

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2016-09-17 through 2016-09-23



Australia

Karina Okotel (aged 37, attorney, wife of David, mother of Hannah, David, and Grace, daughter of Sri Lankan immigrants, said of her opposition to same sex marriage “I have even been told to go back to my own country, which is difficult given that I was born in Australia. However, the discrimination and hate I have faced, just by querying whether we should be legalizing same-sex marriage, has been like nothing I have experienced before...I wonder what life will be like for my own kids should they form a view that supports traditional marriage. To protect them, will I have to caution them to keep their views to themselves, not to ask questions and not speak up?”)

Date: September 14, 2017

Location: Melbourne

Source: <https://barnabasfund.org/news/Australian-politician-defending-religious-freedom-says-she-faces-bigotry-worse-than-racism>

Madeline (aged 18, fired from her job at a children's party store after she posted on Facebook that she would vote against same sex marriage in the national referendum)

Date: September 17, 2017

Location: Canberra

Source: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/christian-woman-fired-revealing-shell-vote-no-australias-gay-marriage-referendum-199921/>

and <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/18-year-old-aussie-loses-her-job-for-saying-its-ok-to-vote-no-on-same-sex-m>

Pastor John Gill (church threatened with arson after it posted a billboard supporting traditional marriage)

Date: September 19, 2017

Location: Brisbane

Source: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/evangelical-church-threatened-set-on-fire-amid-lgbt-outrage-at-marriage-billboard-199760/>

Pastor Margaret Court (former professional tennis player, denied re-election to her tennis club due to her support of traditional marriage, said "I think it's sad. You don't have the freedom of speech today to really defend yourself")

Date: September 15, 2017

Location: Perth

Source: <https://thewest.com.au/news/wa/same-sex-marriage-critic-margaret-court-hits-back-over-cottesloe-tennis-club-dumping-ng-b88600348z>



Cambodia

Event: Twenty-nine Montagnard tribal people from Vietnam have been denied asylum for religious persecution

Rlan Lap (aged 40, Vietnamese citizen, had spent years in a Vietnamese prison, said “I am very scared, I am very nervous. I know when they take me back to Vietnam, they are not going to treat me well”)

Y Rin Kpa (aged 47, had spent 9 years in prison in Vietnam)

By Un (aged 40, church leader, father of six, said “I urged the people to protest for freedom of religion, ownership over the land, and to demand authorities to allow us to build a church”, was attested, beaten, and tortured)

Siu Loih (aged 60, spent 4 years in prison in Vietnam)

Date: September 18, 2017

Location: Phnom Penh

Source: <http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/well-founded-fears-montagnards-returning-vietnam-speak-dread-what-awaits-them>



China

Ms Zhu (home raided by police, computer and religious items used in youth education seized, told she was brainwashing children)

Date: July 2017

Location: Henan province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2017/09/christian-academy-banned-for.html>

Anthony Lam Sui-ki (**UPDATE**: said that the new 10,000 page religious regulations order published by the government showed that public consultations with Christians had been ignored with the aim to achieve total control of religion)

Date: September 20, 2017

Location: Hong Kong

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/total-control-is-behind-chinas-revised-religious-regulations/80265>

Fr Fei Jisheng (aged 41, abducted by authorities in November 2015, released; detained on June 6, 2016 for cross-border evangelization; released in July 2016; arrested in Fushun, Liaoning

province on [October 18, 2016](#) on charges that he stole a money box from a home for the elderly, Christians believe he was arrested for his evangelization work; **UPDATE:** sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment in a closed trial, had been denied visitations while detained)

He Xianmin (sentenced to 1 year probation)

Date reported: [September 21, 2017](#)

Location: Gaizhou, Liaoning province

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-priest-gets-jail-time-for-theft-supporters-say-he-was-framed/80303>



Egypt

Girgis Nazir (**shot dead** by a Muslim neighbor during a disagreement)

Date reported: [September 19, 2017](#)

Source: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=1985&A=32294>



India

Pastor Gunsingh (beaten by Hindu radicals, motorbike damaged, said "More than 70 Christians from Kadhalkogaom stopped meeting for any kind of Christian gathering, and I was strongly advised not to enter into the village")

