

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2016-05-08 through 2016-05-14



China

Pastor Zhang Chongzhu (possibly abducted by police on [September 8, 2015](#); officially charged on [February 5, 2016](#) with 'stealing, spying, buying, or illegally providing state secrets or intelligence to entities outside China'; **UPDATE**: released)

Date: May 9, 2016

Location: Zhejiang province

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Protestant-pastor-who-proteted-cross-demolitions-is-released-37478.html>



India

Pastor Abraham Biswas Surin (aged 64, **body found under a bridge, throat slit**, hit multiple times with an axe)

Eliazer Topno (said "We are shocked by the murder. Perhaps the pastor was killed for circumstantial reasons. We asked the Lutheran Evangelical Christians of Rajgangpur to take the matter to the police and the government of Odisha...I do not understand because the pastor had informed his family that he was going to Ranchi, when his body was found in Rourkela, 215 km from that city")

Date of disappearance: May 5, 2016

Date reported: May 9, 2016

Location: Rourkela, Odisha state

Source [warning - graphic]: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Odisha:-evangelical-clergyman-killed,-throat-cut,-body-dumped-under-a-bridge-37445.html>

Umesh Patel (arrested on forced conversion charges for publicly handing out brochures on the Gospel)

Date: May 10, 2016

Location: Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh state

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Chhattisgarh:-Evangelical-Christian-arrested-for-handing-out-brochures-on-Gospel-37469.html>

Dr Pascoal Carvalho (condemned the rape and murder of a 28 year old Dalit [untouchable] law school student, said "The life of women is considered less important than that of men. Their exploitation starts even before birth, with sex-selective abortion; then continues with the industry of wombs for rent...Violence against women is not only the most widespread example of a human rights violation , gender bias is all too prevalent in India, causing grave concerns for women's safety in India. This horrific and brutal assault on the young women is another shame on the safety of our women...")

Date: May 9, 2016

Location: Mumbai

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Indian-bishops:-Total-condemnation-of-rape-and-murder-of-young-Dalit-woman-37436.html>



Vietnam

Fr Joseph Nguyen Van The ("kind old priest", beaten by police while travelling to celebrate Mass, hospitalized with serious hand and feet injuries, attack was likely motivated by his statements against corruption)

Fr Joseph Nguyen Van Phong (said "This is a deliberate attack, under the direction of the local government and police. It was not a random aggression")

Bishop Cosma Hoang Van Djat (visited Fr Joseph Nguyen Van The in the hospital)

Date: May 7, 2016

Location: Son Duong district, Tuyen Quang province

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Priest-beaten-by-police-after-reporting-corruption-37494.html>

Today's Martyrs

For more information please visit our web site at <http://todaysmartyrs.org/>

or write to

**2490 Black Rock Turnpike #455
Fairfield CT 06825-2400 USA**

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