

GLOBAL PERSECUTION

THE PRICE OF FAITH FOR CHRISTIANS WORLDWIDE



This factual report is compiled out of a profound concern for the vast numbers of innocent people worldwide who have suffered and who continue to suffer grievously for their beliefs and pay a very high price for their Christian faith.

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CONTENTS

This Publication	1
Introduction.....	2
Cause for Concern	3
Evidence.....	6
Conclusion.....	105

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This Publication

This factual Report is compiled out of profound concern for the vast numbers of innocent people worldwide who have suffered and who continue to suffer grievously for their beliefs and pay a very high price for their Christian faith.

This Report is being placed before the following with an urgent appeal for support and action in the light of the desperate urgency of the situation.

Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations Organisation

Mr. Baudelaire Ndong Ella, President, United Nations Human Rights Council

Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP, Prime Minister

Rt. Hon. William Hague MP, Foreign Secretary

Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP, Deputy Prime Minister

Rt. Hon. Ed Miliband MP, Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Alex Salmond, First Minister of Scotland

Mr. Carwyn Jones, First Minister of Wales

Mr. Peter Robinson, First Minister of Northern Ireland

Baroness Ashton of Upholland, Foreign Affairs Commissioner of the European Union

The Leaders of the main political groups in the European Parliament

His Holiness Pope Francis

Rt. Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury,

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary, World Council of Churches

Ephraim Mirvis, The Chief Rabbi

Dr. Muhammad Abdul Bari, Chairman of the Muslim Council for Great Britain

Professor Fares Al-Mashagbah, President of Aal Al-bayt University.

In addition to the above it has been presented to a broad range of others in leadership positions in politics, religion and public life, senior civil servants and also those concerned with Human Rights.

Acknowledgements

The authors pay tribute to the various highly respected groups who work tirelessly for those suffering persecution. There are many Christian organisations in addition to other bodies, both international and secular, doing work of great excellence in terms of research, aid and advocacy.

Introduction

This Document has been drawn up to present a selection of factual evidence showing the scale of injustices suffered by Christians in many parts of the world during a 14 year period to the end of December 2013. These injustices continue with increasing ferocity today, with chilling accounts of brutal punishment inflicted on Christians, including the abuse and abduction of their children.

The data has been collated from around 170 sources. It is not in any sense a comprehensive document, but it endeavours to provide, in brief paragraphs, an objective indication of what is happening globally. It is believed that there is now a very urgent need for a far wider awareness of the unacceptable level of suffering and deprivation among Christians worldwide, many of whom are voiceless through the violation of their human rights.

Christianity was born 2,000 years ago in what is now known as the Middle East. Over the past century Christians have gone from making up 20% of the population of this region to under 4% today. Before 2003 there were over 1 million Christians in Iraq. Today, there are as few as 200,000. This is entirely due to the active persecution of Christian communities.

The authors of this document wish to make clear that they have the utmost respect for Muslims worldwide and fully acknowledge the significant contribution made by millions of them to the wellbeing of humankind.

Over many years the Maranatha Community has published a range of Reports and briefing documents on specific subjects and territories of concern. It has arranged many Consultations in the House of Commons and the House of Lords and maintains a research and advocacy facility. Founded 32 years ago it has worked tirelessly for reconciliation in a broad range of communities and countries where there has been conflict. Its members are drawn from most traditions of the Christian Church; they include Anglicans & Episcopalians, Catholics & Orthodox, Baptists & Methodists, Pentecostalists and Salvationists, Presbyterians & members of the United Reformed Church, and the New Churches.

Cause for Concern

I. A Fundamental Right

Every man and woman in the world has the inalienable right to follow and declare the religious belief and practice of his or her personal choice. This must, in all circumstances and in all places, be without discrimination, coercion, harassment, repression, or any form of persecution.

2. The Declaration

The foundational statement, accepted throughout the world, is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, of which Article 18 states "*Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.*" This was affirmed by the United Nations General Assembly. It was and is a fundamental confirmation of the value, dignity and basic rights of every human being.

3. Systematic Abuse

Sadly, over recent years, there has been increasing evidence of millions of people being denied this right. Nation states, and organised groups within these states, are now systematically and ruthlessly seeking to rob people of their basic human rights and, particularly, their freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

No civilised society should ever tolerate the vilification, abuse or injury of any person because of their religious convictions, yet this is happening in many countries today. Everyone, without exception, must be accorded the right to practice freely the religion of their choice and to express their beliefs to others, but many are denied this. Many are being threatened, punished or even killed for their faith. Many are being prevented from worshipping and witnessing freely.

4. The Assault on Christians

There is now irrefutable evidence that Christians have become the most persecuted group of people in the world. There are instances of those of other faiths suffering, but the overwhelming majority of the victims of religious persecution today are Christians.

It has to be recorded, with profound regret and sadness, that persecution directed against Christians, in the vast majority of cases, is instigated and executed by militant Muslims. The violence is rooted in a commitment to what they declare and believe to be Jihad and the imposition of their understanding of Sharia law.

In some instances entire Christian communities and villages have been wiped out as a direct result of coordinated aggression generated by religious hatred. This aggression has often been freely tolerated by central governments or even initiated by them.

5. A Climate of Suppression

To an ever-increasing extent, Christians are being subjected to both illegal and legalised discrimination. Many face imprisonment, violence, vilification, ridicule, intimidation, assault, torture and murder, solely because of their faith.

Month by month thousands of Christians are losing their lives for their faith. The scale of the situation is enormous, yet has hardly been covered by the media. Even when reported it is often presented as inter-community disorder.

6. The Nature of the Persecution

The persecution of Christians takes many forms. Initially, it may simply be social pressure, covert coercion or insidious intimidation. A threatening and intolerant climate is deliberately fostered, which in turn opens the way to more severe victimisation, organised harassment and ultimately violence.

In some countries, properties including church buildings, businesses and homes of Christians are vandalised or destroyed. False charges are laid against Christian believers within a heavily biased judicial system. People are imprisoned and punished often for offences they have never committed. Lawyers representing Christians are threatened; some have been assaulted or even murdered.

In some situations, Christians are prohibited from worshipping or constructing their own churches, schools or other buildings. Many Christians suffer employment discrimination and deprivation of education. Even ownership of a Bible has dire consequences.

Sadly, after conversion to Christianity, people are assaulted, kidnapped or burnt out of their homes. In many instances they are murdered. This is largely rooted in Islamic teaching on apostasy.

The forced conversion of people to certain faiths, which occurs in some countries, is an outrage and a grotesque injustice. The prejudice, cruelty and brutality experienced today by large numbers of Christians is totally incompatible with the basic principles of human rights and a civilised society.

The situation now is that, even in countries with strong Christian traditions, there are powerful secular humanist pressures generating discrimination and dis-information against Christians. This is in the form of the public denegration of Christ, restrictions on Christian freedom of speech and action, limitation of the public expression of Christianity, and growing penalisation of Christians.

7. Peace and Reconciliation

For Christians, the way of Jesus is the way of peace, forgiveness and reconciliation. It is the way of love. It is because of the Judaeo-Christian values embraced in countries such as Britain that adherents of other religions are welcomed and given freedom to worship and practise their faith. Sadly, this is not the case in many countries today.

Undoubtedly Christians, like other people, often fall short of their ideals. It is recognised that Christians have resorted to violence and, in some cases, may have initiated assaults. However, this is contrary to the way of Jesus and to Christian teaching.

There must always be an awareness of injustice affecting adherents of other religions. These need to be challenged just as vigorously as those of Christians. Examples include the plight of Muslims in Burma, members of the Bahá'í faith in the Middle East or followers of the Dalai Lama in China.

It should be placed on record that there are many instances of people of various faiths, including Christians and Muslims, living peaceably and in harmony with each other. There have also been many instances of people of different faiths and none disadvantaging themselves, or even putting themselves in grave danger, to encourage and protect Christians and others from persecution and outrage. Their righteousness shines as a beacon of hope to the worldwide community. These examples should be an encouragement to a commitment to fresh initiatives for the creation of communities and societies based on the harmony of mutual trust and respect between those of all religions and none.

8. The Evidence

The following pages contain factual evidence of thousands of cases of injustice. They are not comprehensive but are representative of the size and nature of the problem faced over 14 years. They are indicative of the seriousness of the situation, which cannot be ignored. They also include some examples of discrimination and injustice which give an indication of emerging persecution in some unexpected places.

Victims look to the United Nations, the United Kingdom, the European Union and national governments worldwide to recognise their plight, to guarantee their protection and to take action without delay.

Evidence (I)

Afghanistan

The State treats converts, who all come from a Muslim background, in a very hostile manner. No church buildings exist, and the Taliban has vowed to purge all Christians from Afghanistan. Both local and foreign Christians are subject to abduction, killing, and having to flee the country. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

Afghan Christians, who are thought to number about 1,200 and are either converts or the children of converts, have not fared much better under the current Government than under the previous Taliban regime. They risk losing their marriages, rejection from their families and communities, and loss of employment.

Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p6

- September 2013 - Another Afghan Member of Parliament, Nazir Ahmad Hanafi, called for the execution of converts from Islam to Christianity in order to halt the rapid growth of Christianity amongst Afghans. The Speaker ordered the National Security Committee to look into the matter. Fearing for their lives, converts began fleeing to India in 2005. *VOM 19/9/2013 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 204, Oct 2013*
- March 2012 - The Taliban burned a Christian Cross and an effigy of President Obama in recent protests. *International Christian Concern, 23/3/2012*
- January 2012 - The Government has threatened to execute anyone convicted of apostasy from Islam. The Taliban and other armed groups are also known to gruesomely murder converts in accordance with their interpretation of Sharia. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- November 2011 - Christians who fled Afghanistan in 2007 and are now living in New Delhi, India, are still being threatened by Muslims purporting to be from the Afghan embassy. *International Christian Concern, 20/11/2011*
- September 2011 - An Afghan convert to Christianity was attacked with boiling water and acid by Muslims at a centre for asylum seekers in Norway. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 8/9/2011*
- May 2011 - A video of the beheading of a Christian, Abdul Latif, by the Taliban in Herat Province, has been published. Many Christians remain in prison for their faith. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 175, May 2011*
- May 2011 - The lives of six Afghan converts from Islam to Christianity are at risk after they were refused refugee status by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in India. Shoaib Assadullah (23), the convert arrested in October 2010, remains in prison still threatened with the death penalty. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2011*
- April 2011 - Gunman shot dead 42 Afghans in a bank in Jalalabad. Zara Ajam, dressed in police uniform, said he was told in Pakistan (to) kill infidels. He said "I enjoyed the killing" of people whom he believed were Government officials and Christians. *BBC News, 24/4/2011*
- October 2010 - Shoaib Assadullah arrested for giving a man a New Testament. He expected the death penalty for apostasy in January, but French and German Governments pleaded his case. Some believe he is being given mind-altering drugs in prison because he won't deny his Christian faith. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 127, Feb 2011, Barnabas Fund Mar/Apr 2011, Forum 18, 24/1/2011*
- August 2010 - Ten medical workers with Christian organisations in Badakhshan Province were shot dead by the Taliban. The Afghan Constitution does not allow non-Muslims to practise their faith. *Release International Issue 58, Nov/Dec 2010; Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- July 2010 - A group of Afghans, sentenced to death for converting from Islam to Christianity, fled to India and called on the international community to take action to ensure religious rights are protected and save converts at risk of execution. A few days later, 20 more Christians were detained after political leaders called for execution of converts. *BosNewsLife 25/6/2010 & AsiaNews 15/10/2010*
- June 2010 - Qazi Nazir Ahmed, lawmaker in Herat Province, said that killing a converted Muslim was "not a crime" as converting from Islam to another religion is punishable by death under Afghan law. *BosNewsLife, 25/6/2010*
- June 2010 - Abdul Sattar Khawasi, Deputy Secretary of the Afghan Lower House of Parliament called, in Parliament and in accordance with Sharia law, for the public execution of Afghans who had converted from Islam to Christianity and appeared in a recent TV programme. Many homes were searched, two Western NGOs with the word 'Church' in their name were suspended, and 23 Christians - Afghans and foreigners - arrested. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 165, Jul 2010 & Sep/Oct 2010; Open Doors Handbook 2011, and CSW Relay Newsletter, Jul 2010*
- May 2010 - Red Cross worker Said Musa (45), a convert to Christianity, arrested. He has been tortured and abused in Ouliat Prison whilst awaiting trial for the 'crime' of apostasy from Islam - punishable by death under Islamic law. Visited in prison by a judge, he was told he would be hanged 'within days' unless he reconverted, but offered immediate release if he rejected his new faith. Defence lawyers refused to represent him unless he reconverts. *Barnabas Fund - Email: 16/11/2010 & Mar/Apr 2010; Prayer Digest, 14/2/2011; Open Doors Magazine, Apr 2011 & NewsCore 7/2/2011*
Note - Following intense diplomatic pressure, he was later released. Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2011
- In March 2010 the last public Christian church in Afghanistan was demolished. There are no remaining public Christian schools. *International Christian Concern, 16/10/10*
- April 2009 - There is now just one church building in the country, and that is in the grounds of a European embassy. *Barnabas Fund, Advent 2009*
- February 2009 - Acts of violence and intimidation against Christians dramatically worsened over the past year. Open Doors' Annual Report now shows Afghanistan as being the fourth-worst country for Christian persecution, citing increased pressure from the Taliban and an increasingly hostile climate for non-Muslims. *Open Doors, 13/2/2009*
- 2009 - When Enayat told his family he had become a Christian his mother broke down in tears because of the shame this would bring on the family. At first he used to carry his Bible everywhere, but he dare not do so any more after what has happened to other Christians. *AFP 26/1/2011*
- October 2008 - British aid worker Gayle Williams was shot dead because, a spokesman for the Taliban said, "she was working for an organisation which was preaching Christianity in Afghanistan." *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
- April 2008 - The Islamic Council is pressing the President to ensure foreign aid groups do not convert Afghans to Christianity. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- July 2007 - The Taliban kidnapped 23 Korean Christians who were providing medical and nursing services to the people. Two of the hostages, Boe Hyung-Kyu (42) and Shim Sung-min (29) were killed: the rest were later released. *VOM USA, 15/8/07*
- February 2007 - Converts from Islam to Christianity still face death sentences on charges of apostasy. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 07*
- March 2006 - Senior Clerics in the Afghan capital have voiced strong support for the prosecution of Abdul Rahman (41), a former medical aid worker denounced by his family as an apostate, and warned they will incite people to execute him unless he reverts to Islam. Abdul Raouf, in his Friday sermon at Herati Mosque, proclaimed "God's way is the right way" and that "because he has committed the greatest sin (of apostasy), he deserved to be killed" *Associated Press, 24/3/2006* Note: After international pressure, Abdul Rahman was later released on a pretext. It is, however, now feared that this reaction will increase the likelihood that subsequent accusations of apostasy will be dealt with by unofficial executions before seeing the inside of a Court. *Barnabas Fund: Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2009 pg7*
- March 2006 - Young Afghan convert woke up in hospital after being beaten outside his home by six men. Several other Afghan converts have been subjected to police raids at their homes or places of work, or telephone threats. *Compass, 22/3/2006*
- September 2004 - Five Afghan men, converts to Christianity, have been killed in separate incidents since June. All were stabbed or beaten to death in summary executions by Taliban adherents who accused them of abandoning Islam and spreading Christianity. Former Mullah Assad Ullah, who was considered too tolerant, was seized in broad daylight, his throat cut, and his body dragged round the market place with warnings that the same fate awaited anyone who listened to his 'heretical teachings.' *Compass Direct, 9/9/2004 & Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted & Forgotten? 2005/6 pg9*
- July 2004 - Taliban spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi confirmed that Maullawi Assudullah's throat was slit by the Taliban in Awdand for propagating Christianity. *Barnabas Fund, 5/7/2004*
- July 2004 - 33 foreign aid workers have been killed by the Taliban during the previous 18 months. *Barnabas Fund, 5/7/2004*
- September 2001 - 35 Afghan workers were arrested on suspicion of aiding covert Christian missionary work. *Compass, 21/9/2001*
- August 2001 - Eight expatriate humanitarian workers, six of them women, and 16 Afghan workers arrested for allegedly 'trying to convert Afghan Muslims to Christianity.' *Compass, 24/8/2001*
- January 2001 - Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar declared that any Afghan caught professing Christianity or Judaism would be executed. Any 'non-Muslim found trying to win converts would also be killed'. *Compass, 19/12/2001*

Albania

- December 2009 - The Catholic cemetery in Bushat, Shkoder, was violated, graves desecrated and a cross demolished. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p32*

Algeria

Algeria is increasingly the scene of terror attacks, as a result of growing Islamism in the region. The Government is pressured by al-Qaeda in the Maghreb to implement more Islamic legislation, to the detriment of the country's Christians, most of whom are from a Muslim background. In 2012, threats against churches and Christians increased. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

Evidence (2)

The law prohibits public assembly for the purposes of practicing a faith other than Islam, so very few churches exist. Evangelism to Muslims is prohibited, and is punishable by a fine or imprisonment. Evangelists face the prospect of a lengthy term of imprisonment for distributing Christian literature. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p7*