Mansingh (beaten, deafened in one ear, suffered a partial hearing loss in the other ear)

Date reported: [September 18, 2017](#)

Source: <http://www.persecution.org/2017/09/18/despite-persecution-in-india-i-will-live-for-him-alone/>

Event: The state government closed a 20 year old Catholic college allegedly for lacking permits and title to its land

Fr Siljo Kidanganv (college administrator, said the government "received pressure from extremist Hindu groups and closed the school, arguing that our certificate lacked the signature of the district authority. But the Church bought land from the local population following all legal formalities. Now because of a small matter the government has taken possession of the property")

Fr Maria Stephen (said "What worries us most and concerns us is the way the closure took place. Police arrived at night with five jeeps full of members of the Rashdriya Swayamsevak Sangh [RSS] Hindu paramilitary group, and VHP [Vishva Hindu Parishad, Hindu nationalists, leader of Hindutva ideology]. This scared the children...The behavior of

officials dictates that they are not on the side of the poor but the rich. It is horrible to see welfare and good education to poor children shut down")

Bishop Anthony Chirayath (**UPDATE:** said police "found that the alleged accusation of converting 200 people is false. Police officers have also verified that property really belongs to the Church, so there is nothing illegal about the land on which the structure is built. They only want to attack us...[the goal] is to drive out Christians from this area. There are just two Christian families here and yesterday one of them told me they received threats, now lives in fear")

Archbishop Leo Cornelio (**UPDATE:** said there had been "harassment against Christians and an anti-Christian atmosphere surrounding our mission. This is a land dispute. And it is also a question of Ghar Wapsi, that is to return to the religion of origin. But tribals have never been Hindus. So the [nationalist]'s claim to return the land to the people is unfounded and only responds to the goal of tormenting Christians")

Date reported: September 20, 2017:

Location: Mohanpur village, Guna district, Madhya Pradesh state

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Catholic-college-closed-down-in-Madhya-Pradesh.-Bishop-of-Sagar:-They-want-to-drive-out-Christians-41829.html>

and <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Madhya-Pradesh,-Catholics-and-Protestants-denounce-Hindutva-targeting-of-the-poor.-41840.html>

Event: The state government has ordered all public schools to require students to say Jai Hind [hail India] when attendance is taken, Hind is a sectarian pro-Hindu word for India - the official non-sectarian word is Bharat

Bishop Anthony Chirayath (**UPDATE:** said he had not received the order and would think about implementing it, added "It is not good for a healthy democracy to force such orders on students")

Fr Maria Stephen (**UPDATE:** said "This is more or less a cultural invasion")

Date reported: September 20, 2017:

Location: Madhya Pradesh state

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/forcing-patriotic-slogan-on-indian-schools-criticized/80290>

Event: The Chief Minister [Governor] signed a new anti-conversion law

Rev Dr Manmassih Ekka (said "There is a danger to the social harmony in the state of Jharkhand. The passage of the bill is clearly an attempt to polarize tribal community by the ruling BJP...We have already seen the aggression of the Hindu fundamentalists misusing the bill as four Christians were falsely charged under forcible conversions and were sent to jail in Simdega district of Jharkhand...We are asking the government to take back their decision in the interest of people of Jharkhand. On behalf of the All Church Committee of Ranchi, we are organizing a public meeting in Ranchi along with progressive groups, including the Hindu community")

Date: September 5, 2017

Location: Ranchi, Jharkhand state

Source: <http://www.persecution.org/2017/09/20/jharkhands-state-governor-in-india-approves-anti-forced-conversion-law-despite-opposition/>

Fr Michael Kerketta SJ (said in response to the [September 5, 2017](#) signing of the state's anti-conversion law "The measure affects non-Hindu religious communities like Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, and other local communities. It is our duty to denounce an injustice that violates the freedom of conscience and religion and is against the Constitution...Hindu extremist groups in the state of Jharkhand are strong and have ample space in society. In past days anti-Christian demonstrations in Ranchi and violent militants shook the city. Some Christians are in prison for false accusations of having promoted conversions")

Date: September 21, 2017

Location: Ranchi, Jharkhand state

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/62944-ASIA_INDIA_Anti_conversion_law_in_Jharkhand_will_give_rise_to_violence_and_religious_polarization#.WcPBW7KGOM8



