

**Today's Martyrs**  
**2015-11-08 through 2015-11-14**



**Australia**

Archbishop Julian Porteus (under investigation for possible violation of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 after he published a pamphlet which defended traditional Christian marriage)

Date: November 12, 2015

Location: Hobart, Tasmania

Source: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/aussie-archbishop-faces-discrimination-charges-for-defending-natural-marria>



**Bangladesh**

Ramni Das (aged 57, cane worker, home attacked by a Muslim mob: "For more than a year, Muslim youths from a neighboring village accused us of practicing witchcraft and told us to leave the village. They abused us in public and threw bricks at our houses. They wanted to kill us by burning us alive, but we managed to escape. We have lost everything", homes of three other families also destroyed)

Fr Prodig Marnadi (said "We are also working with local leaders to seek legal action against the attackers")

Date: November 5, 2015

Location: Kamarpara, Panchagarh district

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/mob-burns-down-catholic-homes-in-bangladeshi-village/74575>



**Central African Republic**

Fr Moses Otii Alir MCCI (described the rioting that began with the murder of three Muslims "On their way to the parish, they started looting and burning all the houses and shops. They gathered in front of the parish gate, wanting to destroy the church and butcher all of us...The shootings and the burning of houses lasted almost 10 hours", one UN peacekeeper protecting the church was wounded; wrote that the neighborhood was still "in the hands of the assailants. It is very difficult to get out of the parish compound. The

situation does not seem to be getting better. We do not know what could happen from one moment to the next”)

Date: October 30, 2015; November 4, 2015

Location: Bangui

Source: <http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2015/11/06/central-african-republic-priest-they-wanted-to-destroy-the-church-and-butcher-all-of-us/>



## China

Zan Aizong (writer, **UPDATE:** detained by National Security Bureau officers, released, wrote "Please ask for the Lord's mercy. Today, I was accused on suspicion of subverting national security, and my cell phone, computer, etc., were confiscated. After this matter was recorded, I was free to go home for the time being, but I cannot speak and I cannot post on WeChat again. Currently, I can only write papers on technology to make my living...I would like to thank Jesus Christ for his grace and help and I would also like to thank the police officers, of whom there were over 10, who came to my home to search it for many hours. Because of the Lord, I do not have any hatred towards any person, nor do I have an enemy. Because the Bible says God is love, I love all the people in the world. I will not be able to use WeChat often, and can only be reached by email now")

Date: November 3, 2015

Location: Hangzhou, Zhejiang province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/11/zhejiang-reporter-taken-by-police-after.html>

Mou (**UPDATE:** described a Religious Affairs Bureau and local police raid on a church training session, church now prohibited from meeting)

Date: October 28, 2015

Location: Tongzi county, Guizhou province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/11/guizhou-house-church-raided-by.html>

Gao Zhisheng (aged 51, Christian human rights attorney, released from prison on [August 7, 2014](#), detained on [September 24, 2015](#) after accounts of torture while in prison became public, released but under house arrest; **UPDATE:** has been denied access to a dentist due to fears evidence of torture will be documented, wrote "...there is no understanding [by the authorities], just repeating over and over that they are 'the world's second largest superpower', and adding that they have a 'responsible behavioral style'. When, just a short while ago, a common person's teeth are destroyed and lost, [the attempt to correct the damage] is deemed a matter of 'national security'...the outside world can speculate that because I cannot treat my teeth, I must always be in a mood of personal, bitter hardship and torture. This is not entirely true. The world I find inside books occupies me to the point that I forget to eat. I do not even have the leisure to negotiate [with the police] regarding my suffering. To me, it is incredibly precious that I now have books to read. Generally speaking, I know I will disappear immediately again after my book is

published. So I am determined to try my best to read more books. This is something I need to do before this happens. This is very crucial to me")

Date: November 3, 2015

Location: Yulin, Shaanxi province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2015/11/gao-zhisheng-authorities-view-gaos.html>



## **Egypt**

Agban Farag Moussa (taxi driver, abducted)

Date: November 7, 2015

Location: Minya

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64942>

Magdi Shehata (home partly destroyed in an arson attack)

Date: November 8, 2015

Location: Kafr Darwish village, Beni Suef

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=64964>



## **Germany**

Mina (aged 25, Egyptian citizen, refugee, fled Egypt after years of persecution including being stabbed in the abdomen while in church, now fears attacks by Muslim extremists)

Date: November 3, 2015

Location: Bonn

Source: <http://www.dw.com/en/my-piece-of-hope-after-knife-attack-persecuted-egyptian-christian-finds-comfort-in-prayer/a-18823221>

Farsad (aged 24, Afghan national, refugee, fled Iran after becoming a Christian, has been fighting deportation to Afghanistan)

Date: October 13, 2015

Location: Brandenburg

Source: <http://www.dw.com/en/my-piece-of-hope-afghan-refugee-clings-to-bible-dreams-of-university/a-18777048>