- June 2013 - A Muslim woman in Tizi Ouzou, Makhtour Wahiba, is seeking a divorce from her husband, Ali Touahir (52), following his conversion to Christianity, which she says is 'bringing sin into their house'. She has also banned Ali from seeing their daughter Imane (7). Her lawyer and her brother suggest Ali should be killed for apostasy. *Morning Star News, Tizi Ouzou, Algeria 23/1/2014*
- February 2013 - It can prove very difficult for a church to obtain official recognition as authorities sometimes stall applications for long periods. Churches not registered may encounter opposition from neighbours and local authorities, and Christians are also threatened and harassed by Islamists. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p7*
- January 2013 - Militant Islamists attacked a gas facility, killing 37 people. They told Muslims 'You will not be killed, it is only the Christians we are after'. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2013 p15*
- July 2012 - An armed Muslim mob prevented Christians from attending a Protestant worship service and forced the church's closure. *International Christian Concern, 27/7/2012*
- July 2012 - Mohamed Ibaouene (36), a convert from Islam to Christianity, convicted of 'proselytising' following an accusation by a Muslim colleague after he refused to renounce Christ. Verdict was passed in his absence and without his knowledge - sentenced to a year in prison plus fine. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2013*
- October 2011 - Six Christians were arrested in Bougous village, el Tarf Province, for worshipping in an unregistered location. *International Christian Concern, 7/11/11*
- June 2011 - Government is controlling the Church by having spies inside the churches and by controlling visitors entering them. As soon as visitors pay a visit to a local church, police will show up to investigate *Open Doors Prayer Diary Jun 2012*
- June 2011 - The head of the Algerian Protestant Church Association has received notice from the High Police Commissioner to say all unregistered Churches will be closed down. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 176 - Jun 2011.* (However, in July the Association received the licence which grants its churches the right to meet and worship freely. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 179, Sep 2011*)
- April 2011 - A Christian, Siagh Krime (Karim Siaghi), (29) was arrested for proselytizing and sentenced to five years in prison. *International Christian Concern 20/11/2011 and Barnabas Prayer Focus 177, Jul 2011 & Sep/Oct 2011.* A trial to hear his appeal has been delayed on several occasions. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2012*
- January 2011 - Many churches comprise mainly converts from Islam. Threats and attacks from the large Muslim majority have been increasing recently; churches are being attacked and police fail to provide protection. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- September 2010 - Criminal charges have been filed by Salafist jihadists against four church leaders. They were prevented from holding worship services when the Muslims accused the church of "creating an illegal place of worship". *Release International Issue 58, Nov/Dec 2010; Open Doors Handbook 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2010*
- August 2010 - Two construction workers, Hocine Hocini (44) and Salem Fellak (34), converts from Islam, arrested during their lunch break for 'non-compliance with a precept of Islam' - ie eating during daylight hours during Ramadan. Court Prosecutor in Ain el-Hammam requested three-year jail sentences. When Hocini said he was a Christian, the Prosecutor told him to 'leave this country, a land of Islam'. Eventually the case was dismissed. *BBC News (web) 5/10/2010 & ASSIST News Service 6/10/2010*
- December 2009 - During a Christmas Service, 20 Muslims attacked a newly-built church used by Christian converts. Two days later, they returned, burgling the building before desecrating it. Christians continued to gather in the building, but another group of attackers burst in at New Year, disrupting a service: a week later, everything was burnt - furniture, Bibles, hymnbooks and a cross. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p15*
- 2010 - New regulations have been passed imposing fines and imprisonment on anyone who seduces a Muslim to convert to another religion. *Barnabas Report for 2010*
- 2010 - The Algerian Church comprises mainly converts from Islam, and some Christians have found that doctors will not treat them. *Barnabas Gifts Catalogue 2009/2010*
- 2009 - There is an increasing climate of violence in some areas, with threats and attacks directed towards Christians. Importation of Christian literature has been made difficult, and non-Moslems who work for the Government suffer discrimination in regard to preferment. *Barnabas Fund 'Praying for the Persecuted Church in Advent' 2009*

- July 2009 - Two Christians, Rachid Seghir (40) and Jammal Dahmani (36), each fined £800 plus six months jail (suspended) for 'trying to convert Muslims' on the basis of Bible extracts found in their car. They were also accused of using a building not authorised for religious Services and 'distributing documents to shake the faith of Muslims'. *Afrol News 3/7/2009 & Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- 2009 - In early 2008, 30 churches were forcibly closed (but by the end of 2009 at least 20 had unofficially reopened). Other churches were later closed, extremists stirred up ill-feeling towards Christians, and government attitudes hardened with more priests and laity being refused travel documents. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p14*
- June 2008 - Habiba Qawide (Kouider) (30), a woman who converted from Islam to Christianity, is facing imprisonment and a huge fine for carrying a Bible and Christian literature, which she claimed were for her personal use. She was subjected to a two-hour public body-search in Tiaret, as the State Prosecutor claimed she was 'practicing non-Muslim religious rites without a licence'. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 140, Jun 2008 & Compass Direct, 2/6/2008*
- May 2008 - Since January, police and provincial officials have ordered the closure of up to half of the country's 50 Protestant congregations. *VOM USA, 21/5/2008 & Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2008*
- May 2008 - Prosecutor at Court in Djilfa demanded two years' jail plus fines of US \$8,145 for each of six converts from Islam for distributing documents 'likely to shake the faith of a Muslim'. *Compass Direct, 28/5/2008*
- May 2008 - Court in Djilfa sentenced a 33-year-old Christian convert to a one year jail (suspended) plus \$460 fine for carrying a Bible and study notes and allegedly 'printing, storing and distributing illegal religious material'. While he was in custody, police refused him leave to call friends or family. *Compass Direct, 10/5/2008 & VOM USA, 21/5/08*
- February 2008 - Seven Christian fellowships are known to have been closed by the authorities, and several Christians have been arrested. *VOM USA, 22/2/08*
- September 2007 - New regulations have been introduced which ban the production or possession of literature/media "likely to shake the faith of a Muslim". Under extreme interpretation, this could make owning a Bible illegal *Barnabas, Sep/Oct 2007 & Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2008*
- November 2006 - New regulations forbid the leading of Christian worship or preaching without prior authorisation. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- 2006 - An Article of the 2006 religion law of particular concern to Christians states that minority groups found guilty of evangelising Muslims are liable to five-year prison sentences plus fines of up to £9,000. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p14*
- May 2001 - The Algerian Minister of Religion said that, although Christians in Algeria should be treated well - because Muslims in Europe are treated well - apostates should be killed, in accordance with Sharia law. *Barnabas Fund, 18/5/2001*

Angola

- July 2009 - A mob of 100 Muslim extremists attacked Christians in the town of Andulo and beheaded a teenage girl, Let Raimundo. 40 Christians were assaulted, and three churches burned. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008 & Barnabas Fund - Praying for Persecuted Christians, 2009*
- January 2009 - In Muenga, Muslim extremists destroyed a church building and narrowly failed in their attempt to kill two Pentecostal pastors. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2009*
- May 2008 - Angolans are still suffering from the ravages of four decades of continuous war. Many thousands of evangelical Christians have been abducted or killed and many church buildings seized or destroyed. Many Church ministers have only hand-written copies of the scriptures. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2008; also Tear Fund Prayer Diary, Spring 2009*
- November 2002 - 15 parishes in Cabinda Province had to be abandoned some time ago. The rebels are demanding a payment from the local Bishop for each priest allowed to return. *Press Release, Kirche in Not, Kinigstein, 15/11/2002*

Armenia

- February 2011 - A Pentecostal pastor in the town of Sevan has been prosecuted by the authorities for his faith. *Forum 18, 25/2/2011*
- January 2011 - The Government continues to issue laws which restrict the freedom of religion and belief. *Forum 18, 21/1/2011*
- July 2009 - The Council of Europe gave critical reviews of Armenia's restrictive religion laws. These laws mainly affect the Armenian Apostolic Church. *Forum 18, 3/7/2009*
- February 2009 - A law is being enacted to give two year's imprisonment to 'anyone spreading one's faith.' To gain legal status a church must have at least 1,000 adult members. *Forum 18, 13/2/09*

Evidence (3)

- December 2008 - 80 conscientious objectors have been imprisoned and are regarded by the Government as 'not being a human rights issue.' *Forum 18, 12/12/08*
- March 2008 - Christians have been severely persecuted over the years. A high proportion of young men have left the country to earn money to support their families, leaving a predominance of elderly women and young children amongst the remaining population. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- From December 2002, police no longer employ members of religious minorities, including Protestants such as Baptists. *Forum 18 News Service, 25/4/03*

Australia

- March 2012 - A Western Australia hospital is facing demands for Muslim-only prayer rooms on the grounds that a shared room might involve Muslims in idolatry. Some State schools are considering some swimming lessons be Muslim-only. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 p12*
- January 2012 - The husband and friends of Iranian refugee Mandy Ahmadi fear she has been kidnapped by Islamic extremists. She disappeared from her Melbourne home on 16 December, leaving behind purse, money and cards. Since becoming a Christian five years ago, Mandy has, through an agency at the local Church, been active helping Muslims leaving detention. *NineMSN 11/1/2012*
- September 2011 - Christian leaders have condemned changes to the national curriculum that will replace the terms BC (Before Christ) and AD (Anno Domini) in text books. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 8/9/11*
- July 2011 - Universities have been targeted by an Islamic extremist group that urges Muslims to reject democracy and promotes violence against Australian troops. Muslims are also being urged to join the uprisings that have toppled regimes in the Middle East. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 8/7/2011: 21/7/2011*
- July 2011 - Muslims in Sydney funded a major billboard campaign in June and July alleging that Jesus was a prophet of Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- May 2011 - 'I hate the Parliament in Canberra. I want to go straight for the jugular vein and advise the Parliament that they have no right to legislate. They should immediately step down and let the Muslims take over'. The words of Ibrahim Siddiq-Conton, a convert to Islam and leader of Sharia4Australia. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011*
- March 2011 - In New South Wales, a Muslim woman who converted to Christianity was badly beaten, and raped twice. She was then shunned by her family because of the 'shame she had brought on them.' *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2009*
- October 2007 - Christian pastors Daniel Scot and Danny Nalliah now found not guilty of religious intolerance and of 'vilifying Islam' after they had criticised Islam in a church seminar. The charge was instigated five years ago by the Islamic Council of Victoria, and a lower court had found them 'guilty of religious vilification' in 2004. Basically the parties 'agreed to differ'. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2007 & International Christian Concern, 17/12/2004*
- April 2007 - Campbelltown District Court heard how Abdul Reda Al Shawany, an Iraqi-born Muslim, twice raped a Muslim woman as punishment for her reading the Bible, saying 'Let your Jesus help you'. *The Daily Telegraph, 17/4/2007*
- November 2002 - Refugees in detention centres have been attacked and persecuted by Muslims, and Christian women have been forced to wear Muslim dress and follow Muslim eating habits. Amnesty International has complained about Government failure to protect Christian and other minorities from Muslim violence. *Amnesty International (Australia), 19/11/2002*

Austria

- December 2012 - Three churches were set on fire in Amstetten, Lr. Austria. *www.fotopulsch.at*
- December 2012 - Australian-born Professor of Music Sciences used his University website in Graz to call for the death penalty for the Pope as a punishment for opposing artificial birth control and condoms. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012, p64*
- November 2012 - An episode of the satanic TV serial 'Wir Staatskünstler' (We Official State Artists) was filmed in St Pölten Cathedral without permission. Three actors dressed as Pussy Riot called upon 'Mother Heaven', and imitated Islamic prayer moves. *gloria tv*
- October 2012 - A newspaper of the 'Young Greens' of the Vorarlberger Region mocks Christianity by recommending youth wear belts signifying 'wealth, unchastity and disobedience.' It also carried a depiction of Jesus with a distorted face and a sign 'gay Jesus.' *Website of 'Young Green Movement' Vorarlberg: vbg.junge-ruene.at*
- August 2012 - The movie *Paradise: Faith*, written and directed by Ulrich Seidl as part of his trilogy *Love, Faith and Hope*, scandalised the audience when premiered at the Venice Film Festival because of a masturbation scene using a CROSS. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012, p53*

- July 2012 - Salzburg-based NGO 'Infoladen' calls on its website for violence against Christians who express pro-life views, and called for a counter-demonstration against a pro-life event. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012, p52*
- September 2011 - Graffiti reading 'Pig Christians destroy the world' was scrawled on a residential house in Postgasse, Vienna. It was signed with an anarchist symbol. *Observatory on Intolerance & Discrimination against Christians, Sep2011*
- March 2010 - Vienna-based lawyer Georg Zanger wants to sue leading members of the Catholic Church on the grounds of membership of a criminal organisation (Sec 278a StGB, Code of Penal Law). *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p17*
- September 2009 - Anti-Christian slogans including 'There is no God' and 'If Mary had had an abortion we would have been spared from you' shouted at an anti-life demo in Vienna. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p24*
- March 2009 - Sabatina (20) originally from Pakistan, was threatened by her family with death when she converted to Christianity. Austrian police offered no protection, urging her to convert to Islam, which forced her to flee to Germany. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2009 & Radio Free Europe 9/12/2008*
- March 2008 - In a 'Socialist Pupils' Association' newsletter (*Aktion Kritischer Schuler*) members were encouraged to use International Day Against Racism to vandalise Churches. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p32*

Azerbaijan

Azeri believers are considered traitors as Christianity is associated with the Country's rival nation, Armenia. Many are unable to find or keep jobs, and are watched closely by the secret services. It is illegal for churches to put up a new building or even meet if they are not registered, yet registration is almost impossible, and, by law, private homes cannot be used for holding religious services. *Open Doors Handbook 2011 and 2013*

The country's Religion Law, first adopted in 1992, has been amended 13 times. This Law restricts and punishes the exercise of freedom of religion. Organisations who produce and distribute religious literature without going through the compulsory State censorship risk their staff facing prison terms of up to five years or fines equivalent to nearly nine years' wages. *Barnabas Fund 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p8*

- July 2013 - Following the raid on the house of Pastor Zaur Balaev in November 2012, he and Hinayat Shabanova were each fined the equivalent of US\$1,900 - more than a year's average wage for a manual worker. However, the fines have been cancelled on appeal, but the house church has still not been given registration, 19 years after application. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p10*
- January 2013 - Many applications for church registration are being deliberately delayed. *Release International Issue 71 Jan/Feb 2013*
- January 2013 - The Greater Grace Church in Baku has lost its final appeal against liquidation. Any further religious activity there is now illegal. *Release International Issue 72 Mar/Apr 2013*
- November 2012 - The house in Aliabad of Baptist former prisoner of conscience Zaur Balaev was raided by State police - a Bible and Christian literature were seized. *Forum 18 News Summary 9/11/2012*
- April 2012 - Over 100 shops wishing to sell religious books are still waiting for the necessary licenses - only 16 have been issued since 2009. *International Christian Concern, 27/4/2012*
- April 2012 - Authorities are about to close down the Greater Grace Church in Baku, because the Church has been unable to re-register under the strict new laws. The court hearing took 15 minutes, and the decision was taken in the absence of any representative from the Church. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p8 & Release International Issue 67, May/Jun 2012*
- January 2012 - Cathedral of Praise Church in Baku has still not been allowed to re-register, despite winning a long legal battle against the State. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012 p14*
- June 2011 - The President has issued a decree requiring at least 50 adults to register before a church can be opened or re-registered. The Government is making it increasingly difficult for churches to re-register. *Forum 18, 10/6/11*
- May 2011 - Three Protestant churches in Sumgait were raided and Christian literature seized. *Forum 18, 20/5/11*
- April 2011 - Police assaulted and levied a large fine on Baptist Galina Shemetova for giving a children's Bible to a work colleague. *Forum 18, 15/4/2011*
- January 2011 - There have been increased Government raids on religious communities worshipping without State permission. *Forum 18, 24/1/2011*
- December 2010 - Christians have been warned that those "who conduct religious worship without state approval" will face a 15-fold increase in fines. *Forum 18 News, 10/12/2010*

Evidence (4)