Iraq

Archbishop Habib Hormouz al-Naufali (**UPDATE:** said that there are only 300 families left in his eparchy [diocese], of its 15 churches only 4 are open, requested that a statue of Mary the mother of Jesus be moved from a public park to church property)

Date: September 20, 2017

Location: Basra

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/A-statue-of-Our-Lady-removed-in-Basra-to-avoid-tensions-between-religious-communities-41836.html>



Ireland

Patrick McCrystal (director of Human Life International, spoke after threats forced a hotel to cancel hosting a pro-life conference "Who decides who may speak in Ireland? This is an attack on the very foundation of democracy in our country. These women are highly respected in their fields. Yet an angry mob have decided that only certain voices are allowed to be heard in Ireland")

Date: September 21, 2017

Location: Dublin

Source: <http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/news/antiabortion-group-left-fuming-after-hotel-cancels-their-booking-over-intimidation-36155799.html>



Israel

Archbishop Giacinto-Boulos Marcuzzo (**UPDATE**: condemned the vandalism of St. Stephen's church [a traditional site of the tomb of the saint]: "Vandals broke into the church and destroyed the crosses, the statue of Our Lady and the stained glass, as well as the faces of the saints...Perhaps, Jewish extremists did it, but we do not know this for sure. At present, there is no evidence, but it is the same kind of background that led to the attacks in Tabgha and other Christian sites in the Holy Land")

Date: September 20, 2017

Location: Beit Jimal

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/For-Mgr-Marcuzzo,-the-attack-against-St-Stephen%E2%80%99s-Church-in-Beit-Jimal-is-a-sign-of-fanaticism-41846.html>



Kazakhstan

Event: Pretrial investigations underway of four Christian conscientious objectors

Adilzhan Iskakov

Dmitry Vedyakin

Kaken Dostayev

Tlek Zhumagazinov

Date reported: September 22, 2017

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2317



Mali

Sr Gloria Cecilia Narvaez Argoti (Colombian citizen, abducted in [Koutiala](#) on [February 7, 2017](#);
UPDATE: reported to have developed health issues with a leg and kidney)

Date: September 19, 2017

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/62930-AMERICA_COLOMBIA_Health_problems_for_the_missionary_nun_kidnapped_in_Mali_in_February#.WcEgbLKGOM8



Nigeria

Pastor Benaiah Moses (complained after a convention center refused to allow a Christian prayer meeting "This is quite unfortunate. Imagine, they sent us out after they had assured us of using the venue, giving an excuse that the place is reserved for dinner...Can this ever happen with other religions? I don't see any reason why they wouldn't allow us to use the hall this morning, or in the least, give us an alternative", the delegates held their prayer meeting outside the center under the scorching sun)

Bishop Eddy Bebor (said there was a deliberate effort to prevent the prayer meeting at the convention center)

Date: September 14, 2017

Location: Akure, Ondo state

Source: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201709150082.html>

Event: Muslims attacked Christians in reprisal for the targeted killing of Muslims by Biafrian separatists, at least three were killed

Jerry Binkur (final-year college student, **killed**)

Prof Timothy O Oyetunde (postgraduate dean, attacked in his automobile, escaped with minor injuries, another professor was stabbed in the chest, automobile set afire)

Prof Ema Ema (stabbed in the head while in Prof Timothy O Oyetunde's automobile)

Date: September 14, 2017

Location: Jos, Plateau state

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/09/nigeria-calm-returns-to-jos-after-eruption-of-violence-that-threatened-the-nation/>

Bishop Godfrey Igwebuike Onah (issued a pastoral letter in Nsukka, Enugu state on April 29, 2016 entitled *Stop This Madness!* concerning the April 25, 2016 attack by Fulani gunmen in Nimbo; **UPDATE**: denounced the destruction a mosque by possible Biafrian separatists, visited the local imam to express his condolences)

Date: September 17, 2017

Location: Oguurute, Enugu Ezike, Enugu state

Source:

