

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2021-02-21 through 2021-02-27



France

Bishop Yves Ramousse (aged 93, expelled from [Phnom Penh, Cambodia](#) by the Khmer Rouge in [April or May of 1975](#); **UPDATE**: [died from a SARS-Cov-2 infection](#))

Date: February 26, 2021

Location: Montbeton

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Msg.-Yves-Ramousse,-the-French-bishop-expelled-from-the-Khmer-Rouge,-has-died-52464.html>



India

Sr Bhagya SD (school principal, charged with forced conversion by a former employee)

Bishop Joseph Kodakallil (**UPDATE**: stated “This is unfounded, fabricated and a lot of lies. It is a persecution against Christians”)

Date: February 22, 2021

Location: Khajuraho, Uttar Pradesh state

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Removed-from-school,-a-teacher-accuses-the-sister-principal-of-conversion-52445.html>

Bishop Gerald John Mathias (**UPDATE**: condemned the passage of an anti-conversion law by the state legislature, stated “The anti-conversion law goes against the fundamental right to profess, practice and propagate one's religion and faith. It goes against the fundamental freedom of a person to choose and practice a religion of one's choice. It is a God-given right based on natural law and guaranteed in the Constitution. It is absurd one has to get permission from the D.M. [district magistrate] if one wants to convert to another religion. It also makes inter-faith marriages almost impossible thus depriving adults' freedom to choose their partner. Cleverly 'Ghar wapasi' ['homecoming', forced conversion to Hinduism] is not considered as forced conversion while in fact it is there that force, intimidation and threats are used to reconvert. The basic intent of the law is to ban and prohibit all conversion, even voluntary conversion...The law can be easily miss used or abused as there are several such cases already, the recent being the false accusation of a

Principal Sr Bhagya SD, of Sacred Heart Convent School - a Catholic school in Madhya Pradesh”, the new law denies bail to the accused and mandates a 10 year sentence for offenses)

Date: February 24, 2021

Location: Uttar Pradesh state

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/In-Uttar-Pradesh,-you-need-a-judges-permission-to-convert--52456.html>



Nigeria

Mati Sani (aged 65, church elder, father of Rev Ali Mati, **shot dead** by Fulani Muslims)

Ibrahim Lawal (abducted)

Mamar Rahila (abducted)

Hafsat Yusuf (abducted)

Danjuma Sani Mati (shot, hospitalized)

Rev Ali Mati (son of Mati Sani, reported on the attack, said of his father “He served as a lay leader in the church for over 35 years at different capacities”)

Date: February 16, 2021

Location: Kadabuki Dan-Marabu village , Kankara county, Katsina state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2021/02/herdsmen-kill-church-elder-abduct-three-other-christians/>

Pastor Bulus Yikura (abducted on [December 24, 2021](#) in [Pemi village, near Chibok, Borno state](#), in an ISWAP attack that killed 11; spoke in a [January 31, 2021](#) video in which he called for his release but added “However, if this is the end of my life, then praise be to God”; **UPDATE:** spoke from captivity in a video, stated eh would be killed on March 3rd if his abductors' demands were not met)

Date: February 24, 2021

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2021/02/islamist-terrorists-in-nigeria-threaten-to-execute-pastor/>



Sudan

Rev Kowa Shamal (**UPDATE:** church destroyed by arson, said “They targeted the church because they do not want to see any sign of the cross in the area”)

Date: January 3, 2021

Location: Tambul, Al Jazirah state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2021/02/another-church-building-set-ablaze-in-sudan/>

Osama Saeed Kodi (Christian Youth Union chairman, abducted by masked national security personnel, beaten, threatened with death if he did not stop protesting the January 3, 2021 arson attack on a **Tambul** church, released later in the day, said “I have been brutally beaten by national security personnel on my chest and on my right leg. I am still in pain as a result of this beating. I thank all those who stood with me during the detention. I shall continue to defend the right of the church despite all these obstacles”)

Date: February 19, 2021

Location: Al Jazirah state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2021/02/christian-leader-in-sudan-detained-and-beaten-sources-say/>



Uganda

Janati Kyoleka (aged 25, secret convert, wife, mother of three aged 5, 2, and 5 months, beaten by her husband when he suspected her conversion, doused with acid, suffered burns on her right side from breast to thigh including genitalia, hospitalized, released when she could no longer afford treatment, said “I know my marriage with my husband is over. I am grateful to God that my children are with me”)

Date: January 19, 2021

Location: Nakisimi village, Pallisa district

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2021/02/christian-mother-in-uganda-hit-with-acid-for-her-faith-sources-say/>

Today's Martyrs

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

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