## India

Pastor Mehtu Karma (aged 31, beaten unconscious by a Hindu mob that attacked a church service, blood was seen to stream from his ear, several parishioners also beaten)

Date: October 25, 2015

Location: Kohkameta, Chhattisgarh state

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2015/11/4091689/>

Issac (aged 20, son of a church pastor, abducted by Maoist guerrillas)

Date reported: November 6, 2015

Location: Andhra Pradesh state

Source: [http://www.fides.org/en/news/38813-ASIA\\_INDIA\\_Son\\_of\\_a\\_Protestant\\_pastor\\_kidnapped#.Vj7GuMLlsg](http://www.fides.org/en/news/38813-ASIA_INDIA_Son_of_a_Protestant_pastor_kidnapped#.Vj7GuMLlsg)



## Indonesia

Archbishop Johannes Pujasumarta (aged 65; **UPDATE: died of lung cancer**)

Date: November 10, 2015

Location: Semarang

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/indonesian-archbishop-johannes-pujasumarta-dies-at-age-65/74596>



## Iran

**Event: Fourteen Christians were arrested at a home church service**

Amin

Bahram

Elnaz

Farzaneh

Leyla

Mehdi

Mohammad Shah Khasti

Nazanin

Sara

Shayan

Simmin

Zahra

Zari Shah Khasti Poorkaveh

Date: November 1, 2015

Location: Varamin

Suroush Saraie (detained on [October 12, 2012](#) in a government crackdown that may have detained between 100 and 400 Christians; sentenced to two and a half years in prison on [July 16, 2013](#); **UPDATE**: released from prison)

Date: November 10, 2015

Location: Shiraz

Source: <http://www.persecution.org/2015/11/13/new-raid-on-iranian-christians-14-arrested-one-christian-released/>

Naghmeh Shariat Panahi Abedini (wife of Saeed Abedini, who has been sentenced to eight years imprisonment, U.S. citizen; **UPDATE**: announced via email that she was suspending her campaign to see her husband freed due to “physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual abuse [through Saeed’s addiction to pornography]” and claimed that the abuse had continued during his imprisonment, later stated that she regretted sending the emails and called her husband "a treasure")

Date reported: November 12, 2015

Source: <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2015/november-web-only/pastor-saeed-abedini-wife-naghmeh-halts-public-advocacy.html?share=412I7UOaUtRGpMskkK9AxqrC5QcXU3fo>



## **Kazakhstan**

Yklas Kabduakasov (aged 54, father of eight, arrested by KNB secret police on August 14, 2015 for spreading 'religious discord' by discussing his faith with others and offering Christian books to others; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 7 years' restricted freedom, will not be able to travel or move without permission, banned from most public locations)

Alibek Kabduakasov (son of Yklas Kabduakasov, acted as his father's public defender, said "My father's religious liberties and basic human rights were violated by the fact that he was kept under arrest without any grounds since 14 August [2015] and has now been sentenced" and that they will appeal against his "unlawful arrest" and conviction)

Date: November 9, 2015

Location: Astana

Source: [http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2119](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2119)



## **Kosovo**

**Event: Christian students had their Instagram account suspended after posting photos of destroyed churches, monasteries, and cemeteries**

Nemanja Bisevac

Jovan Aleksic

Date reported: November 7, 2015

Source: <http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/87505.htm>



## **Kyrgyzstan**

Janysh (alias, husband of Laura, fled his village with his wife and children after rocks were thrown at their home)

Laura (alias, wife of Janysh, fled her village with her husband and children after rocks were thrown at their home)

Date reported: November 9, 2015

Source: <http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue27104.html>

Pastor Vasili Kuzin (asked for prayers after the government seized his church, which it had sold to the church 16 years before)

Date: November 10, 2015

Location: Bishkek

Source: <http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue27106.html>



## **Pakistan**

Bishop Dr Alexander John Malik (**UPDATE**: said that madrassas [Islamic schools] have promoted hatred and violence)

Date reported: November 7, 2015

Source [with photo]: <http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/ideology-taught-by-madrassas-promotes-hatred-says-alexander-john-malik/>

Sara Bibi (elementary school student, beaten and locked in a washroom for three hours by the school headmistress for using a toilet reserved for Muslim students, told “You are Christian an infidel and how you dared to use washroom which Muslim girls use”)

Date reported: November 7, 2015

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5681>

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (**UPDATE**: called on the Punjab provincial government to cease its vandalizing of a historic church after seizing the surrounding land for a parking lot)

Date: November 9, 2015

Location: Lahore

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5684>

Aslam Masih (shot in both legs after he refused to retract a police report against the shooter for an April 4, 2015 home invasion in which Easter decorations were destroyed)