Pakistan

Prof Anjum James Paul (**UPDATE**: later said "In Pakistan we are witnessing the failure of the educational system. The death of Sharon Masih, the Christian student lynched by his classmates with the utmost indifference of the teachers' is a clear sign of this failure. There is a climate of hatred towards non-Muslims, the school environment is deteriorating. Christian and Hindu children are victims of Muslim students but also of teachers...In 14 years of research, which we have always submitted to the government, we can say with certainty that intolerance in public school is widespread and Sharon's murder is a clear example. There are prejudices and hatred towards religious minorities that are instilled through textbooks adopted in public schools that promote contempt against other religions")

Date: August 27, 2017

Source: <http://www.fides.org/en/news/62936->

[ASIA_PAKISTAN_A_Catholic_professor_The_educational_system_in_Pakistan_is_a_failure#.WcJwNLKGOM8](http://www.fides.org/en/news/62936-ASIA_PAKISTAN_A_Catholic_professor_The_educational_system_in_Pakistan_is_a_failure#.WcJwNLKGOM8)



Philippines

Fr Teresito 'Chito' Suganob (abducted by Islamic militants along with 13 parishioners in [Marawi, Mindanao](#) on [May 23, 2017](#), cathedral burned, 9 other Christians shot dead;

UPDATE: rescued from captivity by the Philippine military)

Date: September 16, 2017

Location: Bato

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Marawi:-Fr.-Chito,-free-after-4-months-41807.html>



Russia

Pastor Olga Matyuzhova (fined on [November 27, 2016](#) for an unauthorized public sermon; appeal denied on [December 28, 2016](#); **UPDATE**: conviction overturned on appeal due to the statute of limitations but guilt upheld)

Date: July 7, 2017

Location: Kemerovo

L G Pyshnaya (acquitted of illegal missionary activities on [December 8, 2016](#); prosecutorial appeal denied on [January 11, 2017](#); **UPDATE**: second prosecutorial appeal denied, acquittal upheld)

Date: April 3, 2017

Location: Svetly, Kaliningrad region

Vasili Zaitsev (fined US\$80 for organizing a religious festival)

Date: December 16, 2016

Location: Sernur district, Mari El republic

Yuri Dachev (fined US\$81, reason not reported)

Date: December 19, 2016

Location: Maikop, Adygea

V S Sidorov (fined US\$82 on December 26, 2016 for handing out religious literature; **UPDATE:** appeal successful due to the statute of limitations)

Date: February 7, 2017

Location: Oryol

Aleksei Mokiyev (fined US\$83 for posting unapproved church information on the VKontakte social media site)

Date: January 10, 2017

Location: Pervomaisk district, Kirov

Vladimir Sukhanov (Ukrainian citizen, case dismissed, details unknown)

Date: January 13, 2017

Location: Shakhunya district, Nizhny Novgorod region

Pastor Konstantin Petrenko (fined US\$117 on January 17, 2017 for unauthorized religious activities; **UPDATE:** appeal denied)

Date: March 6, 2017

Location: Beloretsk, Bashkortostan

R G Gasanaliyev (fined US\$84 for proselytizing drug addicts and alcoholics in a rehabilitation center)

Date: January 19, 2017

Location: Konakovo, Tver region

T I Sukhanova (fined US\$84 on January 30, 2017 for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE:** appeal successful)

Date: March 23, 2017

Location: Chernyshevsk district, Zabaikalsk region

Mikhail Ishenin (fined US\$83 on February 1, 2017 for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE:** appeal successful)

Date: March 21, 2017

Location: Krasnokamensk district, Zabaikalsk region

Vitaly Ryazanov (fined US\$83 on February 2, 2017 for announcing the next date for Sunday worship; **UPDATE:** appeal successful)

Date: March 17, 2017

Location: Kumertau, Republic of Bashkortostan

T V Lipishina (fined US\$83 on February 2, 2017 for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE:** appeal successful)

Date: March 23, 2017

Location: Chernyshevsk district, Zabaikalsk region

Anna Kosharnova (church in Nizhny Tagil fined US\$842 on February 8, 2017; appeal denied April 6, 2017; **UPDATE:** second appeal denied)

Date: July 7, 2017

Location: Prigorodny district, Sverdlovsk region

Sergei Seleznyov (acquitted of illegal missionary activity, judge ruled there was no evidence he was at the meeting)

