

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2017-12-10 through 2017-12-16



Australia

Pastor Mark Powell (cited increased anti-Christian statements by homosexual activists after Parliament passed the same-sex marriage bill, wrote “Let it be known that on the December 7, 2017 – the day in Australian Parliamentary history when "love won" – the hate campaign truly began”)

Lyle Shelton (traditional marriage supporter, **UPDATE**: mercilessly attacked in social media by homosexual activists after Parliament passed the same-sex marriage bill)

James Parker (husband, father, former homosexual, conversion and ministry attacked by homosexual activists after Parliament passed the same-sex marriage bill)

Date reported: December 11, 2017

Locations: Strathfield and Perth

Source: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/christians-fear-retribution-for-opposing-same-sex-marriage-in-australia>

and <https://www.spectator.com.au/2017/12/the-hate-campaign-begins-as-lovewins/>



Belarus

Andrei Fokin (husband of Tatyana Fokina, detained on [October 14, 2017](#) while operating his church's street library, charged with an illegal demonstration; issued a warning in a court hearing on [October 20, 2017](#); fined US\$350 on [October 27, 2017](#); arrested on [October 28, 2017](#) while operating the street library, jailed; **UPDATE**: fined US\$295)

Tatyana Fokina (wife of Andrei Fokin, fined US\$236)

Date: October 30, 2017

Location: Lepel

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2338



Canada

Mary Wagner (aged 43; **UPDATE**: arrested for entering an abortion clinic waiting room and handing out roses and pro-life literature)

Date: December 8, 2017

Location: Toronto, Ontario

Source: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/canadian-pro-life-heroine-jailed-again-after-rescue-attempt-at-abortion-cen>



China

Yu Jiafang (house church raided by police and the RAB [religious affairs bureau], books seized)

Date: November 8, 2017

Location: Hefei, Anhui province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2017/12/anhui-officials-ban-church-confiscate.html>

Bishop Emeritus Matthias Yu Chengxin (aged 90, brother of Bishop Bartholomew Yu Chengti, Bishop Louis Yu Runchen, and Sr Yu Rongjie, **died of natural causes**, as a seminarian had been subjected to forced labor and house arrest during the Cultural Revolution)

Bishop Bartholomew Yu Chengti (aged 90, imprisoned in the 1950's, arrested in **November 1989**; **UPDATE**: **died of natural causes** on **September 14, 2009**)

Date: December 7, 2017

Location: Hanzhong, Shaanxi province

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Msg.-Matthias-Yu-Chengxin,-underground-bishop-of-Hanzhong,-has-died-42568.html>
and <http://directory.ucanews.com/previous/bishop-bartholomew-chengti-yu/2143>



Congo, Democratic Republic

Fr Loris Cattani CFX (missionary; **UPDATE**: condemned the massacre of 15 UN peacekeepers, said "It is difficult to attribute the attack to a specific group because there is very little news at the moment")

Date: December 7, 2017

Location: Semuliki, North Kivu

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/63377-AFRICA_DR_CONGO_Massacre_of_the_Blue_Helmets_Was_the_aim_to_hit_the_UN_mission_carried_out_in_order_to_force_it_to_withdraw



Greece

Metropolitan Nicholas (**UPDATE:** said “When the [financial] crisis began, the authorities established that in place of ten retiring state employees [including priests], only one new one could be taken on for work. But today positions are being given to thousands of officials, while the same limitations have remained in relation to the Church. As a result, countless village parishes remain without a priest...Do not deceive yourselves — the reduction of clergy is not due to financial considerations. There are other motives”)

Date: December 13, 2017

Location: Fthiotida

Source: <http://orthochristian.com/109149.html>

Metropolitan Ambrose Lenis (aged 79; **UPDATE:** wrote a letter to Minister of Health Pavlos Polakis: “You are destroying Greece. It is no accident that we have added a new petition to the Church services in our diocese: ‘For our impious, godless, and faithless rulers, the persecutors of our holy Faith and Fatherland, the members of our parliament who hate and wrong us, and for their repentance, let us pray to the Lord’...Look at the state hospitals, which fall within the scope of your responsibilities. They don’t even have bandaging materials for the Greek patients. The priority for any medical assistance is given exclusively to immigrants! Greek citizens are starving and suffering!”)