- November 2010 - The Cathedral of Praise Church and four other Protestant churches in Baku were refused registration when they re-applied earlier this year, as required by the Religion Law. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- October 2010 - Four Baptists were jailed for five days for holding a Harvest Festival celebration. *Forum 18 News, 5/11/2010*
- July 2010 - A church has lost its fight to win back legal recognition after being refused registration under the new Religion Law. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 167, Sept 2010*
- April 2010 - Fewer than half of 534 registered religious communities have been re-registered. Baptist churches in the city of Baku have been closed down. *Forum 18 News, 9/4/2010*
- March 2010 - The authorities have begun to issue refusals to re-registration applications. Threats have been issued to churches and their pastors. *Barnabas Prayer, July/August 2010 & Forum 18, 14/5/2010*
- January 2010 - A church in Baku has suffered an arson attack: although it claims 1,500 members, it is being refused re-registration. *Forum 18, 3/9/2010*
- January 2010 - All religious groups that have already gained State registration must re-register. Religious literature is censored. *Barnabas Report for 2010*
- November 2009 - Authorities are again clamping down on Christians. The new Religion Law (amended twice in 2009) has become more restrictive. Even churches that have gained "State Registration" will have to re-register in 2010. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- November 2009 - Javid Shangarov, a Baptist leader in the town of Yalama has been fined and faces deportation for holding Christian worship in his house. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- July 2009 - Amendments to the Religion Law will make life even more difficult for non-Muslim minorities. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- June 2009 - The Government is introducing repressive religion laws. Unregistered churches are declared illegal. *Forum 18, 5/6/2009*
- April 2009 - Three Baptists were detained for 'illegally spreading Christianity'. *Forum 18, 2/4/09*
- February 2009 - Censorship laws restrict the importation of Christian literature. *Forum 18, 13/2/2009*
- 2009 - Christians who convert from Islam face hostility from their families and the Government. *Barnabas Fund Praying for the Persecuted Church 2009*
- August 2008 - Baptist Pastor Hamid Shabanov, a prisoner of conscience, remains in prison. His defence lawyer was not allowed to appear at his trial. *Forum 18 News Service 1 Aug & 19 Sep 2008*
- June 2008 - Baptist Pastor Zaur Balaev, a former prisoner of conscience, has been threatened with a second prison term for running his church. *Forum 18 News, 13/6/2008*
- March 2008 - Following the jailing in 2007 of Pastor Zaur Balaev, several more Christian ministers were threatened with jail for "refusing to ban children from attending services". *Forum 18, 20/3/08 & Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- August 2007 - Pastor Zaur Balaev sentenced to two years in prison by a court in Zakatala. He was accused of "holding illegal meetings under the guise of religious activity without concrete authority and registration". *VOM USA, 15/8/2007*
- May 2007 - Police raided a house church in Aliabad, Zakatala and arrested the pastor, Zaur Balaev. He faces three years in prison for 'resisting Government representatives'. *Forum 18, 8/6/2007 & Barnabas Fund Prayer Focus Update, 31/5/07*
- January 2007 - In Baku, four foreign Christian leaders were deported for 'violating the ban on foreigners conducting religious agitation'. *Forum 18, 9/1/2007*
- January 2005 - Eighteen-month-old Luka Eyvazov has finally been issued with a birth certificate, without which he would be unable to go to kindergarten or school, get treatment at hospital, or travel abroad. The refusal to issue his certificate was because his parents wished to give him Christian rather than Muslim names. *Forum 18, 10/1/2005*
- April 2004 - Police detained seven Christians having a picnic near Ismally for 'mass evangelism'. No villagers in the area are known to have complained. One was fired from his job for the detention. *Compass Direct, 21/4/2004*
- March 2004 - Anzor Katsiashvilli, a church leader, was warned by the authorities not to hold any more religious meetings in his home. The reason given was that he was not a citizen. *Compass, 14/3/2004*
- July 2003 - Local police raided Baptist Service in a flat in Gyranja, confiscated Bibles, and fined two members. *Forum 18 News, 23/7/2003*
- June 2003 - There are signs that Government is attempting to curtail freedom of religion out of fear of religious pluralism. Government already distinguishes between 'co-opt' faiths: the position therefore of Jews, Russian Orthodox, Lutherans and Catholics is reasonably positive; but of others (Muslims and Evangelical Christian) is severely restricted. *Forum 18 News Service, 28/6/03*
- October 2002 - Colonel Aliev of the Interior Ministry threatened Pastor Ivan Orlov of a Baptist Church in Baku "If you don't register your church we'll close it and knock it down, and church members will lose their jobs". Azerbaijani law does not require religious groups to register in order to function. *Keston News Service, 8/11/2002*
- April 2002 - Over Easter, Christians were fined and deported and the church closed. *Barnabas Fund, 17/4/2002*
- April 2002 - Baptist Church in Baku liquidated. The pastor of the church was accused of 'insulting Islam'. *Voice of the Martyrs, 10/4/2002*
- April 2002 - Protestant missionary deported after being arrested and forced to sign confession written in Azeri, a language she did not understand. *Catholic World (CW) News, 5/4/2002*
- March 2002 - Two Church leaders, Yusuf Farkhadov and Kasym Kasymov, were jailed for 15 days for holding a prayer meeting. *Barnabas Fund, 5/3/2002*
- February 2002 - On four occasions since the fall of Communism the Government has ordered that religious groups must be registered. Each time the position of the groups has worsened. *Voice of the Martyrs, 27/02/2002*
- January 2001 - Two Baptist Pastors were threatened and detained by police after one of the pastors was hit in the face by a civilian. *Compass, 18/2/2001*

Bahrain

Expat Christians who work and live in Bahrain are relatively free to practice their faith in private, as are the few historical Christians, but evangelising Muslims is illegal. The Government imposes restrictions on national and church life. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p30*

Muslim-background Christians face pressure, mostly from family and community: they continue to be considered Muslims by the State, and legal challenge to this is not permitted. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

- July 2011 - Forces from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were called in to violently suppress recent demonstrations. The small indigenous Christian population are in a precarious situation. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- February 2011 - Police fired tear gas and concussion grenades into a crowd at the funeral of four protestors killed earlier. There have been many casualties. *Daily Mail, 19/2/2011 & Prayer Digest, 28/2/2011*
- 2010 - Although to some extent there is freedom of expression in the Shia Islamic Islands, and members of religious groups are permitted to practice their faith in private places of worship, they are not allowed to advertise their services in Arabic. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- March 2008 - At least 10 expatriate house churches, most of them Indian-led, have been threatened with closure. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2008*

Bangladesh

Bangladesh has a secular Government, and a Constitution that provides for religious freedom, but it is officially an Islamic State. There are no blasphemy nor anti-conversion laws, but Islamic extremist groups use political means, including strikes and rallies, to push the Government to establish Islamic law. Converts from Islam are particularly persecuted, and Christians generally face opposition from family and friends. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p33*

Christians are a small minority (less than 1%) and have low social status; they wield little political power, and the police can sometimes be slow to assist them. They may be disadvantaged in education and employment, especially for Government jobs, and several have been martyred in recent years.

- November 2013 - A vigilante Committee has been formed in Bilbathuagani, Tangail, to stop Christian activity in the area. It comprises Muslim elders, political leaders and a Local Government official. In September, the official ordered an end to construction of a church, and, following an announcement in all local mosques, over 1,000 Muslims – including 72 Imams – protested to the local Council Chairman that the Christians were 'misguiding' Muslims. A Committee spokesman said 'Never will local Muslims accept conversions to Christianity. It is impossible for them to live as Christians in this area. Ten years ago some Christians tried to convert some Muslims here, but we beat them and they went away'. *Open Doors USA website, 29/11/2013*
- August 2013 - After Nur Hossain (30) became a Christian, his brothers asked him to remove his belongings from the family home. When he arrived, they beat him and imprisoned him, and forced him to tell them the name and phone number of his pastor, whom they then contacted to attempt to entrap him also. *Open Doors USA website, 29/8/2013*
- July 2013 - Pastor Arun Kanti Chakma, a former Buddhist, was shot six times and killed in his church in Khagrachari, Chittagong, when unknown gunmen burst in. *Open Doors website, 14/8/2013*
- July 2013 - A website run by Bangladesh's largest Islamist political party published a notice saying 'We will kill all the Malouns (infidels)'. Christians, along with other non-Muslims, are considered by Muslims to be 'infidels'. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p15*

Evidence (5)

- June 2013 - A Muslim mob attacked the Christian villages of Tivipara and Bagja, plundering the residents' livestock and other possessions. The mob battered down the doors of the Christian Seminary and severely beat the Rector and some of the students. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2013*
- 2012 - Poor tribal Christian families are being convinced by intermediaries to send their children to 'boarding schools' where they will be educated and fed for a fee. The intermediaries pocket the families' money, and sell the children to the Islamic schools, where they are physically abused and pressured to convert to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- August 2012 - 80 children from Christian homes were taken under false pretences by Islamic clerics and placed in madrasas (Islamic boarding schools). Only 11 of them have been rescued to date – the whereabouts of the remaining 69 are unknown. *International Christian Concern, 17/8/2012*
- March 2012 - Three American missionaries were injured by a Muslim mob as they tried to assess the suitability of land for a church and hospital. *International Christian Concern, 3/3/2012*
- January 2012 - Muslim extremists are again demanding the introduction of 'blasphemy laws' under which Christians have suffered grievously in nearby Pakistan. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- September 2011 - Two Church Elders, Onukui Biswas and Mutul Bawa were beaten by police in Gopalgan when they went to a police station to complain of harassment. *International Christian Concern, 3/9/2011*
- September 2011 - Some Christian evangelists have been harassed, arrested and even murdered recently. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- May 2011 - A Muslim Imam in Jamalpur, having read about Jesus, became a Christian. His wife is angry, and he expects persecution from local Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p15*
- March 2011 - Discrimination against the Christian minority continues. Muslim extremists continue to demand the introduction of blasphemy laws. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- December 2010 - The United People's Democratic Front, a political party, ordered leaders of various churches not to hold Christmas celebrations, and ordered one pastor to revert to Buddhism. *Compass Direct News, 27/12/2010*
- October 2010 - Local Muslim villagers in Sadhu Hati Panta Para spread malicious rumours about Christian convert Aynal Haque (63) and his son Lal Miah (22), and then assisted relatives in beating them, when they refused to recant their faith. *Compass Direct News, 2/11/2010*
- August 2010 - Growing congregations attract opposition from underground terrorist groups and Muslim neighbours. A convert was falsely arrested because of his Christian activities. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- August 2010 - The same Buddhist extremists responsible for April's attacks kidnapped a pastor and seven members of his church and forced them to wear Buddhist robes, shave their heads, bow down to a statue of the Buddha, and help clean the temple. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p18*
- July 2010 - 320 Christian students who attended a recent Bible Students' Fellowship meeting are being subjected to harassment and discrimination. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- June 2010 - Christians are often shunned by their family, and sometimes the authorities deny them due process of law. The son of a convert was kidnapped. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- April 2010 - Buddhist extremists took three Christian converts captive in the Chittagong Hills, forcing them to wear robes, shave their heads, and honour the Buddha. Pastor Shushil Jibon Talukder (55), Bimol Kanti Chakma (50) and Laksmi Bilas Chakma (40), all church members in Lemuchari village, were kept in a pagoda for over two weeks as punishment for leaving Buddhism. *Compass Direct News, 23/4/2010*
- March 2010 - Several Christian families, including Pastor Iqbal Hasan, had their homes burned down by Muslim extremists. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2010*
- February 2010 - Christian worker Edward Biswas (32) was beaten by about 20 people in Chandpur village, Feni district. He had been showing a film about Jesus Christ in a private house, and had been teaching villagers about the dangers of arsenic in water, mother and child health care, and HIV/AIDS prevention. *Compass Direct News, 1/6/2010*
- 2009 - Reports from the Chittagong Hills say that extremists are preventing Christians from entering Buddhist villages, buying or selling food, or using bridges, ferries or roads. The extremists, who have links to the armed rebels of the United Peoples Democratic Front, also try to prevent Christians reading the Bible or praying. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p16*
- October 2009 - When about 150 Muslims occupied the family home of a Catholic man, Sunil Gomes, they removed the house's nameplate bearing the Gomes family name and a small crucifix, replacing them with the words 'Allah Akbar'. Subsequently, shots were fired at the house, and neighbours put pressure on the family to move away. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p18*
- October 2009 - A woman, Khainur, and her daughter, Arifa, were both brutally beaten by the husband because they and the son had converted to Christianity. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 156, Oct 2009*
- September 2009 - When Mohammed Faruk was visiting his cousin, William Gomes – a Christian convert from Islam – he was attacked by Mohammed Mijan Bandari, the local leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party. William Gomes intervened to defend his cousin, thereafter receiving death threats from Mr Bandari and a group of 100 Islamists. Two days later, Mr Gomes' home was torched by Muslim militants. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p17*
- September 2009 - Members of the Hizbut Tawhid Islamic movement attacked Christian student Anup Rodrigues (25) in Dakar, accusing him of insulting the Prophet Mohammed and describing Christians as 'the curse of the nation'. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p17*
- August 2009 - The Christian community of Solepur was the object of a number of violent attacks by Muslim extremists, who tried to force them to leave their land. *Persecuted & Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p17*
- July - August 2009 - The Muslim family of Christian convert Rashidul Amin Khandakar was ostracised and their home destroyed. Rashidul's father Ruhil was prevented from entering a mosque to pray, and was threatened by extremists who ordered him to kill his son. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p17*
- May 2009 - Following the devastation of cyclone Aila, Muslims in some parts lobbied authorities to withhold aid from Christian converts from Islam. *Barnabas Fund - Praying for the Persecuted Church, Advent 2009 p10*
- February 2009 - A Christian student, Rajen Murmo (20) was badly beaten in the town of Uttara, north Dhaka, for distributing Christian literature. *Sword Vol. 4, No.2, Mar/Apr 2009*
- January 2009 - The Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) party have pledged to introduce a blasphemy law which would include a mandatory death sentence for 'defiling the name of Mohammad' and life imprisonment for desecration of the Quran, but no penalty for false accusations. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 147, Jan 2009*
- May 2008 - Islamic extremism is on the increase. Evangelists and pastors face harassment and persecution. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- 2008 - A church in the village of Buglegari was raided and destroyed. *Barnabas Fund - Praying for Persecuted Christians, 2008*
- January 2008 - An elderly, bedridden woman was burnt to death in her home, which was also used as a house church. *VOM USA, 9/2/2008*
- July 2007 - An article in *Inkelab*, a Bengali daily newspaper, called for a ban on the activity of all Christian individuals, churches and NGOs in Bangladesh. A spokesman for the Islamic Intelligence Front claimed 'American people have a long-term plan to destroy Islam by converting the poor and helpless with financial enticements.' *Compass Direct 18/7/2007*
- June 2007 - After 42 men and women from Muslim backgrounds were baptised in a local river, authorities at the mosque in Durbachari banned Christians from using the local tube-well, the only source of potable water in the area. Death threats were issued against Abdul Hossain and Berek Ali, two villagers appointed leaders of the new converts. *Compass Direct 28/6/2007*
- June 2007 - Ten Christian converts were savagely beaten with bricks and wooden clubs, and forced to leave the village in Nilphamari district where they had lived all their lives. Several villagers were tied with ropes and severely beaten in their own homes. *Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2007 & Compass Direct 25/9/2007*
- December 2006 - Following a court sentencing two Islamic extremists to death for murdering Dr. Abdul Gani Gomes, a Christian convert from Islam, in September 2004, extremists have threatened to murder the judge, Shaheed Noor Uddin, Dr. Gomes' widow, and all Christians in the area. *Compass Direct - VOM, 4/12/06*
- December 2005 - A threat from Islamic militants forced clergy at Holy Rosary Parish, Dhaka, to hold Christmas Midnight Mass early. Fr Gomes warned people against entering the Church with rucksacks, after being warned of bombs during Christmas celebrations. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06, Aid to the Church in Need, 2006 p12*
- October 2005 - Pastor Shahjahan Mollah of the house church in Butia reports that if his congregation sing or pray too loudly, local Muslims come in with sticks and destroy Bibles and song books. *BosNewsLife, 25/10/2005*
- October 2005 - 'Bangladesh must stop the persecution of Christians' said Jim Jacobson, President of Christian Freedom International. 'Christians are not safe here, especially Moslems who convert to Christianity.' *BosNewsLife, 25/10/2005*
- August 2005 - Local Islamic authorities demolished a Christian village in Dinajpur Diocese, which borders Nepal, leaving 65 families homeless. The village had been inhabited for at least 100 years, but the local authorities applied to the EU for funding to build a new 'ideal Muslim' village, claiming it was virgin land. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06, Aid to the Church in Need, 2006 p12*

Evidence (6)

- July 2005 - 'Islamic terrorists' forced Grace Presbyterian Bible College to leave Khulna. Islamists at the new location then threatened to 'cut off the hands' of students and teachers. *BosNewsLife Oct2005*
- July 2005 - Two Christians, Tapan Kumor Roy and Liplal Marandi, were hacked to death by Islamic extremists in a village 150 kilometres from the capital Dhaka. *Voice of Martyrs - USA News Update, 10/8/05*
- September 2004 - Bengali newspaper *Janakantha* reported the murder of Dr Gani Mondol by 'Islamic warriors' as he walked home from work in Jamalpur district. He had been a Christian convert for 15 years. *AsiaNews 25/9/2004*
- July 2003 - The growth in power of Jamaat-e-Islami, which wants to introduce strict Sharia laws, has resulted in the minority Christians being targeted for persecution. *Guardian News, 23/7/2003*
- June, 2003 - A Bengali evangelist was kidnapped by a Muslim terrorist group. His brother, who tried to negotiate with the group, was severely beaten. *Compass Direct, 16/6/2003*
- April 2003 - Christian evangelist Hridoy Roy stabbed to death. *International Christian Concern, 1/6/03*
- March 2003 - Christian village, Foiljana, 180 km north east of Dakha, was raided twice within 24 hours by 200 men of the National Party of Bangladesh. 25 people injured and 10 houses ransacked. *Offene Grenzen, 22/3/2002*

Belarus

Russian Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Jews and Muslims continue to face problems in spite of a 2002 law recognising each as a 'traditional faith'. Other Christian groups often have their meetings raided, their property seized, and are fined for 'unauthorised' religious activities. Foreign missionaries often confront administrative obstacles, especially concerning residence permits. The State often interferes in religious life: all faith activities and religious buildings require State approval, and there is a ban on religious activity in most homes. 95% of historical Orthodox churches have been returned, but Lutheran and Calvinist Christians have had little success, and the State has revealed plans to transform a monastery and several other places of worship into hotels and museums. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p19*