Date: February 10, 2017

Location: Vilyuchinsk district, Kamchatka

O M Rakhimkulov (fined US\$88 for illegal missionary activity)

Date: February 15, 2017

Location: Nizhnevartovsk, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Region

Pastor Sergei Merkulov (case dismissed on February 27, 2017; **UPDATE:** prosecutorial appeal dismissed, case closed)

Date: March 24, 2017

Location: Tver

Pastor Mikhail Pugachyov (case dismissed on March 1, 2017 due to the statute of limitations; **UPDATE:** prosecutorial appeal dismissed, case closed)

Date: April 7, 2017

Location: Ufa, Bashkortostan

Sergei Suprunenko (fined US\$86 for creating an online church newspaper with public access)

Date: March 1, 2017

Location: Abinsk district, Krasnodar region

V I Sergeyeva (fined an unknown amount on March 9, 2017 for handing out the Gideons' New Testament; **UPDATE:** appeal denied)

Date: April 26, 2017

Location: Sterlitamak, Republic of Bashkortostan

Aleksandr Khramugin (fined US\$78 in Uritsky district, Oryol region on March 10, 2017 for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE:** appeal successful)

Date: April 28, 2017

Location: Oryol

Andrei Novikov (fined US\$78 in Uritsky district, Oryol region on March 10, 2017 for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE:** appeal denied)

Date: April 17, 2017

Location: Oryol

Aleksandr Bychkov (fined US\$78 in Uritsky district, Oryol region on March 10, 2017 for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE:** appeal denied)

Date: May 22, 2017

Location: Oryol

V I Polkovnikova (fined an unknown amount on [March 13, 2017](#) for handing out the Gideons' New Testament; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: April 13, 2017

Location: Sterlitamak, Republic of Bashkortostan

V I Nasonova (fined US\$78 on [March 13, 2017](#) for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

V N Lukina (fined US\$78 on [March 13, 2017](#) for illegal missionary activity; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: May 4, 2017

Location: Asino district, Tomsk region

Vladimir Klimenko (fined US\$78 on [March 14, 2017](#) for illegal missionary activity on the internet; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: April 18, 2017

Location: Abinsk district, Krasnodar region

R R Mannanova (fined an unknown amount on [March 15, 2017](#) for handing out the Gideons' New Testament; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: April 13, 2017

Location: Sterlitamak, Republic of Bashkortostan

A G Vakhitova (fined an unknown amount on [March 16, 2017](#) for handing out the Gideons' New Testament; **UPDATE**: fine reduced on appeal)

F R Muratov (fined an unknown amount on [March 16, 2017](#) for handing out the Gideons' New Testament; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

R A Akhmetyanova (fined an unknown amount on [March 16, 2017](#) for handing out the Gideons' New Testament; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: April 26, 2017

Location: Sterlitamak, Republic of Bashkortostan

Ivan Manakov (fined US\$87 for illegal distribution of religious literature)

Date: March 20, 2017

Location: Essentuki, Stavropol region

Marat Zhambulov (apparent Evangelical Christian Youth Movement member, fined an unknown amount, details unknown)

Date: March 21, 2017

Location: Ulan-Ude, Buryat Republic

Pastor Anatoly Mukhin (fined US\$88 on [March 27, 2017](#) for illegal missionary activity in his own home; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: June 14, 2017

Location: Tuapse, Krasnodar region

Pastor Aleksandr Kutyavin (acquitted on [March 27, 2017](#) of illegal missionary activity charges;
UPDATE: prosecutorial appeal denied, case closed)

Date: [May 12, 2017](#)

Location: Omsk

P V Kotlyarenko (fined US\$142 on [April 3, 2017](#) for illegal missionary activity for conversing
with a street vendor about God; **UPDATE:** appeal denied)

T A Mandrichenko (fined US\$107 on [April 3, 2017](#) for illegal missionary activity for conversing
with a street vendor about God; **UPDATE:** appeal denied)

Date: [July 5, 2017](#)

Location: Novgorod

Fr Sergei Kriulin (Russian Orthodox Church Abroad member, fined US\$89 for performing a
"graceless" rite according to another Orthodox priest)

Date: [April 3, 2017](#)

