

Today's Martyrs
2015-09-20 thru 2015-09-26



China

Event: House church gathering raided, members sentenced to 12 days' administrative detention

Tao Wenju (detained)

Dai Wanying (detained)

Ren Yuxing (detained along with his wife)

Date: March 4, 2015

Location: Wujiaqu, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/09/xinjiang-house-churches-raided.html>

Jiang Xianyun (detained, released)

Dates: September 10-11, 2015

Pastor Hu Mingjin (detained, released)

Elder Zheng Jinyuan (detained, released)

Date: September 12, 2015

Cai Xiaobing (detained)

Date: September 14, 2015

Location: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/09/persecution-rises-as-number-detained-in.html>

Bishop Thaddeus Ma Daqin (ordained as bishop in [Shanghai](#) on [July 7, 2012](#), then disappeared after stating in his first homily that he would resign from the state-sponsored church, still under house arrest; **UPDATE:** noted on his blog that Pope Francis and China's President Xi Jinping will both be in Washington DC on September 24, 2015 and wrote "Will President Xi and Pope Francis, now in the US, have an opportunity to meet in an unexpected way, and will they have an expected friendly handshake? I look forward to their shaking hands. If these two influential and prominent leaders in the world really have a friendly handshake, not only would I, a little man at the foothill of Sheshan, on the outskirts of Shanghai, be moved, but so would the whole world")

Date: September 23, 2015

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/For-Shanghai-Bishop,-a-handshake-between-Xi-and-Francis-would-move-the-world-35393.html>

Senior Judge Li Jianfeng (arrested for 'subverting state power in [February 2002](#); witnessed the beating death of Huang Chuanchan in prison in [2012](#); released in [April 2013](#); **UPDATE**: accepted in Canada for asylum)

Date: [September 23, 2015](#)

Huang Chuanchan (**beaten to death** in prison for protecting a Bible)

Date: [2012](#)

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/09/christian-judge-granted-asylum-in.html>



Egypt

Maher Fayez Habib (aged 18, secondary school student, reported on [May 18, 2015](#) to have been arrested on a charge of insulting Islam, held for 4 days in jail; judge ordered him held another 15 days on [June 12, 2015](#); reported on [June 29, 2015](#) to have been ordered held another 45 days; ordered held another 15 days on [August 9, 2015](#); ordered held another 15 days on [September 5, 2015](#); **UPDATE**: ordered held another 15 days)

Date: [September 20, 2015](#)

Location: Beni Suef

Source: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1470&A=20397>

Fr Poktor Nashed (called police after a Muslim mob attacked his church with parishioners inside after police returned land seized by a Muslim to the Christian owner)

Handy Makanouti (landowner, land stolen in 2012)

Mousa Zarif (nephew of Handy Makanouti, said “After the security forces left the area, they attacked our homes but our moderate Muslim neighbors intervened and protected us from them”)

Demian Maher (attacked, spine broken, hospitalized)

Therese Hanna (attacked, suffered a serious head injury, hospitalized)

Date: [September 20, 2015](#)

Location: Amiriya, Alexandria

Source: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1472&A=20430>



India

Sr Amala Valummel O.Carm (aged 69, retired nurse, **beaten to death** in her room at her convent)

Date: [September 17, 2015](#)

Location: Palai, Kottayam district, Kerala state

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/indian-nun-found-murdered-in-kerala-convent/74286>
and http://www.fides.org/en/news/38498-ASIA_INDIA_A_Carmelite_nun_killed_in_Kerala#.Vf470sLlsfg

Sajan K George (president of the Global Council of Indian Christians; **UPDATE**: condemned a Hindu employer who cut out the tongue of a Hindu employee who had asked for a raise, police refused to file a report because they said the injury could have been an accident, also condemned a Hindu extremist threat to cut out the tongues of two Hindu writers who were critical of Hindu epic poems, said "these provocative statements encourage sectarian tensions and provoke a sense of insecurity among the minorities. India is a secular democratic republic and these comments endanger social peace in the country")

Date reported: September 22, 2015

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Offending-gods-or-asking-for-just-wage-could-cost-you-your-tongue-35389.html>

Rajesh Singh (beaten with iron rods until unconscious)

Karan Singh (beaten, leg and forearms broken, arms required steel plates to be implanted)

Tinku Ram (beaten)

Date: August 9, 2015

Location: between Bhaini Kalan village and Gharaunda city, Karnal district, Haryana state

Event: Hindu radicals attacked a prayer meeting, police initially refused to file a report

Pastor Ajmer Singh Damor (beaten, unconscious for 5 hours)

Dillu Bhai (beaten, received stitches in his head)

Illiya Vasunia (beaten, has hosted the prayer meeting in his home, goat killed)

Date: September 10, 2015

Location: Fattiguda, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh state

Source: <https://barnabafund.org/news/Brutally-beaten-and-falsely-accused-Indias-Christians-suffer-spate-of-attacks>