- December 2013 - Police interrupted a pre-Christmas Council of Churches worship service in Gomel and, after filming a sermon, caused the prayers to cease, took names of all present, interrogated some, and seized a Bible. The service was deemed 'an unauthorised mass public event', and it seems likely that three Baptist leaders face punishment. *Forum 18 (www.forum18.org) 13/1/2014*
- December 2013 - Employees of Construction Trust No 8 (a State-run building company) obliged to work on Christmas Day, 25th December. In Belarus, both 25th December (Catholic and Protestant) and 7th January (Orthodox) Christmas Days are official public holidays, and many of the Company's 4,000 employees are Catholic or Protestant. *Forum 18 (www.forum18.org) 13/1/2014*
- October 2013 - Fr Vladislav Lazar (45), who was arrested in Minsk in May by KGB Secret Police, has been charged under sections of the Criminal Code which relate to treason. Family and clergy visits prohibited, and no Bible or Prayer Book allowed during the first four months. In September it was learned that charges relate to 'treasonably giving money and valuables to a person accused of spying', but no other details or evidence given and his lawyer has been ordered not to discuss. Fr Lazar has protested his innocence. *Forum 18 (www.forum18.org) 15/10/2013*
- August 2013 - Aleksei Shchedrov (28) is facing prison because the shelter for homeless he runs, providing a bed, bath, food and clothing, using his own house in Aleksandrovka, Grodno, has a prayer room (which is used by local people as well as the street community). *Barnabas Prayer Focus 202, Aug 2013*
- April & February 2013 - Police raided Baptist Church services in Gomel, and confiscated Church literature. Pastor Nikolai Varushin fined one month's wages and two other leaders lesser amounts. *Forum 18 (www.forum18.org) 13/1/2014*
- May 2012 - Death row prisoners are not told until the last minute the time of their execution, so it is not possible for them to receive a last visit from a priest or relative. Nor are their families advised where or when they are buried, nor can they reclaim their bodies for burial, religious or otherwise. Political prisoners are denied literature such as Bibles, and visits by a priest. *Forum 18, 15/5/2012*
- 2012 - The New Life Pentecostal Church in Minsk has been accused of 'polluting' its grounds, fined \$100,000, and had its bank account frozen. The confrontation with the authorities has gone on for over eight years. *Keston (Institute) Newsletter No 15, 2012* Note: An eviction order was cancelled on 5th December, deadline day, but raids, fines and eviction threats began again in 2013. *Forum 18, 14/6/2013*
- January 2012 - Police raided a service which was held in a church-owned house in a village in Brest Region for 10 disabled people who could not get to the registered church in the nearby town. Pastor Vasili Raptsevich was told he had violated the law by holding worship away from the church's official address without permission, and he was threatened with court proceedings and withdrawal of the church's registration. *Forum 18, 27/2/2012*
- October 2011 - A Baptist church in Zhodino, near the capital Minsk, was closed down because it was not officially registered. *Forum 18, 21/10/2011*
- August 2011 - Prisoners in maximum-security prisons face a difficult annual choice - they may see either relatives or a priest, and the priest can only be either Orthodox or Catholic. Many prisoners are afraid to ask for a priest for fear that the prison staff's attitude to them will be tougher. *Forum 18, 4/8/2011*
- July 2011 - Journalist Andrzej Poczobut has been imprisoned for three months before his trial for religious matters and slandering Belarus's President, and he has been denied all requests for a visit from a priest. *Forum 18, 8/7/2011*
- April 2011 - Two Baptist congregations were raided on successive Sundays. Pastors were prosecuted for "holding unauthorised religious services", and Christian literature was confiscated. *Forum 18, 1/4/2011*
- March 2011 - Many Christian churches are not officially recognised and are punished by heavy fines or three years' imprisonment. *Barnabas Prayer, Mari/Apr 2011*
- July 2010 - Pentecostal Pastor Victor Novik was fined three times in one day for sharing his faith in neighbouring villages. The New Life Church in Minsk was fined around £56,000. *CSW Relay, 16/8/2010 & Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- March 2010 - Pastor Yvi Petrevich was fined twice an average month's wages for leading an unregistered church in Grodno. *Forum 18 News, 9/4/2010*
- 2009 - A State Ideology Officer shut down a seminar on family relationships held by a Protestant pastor in the town's Palace of Culture. 15 Palace employees were then sacked as a warning (not) to associate with or accommodate believers. *Keston Newsletter p5*
- December 2009 - Polish Catholic priests Fr Jan Bonkowski and Fr Edward Smaga told to stop all religious activity by the end of 2009. Fr Bonkowski has been parish priest of Mizhevitsi village for 20 years. *Forum 18, 5/1/2010*
- October 2009 - 'Ideology Officers' recruit informers to report on illegal religious activity. It is not untypical for officials and police to raid religious meetings and initiate prosecutions against believers. *Keston Newsletter p5*
- October 2009 - The Prosecutor authorised a six-hour raid on a private home in Chavusy where religious services were held. Every member was interrogated, and Bibles and Christian literature were confiscated. *Forum 18 News, 30/10/2009*
- July 2009 - In the capital, Minsk, a church has been closed down after a foreign Pastor preached at a worship service. The Pastor, Boris Grisenko, was also fined. *Forum 18, 17/7/2009*
- June 2009 - The Baptist Church in Osipovichy was fined the equivalent of three months' average salary for being unregistered. A Baptist was also fined for running a Christian street library. *Forum 18, 12/6/2009*
- April 2009 - Lyudmila Batyuk, in Mogilev, has been charged with 'leading an unregistered Christian organisation.' *Forum 18, 3/4/2009*
- March 2009 - A Christian rehabilitation programme for alcoholics and drug addicts run by registered social organisation Cliff House raided by police on two occasions. *Forum 18, 30/3/2009*
- February 2009 - Two Danish visitors deported for 'voicing ideas of a religious nature'. They had been filmed worshipping at the Living Faith Church in Gomel, Belarus's second city. *Forum 18 News, 11/2/2009*
- January 2009 - The Higher Economic Court threw out the appeal by New Life Church, Minsk, against their building being seized by the State on the basis that it was a cowshed being illegally used for religious purposes. The Church had unsuccessfully attempted to register a change of use. *Forum 18, 26/1/2009*
- January 2009 - Fr Zbigniew Grygorzewicz expelled for organising a Christian music festival. *Forum 18, 7/1/2009*
- January 2009 - Alexander Yermalitsky, a Baptist leader, was fined for hosting 'a religious event at which the Bible was read' in his home. *Forum 18 News, 11/6/2009*
- August 2008 - Three different churches in the Grodno region are struggling against harassment by local authorities. In Svisloch services were banned. In Mosty, Pastor Borovik was fined nine months' wages for leading an 'unregistered religious organisation', and in Grodno, Pastor Yvi Kravchuck was fined for leading a worship service in a private home. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 142, Aug 2008 & Forum 18 News, 25/7/2008*
- June 2008 - Vladimir Burshtyn, a Baptist, was fined more than two months' average wages for 'conducting conversations on religious topics' in Ushachi. *Forum 18 News, 27/6/2008*
- May 2008 - Three human rights defenders have been given heavy fines for organising religious freedom campaigns. *Forum 18, 2/5/2008*
- May 2008 - More than 80 protestors were arrested at a rally in Minsk for campaigning for freedom of religion. *CSW Response, May/Jun 2008*
- March 2008 - Two prisoners of conscience, Artar Finbevich and Adrei Kim, were denied pastoral visits and religious literature. *Forum 18, 20/3/2008*
- February 2008 - Pavel Nozdrya, a Christian, lost his job after Police raided a Christian meeting in a private house. *Forum 18, 4/4/2008*

Evidence (7)

- February 2008 - The Government has issued fines on the Baptist Council of Churches for "unregistered activity". *VOM USA, 13/2/2008*
- October 2007 - There is a danger that 190 foreign RC priests and more than 100 nuns may be forced to leave the country. *Forum 18 News Service, 3/10/2007*
- July 2007 - Foreign Protestants have been exiled for 'harming national security', including Travis Decker (USA) who ran a Baptist church in Minsk and Jaroslaw Lukasik (Poland). *Forum 18, 6/7/2007*
- 3rd June 2007 - 7,000 Christians attended a religious freedom prayer service outside the Grace Pentecostal church in Minsk. This meeting was filmed by the police. *Forum 18, 8/6/2007*
- May 2007 - State officials raided the Pentecostal service of John the Baptist Church in Minsk. The pastor, Antoni Bokun was arrested and fined 20 times the minimum monthly wage. *Forum 18, 1/6/2007*
- December 2006 - Seven Polish Catholic priests and five nuns required to leave the Country. *Forum 18, 27/10/2006*
- October 2006 - In Minsk, a church with a congregation of 1,000 people is being forced to sell its buildings to the State for a fraction of their true value. *Forum 18, 27/10/2006*
- 2006 - Pentecostals in the Brest region sought permission to conduct public baptisms in a lake. When no official response was forthcoming, they went ahead, but the ceremony was quickly broken up, and two participants jailed for a fortnight. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p250*
- March 2006 - Pastor Georgi Vyazovsky, a Baptist minister in Minsk, jailed for conducting worship at his home without permission. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p250*
- March 2006 - Christian lawyer Sergei Shevtsov was arrested and jailed in Minsk for 10 days for organising a private meeting on Christian history and Bible issues without an official permit. *Forum 18 & Christian Today 1/4/2006*
- February 2004 - Pastor Vyacheslav Goncharenko of New Life Church, Minsk, fined the equivalent of 30 times the minimum monthly wage for organising religious services without State permission. *Forum 18 News, 23/3/2005*
- August 2002 - The European Union levelled heavy criticism against the 'Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organisation' which aims 'to regulate religious services' on the grounds of discrimination against and censorship of particular religious groups. *Catholic World News, 27/08/2002*
- June 2002 - The new 'Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organisation' claims to guarantee religious freedom, but employs the principle of registration as a means of control, whilst making registration difficult, especially for newer Christian groups. Unregistered religious activities are forbidden, foreigners are prohibited from leading religious organisations, religious literature is subject to censorship before publication, and religious groups with fewer than 20 members may not be registered. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p249; Forum 18 News Service 9/10/03 & Voice of the Martyrs, 5/06/2002*

Belgium

- March 2012 - Belgium TV series *A Tort ou a Raison* repeatedly projects negative stereotyping of Catholics. These include paedophilia in a Catholic high school, and a fanatical Catholic woman forcing her son to become a priest. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p43*
- September 2011 - A Sharia court has been established in Antwerp by a radical Muslim group called Sharia4Belgium. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 23/9/2011*
- December 2008 - A Greek-Melkite Church was set on fire in the night. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p32*
- February, 2002 - Police questioned 29 American volunteers working for the Assemblies of God for allegedly violating a work permit law. four were detained and then deported, despite years of working in Belgium unmolested. *Compass Direct, 15/3/2002*
- 1997 - A Parliamentary report listed a number of the country's free churches, including Pentecostals, as sects, who should be under surveillance, thereby increasing their risk of persecution. www.nccg.org/W-News-002.html

Benin

- March 2007 - Muslims destroyed a church building in January, just three days after it was built. *VOM USA, 15/3/2007*

Bhutan

Buddhism continues to play a dominant role in Bhutan, especially in remote and rural areas where Christians (may) be pressured into observing the rituals of the traditional animist beliefs. (Christians) are excluded from local decision-making and urged to renounce their faith. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p25*

- July 2012 - Pastor Pema Sherpa was attacked by a Buddhist officer wielding a 'patang' (sword), and threatened with death for his faith. *International Christian Concern, 3/8/2012 & Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*

- September 2011 - The Government does not recognise Christianity, and Buddhists officially forbid church buildings. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- 2011 - To convert from Buddhism is often considered a shameful act and met with discrimination in the workplace and social pressure. Most persecution occurs in rural areas, where Buddhist monks oppose Christianity. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- November 2010 - The Christian minority must practise their faith in secret, and face persecution from the Buddhist majority. Prem Singh Gurung has been sentenced to three years in prison for showing films of Christianity in South Bhutan. Authorities said he was guilty of 'attempting to promote civil unrest'. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 169, Nov 2010 & Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
- September 2010 - The Government has restricted Christians from proselytising their faith. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- April 2008 - Two families who had recently converted to Christianity were attacked and driven from their homes by local Hindus and Buddhists. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
- April 2004 - Three house churches were raided by police in Sarpang district following Easter Sunday services. Members were warned not to meet, and the elders instructed to report daily to the police, who told believers that the Bhutanese Government viewed their meetings as 'terrorist activities'. *Compass, 23/4/2004*
- October 2002 - 40 Christians were arrested and tortured because of their religion. The authorities are reported as telling Christian leaders "We will persecute Christians in Bhutan and put an end to them". They told a local priest to stop evangelising otherwise they would 'switch off his water and electricity'. *Voice of the Martyr, 30/10/2002*
- September 2002 - 40 believers from the Gospel for Asia Believers' Church arrested and tortured. *Charisma Now, 28/10/2002*
- February 2002 - The authorities use tricks to discover Christian children in schools, such as offering chocolate bars to Christian children: those who put their hands up have their details taken and their families face possible deportation. 500 Christian families were discovered in this way and are now living as refugees in Nepal and India. *Stimme der Martyrer, 12/02/2002*
- May 2001 - Three Salesian missionaries from Ngarian Hills were murdered by militants. *Catholic World News, 22/5/2001*
- January 2001 - Pastor 'Yakub' arrested and beaten, jailed for 15 days and told to renounce Christ or be exiled. *CSW 1/6/2001*

Bolivia

- March 2013 - A restrictive new law 'denies Evangelical Christians the right to be a church'. Law 351 requires all churches not only to adopt a standard administration structure that many believe deprives them of the freedom to follow their convictions, but to carry out all activities within the animist worldview sponsored by the government. This includes a multi-spirited world and various categories of magicians, diviners, medicine-men and witches. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 204, Oct 2013*
- Summer 2008 - Many Christians continue to live in poverty. *Tear Fund, Summer 2008*
- March 2004 - Church of God elder, Fortunata Bernal, of the Evangelical Church in Chucarasi was beaten unconscious and his church destroyed by animist villagers for not respecting the Festival of Carnival. Villagers blamed the church for a severe hailstorm, saying that evil spirits were punishing them for allowing the Christians not to partake in the festivities. *Charisma Now, 16/3/2004 & Worthy News 23/4/2004*
- March 2003 - Christians in Chucarasi are obliged to 'respect' traditional animist customs, but are not allowed to rebuild their illegally demolished chapel. *Compass Direct, 23/4/ 2003,*
- August 2001 - An American missionary's appeal against a 17-year prison sentence for alleged sexual abuse failed despite gross legal errors and new evidence supporting his innocence, including retractions of false testimonies from accusers. *Compass Direct, 21/9/2001*

Bosnia and Herzegovina

- July 2012 - Bishop Franjo Komarica of Banja Luka drew attention to the lack of political will by the Government and international community to enable Catholic refugees from the 1992/95 war to return to the country. Individual politicians have openly admitted in personal conversations, he said, that they felt Christians have "no business being in Bosnia" (despite their forbears having lived there for centuries). Of the 835,000 Catholics living in the country in 1992, only 450,000 remain. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe - Report 2012 and website*
- February 2012 - Nuns wearing habits are increasingly being subjected to verbal abuse in public. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012, p38*

Evidence (8)