Date: October 28, 2015

Location: Lahore, Punjab province

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5686>



## Syria

Fr Ibrahim Alsabagh OFM (**UPDATE**: described the artillery attack on his church "Just at that moment I was preparing to administer the Eucharist to the faithful. Suddenly everything began to shake, and all kinds of debris fell down inside the church. There was so much dust that we couldn't see one another. If it had blown a hole through the dome, it could have been a tragedy. And even if it had only caused the chandelier to fall, it could have killed as many as ten people. As I said to my congregation, it was the mantle of the Blessed Virgin that protected us...It certainly wasn't any accident that the attack took place during the Sunday evening Mass, when there were 400 people inside the church", after determining that there were no serious injuries he continued the Mass: "Some of them were astonished by my reaction. But it is in the Lord that we find our strength, in union with Him through prayer", said that the next day the people returned for Mass: "There were so many of them, and we joyfully listened once again to the sound of our bells")

Date: October 25, 2015

Location: Azizieh quarter, Aleppo

Source: <http://members4.boardhost.com/acnaus/msg/1446068637.html>

Archbishop Selwanos Boutros Alnemeah (**UPDATE**: described the escape of 15,000 people, mostly Christians, from the ISIL attacks on the towns of Sadad and Al-Hafar)

Fr Luka Awad (assistant to Archbishop Selwanos Boutros Alnemeah, said "When the ISIL fighters conquered Al-Qaryatayn, they made the threat: 'We will kill all of the Christians in Sadad'...The people there still speak Aramaic, the language of Jesus. Moreover, we have important churches there. It is really a center of our Christian heritage. Its loss doesn't bear contemplating. We truly are fearing for our cultural heritage. We beg the international community to put an end to this war. My people already experienced a

genocide one hundred years ago, in 1915. Now, in the 21st century, we don't need another")

Date reported: November 6, 2015

Location: Homs

Source: <http://www.aina.org/news/20151106173226.htm>

**Event UPDATE: ISIL released 37 Christians from captivity**

Abres Abdelahad Darmo (aged 67)  
Alice Adam Adam (aged 62)  
Alice Awetar Ishmael (aged 61)  
Amal Kako David (aged 50)  
Anyar Shmoel Abdal (aged 73)  
David Jacob Koriya (aged 76)  
Enwiya Badal Joseph (aged 74)  
Esho Enwiya Eshaq (aged 65)  
Fareeda Esho Kako (aged 55)  
Febronya Lazar Samou (aged 70)  
Georget Jacob Malkey (aged 63)  
Khanem Elisha Elisha (aged 57)  
Khosheebo Sarhad Gewargis (aged 65)  
Korish Elija Talya (aged 77)  
Ludiya Hormiz Eshaq (aged 60)  
Lulu Zaya Odisho (aged 50)  
Malek Sadeq Ishmael (aged 67)  
Maqdonya Antraneek (aged 63)  
Maryam Jerjees Joseph (aged 75)  
Maryam Manasha Esho (aged 53)  
Nimrud Jacob Koriya (aged 80)  
Nineveh William Royel (aged 56)  
Pana Yoshiya Lazar (aged 54)  
Rosweena Elisha Elisha (aged 54)  
Royel Dinkha Mirza (aged 78)  
Sadeq Aweqam Ishmael (aged 74)  
Salwa Wilson Royel (aged 49)



Samera Hormiz Eshaq (aged 58)  
Samera Nikola Shmony (aged 63)  
Samera Yaow Mako (aged 55)  
Shidrakh David Khoshaba (aged 73)  
Surma Enwiya Eshaq (aged 60)  
Teresa Odisho Odisho (aged 53)  
Wardiya Joseph Zomaya (aged 65)  
Youniya Talya Talya (aged 55)  
Zabet Solaqa Khiyou (aged 55)  
Zomo Sulaiman Sawa (aged 63)

Date: November 7, 2015

Source: <http://aina.org/news/20151107050524.htm>



## Ukraine

Pastor Peter Dudnik (**UPDATE**: given an award by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Kiev Patriarchate for his church's work with orphans)

Patriarch Filaret Denysenko (aged 85, **UPDATE**: gave an award to several members of the Good News Evangelical Church for their work with orphans)

Date reported: November 9, 2015

Source: <http://www.christiantelegraph.com/issue27103.html>



## Vietnam

**Event UPDATE: Two human rights activists were stopped by police, beaten, and interrogated**

Anthony Chu Manh Son (released from prison in Vinh on February 2, 2014)

Paul Tran Minh Nhat (Redemptorist News employee, released from prison on or about August 27, 2015)

Date: November 8, 2015

Location: near Da Don village, Lam Ha district, Lam Dong province

Source: <http://www.rfa.org/english/news/vietnam/vietnamese-authorities-detain-and-beat-two-human-rights-activists-11092015165356.html>

and <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ho-Chi-Minh-City,-Catholic-activists-arrested-and-beaten-by-police-35829.html>

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

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