Date: December 13, 2017

Location: Kalavyrta

Source: <http://orthochristian.com/109143.html>



India

Pastor Vinod Kumar (prayer hall invaded by Hindu extremists after he ignored an order to close, at least 3 parishioners were injured)

Pastor Karthik (said "We did not do anything wrong, we just wanted to celebrate Christmas and distribute some goods to the poor")

Date: December 9, 2017

Location: Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu state

Source: http://www.fides.org/en/news/63380-ASIA_INDIA_Violence_against_Christians_in_Tamil_Nadu

Event: A three day Gospel meeting attended by 1,000 Christians was stopped by Hindu radicals

Pastor Vijay Jogi (aged 45, father of two, beaten, forced by police to sign an apology, said “The activists slapped Pastor Santosh Rao thrice and beat us both. By then we understood that

these people will not let us conduct prayers...In the pamphlets we distributed earlier inviting people to attend the meeting, I quoted Luke chapter 7 and verses 22 and 23. The Hindu activists began arguing with us, 'You are promoting blind beliefs. How can lame walk? How can deaf hear? How can you raise the dead? When your God can do all this, why are you people going to the doctors then?'. They told me it is very wrong that I have written these lines. I said, 'I did not write these words. It's a verse taken from the Holy Bible and applies to the entire humankind...The police told me to settle the matter here and stop the event immediately. I was cautioned while Pastor Rao and I were in the police station that the activists are tearing and burning the banners, breaking the tube lights, chairs and dismantling the stage. The police officer told us even if he lodged a case [against the extremists], it would go strongly against us, and that even he can't help it. The police did not register an FIR...My daughters, ages 13 and 5, ask me, 'Why is there so much opposition to the gospel, Dad? Why do they hate Jesus? They hate us because we are Christians?'. I tell them, 'They may hate Him, but the Lord still loves them. And, we must love everyone just as our Lord is loving us')

Pastor Santosh Rao (falsely accused of forcible conversion in 2012; **UPDATE**: beaten, said "There is very little hope for Christians in a situation like this. In the police station, we were forced to sign a letter handwritten by the activists under the supervision of BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] worker Rajguru Ghosale. The letter said by conducting this meeting we hurt the feelings of Hindus, we sincerely apologize for it and cancelling the event. They slapped me to sign it")

Pastor Amos James (described the attack "Pastor Vijay Jogi and Pastor Santosh Rao were receiving the people at the entrance. Suddenly a mob of 70 Hindu Dharm Sena and Bajrang Dal activists gheraoed [encircled] the entrance, and Pastor Jogi and Pastor Rao were beaten and summoned to the police station")

Date: November 16, 2017

Location: Charoda, Durg district, Chhattisgarh state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2017/12/hindu-extremists-beat-pastors-stop-gospel-event-chhattisgarh-state-india/>

Event: Police raided a church during an Advent service attended by 30 people

Rev Karan (arrested)

Kiram (arrested)

Bhikha (arrested)

Bagwan Singh (arrested)

Sajan K George (**UPDATE**: said "Christians are increasingly intimidated and harassed. There is a palpable fear among [them], especially during this period of Advent, where prayer services and functions take place in small churches in preparation for the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. [Anti-conversion laws are] an instrument of harassment by radical right-wing groups, with which they can accuse Christians of forced conversions and push the police to quickly detain them")

Date: December 10, 2017

Location: Kalibai village, Dewas district, Madhya Pradesh state

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Four-Pentecostals-arrested-in-Madhya-Pradesh,-they-were-praying-for-Christmas-42571.html>

Event: Prayer meetings were held for the seven Christians falsely imprisoned for the 2009 murder of Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati

Bhaskar Sunamajhi (husband of Debaki, father of one; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Bijay Kumar Sunseth (husband of Pabitra Sanseth, father of six; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Budhadeb Nayak (husband of Nilandri, father of five; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Durjo Sunamajhi (husband of Gumili, father of five; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Gornath Chalanseth (father of four; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Munda Badmajhi (husband of Bandigudali, father of four; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Sanatan Badmajhi (husband of Badusi, father of four; **UPDATE**: still in prison)

Anto Akkara (journalist, said "Seven innocents of Kandhamal are living martyrs of the faith")

Archbishop John Barwa SVD (uncle of Sr Meena Barwa; **UPDATE**: introduced journalist Anto Akkara)

Date: December 11, 2017

Location: Padanpur, near Bhubaneswar

Sushant Nayak (**UPDATE**: thanked journalist Anto Akkara for his work)

Debaki (wife of Bhaskar Sunamajhi, in attendance)

Bandigudali (wife of Munda Badmajhi, in attendance)

Pabitra Sanseth (wife of Bijay Kumar Sunseth, in attendance)

Gumili (wife of Durjo Sunamajhi, in attendance)

Badusi (wife of Sanatan Badmajhi, in attendance)

Nilandri (wife of Budhadeb Nayak, in attendance)

Date: December 10, 2017

Location: Raikia

Source: <http://mattersindia.com/2017/12/prayer-for-kandhamals-7-launched-in-odisha/>



Indonesia

Event: Church leaders issued a statement titled "Let the Peace of Christ Reign in your Hearts" regarding the current religious and political conflicts "At the moment we are worried. Our unity as an Indonesian nation is in danger of breaking. Restlessness and worry have been felt more and more in recent years. There are those who, vaguely or shamelessly, are tempted to follow different paths and ways of the Charter at the base of our nation, the Pancasila. This was seen in many acts and

events: in an unhealthy political competition that justifies any means, in the restricted fanaticism that exploits religion and in many other ways"

Archbishop Ignatius Suharyo Hardjoatmodjo (**UPDATE**)

Bishop Antonius Subianto Bunjamin

Henriette T H Lebang

Pastor Gomar Gultom (**UPDATE**)

Date reported: December 12, 2017

Source: <http://www.fides.org/en/news/63384->

[ASIA INDONESIA Christian Bishops Indonesia risks division](#)

Rev Abraham Ben Moses (aged 52, arrested on blasphemy charges after attempting to convert a taxi driver)

Theophilus Bela (**UPDATE**: said that while at least 106 people had been prosecuted for blasphemy between 2005 and 2014, this was the first case involving a Christian cleric)

Date: December 8, 2017

Location: Jakarta

Source: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/protestant-pastor-in-indonesia-hit-with-blasphemy-charge/81057>



Iraq

Wahida Yaqo Hurmiz (Member of Parliament, said "Christians are facing another catastrophe in the Nineveh Plain despite the defeat of [the Islamic State] because of Shia militias who are committing many violations against our people")

Date: December 8, 2017

Source: <http://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/5be824a8-c5d9-45a8-98ae-be1a72a1d632>



Mali

Sory (alias, husband, father, said: "I started to face serious problems when the Islamists heard about me and the conversion of some of the people [from Islam to Christianity]. They sent me warnings through friends, telling me to stop talking about Jesus or risk getting killed. They said they knew it was easy to kill Christians because [Christians] don't have any weapons. They can simply be slaughtered...Neighbors warned me that they were also looking for me. I did not waste a moment, but fled immediately. My wife and children stayed behind with my neighbor", returned home the next day, said of his family "They were badly traumatized by the incident. One of my daughters still struggles to forget what

happened and whenever she hears a vehicle outside the house, she flees indoors and clings to us", he and his family have left the area)

Date: April 2017

Location: Djalloube

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/12/mali-christians-can-simply-slaughtered/>