- February 2012 - Fr. Anton Maric, Diocesan Finance Director in Banja Luka, pointed out that lands and buildings confiscated during the Communist era have still not been returned, and building approvals for churches are subject to years of delay. Some Catholic families have waited for years to be connected to mains electricity, while non-Catholics get preferential treatment. Priests receive no medical care, despite a Government agreement with the Vatican. *Aid to the Church in Need News, 2/2/2012*
- December 2011 - In Zavidovici, numerous attacks on older Christians took place on Christmas Day. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe – Report 2012*
- October 2010 - A former prisoner said organised Islamist groups inside Zenica prison were targeting Christian Croats and Serbs, and claimed there was religious discrimination among prison authorities. The former inmate claimed that Muamer Topalovic, a member of the Bosnian 'Active Islamic Youth', who murdered Croats at Christmas 2002, has 'the most superb treatment in the prison'. *Serbianna, 22/10/2010*
- October 2010 - Cardinal Vinko Puljic, Archbishop of Sarajevo, visiting the UK, advised that attacks on his Cathedral and other places of worship were commonplace, and in Sarajevo and other cities great difficulties were being experienced in obtaining permission to build new churches, despite increasing memberships. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p22*
- December 2009 - 16 incidents of desecrations and hate crime against Christians reported in 2009. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p32*
- September 2009 - Catholic Christians gathering for Mass at Londza cemetery near Donji Vakuf were pelted with rocks. *US State Department 'International Religious Freedom Report 2010: Bosnia and Herzegovina', 17/11/2010*
- August 2009 - Two shots were fired at the Orthodox Cathedral in Reljevo, Sarajevo. The priest said this was the fifth such attack that year. *US State Department 'International Religious Freedom Report 2010: Bosnia and Herzegovina', 17/11/2010*
- March 2009 - St Luke's Catholic Church in Novi Grad, Sarajevo, suffered its 16th attack since 2005. During one week the windows were damaged three times. Police arrested a suspect, who admitted two incidents, but did not file charges. *US State Department 'International Religious Freedom Report 2009: Bosnia and Herzegovina', 26/10/2009*
- January 2009 - On Orthodox Christmas Eve (6th January) arsonists burned the flag on the Orthodox Cathedral in Tuzla. *US State Department 'International Religious Freedom Report 2009: Bosnia and Herzegovina', 26/10/2009*
- July 2007 - Christians are facing increasing radicalisation by Bosnian Muslims. Saudi funding has led to the building of hundreds of mosques in Sarajevo. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2007*
- 2006 - Profound social problems include high crime levels and random acts of intolerance towards minority religious groups. Both priests and laity report insults and living in fear of attacks. *Aid to the Church in Need – Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p15*
- May 2006 - During the 1992/95 war, as 220,000 Catholics fled for their lives, many of their property deeds were lost or burned. Following the end of the war, and, without these deeds, barely 12,000 have been able to return. International funds designated to assist returning refugees have not been made available to Christians (and donations via Christian agencies are taxed at 17%), but Bosnian Muslims have access to both funds and building permits to build new mosques quickly. *Catholic News Service, 5/5/2006*
- November 2013 – A new Sharia penal code will shortly be introduced based on *Hudud*. Those who leave Islam are liable to the death penalty for apostasy, and any non-Muslim found to have aided a Muslim in committing a crime will be subject to Sharia penalties. Evangelism by Christians is strictly forbidden. *Barnabas Prayer Update 29/11/2013*
- September 2012 - The small number of believers cannot openly declare their faith in Christ, and contact with churches can endanger their lives. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Sep 2012*
- March 2012 – The Ministry of Education has announced that Islamic Religious Knowledge is to be a core subject of the school curriculum at both primary and secondary level, and that this will apply to Christian schools which are prohibited from teaching Christianity even to Christian children. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2012 p15*
- 2011 - Churches that are officially recognised are prohibited from taking in seekers and converts from the local population. Violation of these restrictions means church closure and possible imprisonment for the pastor. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- August 2001 - Three Christians, Yunus Murang, Freddie Chong and Haji Malai Taufick, arrested in 1999 for sharing their faith with Muslims, still detained by authorities and enduring attempts to forcibly convert to Islam. *Barnabas Fund 3/8/2001, 31/8/2001*
- April 2001 - Yunus Murang, initially accused of evangelism of Muslims, was charged with smuggling Indonesian Bibles into the country and given a two-year prison sentence. Six other Christians were also detained for participating in a prayer meeting. *Compass Direct, 21/4/2001*
- March 2001 - Brunei's security services interrogated 25 Christians for allegedly converting Muslims. 12 other Christians are under investigation for "threatening religious harmony". *Barnabas Fund, 3/8/2001*

Bulgaria

New laws introduced a registration process that is long, complicated and selective, and allows the Government to restrict the activities of non-Orthodox religions. www.usembassy.bg/policy/irt_03.html

- September 2012 - "Christians are threatened" said a resident of the Roma neighbourhood in Iztok, a suburb of Pazardjik in a TV programme *Fatherland Front*. A Christian preacher confirmed that his daughter had been beaten because she is a Christian. Another man – who feared that revealing his true identity would put the lives of his family in danger – said that Muslims do not let their children play with peers from other religions, and don't allow religiously mixed school desks. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians web site, 27/9/2012*
- September 2010 - Historically, 80% of Bulgarians identified with the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, but in 1994 40% dissented and formed the Bulgarian Orthodox Synod, arguing discrepancies in the leadership election and that the leader was too closely aligned with the Communist regime. They elected their own leader, and built several of their own churches. In 2004 the new Government intervened, stripped the new Church of its legal personality, and confiscated the new church buildings, later awarding them to the State-approved church. The European Court of Human Rights has now ruled this State intervention to be inappropriate and illegal. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 20/9/2010*
- June 2005 - The Bulgarian police invaded 170 monasteries and churches, and violently removed the priests and pastors. *Evangelical Alliance/ Christian Herald 30/7/2005*
- In 2004, Government forcibly confiscated over 100 church properties. Many priests, monks and lay workers were violently beaten. The Government refuses to compensate them or acknowledge the findings of the European Court of Human Rights – which ruled that the Government violated their religious freedom. *CSW Weekly e-newsletter 1/5/2009*
- July 2004 - 250 churches closed down and several priests detained. *Nazarene Mission International, 14/11/2004*

Burundi

- July 2009 - A number of pastors have spent years as refugees in Tanzania. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- July 2008 - In the capital, Bujumbura, four Christian evangelists have been attacked by Muslim 'missionaries'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
- June 2008 - A church in Muyinga was attacked by a 24-year-old Muslim. *Barnabas Prayer, Sept/Oct 2008*
- July 2004 - Bishop Ntukamazina and other church leaders were abducted by gunmen while returning from a confirmation service. *Anglican Communion News Service/The Road to Canterbury, Andrew Altherstone – Darton, Longman and Todd, 2013 p77*
- January 2004 - Anti-Government rebels issued a death threat to Roman Catholic Archbishop Simon Ntamwana, whose predecessor was assassinated. *Compass Direct, 4/1/2004*

Brazil

Brazil suffers one of the greatest wealth disparities between rich and absolute poverty in the world. The poor live in extreme poverty and squalor. *Jubilee Action – Autumn/Winter 2010*

- February 2005 - A nun, Dorothy Stang (74), was shot dead in the Amazon Jungle. *The Great Separation News Front, 13/2/2005*
- April 2003 - Two Christian leaders were found guilty of violating Brazil's 'hate crime' law after sharing their faith with spiritists on Sao Paulo beach, and fined \$300. *Compass Direct 19/5/2003*

Brunei

The Sultan recently declared himself Prime Minister and President, and presents himself as Defender of the Faith. Islamic law has been fully implemented since 2011. By decree, contact with Christians in other countries and the public celebration of Christmas are banned. Christians are considered 'enemies' and their activities are monitored by government spies and police. Changing religion on one's identity card is impossible, and Muslim-background Christians face hostility from families, friends and neighbours. *Open doors 'World Watch List 2014' p15*

The Government recognises only three Catholic and three Anglican churches; unregistered churches are considered 'illegal sects', and Christian bookshops are prohibited. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

Evidence (9)

- December 2003 - Vatican Ambassador Michael Courtney assassinated, allegedly by the rebel group FNL. The Papal Nuncio was a well-known peacemaker in the civil conflict between ethnic Hutus and Tutsis in Burundi. *Compass Direct 4/1/2004*

Cambodia

Tens of thousands of families are desperately short of food as the annual rains have failed. *Tearfund - Tearlines, Autumn 2010*

In Phnom Penh, 25,000 children scavenge on the city's streets. Many work a 14-hour day scouring mounds of rotting rubbish on the city dumps searching for metal, glass and plastic to sell, for which they earn the daily equivalent of 25 pence. *Global Care, Spring 2007*

Militant Buddhist election influences have led to a rise in discrimination against Christians.

- July 2010 - The Ministry of Cults and Religions issued a directive banning Christian groups from door-to-door evangelism. *VOM - USA, 2/7/2007*
- July 2003 - Catholic Church of Kok Pring raided by 100 Buddhists: Bibles and the crucifix destroyed. *ZENIT, 14/7/2003*

Cameroon

UNHCR has registered 8,000 refugees from Nigeria, fleeing persecution by Boko Haram, the militant Nigerian Islamic extremists. *Jubilee Campaign 21/11/2013*

- November 2013 - Fr Georges Vandenbeusch, a French priest from Nguetchewe in northern Cameroon, kidnapped by Boko Haram and transferred to Nigeria where his life was offered as a trade for the release of Boko Haram militants in Nigerian jails. *Jubilee Campaign 21/11/2013*
- February 2013 - Abdoulaye and Abakachi, converts from Islam to Christianity, shot dead by four Boko Haram Islamists in Northern Cameroon. Abdoulaye had previously been threatened. *Barnabas Persecution Update 28/2/2013*
- February-July 2012 - Christian converts in the north are coming under intensified pressure following a warning from militant Muslims to return to Islam or 'face Allah's wrath'. Christian leaders have had their houses raided and destroyed. *Barnabas News, 2/2/2012; Barnabas Prayer May/June 2012 & Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2012.*
- January 2012 - A handwritten note was delivered to a church leader's house in northern Cameroon calling on his church to return to Islam or 'face Allah's wrath'. It was from Boko Haram, the Nigerian Islamists. Then two men arrived at night whilst the leader was away, forced the leader's wife and children to lie face down whilst they searched the house, and left a message that they would get him wherever he hid. The family and other converts fled. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2012 p8*

Canada

- May 2012 - A student was suspended from Forest Heights Community School, Chester Basin, for wearing a religious (i.e. Christian) T-shirt to school. *International Christian Concern, 11/5/2012*

Central African Republic (CAR)

A group of Islamist militants, the Seleka, seized power in March 2013. Their uprising spread from the north, where the Muslim minority is concentrated, and installed their leader, Michel Djotodia, as the country's first Muslim President. Around 15% of the population is Muslim. Seleka militias have gone on the rampage, unchecked by the government, and rape, murder and machete attacks have become common. Individual Christians and church leaders have been robbed, wounded or killed, and whole villages abandoned: churches, businesses and homes have been destroyed. Christian areas are being targeted, while Muslim ones are generally spared. Michel Djotodia has suspended the Constitution and dissolved the National Assembly, declaring his intention to rule by decree. In some areas Christians are forbidden to sell non-halal food. *Barnabas Fund 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2014' p12*

- November 2013 - More than 30 people (including at least two young children) murdered in Bombi Te. *Barnabas Fund 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2014' p12*
- October 2013 - Christians in Bangassou organised a protest march against the carnage of the Seleka militants. But armed Muslims attacked the march, and 10 people were killed in the ensuing violence. Further attacks four days later left four more Christians dead. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014 p5 Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014 p5*
- September 2013 - In a further attack on Christians in Bossangoa, Seleka attacked Christians, killing at least 100. Whole villages have been abandoned or destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014 p5*

- August 2013 - At least 15 Christians were killed and 1,000 people displaced in raids on 14 Christian villages in Bouar. The attackers threw their bodies, including that of a five-month-old baby, into a river. *Barnabas Fund 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2014' p12*
- July 2013 - A pastor reported that the Seleka Muslim rebels have targeted individual Christians, who have been tied up, beaten and forced to pay ransoms in exchange for their lives. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p15*
- July 2013 - Seleka rebels destroyed a number of church buildings in Bangassou, and a mechanic was severely beaten for refusing to reveal where church-owned vehicles were kept. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p15*
- July 2013 - Muslim rebels have destroyed a church in Bambari and looted Christian homes after driving their owners away. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p15*
- April 2013 - A Christian funeral procession in Bangui attacked, and the church leader who appealed for calm gunned down. *Barnabas Fund 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2014' p12*
- March 2013 - After Michel Djotodia and the Seleka Muslim rebel coalition seized control of the country, there have been attacks on individual Christians, who have been tied up, beaten, and required to pay a ransom for their lives. Christian homes have been looted and their inhabitants driven away, and church buildings attacked. A senior Christian leader, Nicholas Guerekoyame was arrested in Bangui. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p4/5*

Chad

Many thousands of refugees from Darfur (in Sudan) live in camps in the east where the humanitarian conditions are very bad. According to UNICEF, 2 million people are on the brink of starvation, and 102,000 severely malnourished children will need life-saving treatment this year. 3.5% of the population are living with HIV. *Tearfund Prayer Diary - Autumn 2008; Tearfund - Tearlines - Autumn 2010 & Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2010*

- October 2012 - Heavy rains devastated large parts of southern Chad: entire villages were swept away, and homes, churches and livelihoods destroyed. Although the great majority of flood victims were non-Muslim, the slight Muslim majority in Chad is politically and economically dominant, and government aid was targeted at Muslim communities. *Barnabas Fund, 'Our God is Faithful 1993 - 2013'*
- May 2008 - There is growing discord between the Muslim north, where Muslims dominate the Government, trade and the army, and the Christian south. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2008*
- August 2002 - When Jeje Nehemiah Baki of Ngudungudu returned to his father-in-law to seek a reconciliation and to reclaim his wife and family - who had been seized when he converted to Christianity in 1995 - his father-in-law responded with threats and by poisoning Jeje's eldest son. *World Watch Monitor 7/2/2008*

Chechnya

Christianity in Chechnya is associated with Russia: Chechen believers whose faith becomes public are seen as traitors to Islam and society, and have great pressure put on them to return to Islam. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*

- September 2010 - In Grozny, women not wearing an Islamic headscarf are being attacked with paintball guns, which has been praised by the President *Barnabas Prayer, Sept/Oct 2010*

China

In China there are 'systematic, ongoing, and egregious violations of religious freedom', according to the US Commission on International Religious Freedom - with certain religions and spiritual groups banned completely. Legally, Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, and the Protestant and Catholic denominations of Christianity are the only recognised religions, and followers of these faiths are supposed to practice under the auspices of one of the State-sanctioned 'patriotic associations'. While the regime does not technically outlaw the 'underground' churches, they are not permitted to hold public religious services or carry out other religious activities. *Forum 18, 20/3/2012 & ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*

Four issues get the church into trouble: when it is perceived as too powerful, too political, too foreign, or a cult. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

The most restricted areas for Christians are in Muslim and Tibetan regions. Christian converts from a Muslim background also have to deal with persecution from their own family and friends, so they hide Bibles and Christian materials. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p28*

- December 2013 - The Taiyuan Court in Shanxi Province has upheld the sentences of five and two years passed two years ago on the founder (Ren Lacheng) and an employee of the Enyu (Christian) Bookstore. In 2012, government staff from seven agencies - without explanation - seized books and equipment, and, later, the Store's Permit and all Bibles. *China Aid News 18/12/2013*

Evidence (10)

- December 2013 – Pastor Zhang Shaojie from Nanle County Church in Henan Province and 23 members of the congregation have been held illegally at an unknown location since mid-November without access to families or lawyers. Pastor Zhang was taken from the Church, which is State-sanctioned, by police without a warrant and using force. Members believe the abductions may relate to charity work carried out by the Church, but could be the actions of corrupt local officials attempting a land-grab for personal lucrative construction purposes. 23 members were detained when a group of members visited Beijing to protest against both the abductions - which have severely disrupted services – and officials taking photographs and videos and forbidding members to leave their homes at worship times. *Sky News 16/12/2013 & Open Doors magazine, Jan 2014*
- June 2013 – More than 10 security officers burst into a house church meeting and arrested Pastor Zhang Yinan and took everyone to the Police Station. Pastor Zhang was pressured to sign a document to close the Church, but refused. The raid is typical of attacks routinely launched against the flourishing house church movement. *Barnabas Fund 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2014' p13*
- May 2013 - A new report by China Aid identifies the government's three-stage plan to force unregistered (house) churches into the official Three-Self-Patriotic-Movement. In the first phase, the authorities secretly investigated and prepared files on the congregations. Now in the second phase, they are using third parties to harass churches and make it difficult to operate: for instance, using utility companies to cut off power and water, or landlords to terminate leases, and to place church leaders under arrest. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p8*
- February 2013 - Two police officers broke into Youhao Church in Yichin City and harassed the Christians gathered there. When a church leader asked to see their papers, they insulted, threatened and beat her so severely that she had a heart attack. She was kept under 24-hour surveillance, and denied visits by fellow Christians. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p8*
- November 2012 - Nine Christians who were providing free medical services and sharing the Gospel with those they treated detained by police in Inner Mongolia. Two sent to 're-education-through-labour' prison camps, and their medical equipment confiscated. *Barnabas - Praying for the Persecuted Church, 2013 p12*
- November 2012 - Alimujiang Yimiti, a house church leader, has been jailed for 15 years in Urumqui, Xinjiang for illegally supplying "State secrets" to foreigners – which, it is believed, means speaking to Christians outside China. The UN has described his detention as 'arbitrary', stating that it contravenes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012 & CSW Prayer Diary, Spring 2013*
- November 2012 - Shanghai house church leader Mao Hengfeng (51) has been sent to a labour camp for the third time with an 18-month sentence for 'disrupting public order'. *Release International Issue 71 – Jan/Feb 2013*
- November 2012 - Pastor 'Bike' Mingxuan has been detained yet again in Shandong Province for distributing Gospel tracts. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - Brother Yi was severely beaten at his house church in Fanali, Henan Province.. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- September 2012 - 30 Christians were arrested in Kucha, in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomic Region for holding an 'unauthorised' Bible study meeting. *Barnabas Prayer – Jan/Feb 2013*
- September 2012 - A church leader, Thaddeus Ma Daqin, has disappeared since he challenged the authority of one of the State-controlled denominations in July. *Barnabas Prayer, Sept/Oct 2012*
- August 2012 - The Government is arresting, imprisoning and beating South Korean citizens who try to help North Korean defectors. *International Christian Concern, 3/8/2012*
- July 2012 - 70 children attending a house-church summer camp in Xinjiang were rounded up by police for questioning. Seven teachers were locked in a detention centre. *Barnabas - Praying for the Persecuted Church, 2013 p12*
- July 2012 - The Government has begun a new campaign aimed at eradicating house churches within 10 years. *Barnabas Prayer, July/August 2012 & Release International Issue 68, Jul/Aug 2012*
- July 2012 - In south-western China, the authorities have gone door-to-door confiscating Bibles and taking away medical benefits from Christians. *International Christian Concern 27/7/2012*
- June 2012 - A raid on a house church in Bajiahu, Niuchang, Jingha County, resulted in more than 20 Christians being arrested. *International Christian Concern, 15/6/2012*
- March 2012 - More than 70 Christians in Xinjiang were detained after a raid on their house church. Bibles, hymnals and other Christian literature were confiscated by police, who refused to provide a receipt as required by law. The church had been meeting for 20 years. *Release International Issue 67, May/Jun 2012; International Christian Concern 23/3/2012 & China Aid 20/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Bishop Peter Shao Zhumin of Wenzhou and Fr Paul Jiang Sunian were made to attend 're-education classes'. *UCA News 22/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Christian human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng, sentenced to five years in jail in 2006 for defending unregistered Christian churches, has been sentenced to a further three years. His family has been refused the right to visit him. *Release International Issue 66, Mar/Apr 2012 & Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012*
- March 2012 - In Guochen in Shandong Province, the Three-Self Patriotic Movement Church was forcibly occupied by Government officials. *ChinaAid, 20/3/2012*
- March 2012 - A Three-Self Patriotic Movement Church in Dafeng County was demolished by local authorities. Two church members were beaten in the process, and one had her back broken in the assault. *China Aid, 20/3/2012*
- February 2012 - Authorities demolished a 20-year-old church in Lieshan village, Anhi Province. No compensation was given even though it was officially registered with the Three-Self Patriotic Movement. *US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012 report, p146*
- January 2012 - Fr. Joseph Gao, Fr. Joseph Ban & three parish priests from Suiyan Diocese were arrested by police in Erenhot, near the border with Mongolia, when 30 police & Government officials raided a house. *UCAN 31/01/12*
- January 2012 - The church in Tai'an, Shandong Province, is facing demolition by the Government, despite the buildings being designated as 'protected national historical landmarks'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- January 2012 - Christians of the Shouwang Church in Beijing continue to worship in the open air because the Government has closed their church. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- January 2012 - 'Underground' Bishop John Wang Ruowang of Tianshui, 50, secretly ordained last year with Papal Mandate, was seized from Taijing Church and taken, along with retired Bishop Casimir Wang Milu, by officials to a guest house in Tianshui city. In January 2012 he and some of his priests were forced to attend 'education and conversion classes'. The actions appeared to be aimed at ensuring support for the CPA's candidate for the next Bishop in Tianshui. *UCAN, 23/8/2011; Associated Press 24/8/2011 & Zenit, 18/1/2012*
- 2011 - Although hundreds of millions of Chinese are now able to manifest their beliefs openly, and senior Government officials have praised religious communities' positive role and encouraged them to promote "economic and social development", the Government continues to attempt to expand its control over religious activities. More than 1,000 Protestants were detained and given sentences of more than one year during 2011. If they are still alive, Bishop Zhimin will have spent 40 years in captivity, and Bishop Enxiang at least 51 years. *ChinaAid, & US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012 p145*
- 2011 – ChinaAid's Annual Report on Government Persecution of Christians and Churches, which compares annual totals of individuals detained, sentenced and abused, shows an aggregate rise of 42.5% over 2010 – an increase for the sixth consecutive year. ChinaAid believes the authorities are focusing on prominent believers and congregations to reduce the influence of Christianity on society. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p6-7*
- December 2011 - An unofficial Christmas Day service in Langlong city was broken up by 30 police officers using tear gas. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012*
- December 2011 - More than 30 members of Shouwang Church in Beijing were arrested for taking part in a 'public Christmas gathering'. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012*
- December 2011 - Police in the Province of Sichuan fired tear gas at worshippers at an outdoor Christmas service. *International Christian Concern, 8/1/2012*
- November 2011 - Ruth, wife of Pastor John, arrested for publishing Christian books and DVDs by a house church pastor which were deemed 'too bold' by the Communist Party censors. The charge was that the publishing company they ran in Beijing had the wrong operating licence, even though all relevant fees had been paid. She was sentenced to 2½ years in prison. *International Christian Concern – Persecution 4/4, Sep 2013*
- November 2011 - In the city of Zhuozhou, Hebei Province, members of the Christ for China House Church were arrested, interrogated and sent to labour camps. *International Christian Concern, 16/3/2012*
- November 2011 - Christian, Chen Guancheng, was imprisoned for revealing that there were over 130,000 forced abortions and sterilisations in a single year in China. *Jubilee Campaign, 21/11/2011*

