

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2016-05-22 through 2016-05-28



Egypt

Fr Rafik Greich (**UPDATE**: condemned the Islamist attack on a 70 year old Christian woman “It’s all hearsay. The story about an affair between a Christian man [the woman's son] and a Muslim woman is not true. It is a pretext used by extremists to attack. They burnt [seven] homes and stripped the woman [naked,][who downplayed the thing to police] and drove her around the village in a car...Inaction or complicity by local police is an added factor [, local Christians had warned of a pending attack but police intervened] more than two hours after the incident, making things worse...If anything good has come out of it, it is that Egyptians strongly condemned the sad and painful incident", the attack has become front page news and President Sisi has ordered the military to rebuild the destroyed homes)

Date: May 20, 2016

Location: Karma, Minya province

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Extremist-attack-on-Coptic-woman-in-Minya-due-to-pretext,-sparks-outrage,-says-Fr-Rafic-37614.html>



India

Rev V A Anthony (husband of Prabha, automobile stopped by Hindu extremists, beaten, arrested on false forcible conversion charges along with his wife and another woman)

Prabha (wife of Rev V A Anthony, automobile stopped by Hindu extremists, arrested on false forcible conversion charges along with her husband and another woman)

Date: May 22, 2016

Location: Satna, Madhya Pradesh state

Source: [http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Three-evangelical-Christians-arrested-in-Madhya-Pradesh-for-forced-conversions"-37570.html](http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Three-evangelical-Christians-arrested-in-Madhya-Pradesh-for-forced-conversions)



Iraq

Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako (**UPDATE**: asked all Iraqis to pray together on May 30, 2016, said "A prayer in the church, with women and men carefully listening the texts of our hymns and our Psalms will also help Muslims [who are in attendance] reflect. We need a new way of thinking, a new culture, and our Muslim brothers must update their thinking for the goodness and peace we invoke are for everyone")

Date: May 28, 2016

Location: Bagdad

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Baghdad-Patriarch-calls-on-Christians-and-Muslims-to-pray-for-peace-between-May-and-Ramadan-37619.html>



Israel

Auxiliary Bishop Giacinto-Boulos Marcuzzo (complained that the Israeli Ministry of Education has not followed its agreement to continue partial funding of Christian schools and is still attempting to merge them into the public system)

Date: May 25, 2016

Location: Nazareth

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Vicar-of-Jerusalem:-Christian-Schools-without-funds,-Israel-not-respecting-agreements-37592.html>



Mexico

Bishop Eduardo Patino Leal (wrote "things are getting worse and worse" after criminals invaded a church during Mass to abduct a parishioner and family man for ransom, added "These things are not possible, churches therefore are no longer places of peace and communion?...As we have been saying for several years, month after month, we want peace! There is no security, because many criminals are free")

Date: May 21, 2016

Location: Veracruz

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/60095-AMERICA_MEXICO_Kidnapping_during_the_Mass_the_Bishop_denounces_things_are_getting_worse_and_worse#.V0RmyciUUfg



Sudan

Rev Kowa Shamal (arrested in [Khartoum Bahry](#) on [December 18, 2015](#); released on [January 16, 2016](#); **UPDATE**: arrested by the NISS secret police without charge)

Abdulmonem Abdumawla Issa Abdumawla (convert, held in jail)

Date: [May 24, 2016](#)

Source: <http://www.meconcern.org/en/prayer-requests/1096-sudan-pastor-re-arrested>

Fr Gabriel El Anthony (abducted in [Nyala](#) on [April 14, 2016](#) by unknown persons; **UPDATE**: released)

Date reported: [May 25, 2016](#)

Source: <http://foreignaffairs.co.nz/2016/05/25/africasudan-release-of-coptic-monk-kidnapped-in-darfur/>



Syria

George Lahdo (**killed** in an ISIL attack on several restaurants)

Karim Simon (**killed** in an ISIL attack on several restaurants)

Toma Khosho (**killed** in an ISIL attack on several restaurants)

Date reported: [May 22, 2016](#)

Location: [al-Wusta district, Qamishle](#)

Source: <http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/isis-attack-assyrian-district-in-syria-five-killed/>

Fr Yacob Boulos (**beheaded** by ISIL after praying in his church)

Date: [February 18, 2016](#)

Source: <http://www.christiansinpakistan.com/isis-decapitates-another-christian-priest-in-syria/>

Today's Martyrs

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

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