Fr Edmond Dembele (spokesman for the Episcopal Conference of Mali, **UPDATE:** said "The security situation in different areas of Mali has been a concern for several months...There have been several terrorist attacks in the center of the Country in recent months that are becoming increasingly regular...These groups are linked to illegal trafficking - weapons, drugs, cigarettes, human beings - that are concentrated in the center of Mali. These are very lucrative trades and smugglers like jihadists have an interest in sowing chaos to prevent the State from controlling the area to enforce the law")

Date: December 14, 2017

Source: <http://www.fides.org/en/news/63399->

[AFRICA MALI Mali is the epicenter of jihadist groups that rage in Sahel](http://www.fides.org/en/news/63399-)



Mexico

Bishop Jose Guadalupe Torres Campos (condemned the murder of two people who were rehearsing for a dance in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe: "There is no respect for anyone, it is the extreme of evil, how dare they? These murders are not like the others, although it must be said that no homicide is good, but these people were not at a party or getting drunk, they were matachines who were dancing for the Virgin of Guadalupe, in an act of faith and love, this suggests that there is no longer any respect for anything or anyone")

Date: December 12, 2017

Location: Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua state

Source: <http://www.fides.org/en/news/63394->

[AMERICA MEXICO Two dancers of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe killed meaningless violence](http://www.fides.org/en/news/63394-)



Nicaragua

Auxiliary Bishop Silvio Jose Baez (said in a homily "There is paralysis due to fear. There are people who are paralyzed by fear, unable to speak or express their outrage because of injustices and abuses of civil and military authorities...Today we are unfortunately living in a society interested in the production of paralytics. There are people and groups of power committed to keeping people with mental paralysis, in which the dominant

ideology tries to avoid at all costs that people think freely and make discernment with moral depth...We are getting used to the horrible and shameful physical and moral violence against women and children, inexplicable killings, arbitrary arrests, espionage and threats, irregular judicial proceedings, impunity, authoritarianism, corruption, lack of access to public information, fragility of institutions in the country, all of which produce social paralysis")

Date: December 11, 2017

Location: Managua

Source: <http://www.fides.org/en/news/63381->

[AMERICA NICARAGUA Bishop Baez Paralyzed by fear we are getting used to physical and moral violence](http://www.fides.org/en/news/63381-AMERICA_NICARAGUA_Bishop_Baez_Paralyzed_by_fear_we_are_getting_used_to_physical_and_moral_violence)



Nigeria

Pastor Victor Kanayo (husband of Gloria, father of Goodness, **murdered** in his home while he slept by a cultic group)

Gloria Kanayo (wife of Pastor Victor Kanayo, mother of Goodness, seriously wounded)

Goodness (aged 10 months, child of Gloria Pastor Victor Kanayo, seriously wounded)

Date: November 26, 2017

Location: Offin, Igbogbo, outside Ikorodu, Lagos state

Iyabo Alaba (mother of David Alaba and Rachael Alaba, **killed** in her church by a cult)

David Alaba (aged 4, son of Iyabo Alaba, **killed** in his church by a cult)

Rachael Alaba (aged 8, daughter of Iyabo Alaba, **killed** in her church by a cult)

Adesina Idowu (reported on the murders)

Date: November 20, 2017

Location: Temu village, Lagos state

Pastor Chukwudi Okoh (aged 52, received death threats from a cult)

Date: November 7, 2017

Location: Lagos, Lagos state

Pastor Oluwafemi Komolafe (father of Timileyin Komolafe, **shot dead** in a roadside ambush)

Timileyin Komolafe (son of Pastor Oluwafemi Komolafe, abducted with two others, all later freed in a police raid)

Date: November 24, 2017

Location: Ore town, Odigbo local government area, Ondo state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2017/12/occult-groups-nigeria-kill-kidnap-christians>

Moses Ibrahim (convert, husband, father, farmer, attacked by Muslims for his conversion, shot, left hand and right thumb cut off with a machete, hospitalized, underwent several surgeries, unable to work, later opened a general store thanks to assistance)

Date: January 14, 2016

Location: Bauchi state

Source: <http://www.persecution.org/2017/12/07/icc-helps-recently-converted-family-in-nigeria/>

