaron Klein)

Date: August 19, 2015

Location: Gresham

Source [with photos]: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/oregon-christian-bakers-fined-135k-respond-by-sending-hand-baked-cakes-to-l>



Vietnam

Fr Anton Le Ngoc Thanh CSSR (**UPDATE:** criticized the draft religious law, called it "a step backward compared to the Ordinance on Belief and Religion of 2004. The new law imposes cumbersome procedures, stringent mechanisms, and a number of constraints that make religious activity impossible")

Date: August 21, 2015

Location: Hanoi

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Hanoi-ignores-Cao-daists-and-Catholics-who-criticise-new-religious-bill-for-violating-human-rights-35104.html>

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