

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2020-05-24 through 2020-05-30



China

Preacher Luo (arrested in a police raid on his church while he leading a prayer gathering on Zoom, taken to the police station, interrogated for four and a half hours, released)

Date: May 23, 2020

Location: Wuhan, Hubei province

Source: <https://www.chinaaid.org/2020/05/preacher-seized-during-zoom-event.html>

Wei Zhongping (aged 57 [2020], arrested on [April 28, 2013](#) after publicly demonstrating for the release of prisoners; detained on a charge of 'subversion of state power' on [May 7, 2013](#); sentenced to six and a half years' imprisonment on [June 18, 2014](#); released on [October 27, 2019](#); **UPDATE**: arrested on a charge of 'picking quarrels and provoking trouble' after dropping off meals at the home of Liu Ping, not released)

Liu Ping (same history; **UPDATE**: received meals at his home from Wei Zhongping before his arrest)

Date: May 14, 2020

Location: Xinyu, Jiangxi province

Source: <https://www.chinaaid.org/2020/05/activist-summoned-to-police-station.html>



Nigeria

Awema Maisamari (Adara Development Association president, reported that in 2020 so far 107 Christians have been killed in 63 attacks on Kajuru county communities, 49 injured, at least 66 abducted, 111 houses destroyed by arson, 32 villages destroyed, 20,000 people displaced, the attacks had accelerated in the past two weeks: “Killings, maiming, burning, looting and kidnapping have continued unabated from village to village. Our brutalized, dehumanized, terrified and traumatized community members are reeling in pain, ever wondering why this contrived anarchy is still being condoned by the powers that be”)

Dates: between May 18-21, 2020

Locations: Magunguna, Idazo, Ungwan Galadima, Ungwan Guza, Etissi, Ungwan Ma’aji, Ungwan Dantata, Ungwan Araha 1 and 2, Ungwan Goshi, Ungwan Shaban, Ungwan

Jibo, Ungwan Maijama'a, Ungwan Sako, Ungwan Maidoki and Ungwan Masaba, all satellite settlements of Kallah, Libere and Gefe towns, Kajuru county, Kaduna state

Source: <https://news.barnabasfund.org/At-least-20-Christians-killed-in-four-day-Fulani-militant-sprees-in-16-Nigerian-villages/index.html>



Pakistan

Nadia Masih (aged 7, attacked by a serial rapist, rescued by a Muslim neighbor and other men who apprehended the assailant)

Boota Masih (aged 44, widower, father of daughters Nadia Masih, Eisha, Saadia, and sons Adil and Badil)

Eisha (aged 13, daughter of Boota Masih) Saadia (aged 12, daughter of Boota Masih)

Adil (aged 8, son of Boota Masih)

Badil (aged 6, son of Boota Masih)

Pastor Mukhtar Mehboob (said "It is sad that none of the other families of the 21 girls raped by Shoaib have had the courage to come forward to prosecute him for the previous crimes. This means all the pressure to drop the case by the family of Shoaib is being directed on a very vulnerable and terrified Christian family")

Date: April 11, 2020

Location: Talwandi

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/muslim-man-attacks-7-year-old-christian-girl>

Komal Patras (aged 17, daughter of Rubina and Patras Masih, sister of Yeshuwa and an 11 year old sister, hearing and speech impaired, abducted from her home while studying for her exams, slippers left in disarray at the entrance, police refused to file a report for 2 months)

Patras Masih (aged 55, husband of Rubina, father of Komal Patras, Yeshuwa, and an 11-year old daughter, factory janitor, searched the neighborhood after Komal disappeared)

Rubina (aged 45, wife of Patras Masih, mother of Komal Patras, Yeshuwa, and an 11-year old daughter, domestic servant, found Komal missing after returning home)

Yeshuwa (aged 8, son of Rubina and Patras Masih, brother of Komal Patras, slept through his sister's abduction)

Tariq Masih Gill (Member of the Provincial Parliament, called a 'churha' ["sweeper", a derogatory term for Christians] by a Muslim Member of Parliament in Lahore on May 21, 2018; **UPDATE**: filed a police report on the abduction of Komal Patras)

Date: March 16, 2020

Location: Shibli town, Lahore, Punjab province

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/death-and-dumb-christian-teenager-kidnapped-whilest-police-dithered>



Thailand

Event UPDATE: A family of Pakistani refugees have been accepted for asylum in Australia after a six year wait, travel currently impossible due to the COVID-19 lockdowns

John Charles (aged 41, husband of Spana Saleem, father of Ashir, Abiya, and Ethan, suffers from diabetes, a stomach ulcer and a thyroid condition, incarcerated in [October 2018](#) for a visa violation, had fled Pakistan in [2014](#) after being accused of blasphemy)

Spana Saleem (aged 34, wife of John Charles, mother of Ashir, Abiya, and Ethan)

Ashir (aged 11, child of John Charles and Spana Saleem)

biya (aged 8, child of John Charles and Spana Saleem)

Ethan (aged 5, child of John Charles and Spana Saleem)

Date: [May 18, 2020](#)

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/christian-family-get-refugee-status-after-6-years-wait>



Turkey

Garo Paylan (aged 48, Member of Parliament; **UPDATE:** tweeted after a cross was ripped down from a church “Attacks continue on our churches. The cross of our Surp Krikor Lusaroviç Armenian Church was removed and thrown away. Hate speech by the ruling power normalizes hate crimes”)

Edvart Ayvazyan (church foundation, said the attack was recorded on video)

Date: [May 23, 2020](#)

Location: [Istanbul](#)

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Man-rips-cross-from-Armenian-church-in-latest-attack-against-Christian-sites-in-Istanbul-50204.html>



United States - Minnesota

Mae Desaire (church communications director, commented on church damage including burnt pews during the recent rioting: “Our damage in comparison to what is going in the city is really just minimal, and we’d really like to focus on that”)

Date: May 29, 2020

Location: Minneapolis

Source: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/amid-riots-minneapolis-basilica-damaged-by-fire-88474>

Today’s Martyrs

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

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