Fr Gideon Obasogie (**UPDATE**: described a Boko Haram attack on a refugee camp which killed four persons "We gathered that the Boko Haram elements made their way into the returnees from the Minawao camp and exploded their suicide belt [the army said it was a mortar attack] killing dozens including two Pastors [Catechists] from that community who had been appointed by the bishop of Maiduguri Most Rev Oliver Dashe Doeme")

Date: December 11, 2017

Location: Minawao refugee camp, Pulka

Source: <http://www.fides.org/en/news/63392->

[AFRICA NIGERIA The drama of displaced people caused by Boko Haram](#)

Pwanedo Justin (fled his home during a Fulani Muslim attack that killed 2 village headmen, said: "I watched helplessly as the Fulani herdsmen killed people and burnt houses. They did this with glee on their faces. Numan and its environs belong to us. If the government cannot protect us, then we have no choice but to protect our land, our heritage and the territory of our ancestors. That is all we have to hand on to our children")

Date: December 3, 2017

Location: Numan local government Area, Adamawa state

Dabang Kayako (village head, **killed** by Fulani Muslim herdsmen)

Date: December 4, 2017

Location: Dong village, Numan local government Area, Adamawa state

Ferdinand Boro (village head, **killed** by Fulani Muslim herdsmen)

Date: December 4, 2017

Location: Lawuro village, Numan local government Area, Adamawa state

John Dodo (local resident, said "These herdsmen are not the normal Bororo [pastoralists] we are used to. Look at the kinds of weapons they use. They are heavily armed with different sophisticated weapon such as machine guns, RPGs [rocket propelled grenades], AK47s [assault rifles], knives, machetes, bows and arrows – one can wonder where they got all these firearms from. It's like they are hired from other countries")

Date reported: December 11, 2017

Location: Numan local government Area, Adamawa state

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/12/nigeria-government-failure-and-the-spread-of-fulani-herdsmen-attacks-in-adamawa-state/>

Fr Cyril Effiong Essien (abducted in Awi, Akamkpa local government area, Cross River state on December 8, 2017; **UPDATE**: released after a ransom was paid)

Date reported: December 13, 2017

Source: <http://dailypost.ng/2017/12/13/abducted-catholic-priest-rev-father-cyril-effiong-released/>



Pakistan

Usman Masih (aged 29, husband, father, brother of Kamran Shaukat, jailed for alleged involvement in riot that followed the [March 15, 2015](#) attempted suicide bombing in Youhanabad, reported on [March 30, 2017](#) that he had refused the invitation to Islam in exchange for his freedom; **UPDATE:** [died in prison](#), official cause was a heart attack, body was "littered" with bruises and welts)

Kamran Shaukat (brother of Usman Masih, said "Both his daughters, aged 3 and 5, cry for their abbu [father]. We are still in shock, but we don't blame anybody. Our matter rests with God")

Rev Irshad Ashknaz (**UPDATE:** said he feared for the lives of all Christian prisoners after the death of Usman Masih "We have held several meetings with police and government officials, but nobody is listening. We are helpless and do not know what to do")

Aftab Gill (information secretary of the Christian Masiha Millat Party [MMP], arrested in [March 2015](#) for the lynching; released in [November 2015](#); **UPDATE:** said medical treatment was still being denied to imprisoned Christians on trial for the lynching case, added "It's a conspiracy to kill all Christian prisoners")

Date: [December 9, 2017](#)

Location: [Kot Lakhput Jail, Lahore](#)

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/another-christian-martyr-dies-in-pakistani-jail>

and <https://www.ucanews.com/news/another-christian-prisoner-dies-in-lahore-jail/81050>

Pastor Babu Shahbaz (aged 42, son of Vero Masih, arrested in [Kamahan village, near Lahore](#) on [December 30, 2016](#) on Quran desecration charges; **UPDATE:** released on bail of US\$1,890, judge expressed the opinion that the evidence could not prove his guilt, in hiding with his family)