Location: Kirovo-Chepetsk district, Kirov region

A V Rudenko (foreign citizen, fined US\$533 for illegal missionary activity, ordered deported)

Date: [April 3, 2017](#)

Location: Vladivostok

Consmance Maziku (citizen of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, student, fined US\$534 for
posting a video on his VKontakte social media page inviting fellow Congolese students
to Church events)

Date: [April 4, 2017](#)

Location: Pervomaisk district, Kirov

**Five Christians were acquitted of unauthorized religious activity in a rehabilitation center,
activity was authorized**

O A Porokhova

P V Kornilov

S I Golovachev

V I Novoselov

V L Poluboryatsev

Ye V Kalinin

Date: [April 5, 2017](#)

Location: Prigorodny district, Sverdlovsk region

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2306



Thailand

Maherwar Ishaq (Pakistani asylum applicant, subjected to an attempted rape by a Pakistani embassy official when she applied for a passport renewal on [December 26, 2016](#); **UPDATE**: threatened by Pakistani embassy officials with deportation and death unless she drops her complaint against the embassy, Canadian Christians have been working to secure her asylum there)

Date: September 19, 2017

Location: Bangkok

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/depraved-officials-of-embassy-in-pakistan-threaten-christian-girl-to-stay-silent-on-sexual-harassmen>



Turkey

Pastor Ahmet Guvener (**UPDATE**: spoke on the government's policies towards Christians since its founding in 1923 "We have been exposed to ethnic and religious discrimination for years...The state, which spends billions and builds gigantic mosques, has not built a church so far")

Date: August 7, 2017

Location: Diyarbakir

Source: <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/10932/turkey-persecution-christians-kurds> and <http://dihaber14.net/TUM-HABERLER/content/view/2885> 7 - with translation



Ukraine

Archimandrite Anthony Ntrebin (reported on the burglary of his monastery and theft of an icon which was later found in the snow stripped of decorations)

Date: February 7, 2017

Location: Lyadova

Source: <http://orthochristian.com/100886.html>



United States - Michigan

Steve Tennes (farmer, husband of Bridget Tennes, banned in [March 2017](#) from a farmer's market in East Lansing due to his Facebook posts in support of traditional marriage and refusal

to host same sex weddings on his farm; **UPDATE:** a Federal court issued an injunction against the municipal ordinance that banned him)

Bridget Tennes (wife of Steve Tennes)

Date: September 15, 2017

Location:

Source: <https://stream.org/judge-suspends-citys-ban-farmers-marriage-views/>
and https://www.scribd.com/document/359013890/Country-Mills-vs-East-Lansing-opinion-and-order-granting-motion-for-preliminary-injunction#from_embed

Hadeel Khalasawi (husband of Sumar, father of Mariano and Malano, stepfather of Marcella, immigrated from Iraq at age 4, former teen felon, detained, faces deportation to Iraq and possible death once he arrives)

Sumar (wife of Hadeel Khalasawi, said "[The government] should have deported them from day one after they committed their crimes. If they didn't want them in this country, they should have sent them back, not let them go and after 20 or 30 years come and snatch them away from us and break our hearts...My husband did make mistakes. He paid for his crimes. They let him out. He started a family. And now they just came after we built this life together...Eventually he's going to get killed. My husband has tattoos of Christianity. He's a target there after he goes there")

Mariano (son of Sumar and Hadeel Khalasawi)

Malano (son of Sumar and Hadeel Khalasawi)

Marcella (daughter of Sumar and stepdaughter of Hadeel Khalasawi)

Date: September 8, 2017

Location: Macomb county

Source: <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/iraqi-christians-helped-donald-trump-win-the-white-house-now-theyre-facing-deportation/article/2176817>



Vietnam

John Nguyen Van Oai (aged 36, husband, arrested in Nghe An on January 19, 2017 on fabricated charges of violating probation; **UPDATE:** sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment and 4 years' house arrest)

Date: September 18, 2017

Location: Hoang Mai, Nghe An province

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Ho%C3%A0ng-Mai,-Catholic-activist-Nguy%E1%BB%85n-V%C4%83n-Oai-convicted-again-41844.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**

Permission is granted to copy, disseminate and forward this document without charge or fee, provided no changes are made and full attribution is made to Today's Martyrs