Iraq

Bishop Gewargis Sliwa (aged 73, elected 112th Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East, announced that he will take the name of Mar Gewargis III and return the patriarchal see back to Iraq from Chicago)

Date: September 18, 2015

Location: Erbil, Kurdistan

Source: <http://www.aina.org/news/20150918141220.htm>



Laos

Mr Tiang (married, father of six, detained after praying with Ms Chan while she was dying in [Saisomboon village, Atsaphangthong district, Savannakhet province](#), accused of murder after her death on [June 22, 2014](#) and held in handcuffs and wooden stocks; murder charges dropped on [August 6, 2014](#); convicted of 'unlicensed professional medical care' on [February 12, 2015](#) for having prayed for the dying Ms Chan; sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and together with the other defendants fined US\$2,758; objected on [April 24, 2015](#) to a Pakse, Savannakhet province court document which stated that he was withdrawing his appeal of his conviction, said that his signature on the document had been forged; **UPDATE: died in prison**, had been denied medical care for his diabetes)

Date reported: September 21, 2015

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Arrested-for-praying,-Laotian-Christian-dies-in-prison-for-lack-of-treatment-35373.html>



Nigeria

Idi Ibrahim (**killed** by Muslim Fulani gunmen)

Yaweh Oshawu (**killed** by Muslim Fulani gunmen)

Date: August 16, 2015

Location: [Kofar Gwari village, Kokona local government area, Nasarawa state](#)

James Pam (described a Muslim Fulani attack that killed 20 Christians)

Date: September 14, 2015

Location: [seven villages in Foron and Fan districts, Barkin Ladi local government area, Plateau state](#)

Rev Caleb Ahema (**UPDATE: described a Muslim Fulani attack that killed 9 Christians** “The attack on Sarkin Kudu is a continuation of the systematic attacks by the Fulani herdsmen on Christian communities in this area, where many have been killed and many more displaced”)

Date: September 15, 2015

Location: [Sarkin Kudu, Taraba state](#)

Charles Matcho (described a Muslim Fulani attack that killed at least 18 Christians and caused 5,000 to flee their homes “Many people have been killed, and among them is a man and his six children”)

Date: September 16, 2015

Location: [Kadunung, Mangu local government area, Plateau state](#)

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2015/09/attacks-in-plateau-state-nigeria-kill-38-displace-5000/>



Pakistan

Boota Masih (aged 38, husband, father of six, attacked by a mob that locked his family in their home and set it afire, said "I was terror stricken, the mob was threatening to kill me and my family. They had weapons in their hands and started to brandish them before me. I thought they would kill all of us. I refused to leave my home – I had paid for it fairly and they had no right to ask me to leave...[After the fire was set] I broke the door down using all my strength, desperate to live and to save my family. Soon other local Christians came to rescue us, they put out the flames and called the fire brigade", family left terrified, Christian neighbors are afraid, police have refused to file a report)

Date: September 10, 2015

Location: Islamabad

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5607>



Tanzania

Khamis Bakar Sheikh (convert from Islam, stabbed by his three brothers for converting, hospitalized)

Date: September 18, 2015

Location: Kiwengwa, Zanzibar

Source: <https://barnabasfund.org/news/Tanzanian-convert-to-Christianity-attacked-by-his-brothers>



Thailand

Teena Khan (Pakistani asylum seeker, wrote to Pope Francis "I am a Pakistani Christian woman living in Bangkok since 3 years with my family as Asylum seeker. There are also hundreds of other Christian victim families from Pakistan who have applied for Asylum but unfortunately we are not getting any response from UNHCR. The visas of almost all the families have been expired due on which Thai immigration and police arrest the families who are in jails...")

Date reported: September 17, 2015

Location: Bangkok

Source: <http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/help-us-a-pakistani-christian-woman-seeking-asylum-in-thailand-writes-to-pope-francis/>



United States - Alabama

Pastor Earl Carswell (aged 61, shot in the leg as he wrestled with a parishioner who had begun shooting in the church, the man was disarmed by other parishioners)

Date: September 20, 2015

Location: East Selma

Source: <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/pastor-churchgoers-hailed-as-heroes-in-us-church-shooting/ar-AAexibx?ocid=ansmsnnews11>



Vietnam

Marie Ta Phong Tan (aged 43, convert, former policewoman, detained since [September 2011](#) after blogging against government corruption, mother committed suicide by self-immolation in protest on [July 30, 2012](#) in [Bac Lieu](#); sentenced on [September 24, 2012](#) in [Hanoi](#) to 10 years with 5 additional years of house arrest for spreading anti-government propaganda on the internet; **UPDATE**: released under a 'temporary suspension', arrived in the United States)

Dates: September 19 & 20, 2015

Location: Thanh Hoa prison

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Vietnamese-Catholic:-In-communist-prison,-faith-in-God-conquerd-abuses-and-suffering-35380.html>

Today's Martyrs
2490 Black Rock Turnpike #455
Fairfield CT 06825-2400
<http://todaysmartyrs.org/>

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