Evidence (II)

- November 2011 - 'Underground' Pastor, Shi Weihai, served four years for 'illegal business operations' after he was discovered printing and distributing free bibles. *US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012 p147*
- October 2011 - Church leader Song Xinkuan detained and repeatedly beaten, and 11 house church leaders in Tibetan capital Lhasa detained and held for a month on suspicion of belonging to a cult group. Authorities confiscated religious materials and two laptops, described as 'tools for his criminal activities'. *US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012, p146; ChinaAid, 13/12/2011*
- October 2011 - Police imprisoned 21 people from Wuhai and Shizuishan, Ningxia Province, and confiscated Bibles and other items for 'illegal worship'. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 180, Oct 2011*
- September 2011 - Catholic Nun Xie Yuming and Father Huang Xusang were badly beaten by Government officials for entering a Roman Catholic Church which the Chinese Government was using. *International Christian Concern, 9/9/2011*
- September 2011 - House church leader, Pastor Shi, was sentenced to two years in a labour camp for organising an 'unregistered church'. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- August 2011 - Members of the 1,000 strong Showwang Church in Beijing are forced to meet in an open-air plaza after being evicted from their church by the Government in April. Some have lost their jobs or have been subjected to verbal abuse, others given jail sentences. *Baptist Press, 6/7/2011; Barnabas Prayer Focus 178 Aug 2011; Release International Issues 63 & 64, Sept/Oct & Nov/Dec 2011*
- August 2011 - At least 100 police and officials raided a house church summer camp for children in Anhui Province. The names of all the children were recorded and Pastor Lu Jingxiang and three other church leaders were arrested for "holding an unregistered illegal meeting". *Barnabas Prayer Focus 179, Sep 2011; Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2011*
- July 2011 - Fr Joseph Sun Jigen's ordination as 'official' Bishop of Handan was postponed because he had secretly sought and obtained approval from the Holy See. He was taken into custody, and reportedly remains under house arrest. *US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012, p144*
- July 2011 - Pastor Shi Enhao, the Deputy Chairman of the Chinese House Church Alliance, sentenced to two years 're-education through labour' - a sentence requiring no trial - for organising 'illegal religious meetings'. His congregations were ordered to stop meeting for worship, and robes, musical instruments and collections of nearly \$22,000 were confiscated. *Barnabas News & Appeals 29/7/2011; ChinaAid briefings, Jul 2011 & CSW Annual Report 2011*
- May 2011 - Two Christian lawyers, Zhang Kan and Jiang Tianyoung, have been detained by the authorities. They have previously been detained and abused by the police. *Release International Issue 61 May/Jun 2011*
- May 2011 - Christian human rights lawyer, Gao Zhisheng, who was imprisoned more than a year ago, has been severely beaten and tortured. During Gao's imprisonment, his wife and children have been put under immense emotional pressure. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 175, May 2011, & CSW Relay Weekly Newsletter 15 & 28 Apr 2011 & Appeal Letter Mar 2012*
- April/May 2011 - Police raided the house church in Showwang, Beijing, on three occasions in April & May, arresting hundreds of worshippers. Most were released within 24 hours, but more than 30 were prevented from leaving their homes on subsequent Sundays and Pastor Jin Tianming remained under house arrest until mid-2012. Persecution of Christians is increasing, and the number detained has risen by 43% in the last five years. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 175, May 2011, ChinaAid briefing Apr 2011 & CSW Relay Weekly Newsletter 15 & 28 Apr 2011*
- April 2011 - Showwang Christian Church, which attracts a high number of professional people, has been repeatedly prevented from occupying space in a Beijing office building which they bought in 2009 for 27 million yuan (£2.5 million). News organisations have suggested the crackdown is a sign the Government will not allow Churches to get too large. *ChinaAid briefings April 2011; Reuters, 3/4/2011*
- April 2011 - Underground Priest Fr. Chen Hailong detained & tortured in a bid to force him to join the 'Official' Church. Released in August, having spent long periods without food, he was sentenced to two years 're-education through labour'. *AsiaNews 12/4/2011 & 5/8/2011; UCAN 13/1/2011 & Independent Catholic News 14/4/2011*
- April 2011 - Local authorities in Guangzhou ordered Tianyun Church, with a congregation of 200, to stop worshipping. *Asia News, 1/4/2011*
- March 2011 - Rongguili Church, with a congregation of 4,000, was evicted from premises it used as an extension to host its bulging congregation. *Asia News, 1/4/2011*
- March 2011 - According to Xuanhua and Xiwanzi Dioceses, at least 20 'underground' priests have been tortured over the past two decades to make them join the 'official' Catholic Patriotic Association. Fr Peter Zhang Guangjun seized for a second time and physically and verbally abused. *AsiaNews 12/4/2011 & 5/8/2011; Independent Catholic News 14/4/2011*
- March 2011 - Dr. Fan Yafeng, head of the Chinese Christian Lawyers Association, remains under house arrest. *CSW Prayer Diary Mar/Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Security forces prevented Catholics in Hebei from attending the funeral of 95-year-old Bishop Andrew Hao Jinli of Xiwanzi following his death on Ash Wednesday. *The Washington Times, 14/3/2011*
- February 2011 - More than 100 riot police and 80 'hired roughnecks' raided a house - without presenting any legal documents - where at least 20 Christians were meeting in Yangdang, Zaoyang City, Hubei Province. They destroyed cameras, audio recorders, mobile phones, etc, capable of capturing the raid. Tear gas was used on the group before they were beaten. Authorities claimed the Christians had established a "site for religious activities without approval". *ChinaAid, 14/3/2011*
- February 2011 - Church leader Chen Guangcheng and his wife were both beaten senseless for releasing a Christian video. They are now under severe house arrest. *Prayer Digest, 14/2/2011*
- 2011 - The Government has increased its level of attacks against unregistered Christian churches, closing them down and arresting many house church leaders. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2011*
- December 2010 - Police tried to force Bishop Julius Jia Zhiguo (73), who has spent over two decades in detention, to sign a document authorising handover of an orphanage for a 100 disabled children which he founded. He refused, and is now under 'residential detention'. *Christianophobia 2012, Robert Shortt p200*
- December 2010 - State-registered Catholic bishops were forced to elect Fr Joseph Guo Jincal as Bishop of Chengde and President of China's College of Catholic Bishops. Underground bishops and clergy were forcibly taken from their homes to take part, and the ceremony was without Papal approval. *Christianophobia 2012, Robert Shortt p199*
- November 2010 - Christian lawyer Dr. Fan Yafeng arrested for the fourth time. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 170, December 2010*
- November 2010 - Pastors Lin Yunhua and Gan Hanli from Huchang City, Henan Province, were imprisoned because they would not pay bribes to the police. *Release International Issue 58, Nov./Dec 2010*
- October 2010 - More than 200 Christian leaders were prevented by the authorities from attending a Christian conference in Cape Town, South Africa. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 169, Nov 2010 & Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- October 2010 - Ban Kezhen, a church leader in Fuzhou City, Fujian Province, was arrested and his church buildings closed by the authorities. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- September 2010 - Ten leaders of the Linfen Fushan Church in Shanxi Province have been imprisoned since 2009, when officials demolished their Church. *Release International Issue 57, Sept/October 2010*
- September 2010 - Alimujiang Yimiti, who worked for a British company and was also a house church leader from Xinjiang, imprisoned for 15 years for 'revealing state secrets ... to overseas organisations' - but a UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention concluded his imprisonment was 'solely because of his faith'. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010 & CSW Appeal Letter March 2012*
- August 2010 - Police demolished the prayer room, school and training centre of a house church in Zhejsang Province. 20 Christians were forcibly ejected at the time. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2010*
- August 2010 - Pastor Wang Dao, leader of the Liangren House Church in Guangzhou Province, has been imprisoned. *CSW, 27/8/2010*
- July 2010 - The Linfen church in Shanxi Province is facing demolition by Chinese officials. *Release International Issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010*
- July 2010 - Shen Pellan, a Christian activist from Shanghai, was arrested twice in one month by officials and had her house demolished. She has been detained for her Christian activities nearly 100 times since 2000. *Release International Issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010*
- June 2010 - Officials requisitioned the land and demolished church buildings in Yichun, Heilongjiang, on which the officially registered Three-Self Patriotic Movement Church was built. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- March 2010 - The Liangren Church in Guangzhou City has been harassed by the Public Security Bureau. Senior Pastor Wang Dao was violently arrested for propagating the Christian faith. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2010*
- January 2010 - High school student Chen Le was expelled from College because he refused to renounce his Christian belief. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- November 2009 - Public security officials closed down the Wanbang Missionary Church. When the Church held a meeting outside, three church leaders were arrested for 'engaging in illegal organisation and activities'. *Barnabas Fund Update 158, Dec 2009*
- October 2009 - Alimujiang Yimiti, a former Muslim who had been a Christian for 14 years, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for leading a house church in Xinjiang Province (whose population is mainly Muslim), and distributing Christian literature amongst his own Uygur people. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 159, Jan 2010 & Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2010, Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013*

Evidence (12)

