

**Today's Martyrs**  
**2015-11-22 through 2015-11-28**



**Australia**

Bishop Mark Lieschke (commented on a church arson attack in which 'ISIS' and 'Allah Akbar' were spray painted on the church)

Date: November 21, 2015

Location: Orange, New South Wales

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-11-23/orange-church-targeted-in-graffiti-attack-spelling-isis/6963274>



**Bangladesh**

Rev Martin Adhikari (principal of the College of Christian Theology, one of several Protestant leaders who have been receiving death threats "I have been forced to limit my movements since receiving the threats. If I need to go out, I take two people with me for safety")

Nirmol Rozario (secretary of the Bangladesh Christian Association; **UPDATE:** said "The attempted murders of a priest and a pastor, and the death threats, are correlated. A vested group, presumably religious fanatics, is targeting Christian leaders and institutes. Christians are scared and confused because they are being targeted for no apparent reason")

Date reported: November 23, 2015

Location: Dhaka

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/bangladesh-christians-protest-against-attacks-on-priests/74659>



**Egypt**

Beshoy Natae Bushra (aged 21, soldier, **died** in his military unit under 'mysterious circumstances')

Date reported: November 21, 2015

Location: Cairo

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=65074>

Marwa Ahmed (aged 26, convert from Islam, wife, mother of two, **killed** by her uncle for having converted and married a Christian, her husband's family has been forced to flee to avoid sparking violence)

Date: early November 2015

Location: Qalubiya

Source: <http://www.aina.org/news/20151123021214.htm>

Demiana Gebrael (niece of Makram Hakim, abducted; **UPDATE**: returned to her family by the police)

Makram Hakim (uncle of Demiana Gebrael, reported her abduction)

Dates: November 24-26, 2015

Location: Ezbet Wasif

Source: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1517&A=21250>  
and <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1519&A=21282>

Hannah T N (aged 25, widow of a Coptic Christian police officer, disappeared under mysterious circumstances)

Date reported: November 26, 2015

Location: Hana Manor, Bani Ghany village, Samalout, Minya province

Source: <http://www.mcndirect.com/showsubject.aspx?id=65124>



## Germany

Amir Ali (aged 24, convert from Islam, Iranian refugee, beaten in a refugee camp by an Afghan Muslim refugee for speaking about his conversion, hospitalized)

Date reported: November 22, 2015

Source: <http://mohabatnews.com/en/?p=2641>



## Italy

Chiara Corbella Petrillo (aged 28, wife of Enrico, mother of Maria [deceased], David [deceased], and Francesco, **died of cancer**, had delayed treatment to ensure that Francesco would be born healthy)

Enrico Petrillo (widower of Chiara Corbella Petrillo)

Francesco Petrillo (aged 1, son of Enrico and Chiara Corbella Petrillo)

Date: June 13, 2012

Source: <http://catholicexchange.com/chiara-corbella-petrillo>  
and <http://www.chiaracorbella-petrillo.it/en/>



## Myanmar

Rev Lama Yaw (described the new government offensive against Christian tribes "They dare not go to sleep at home as they fear unexpected attacks, because the Burma Army has done these kinds of attacks and abuses before. Some nearby villagers have gone to sleep at churches in Mohnyin town, as they fear random attacks by the Burma Army...I feel like they intentionally launched the attacks on the day when Christians held worship...As soon as we heard civilians fled for safety [to Mohnyin], we held prayer and pray to God to protect them. We are weak, and what we can do is keep praying and relying on God. We believe that God is capable to protect our people")

Date: November 15, 2015

Location: Kachin state

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2015/11/burma-myanmar-military-offensive-displaces-kachin-christians/>



## Pakistan

Sarfraz Masih Gill (brother of Sajjad Masih Gill, who was convicted of blasphemy and sentenced to life imprisonment; **UPDATE**: attacked and threatened when returning home from visiting his brother in prison)

Ramiz Gill (son of Sarfraz Masih Gill, nephew of Sajjad Masih Gill, attacked and threatened when returning home from visiting his uncle in prison)

Date: October 22, 2015

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5703>

Sajjad Masih Gill (sentenced to life imprisonment in [Gojra district](#), [Toba Tek Singh](#) on [July 13, 2013](#) for allegedly sending a blasphemous text message, the transmitting cell phone was not recovered by the police and no evidence connecting it to the accused was presented in court, the conviction and sentencing also occurred after the accuser retracted the accusation and admitted that the police had pressured him into making it; **UPDATE**: appeal underway, asked for prayers from Christians around the world)

Bashiran Bibi (widow, mother of Sajjad Masih Gill, said "I pray day and night for my son freedom from prison because I know he is not guilty")

Pervaiz Masih (brother of Sajjad Masih Gill)

Zulifqar Masih (brother of Sajjad Masih Gill)