Date: [December 9, 2017](#)

Location: [Lahore](#)

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Lahore,-pastor-accused-of-blasphemy-released.-He-is-innocent-42539.html>

Event **UPDATE:**

Issac 'Lucky' Saleem (aged 7, son of Asalam and Noreen Masih, [killed](#) along with 2 others by a car bomb outside the main gate of a Christian colony [ghetto])

Khan Masih (aged 4, cousin of Issac 'Lucky' Saleem, son of Vickram and Nasreen, wounded, hospitalized, underwent surgery on his head, back, and left leg, released 4 days later)

Asalam Masih (aged 54, father of Issac 'Lucky' Saleem)

Noreen Masih (aged 48, mother of Issac 'Lucky' Saleem, said "My heart has been broken in two. My husband and I waited many years for the birth of my son and in a moment these cruel

murderers have killed him and taken away my joy. They care nothing for the pain I feel. Their only desire was to murder Christians...Men in uniforms from the army and police and politicians have told me how they feel my pain, but we receive no help, nor no news of the capture of the murders. I want to ask them to their faces why they have taken the life of an innocent boy...I find it hard to sleep now, I feel old and weary, I pray to God that he will take me to heaven soon so that I can be reunited with Isaac. I cry and cry but the tears do not bring Isaac back or ease my pain")

Vickram Masih (aged 44, father of Khan Masih)

Nasreen Masih (aged 38, mother of Khan Masih)

Date: December 2, 2017

Location: Charman, Baluchistan

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/mother-breaks-down-in-tears-our-government-cares-little-about-death-of-my-son-by-extremists>

Rev Maurice Shahbaz (Director of Prisons Mission Society of Pakistan; **UPDATE:** in summary wrote "The Christian community inside the prisons of The Punjab in Pakistan are being persecuted and denied the same religious freedom as other religions. The missionaries/Pastors/Teachers have increasingly stopped access to the prisoners, while Muslim religious teachers - including the Muslim religious teachers of jails staff - can preach and teach with no limits and Christian prisoners inside Punjab Prisons are black mailed and tortured to become Muslims by the jails staff and they have not chance to improve the education")

Date: December 10, 2017

Location: Punjab province

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=6707>

Fr Inayat Bernard (**UPDATE:** reacted to an announcement that there would be no Christmas exemption to electrical power cuts "There will be no electricity, especially in Christian-majority settlements on Christmas, I can bet on it. They don't care about us. We are not considered equal citizens or even humans")

Date: December 14, 2017

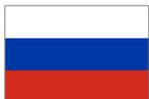
Source: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/power-cuts-dampen-christmas-season-in-pakistan/81076>

Susan Thomas (activist, city council member, asked about equality when all of the Muslims arrested for the recent riots have been released but the Christians arrested for the March 15, 2015 riot that followed the twin church bombings in Youhananbad are still jailed)

Date: December 12, 2017

Location: Karachi

Source: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/255357-if-faizabad-rioters-can-be-freed-why-are-christian-protesters-still-in-jail>



Russia

Dennis Christensen (Danish citizen, husband of Irina, arrested on [May 25, 2017](#) for 'continuing the activities of a banned extremist organization', ordered held for 2 months pending trial; detention extended on [July 20, 2017](#) to November 23, 2017; **UPDATE**: denied bail, detention extended to February 23, 2018)

Date: November 20, 2017

Location: Oryol

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2339



Sudan

Event: The eviction of two pastors from their homes was upheld after a judge ruled in favor of the government connected Muslim businessman who has sought to seize church property

Rev Sidik Abdalla Anglo (husband, father of two aged 8 and 10, evicted from his [Omdurman](#) home by police on [August 15, 2017](#), now living on the street; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Rev Yahya Abdelrahim Nalu (Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church, husband, father of a one year old boy, evicted from his [Omdurman](#) home by police on [August 15, 2017](#), now living on the street; **UPDATE**: appeal denied, said “We need prayers from everyone”)