- September 2009 – Two pastors at the Linfen Fushan Church in Shanxi Province, Yang Xuan and Yang Caizhen, were arrested for organising a prayer rally the day after their church was destroyed. *Release International Issue 54, Mar/Apr 2010*
- September 2009 - 400 police and Government officials violently attacked members of Fushan House (Gold Lamp) Church, Linfen City, Shanxi Province, built to hold nearly 50,000 worshippers. They destroyed the church and 17 buildings, jailed the church's pastors, and many Christians were severely beaten. *Release International Issue 52, Nov 2009 & Reuters, 11/12/2009*
- September 2009 - Two Christians, Li Mingshun and Zang Yong Hu, were sentenced to 10 years in prison for helping 61 North Korean Christians to flee to South Korea via China. *Release International Issue 52, Nov 2009; Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2009; Sword Vol 4, No. 6 Nov/Dec 2009*
- September 2009 - Christian lawyers Zhen Enchong and Gao Zhisheng are both still in jail, as are pastors Don Shaowen from Zhengzhou, Henan Province; 'Bike' Zhang Mingxuan and Shi Enhan (see below). *Release International Prayer Shield, Sep/Oct 2009*
- August 2009 - A church graduation ceremony in Rizhao City, Shandong, was disrupted by officials and police, who seized Bibles, computers, and other items, and then revoked the church's registration. *ChinaAid Briefing, 23/8/2009*
- August 2009 - 28 Christians were arrested at a youth camp in Hubin town, Tengzhou Province. *Barnabas Prayer Forum 154, Aug 2009*
- April 2009 - Ms Ren and Ms Xiong arrested in Luoshan County, Xinyang, for running an unregistered house church. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- April 2009 - Shouwang Christian Church, an unregistered Protestant fellowship, had its website forcibly shut down for being the product of 'an illegal Christian organisation'. *ChinaAid briefing, Apr 2011*
- April 2009 - The Public Security Bureau (PSB) arrested 18 house church leaders in Xinye City, Henan Province. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- March 2009 - Fr Francis Gao Jianli (40) of Xiangong Parish, Shanxi Province, was beaten so badly he needed hospital treatment over comments he made about a plot of church land which had been seized during the Cultural Revolution. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? p27-8*
- March 2009 - The Christian church in Chengnan, Tinghu, Jiangsee was demolished by officials, even though the congregation had won a court case preserving it. *Release International – Prayer Shield, Mar/Apr 2009*
- March 2009 - Christian human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng of Beijing arrested and, for 50 days, subjected to severe beatings and electric shocks. His family have had no news of him for 10 months. *Sword Vol 4, No.2, Mar/Apr 2009 & CSW Newsletter 2/4/2009 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 151, 3/4/2009 & Voice of Martyrs 17/5/2009*
- February 2009 - Over 60 house church leaders have been arrested in Henan Province. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2009*
- January 2009 - House churches in Yichun City, Heilongjiang Province, have been closed since October 2008. *Release International, Jan/Feb 2009*
- December 2008 - Pastor 'Bike' Zhang Mingxuan has been forced out of Beijing by the Public Security Bureau (PSB). Christian leader Mrs Shuang Shuying (79) remains in prison for her faith. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 149, 30/1/2009*
- December 2008 - In the run up to Christmas, Police arrested 19 students and two Christian leaders in Anhui, seven Christians in Yinjiang, and nine women in Henan. *Prayer Digest, 29/1/2008*
- December 2008 - Police raided a house church in Taikang County, Henon Province, all 50 Christians present were given 15 days' 'administrative detention' and three were subject to one year's 're-education through hard labour'. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- November 2008 - The families of imprisoned Christians Alimujiang Yimiti, Wusiman Yiming and Shi Wuhan cannot find the location of their loved ones. *CSW Prayer Diary, Nov/Dec 2008*
- October 2008 - Pastor Zhu Baoguo was sentenced to one year in jail for leading a House Church in Henan Province. *Release International, Jan/Feb 2009*
- October 2008 - House Church Leader Alimjan Yimit of Uyghar, Henan Province has been in jail since January 2008. *Release International, Jan/Feb 2009*
- August 2008 - Zhang Jian, the son of Pastor 'Bike' Zhang Mingxuan, arrested and beaten with iron bars, and the whole family forced out of Beijing during the Olympics. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 145, Nov 2008 & Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2008*
- July 2008 - Pastor Zhang Zhongxin sentenced to two years' 're-education through labour' in Jining City, Shandong Province, for organising a children's Sunday School. *VOM USA, 16/7/2008*
- July 2008 - On several occasions, house church meetings in Beijing have been broken up by the PSB as the Government clamps down on Christian activity prior to the start of the Olympic Games. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
- June 2008 - The Public Security Bureau arrested seven Christians in Taikang County, Henan Province, for 'sending money to a disaster area in the name of a house church. *VOM USA 11 Jun 2008 & Barnabas Prayer Sep/Oct 2008*
- May 2008 - House Church leader Pastor Lou Yuanqi arrested in Quingshuihe, Xinjiang Province for 'inciting separatism'. *VOM USA, 28/5/2008*
- April 2008 - 46 Christians arrested in Kashi City, Xinjiang Province while holding a Bible class. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 139, May 2008 & VOM USA 23/4/2008*
- March 2008 - Shi Weihan (39), a Christian bookstore owner, re-arrested for 'illegally' printing and distributing Christian literature. *VOM USA, 30/4/2008*
- March 2008 - Seven house church leaders were arrested in Qu County, Sichuan Province. Nine female house church leaders and four children were arrested after a Sunday School service. The Communist Government has ordered a crackdown on Christians prior to the forthcoming Olympics. *VOM USA, 9/4/2008*
- February 2008 - 80 participants at a Christian meeting in Henna Province arrested. 50 are still detained on charges of 'engaging in the practice of a cult'. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- February 2008 - Two Christian women, Meng Xiu Lan (55) and Zhou Chang Xiu (53), were arrested by police in Jun Tun County, Yunan Province. They were beaten and police illegally confiscated Bibles and Christian literature. *VOM USA, 22/2/2008*
- January 2008 - Christian leader Bai Cheng was detained in Luoyang, Henan Province for leading a Bible study. *VOM USA, 13/2/2008*
- January 2008 - Four male and five female church leaders arrested in August 2007 remain in a labour camp in Hubei Province (though four other house church leaders released). *VOM USA, 25/1/2008*
- December 2007 - 21 senior house church leaders sentenced to labour camps by the Linyi City Re-Education through Labour Commission. *VOM USA, 27/2/2008*
- December 2007 - 270 church leaders arrested in Shandong Province for taking part in 'an illegal religious gathering.' *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- October 2007 - House church leader Hua Huiqi released from hospital, then repeatedly attacked by police in his home in Beijing. Pastor Hua's 77-year-old mother, Shung Shuying remains very ill in prison, serving a two-year sentence for her faith. *VOM USA, 17/10/2007*
- August 2007 - In Shandong Province, Pastors Du Dafeng, Cheng Zhenan and Yue Ying were detained for holding a worship meeting in the town of Yutai. *VOM USA, 30/8/2007*
- July 2007 - In Shanxi Province, the authorities arrested Sister Kong Lingrong for teaching Christ to children aged 10-15. They said "children were not allowed to believe in Jesus". *VOM USA, 30/8/2007*
- April & June 2007 - More than 100 foreign Christians expelled from China for 'being involved in illegal religious activities'. Believed to be the Government's attempt to 'quieten things' before the Olympics next year. *VOM USA, 19/7/2007*
- June 2007 - Beijing house church leader, Hau Huiqi was secretly sentenced to six months in prison, where he was subsequently beaten. *VOM USA, 14/6/2007; Release International Prayer Shield Nov/Dec 2008*
- May 2007 - 'Official' bishops are no longer allowed to meet one another without CPA representatives being present. In several cases, the prelates had to undergo weeks, sometimes months, of seminars focusing on the Communist Party's religious policy. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- May 2007 - Beijing house church leader Liu Fenggang arrested and assaulted. His family was threatened and told not to draw public attention to his unlawful arrest. *VOM USA, 21/6/2007*
- May 2007 - House church leader Gu Changrong of Fushun City, Liaoning Province, arrested and accused of "poisoning Communist party members with the Christian message". He is now incarcerated in Ma San Jian Labour Camp. *VOM - USA, 16/4/2007*
- March 2007 - In Beijing, house church leader Hui Huiqi and his mother Shuang Shuying (77) have both been sentenced to two years imprisonment for evangelising near the 2008 Olympic Games site. *VOM USA, 8/3/2007*
- February 2007 - In Anhui Province, Pastor Chen Xiayi of Chencun village, and Pastor Chen Lianmin of Ma An Shan City arrested for distributing Bibles and leading Bible studies. Each sentenced to three years in prison. *VOM - USA, 16/4/2007*
- February 2007 - Police raided a Christian house in Shanghuang Town, Jiangsu Province; 20 Christians arrested and questioned. *Barnabas Fund 5/3/2007*
- January 2007 - 54 Christians detained for questioning after raids on house churches in Henna Province. *Barnabas Prayers Mar/Apr 2007*
- January 2007 - The former General Secretary of the Communist Party of China, Jian Zemin, gave his view that 'the enemy of the people is not those who hold guns in their hands, but those who hold the Bible in their hands'. *Response /CSW Issue 144, Jan-Feb 2007*
- 2007 - At least 600 Christians were detained last year amid the ongoing crackdown on unregistered house churches. Three church leaders arrested in Shanghai, North Eastern China. *Faith News, 5/2/2007*

Evidence (13)

- November 2006 - A house church of 200 Christians in Yanjianong village, Qixian Town, Shaoxing County, faces imminent destruction. Local Government says "it is to make way for a park" but they refuse to arrange a new location for the Church. *VOM USA, 4/12/2006 & 24/1/2007*
- November 2006 - Four Christian evangelists were arrested in Jinghong, Yunnan Province, and charged with 'superstitious activity'. *Barnabas Prayers, Nov/Dec 2006*
- November 2006 - A house church of 200 members in Laodong Xincui, Tongling City, Anhui Province, founded 53 years ago, has been closed down. Pastor Wang Zaiping has been sentenced to two years in prison. *VOM USA, 4/12/2006 & 24/1/2007*
- September 2006 - A church building in Yutouchang village on the island of Pingtan, which was completed only in July 2006, has been destroyed by the police. *The Right to Justice, Oct 2006*
- July 2006 - Zhang Rongliang, leader of the 10-million-strong China for Christ Church (an umbrella house church body) sentenced to seven and a half years in prison for 'owning devotional literature and videos'. *Christianophobia 2012, Robert Shortt p199*
- March 2006 - Christian human rights lawyer and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Gao Zhisheng abducted by secret police and severely tortured for 54 days after defending Christians in underground house churches. *CSW Appeal Letter, Mar 2012*
- November 2005 - Fr Gao Baojin, Rector of the Zhaoxian Seminary in Hebei, and seven of his deacons arrested by Religious Affairs staff and forced to undergo indoctrination on the religious policy of the Party for having given hospitality to 'underground' church seminarians. During this indoctrination they were forbidden to sleep, go to the toilet, or take medication. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p23*
- November 2005 - Six 'underground' priests - Fathers Zhijun, Xiuchi, Jianjun, Yinhu, Shan and Lingshen - from Zhen Ding arrested; some beaten. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p22*
- October 2005 - When Bishop Peter Zhang Bairen of Hanyang died (91) - having spent 24 years in prison and forced labour camps - the Government initially agreed that both 'underground' and 'official' clergy may attend his funeral. But the day before the service police ordered the faithful not to attend, and to honour the Bishop only as 'Mr Zhang'. 7,000 attended the Mass, but police blocked many thousands more. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p22*
- June 2005 - 50 police and public security officials raided a church leadership training meeting in Henzhair, Xing Kou, Qi County, Henan. 100 pastors from several major cities were arrested and nine of them detained. Pastor Chen Dongming still in detention, accused of 'engaging in an illegal religious gathering'. *Jubilee Campaign, Aug 2005*
- May 2005 - Police made approximately 60 simultaneous raids on house churches in Changchun, Jilin Province. Around 500 Christians were detained, most for a few days, though 40 leaders for some weeks. Five days later, 60 more church leaders arrested in nearby Jiutai. *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- May 2005 - Three female House Church believers were arrested by Public Security Bureau officers at Yiyang County, Henan Province. One lady, Ms. Liu Lianying (51) suffered a heart attack from the severe beating she received during their interrogation. *Jubilee Prayer Campaign, 22/7/2005*
- April 2005 - Seven Roman Catholic Priests have been arrested by the Security Bureau in Wugu Village, Hebei Province, en route to a retreat with Bishop Jia Zhiguo, himself just released from intrusive surveillance. *Asia News, 4/5/2005*
- March 2005 - Mgr Yao Lang, 83, Auxiliary Bishop of Xiwansi, arrested 31 March, released 20 April, and then taken into custody again for 're-education'. *Asia News, 4/5/2005*
- March 2005 - Agencies including *Asia News* and Holy Spirit Study Centre, Hong Kong, published a list of clergy, which included 19 bishops and 18 priests, who they believe are held in detention centres, labour camps or under house arrest. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p21*
- December 2004 - Pastor Zhang imprisoned for 'illegally crossing the national border and fraudulently obtaining a passport'. (In 2012 he was still in jail, despite suffering a stroke in 2007). *Open Doors Letter Guide, 18/4/2011*
- January 2005 - 'Underground' Bishop Julius Jia Zhiguo of Zhengding, who has already spent 20 years in prison for his refusal to join the 'official' church, arrested eight times in 2004, when he was forced to undergo 'study' brain-washing sessions to force him to join the Patriotic Association. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p20*
- December 2004 - Police intervened to stop Christmas Midnight Mass in Linjiayuan, Zhejiang Province, and arrested underground priest Fr Jean Wang. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p20*
- November 2004 - Christian worker beaten to death by police. Four printing presses shut down for printing 'illegal Christian materials'. *Compass, 9/11/2004*
- November 2004 - Peter Xu Yongze, 61, jailed five times for his faith, describes one ordeal: "They hung me up across an iron gate, then they yanked open the gate and my whole body lifted until my chest nearly split in two. I hung like that for four hours". *BBC News Online, 9/11/2004*
- September 2004 - Three Christians sentenced to "re-education through labour camps" without trial. No explanation given of their crimes. *Compass 20/9/2004*
- August 2004 - Eight Roman Catholic priests and two seminarians arrested during religious retreat in Sujiazhuang Village, Quyang County, Hebei Province. *CSW 20/8/2004*
- August 2004 - Over 100 house church leaders arrested at a meeting in Henan Province, the third mass arrest in three months. Family members intimidated, interrogated and detained in following days. *CSW 20/8/2004*
- August 2004 - Three Christians sentenced to between one and three years imprisonment for giving information to a foreign magazine about a public court case against a fellow Christian. *CSW 9/8/2004*
- July 2004 - 40 house church leaders and a Taiwanese couple arrested in Cheng Du City, Sichuan Province. The 40 since released; but the Taiwanese couple are missing. *CSW 21/7/2004*
- July 2004 - Christian woman Jiang Zongxiu (34) beaten to death in prison for distributing Bibles. *Barnabas Fund, 8/7/2004 & Marshall, Religious Freedom of the World p129*
- June 2004 - 100 leaders of the China Gospel Fellowship House Church network detained by Chinese authorities after the high-level Politburo meeting issued a secret directive calling for a crackdown on all 'illegal' activities. *Compass, 19/7/2004*
- June, 2004 - Samuel Lamb and 10 of his co-workers detained and interrogated after worship services. *Compass Direct, 19/7/2004*
- June 2004 - Pastor Xing Jinfu of China Gospel Fellowship (CGF) arrested, tortured and forced to disclose information about CGF. *CSW, 15/6/2004*
- April 2004 - Chinese Christians testified to beatings, imprisonment, torture and harassment at a special United Nations Commission on Human Rights meeting. Female members of the South China Church also testified to torture and sexual assault by police officers. Their evidence was supported by official documents and a video showing the destruction of a church in Zhejiang Province. *Compass Direct, 10/5/2004*
- April 2004 - Gu Xianggao (28) beaten to death in police custody in Heilongjiang Province. *CSW, 21/7/2004*
- November 2003 - Christian, Zhang Yi-Nan, abused after being interned in a re-education camp. *Voice of the Martyrs, 11/11/2003*
- November 2003 - Bishop James Su Zhimin of the underground church of Baoding, who vanished after his arrest six years ago, is believed to have been locked in a police cell. He has been arrested five times and spent 27 years in prison. *The Cardinal Kung Foundation, 19/11/2003*
- November 2003 - Dr Xu Yong-Hai and his wife Li Shan-Na arrested and interrogated about the activities of their house church. Dr Xu previously spent two years in 're-education camp' for his faith. *Voice of the Martyrs, 12/11/2003*
- October 2003 - Lui Fengang, 43, arrested on suspicion of carrying out investigation on destruction of churches by local authorities. *The Guardian Review, 20/10/2003*
- September 2003 - 170 Christians arrested by the Public Security Bureau in Nanyang, Henan Province. *International Christian Concern, 25/9/2003*
- September 2003 - Christian man beaten for protesting the destruction of church building in Wenzhou. Three women arrested. *Voice of the Martyrs 17/9/2003*
- August 2003 - Fearing intervention from the Government, Catholic webmasters are managing their websites from anonymous internet cafes. *CINews, 12/8/03*
- August 2003 - A planned visit by the US Commission on International Religious Freedom was cancelled by the Government at the last minute. www.uscifr.gov/prPages/pr0174.php3?scale=1400
- July 2003 - Police raided a house church in Xiaoshan City at 4am while Christians were meeting. Shen Shaocheng (80), Gao Chongdao and Xu Weimin were arrested. *Compass Direct, 15/8/2003*
- July 2003 - 300 PSB officers raided a house church congregation in Hengpeng village during a Sunday service and demolished the church building. *Compass Direct, 15/8/2003*
- July 2003 - Christian, He Man, and 12 other members of an underground church arrested and interrogated under torture on suspicion of printing Christian literature. *Open Doors, 16/7/03*
- July 2003 - Fathers Chen Guozhen, Kang Lijun, Pang Guanghao and Yin Joseph arrested in Baoding, Hebei, while traveling to visit an underground priest. *Cardinal Kung Foundation, Jul 2003*
- June 2003 - 40 Christians arrested in Lisoning. They were released after a warning to discontinue their 'illegal gatherings'. *VOM, 14/7/2003*

Evidence (14)