Pastor Simon Peter

Date: November 26, 2015

Location: Sahiwal Jail

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5711>

Agnes Shaukat (daughter of Shaukat Masih, sister of Samuel, boutique employee, apparently abducted by her employer in an attempt to convert her to Islam)

Shaukat Masih (said that a Christian rickshaw driver hired by the family to bring her home reported that Agnes Shaukat never left the boutique and that CCTV recordings confirm his account)

Date: November 20, 2015

Location: Lahore

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5709>

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (President of Pakistan Christian Congress; **UPDATE:** reported on the destruction by arson of a Christian television station “It is surprising that Pakistani Electronic media owned by Muslims have again not bothered to cover setting on fire incident of Gawahi TV when minor issues are taken as breaking news by it”)

Date: November 24, 2015

Location: Karachi

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=5708>



## Spain

Polonia Catellanos (Christian Lawyers Association, said that the association would bring legal action against a city council that allowed an art exhibit in a municipal building in which 240 stolen consecrated hosts were used to spell the Spanish word for 'Pederasty', had already brought suit against the artist)

Date reported: November 23, 2015

Location: Pamplona

Source: <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/sacrilege-in-spain-over-200-consecrated-hosts-stolen-desecrated-for-art-exhibit-15364/>



## Syria

Deacon Boutros (held captive by ISIL)

Date reported: November 19, 2015

Source: <http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/escaped-syrian-priest-was-saved-by-the-hand-of-god/>

Patriarch Ignatius Ephrem Joseph III Yonan (**UPDATE:** said "Western democracies have conspired against Syria and produced the destruction of the nation's infrastructure, the demolition of houses, towns, villages, monuments and archaeological sites. This is the result of a foolish politics and of a conspiracy, under the pretext of bringing democracy to the region. We Christians are not able to live in this chaos that produces militias, armed gangs, terrorist groups and Islamic parties. But when we maintain a firm stand against these phenomena, then the West accuses us of being dictatorial. All Eastern patriarchs, myself included, have spoken out clearly to the West from the very beginning: Be careful, the situation in Syria is not like that of Egypt, Tunisia or Libya. It's much more complex, and conflict here will create only chaos and civil war. They listened and responded: 'No, the Assad regime will fall in a few months.' As I predicted, that hasn't happened...[Syrian Christians are now] trapped in a terrible situation [between] criminal gangs called ISIL and other terrorist groups who use Islam as an excuse to 'purify' areas under their control in the name of religion, and Muslims scholars who tell us that Islam is alien to these facts...Innocent people, especially Christians, have no support. The West has betrayed us")

Date: November 18, 2015

Source [with photo]: <http://www.aina.org/news/20151125032041.htm>



### **United Kingdom**

Rev Arun Arora (criticized the refusal of the three major cinema chains to show a Church of England advertisement that featured one line of the Lord's Prayer, the church is threatening legal action as the victim of religious discrimination)

Date: November 22, 2015

Source:

<http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/ban.on.lords.prayer.ad.in.uk.cinemas.bewilders.church.of.england/36065.htm>



### **United States - Indiana**

Amanda Blackburn (aged 28, wife of Pastor Davey Blackburn, 13 weeks pregnant, **shot dead** during a home invasion and burglary, had been sexually assaulted)

Pastor Davey Blackburn (widower of Amanda Blackburn)

Date: November 10, 2015

Location: Indianapolis

Source [with photo]: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/amanda-blackburn-murdered-pregnant-pastors-wife-was-raped-sources-say-150573/>

### **United States - Ohio**

Madison Gesiotto (aged 23, law school student, threatened by a fellow student who wrote “The government cannot take action against you for your offensive and racist article. But your colleagues can” following her publication of an article on abortionists targeting African-Americans, the school administration declined to pursue the matter and turned her complaint into an attack on her article)

Date reported: November 26, 2015

Location: Columbus

Source [with photo]: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/law-school-dismisses-threat-against-pro-life-student-scolds-her-instead>



### **Uzbekistan**

**Event: Police raid a home worship service, seized numerous religious and other items, attendees arrested, beaten, denied water and toilet facilities, mothers denied access to nurse their infants until they signed statements against themselves and others, all released after 11 hours**

Sarvar Zhuliyev (home raided)

Erik Tajibayev

Ruslan Bekzhanov (beaten)

Dilsuz Zununova

Gulnoza Khasanova

Zhavokhir Abdullayev (beaten)

Odila Bobokulova

Meirbek Tajibayev (brother of David Tajibayev)

David Tajibayev (brother of Meirbek Tajibayev)

Erzhan Tajibayev (beaten)

Diyora Khamidova

Shavkatilla Soliyev

Date: November 8, 2015

Location: Yakkasaray district, Tashkent

Source: [http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2125](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2125)

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