Date: December 3, 2017

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2017/12/eviction-pastors-upheld-scores-christians-court-sudan-takes-church-properties/>



United Kingdom

'Nikki Hurst' (aged 32, alias, beaten by three Muslim youths, police report contained uncorrected inaccuracies and police did not follow up investigation despite the fact that two wore uniforms which identified their school, lost her job while recuperating)

Date: October 31, 2017

Location: Batley, Kirklees, West Yorkshire

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/woman-whose-head-was-smashed-by-three-muslim-youth-in-an-unprovoked-attack-is-stunned-by-the>



Uzbekistan

Irina Stepanova (home raided by police, Christian books seized)

Date: November 10, 2017

Location: Andijan

Stanislav Kim (**UPDATE**: home raided by anti-terrorism police during a worship service, worshippers were arrested and questioned for two hours at the police station, Christian books seized)

Oybek Rahimov (husband of Gulnara Rahimov, detained at the home of Stanislav Kim, admitted under questioning that he read Christian books, home then raided by police, Bibles, songbooks, CDs, and laptop seized)

Date: November 14, 2017

Location: Urgench, Khorezm region

Abatbay Doszhanov (husband of Zarina Olimova, fined US\$179 for possession of illegal religious material)

Yesnazar Zhumanazarov (fined US\$359 for possession of illegal religious material)

Date: October 25, 2017

Location: Nukus

Event: Christians were prosecuted for 'teaching religion without permission'

Bakhrom Kalbayev (fined US\$18)

Akhmadjon Nazarov (fined US\$18)

Atabek Safarbayev (issued a warning)

Bastzhan Yerniyazov (issued a warning)

Ziyaddin Baltabayev (issued a warning)

Rustam Kalbayev (issued a warning)

Azima Yerniyazova (issued a warning)

Sardorbek Janabayev (issued a warning)

Sanobar Khudaybergenova (issued a warning)

Nabira Khudaybergenova (issued a warning)

Bakhitzhan Allaniyazova (issued a warning)

Timur Khojaniyazov (issued a warning)

Gennadiy Chen (**UPDATE**::issued a warning)

Date: October 25, 2017

Location: Kungrad

Event: Christians were sent letters from the anti-terrorism police which stated they would be prosecuted for illegal possession of religious materials

Bakhbergen Abdikerimov

Abatbay Doszhanov (husband of Zarina Olimova, **UPDATE**)

Zarina Olimova (wife of Abatbay Doszhanov)

Sarsenbay Khaibrakhmanova

Nazira Dauletmuratova

Yesnazar Zhumanazarov (**UPDATE**)

Date: December 6, 2017

Location: Nukus

Pastor Fathulla Ibrahimov (husband of Nargiza Ibrahimova, home in [Tashkent](#) raided by police without warrant on [August 23, 2017](#), property seized, detained, refused to sign the police report; fined US\$1,797 on [September 14, 2017](#) in [Yangiyul district](#); **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Nargiza Ibrahimova (wife of Pastor Fathulla Ibrahimov; **UPDATE**: same account as her husband's)

Kholiskhon Nishanova (home in [Gulbahor](#) raided by police on [August 23, 2017](#), property seized; fined US\$72 on [September 14, 2017](#) in [Yangiyul district](#); **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: October 20, 2017

Location: Tashkent

Source: http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2341



Vietnam

Event: Three priests and six laypeople were prevented by police from travelling to a Mass

Fr Anton Le Ngoc Thanh CSSR (**UPDATE**)

Fr Joseph Truong Hoang Vu CSSR (**UPDATE**: beaten)

Fr Paul Le Xuan Loc CSSR (beaten, said on social media "After we just left our monastery, traffic police stopped our bus and took the driver's license. Then plain-clothes security officers, who wore face masks, used helmets to brutally hit me and Fr Vu while we videoed them from outside the bus")

Date: December 10, 2016

Location: Ho Chi Minh City

Source: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/police-prevent-catholics-in-vietnam-from-attending-mass/81053>

Today's Martyrs

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

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