- June 2003 - A group of leaders were arrested in southwest China while meeting in a private home to discuss plans for their house church movement. *VOM, 14/7/2003*
- June 2003 - Father Lu Xiazhou arrested during a Catholic service in Wenzhou, Zhejiang. *Voice of the Martyrs, 9/7/2003*
- June 2003 - 12 members of the unregistered house church movement arrested and sentenced to labour camps. *Voice of the Martyrs, 18/6/2003*
- May 2003 - House church in Anshan, Liaoning, raided by the security service. 40 Christians arrested. *VOM, 28/5/2003*
- April 2003 - Senior house church leader Elder Chen was arrested in Anhui Province with his son, (17). One of the "most wanted" house church leaders in China, Chen has evaded capture for years, moving from house to house and meeting with his family only on rare occasions. *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- April 2003 - Father Zheng Ruipin and 10 Seminarians arrested while praying. *The Cardinal Kung Foundation, 7/5/2003*
- March 2003 - At least 52 key house church leaders have been arrested in recent months. In a raid on a meeting in Henan Province, police arrested at least 20 people, including a Dutch citizen. *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- March 2003 - During the National People's Congress, officials agreed to continue the "Strike Hard" campaign against all unauthorized groups. Unregistered churches are included in the list of "illegal cults." *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- January 2003 - A confidential document, 'Work Plan of the Baoding Municipal Public Security Bureau to Prohibit Christian Illegal Activities', carefully coordinated by a special leadership team headed by Li Yunlong, Head of the PSB, calls for action against unregistered house churches 'to protect legal [religious activities]...and to ruthlessly strike down all cult activities masquerading under the banner of Christianity'. *Compass, 13/1/2003*
- December 2002 - Shanghai house church leader Philip Xu Guoxing arrested for the fourth time for preaching the Gospel. Police confiscated Christian books, videos, a computer and furnishings. *Compass, 14/3/2003*
- December 2002 - After three days' surveillance, officials termed house church meetings in Henan Province 'nests of heresy' and arrested all 78 worshippers, including leaders Liu Jiading and Wang Aimei. *Compass, 14/3/2003*
- December 2002 - Police detained over 100 Christians attending services led by Ding Yutang and Wang Yiqin in Qiliping and Xiaguan. *Compass, 14/3/2003*
- December 2002 - A Protestant minister has been sentenced to death for 'leading an evil cult' in Hebei. 15 other members of the church were sentenced to many years in prison. *Catholic World News, 31/12/2002*
- December 2002 - Reports from many parts of China speak of arbitrary arrests and imprisonment of unregistered Christians. "Police poured boiling water over one evangelist in north China recently," reported one house church elder. *Compass, 13/12/2002*
- December 2002 - According to an underground magazine, five rural Christians were arrested near Yongzhou City - one was tortured into confessing that his church was a cult, and was sentenced to 18 months 're-education through labour.' *Compass, 13/12/2002*
- December 2002 - 28 young Christians from Hunan, Jiangxi and Henan were arrested while conducting Bible training classes in Jiaye City. Police detained 10 believers and demanded \$240 per person. *Compass, 13/12/2002*
- October 2002 - A Beijing Court of Appeal overturned the death sentences on five Christians - one has been reduced to life imprisonment, and the other four priests will face retrial. *Catholic World News, 10/10/2002*
- June-August 2002 - The Committee for Investigation on Persecution of Religion in China reports police torture in a Tangshan District as 182 house church Christians arrested, eight of whom were beaten and tortured with electric shocks. *Compass, 13/1/2003*
- July 2002 - Three Catholic priests of the underground church in Baoding, Hebei, sentenced to a labour camp because they 'exercised their profession without the permission of the communist authorities'. *Voice of the Martyrs, 31/7/2002*
- July 2002 - The Chinese authorities have arrested 32 people, including a nun and 26 minors, for taking part in religious activities. The Catholic Christians were arrested as they took part in a catechism class during their school holiday. *Catholic World News, 22/7/2002*
- May 2002 - More than 100 South Korean missionaries arrested by the Chinese authorities for being involved in 'Chinese religious matters'. *Voice of the Martyrs, 22/5/2002*
- May 2002 - 100 church leaders were reportedly arrested in the Fangcheng District of Henan. Informants had apparently alerted authorities that the leaders were involved in a Bible training camp. *Compass, 13/12/2002*
- April 2002 - The Catholic Church at Xiao Zhao, a village 200 km south of Beijing, has been demolished by the Chinese Army using tanks and explosives to destroy even the church's foundations. *FIDES, 12/04/2002*
- April 2002 - A letter dated April 4 2002 by a Christian in Zhaotong, Yunnan Province, details recent persecution by local Government officials and police. The letter states: "In November 2001, the Pastors, Elders and Deacons of 16 churches were severely attacked by the Police because, in November 1999, two local Church Pastors reported a case of corruption in which the Township Head, the Police and local Government Secretary had killed a farmer's sheep. They were criticised and received political re-education, and thereafter hated religion." The letter reveals the attitude of local officials in closing churches, confiscation of Christian literature, and banning listening to Christian radio stations. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- March 2002 - More than 200 leaders of the South China Church arrested, their homes searched, and all belongings confiscated. 70 sent to high-security prisons, and 5 sentenced to death. *Compass, 15/3/2002*
- February 2002 - The Committee for Investigation on Persecution of Religion has obtained official Ministry of Public Security documents that reveal centralised and coordinated plans to eliminate specific religious groups. *CSW 12/2/2002*
- February 2002 - 47 Christians detained by the Chinese authorities during the visit of George Bush, US President. *Catholic World News, 22/2/2002*
- February 2002 - Three members of Holy Ghost Reformation Church in Xianmen sentenced to seven year's imprisonment for leading a banned Christian movement. *International Religious Freedom Report 62, US State Department*
- February 2002 - Xu Fu Ming (26) and Hu Yong (25) leaders, of the South China House Church movement, are, according to an appeal letter, in imminent danger of execution, The letter, signed by 24 relatives of the two leaders and released by the Committee for Investigation on Persecution of Religion in China, also gave details of the fate of other church leaders: Ms. Ying Li (30) and Mr. Bangkun Gong (25) were sentenced to death, but the sentence was not due to be carried out for two years. Ms. Minghua Sun (37) was sentenced to life in prison, and Ms. Yangli Xiao (30) was sentenced to 18 years in jail. The staggeringly harsh sentences signal a new phase of hostility in the Government's attitude to a number of underground house church movements recently classed as 'cults.' *Compass 15/2/2002*
- January 2002 - Gong Sheng Liang (46) and niece Li Ying (36) founding members of South China Church, sentenced to death for 'using secret cult to undermine law enforcement.' 15 other members facing imprisonment. Female members mutilated. *CSW, 17/1/2002*
- May 2001 - 35 house church Christians arrested in Dongsheng, Inner Mongolia. 15 sent to labour camps. *Compass, 15/6/2001*
- April 2001 - Several dozen house church believers detained in Zaoyang District, Hubei Province. Training sessions were forced to stop. *Compass, 15/6/2001*
- January 2001 - Chinese authorities in Zhejiang Province have closed or destroyed at least 450 churches, temples and shrines since November 2000. *Compass, 19/1/2001*
- December 2000 - Six Protestant house church leaders sentenced to hard labour, and six leaders of the Roman Catholic underground church arrested. *Compass 18/2/2000*
- October 2000 - Liu Haitao (21) from Henan Province, central China, died after being beaten by police. *Compass, 21/4/2001*
- August 2000 - Police arrested over 100 members of house church movement headquartered in Fangcheng City. Three visiting American Bible teachers from California Vineyard Fellowship were deported within 48 hours. *Compass, 22/9/2000*
- June 2000 - Reliable house church sources say that, in Anhui Province, the provincial Government has enforced a repressive religious policy for many years, and is now further tightening control. *Compass, 23/6/2000*
- April 2000 - Full-time evangelist was arrested in Guiyang and given two years' hard labour. According to a house church leader in Henan, "The last six months have been the toughest in years for the house churches. Since the crackdown on Falun Gong, we have experienced vastly increased surveillance and interference." *Compass, 21/4/2000*
- April 2000 - A well-placed observer in Shanghai stated, "The network house church movement has caught the brunt of the new crackdown - anyone in leadership of a well-organized movement that stretches over a number of provinces is under great pressure today." *Compass, 21/4/2000*
- February 2000 - Five house church leaders from the 'Born Again' movement of Xu Yongze, who were arrested at their homes in Henan Province in December 1999, sentenced to two years hard labour. *Compass, 21/4/2000*

Evidence (15)

Colombia

The Colombian Government is presently engaged in negotiations with FARC-EP guerrillas in Havana, Cuba, with a view to developing a comprehensive peace plan to end the 50 year civil war which has cost the lives of 220,000 people. Politicians, journalists, businessmen, retired police and military form the negotiating team, but no religious leaders. During these talks, violence by FARC against the church has increased. *Morning Star News, Cochabamba, Bolivia 18/12/2013*

In areas where the government has lost control of public security, drug cartels and illegal armed groups still operate with impunity. Christians who play prominent roles in social or public life face opposition because of their witness. Within indigenous communities, converts to Christianity are seen as a threat to indigenous culture and traditions. Many Christians are displaced from their lands, churches are monitored, and gender-based violence targeting Christians is on the increase. *Open Doors World Watch List 2014 p22*

Although the majority of Colombia's population describe themselves as Christian, and the Government officially protects religious freedom, Christians may be greatly at risk. Entire Christian communities have been displaced because their Christian lifestyle is at odds with the beliefs of leftist or extreme right-wing paramilitaries. If orders to cease Christian activity are resisted, lives are endangered and communities forced to flee. Amerindians who become Christians also face harassment from their indigenous leaders, who may try various methods to force them to reconvert. The state does little to help those who are persecuted or banished from their lands. *Barbabas, 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013', p13*

During 2012 there has been a resurgence of armed groups who specifically target Christians because they know the Christian faith is incompatible with their values. Several pastors were killed, and about 300 indigenous Christians displaced from their homes. Pagan indigenous populations receive material support from paramilitary organisations to persecute local Christians. These territories have become safe havens for the guerrillas' drug trafficking activities. *CSW Prayer Diary Jul/Aug 2008*

In the 10 years since 1998, 150 Christian pastors were murdered in Colombia. *CSW Prayer Diary Jul/Aug 2008*

- December 2012 - FARC-EP guerrilla group has banned all Christian worship without its specific permission in areas of southern Colombia which it controls. It has forced 150 churches to close since July. *Morning Star News, Cochabamba, Bolivia 18/12/2013*
- December 2012 - Christians at greatest risk are members of house churches and itinerant evangelists who serve them. Angel Pinto has pastored the Church of God in Puerto Asis Putomayo, since 1988 – captured five times, he has twice been told he would be executed. He was 'retrieved' because his Church cares for war orphans, some of whose parents were guerrillas. *Morning Star News, Cochabamba, Bolivia 18/12/2013*
- 2012 - Rev. Salvador Alcantara of Foursquare Church, Bolivar, has been forced into hiding following death threats for speaking up against illegal seizures of community land used both by members of his Church and other villagers. *CSW Appeal Letter, Mar 2013*
- November 2012 - Pastor Manuel Camacho and Mr & Mrs Rodriguez murdered by guerrillas. *Open doors Prayer Diary, Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - Pastor Maximo Sanchez and his daughter Nubia have been shot dead. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Nov 2012*
- September 2012 - Pastor Henry Rodriguez was shot dead by two men who rode by on a moped as he left his church in the Kennedy district of Bogota after an afternoon service. It is estimated that between 20 and 30 church Leaders are assassinated each year. *Barbabas - Praying for the Persecuted Church, 2013 p13*
- May 2012 - Three Christian families in the village of Palmor lost their homes in an arson attack by rebels. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, May 2012*
- May 2012 - 58 Christian houses were destroyed in an attack near Cienaga in the Magdalena region. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, May 2012*
- January 2012 - Paramilitary and guerrilla groups assassinate between 20 and 30 pastors every year, and on average close down 200 churches. *Barbabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012; CSW 24/11/2011 & Prayer Digest 1/11/2011*
- May 2011 - A Christian girl, Mayerli Nino Blanco (14), was shot dead by revolutionary guerrillas. Pastor Gualberto Nieves was killed as he tried to help the family. *Release International Issue 62 Jul/Aug 2011 & CSW Relay weekly newsletter 13/5/11*
- March 2011 - Soldiers who leave illegal armed groups to come to Christ are threatened, together with their families, by the Marxist FARC guerrilla group. *Barbabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2011*
- February 2011 - A pastor, his sister-in-law and his nine-year-old daughter were murdered by paramilitaries during a church service in northern Colombia. The pastor had defied a paramilitary command to shut down the church. His wife and extended family were forced to flee their homes, leaving everything behind. *CSW Annual Report 2011*
- November 2010 - Pastor William Reyes, who disappeared during an 11-day preaching tour two years ago after refusing to give church funds to illegal armed groups, is still missing. *CSW email Newsletter 18/11/2010; CSW Relay 10/9/2010, 4/10/2010 & CSW Relay, 21/5/10*
- September 2010 - Those responsible for the recent massacre of Christians in Northern Colombia have not yet been brought to justice. *CSW Relay, 10/9/2010 & 4/10/2010*
- April 2010 - Numerous church leaders have been frequently attacked, killed or have simply disappeared as rebels fight Government troops. *CSW - Relay 1/4/2010*
- February 2010 - Pastor Juan Santos and his wife have been forced into hiding by local guerrilla fighters. *CSW Response, Feb 2010*
- January 2010 - Dr. Cristina Olazabal, a Christian human rights activist, has been arrested on trumped-up charges to stop her prosecution of members of the Government for human rights offences. *CSW Relay, 14/11/2010*
- November 2009 - More Christians have been taken prisoner by the Governor of Kogul. There are now 23 prisoners including eight children and two babies who are dangerously ill. *Relay - CSW Newsletter, 26/11/2009*
- September 2009 - Pastor Manuel Camacho was shot and killed outside his home in Choapal, Guaviare. By April 2011 no one has been brought to justice. *Open Doors Letter Guide 18/4/2011*
- September 2009 - Rafael Velasquez, a pastor in Cardoba, was assassinated at his home by a paramilitary group. *Relay - CSW Newsletter 21/9/2009*
- 2009 - Violence between guerrilla and paramilitary groups affects many innocent Christians. *Elim International - Issue 14, Jan/Mar 2009*
- May 2009 - Other members of Pastor William Reyes' Church in Valledupar (Pastor Reyes is still missing) have been threatened. *CSW, 27/3/2009 & CSW Newsletter, 14/5/2009*
- Autumn 2008 - In the El Salado region, Christians have been forced from their homes by paramilitaries. *Tear Fund Prayer Diary - Autumn 2008*
- September 2008 - Pastor William Reyes and other members of Fellowship of Evangelical Pastors of Maicao were kidnapped in Valledupar, La Guajira, and have not been heard from since. It is thought that FARC guerrillas are responsible. *CSW, 30/9/2008*
- June 2008 - Church leader Azael Hernandez has been kidnapped from the El Murmullo Community. The Community were told that a further 11 Christians were targeted for assassination. *Maranatha Prayer Cells, 28/7/2008*
- May 2008 - Jairo Hernandez, a Pastor and father of five, has had seven attempts on his life and is now destitute. *CSW Prayer Diary, May/Jun 2008*
- April 2008 - Roman Catholic Priests in the communities of Tiquisio and Regidor in Bolivar Province have been issued with death threats because they stand against local abuses of human rights. *CSW Advocacy Team, 17/4/2008*
- March 2008 - Drug crime leads to the harassment and persecution of Christians. *CWS Response, March/April 2008*
- July 2007 - Two Pentecostal pastors, Humberto Mendez & Joel Garcia, were shot and killed by members of the guerrilla group Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia in the village of El Dorado. *VOM USA, 19/7/2007 & CSW Response Issue 148, Sept/Oct 2007*
- February 2007 - Three teachers are resisting pressure to deny Christ in order to be permitted to teach for the next year. *VOM, 6/2/2007*
- December 2004 - Father Francisco Montoya (33), was kidnapped and shot by Guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) while travelling from Quibdó, Chocó. *Compass, 19/1/2005*
- September 2004 - Three worshippers dead and 13 injured after masked gunmen burst into an evening worship Service at the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Puerto Asis. *CSW, 6/9/2004*
- November 2003 - The bullet-riddled body of Jose Rubin Rodriguez (51), the second priest murdered in less than three weeks in Arauca Department, was found in the street. He was kidnapped at a roadblock a week earlier. Bishop Carlos German Mesa says military intelligence and local citizens believe the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia killed him. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - Saulo Carreño, Parish Priest of Christ the King Church in the town of Saravena, was shot and killed after leaving a hospital where he ministered to sick parishioners. Jose Rubin Rodriguez also kidnapped and killed. *Compass, 15/12/2003 & Voice of the Martyrs, 12/11/2003*
- November 2003 - Rev Henry Humberto López was found stabbed to death in his home in Villavicencio, 60 miles southeast of Bogotá. The authorities said they suspected terrorist involvement. *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- November 2003 - Mariano Posado, clergyman from Sardis, murdered north of Tierralta. *Voice of The Martyrs, 9/5/2003*
- August 2003 - Two motorcyclists tossed a grenade at the home of Archbishop Alberto Giraldo, a mediator in peace talks between the Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). He was not at home, but two Police officers providing security were seriously injured. *Compass, 12/9/2003*

Evidence (16)

- August 2003 - Gunmen shot two journalists from Manantial Stereo, a radio station affiliated with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Putumayo, who failed to stop at a FARC roadblock when traveling to Puerto Asís. Juan Carlos Benavides was killed and Jaime Conrado was wounded. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- August 2003 - The Colombia Association of Christian Lawyers is defending several church leaders arrested near Sincelejo and jailed on terrorism charges. Deivis Manuel Carrascal, pastor of the AIEC Evangelical Church in Colosó, Christian school teacher Manuel Monterroza and at least seven other members of a Church in nearby Chalán were among 156 persons arrested in a pre-dawn military sweep. An ex-guerrilla, whose identity was concealed, reportedly identified the suspects as former comrades in arms - though at the time of the supposed training in 1983 Deivis was only eight-years-old. Charges of Rebellion against the State and Acts of Terrorism are punishable by 20 to 30 years in prison. *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- May 2003 - 25 armed men entered a rural church in northern Colombia and murdered its 80-year-old Pastor and three other believers. The armed men called the victims by name and attacked them in the doorway of the church in front of other parishioners. *Compass, 19/9/2003*
- May 2003 - 56 Catholic leaders killed, 14 of them in the last four years. Hector Pardo, President of the Evangelical Council of Colombia, reports the deaths of about 30 evangelical ministers. *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- February 2003 - Father Carlos Mario Gonzalez, pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Carmel, and Father Luis Angel Hurtado Henao, Parish Chaplain, brutally beaten 10km from Medellin. *CCN News and Media, 6/2/2003*
- January 2003 - Rev Jose Juan Lozada Cortez, pastor of the Evangelical Christian Church of San Antonio, was murdered by members of an illegal armed group fighting the country's protracted civil war. Amnesty International report more than 60,000 people have died in the fighting since 1985, 80% of them civilians. At least 72 Protestant pastors and 33 Catholic priests have been killed. *Compass, 11/2/2003*
- January 2003 - Four armed men attacked Catholic church during Mass. Two people were killed and six wounded. *ZENIT, 20/1/2003*
- November 2002 - Bishop Jorge Enrique Jimenez, President of Latin American Episcopal Conference, kidnapped (near) Bogota. *CSW, 12/11/2002*
- September 2002 - Two Catholic priests were murdered on the same day - a vicar of the Armenia Diocese and a priest in Chalan (400 miles north-west of Bogota). According to Zenit, 47 Priests and two Bishops have been murdered in the last 18 years. *Voice of the Martyrs, 25/09/2002*
- September 2002 - Two Roman Catholic priests murdered in Medellin. *Compass, 11/10/2002*
- September 2002 - 13 Ministers murdered in five months. *Offene Grenze, 27/9/2002*
- August 2002 - At least four evangelical pastors killed in San Vicente del Caguán since February including Rev Adelmo Cabrera Polanco and his son, Luis Carlos. *Compass, 9/8/2002*
- April 2002 - A priest was shot whilst celebrating Mass in a Catholic church in the southern village of La Argentina. A layman was also killed in the attack. *Zenit, 7/04/2002*
- April 2002 - At least four evangelical pastors have died violently during the fighting between FARC and Auto-Defensa Union of Colombia (AUC). Angel Pinto, pastor of the Church of God in Puerto Asís for 14 years, survived death threats and kidnapping by trying to remain neutral. *Compass, 19/4/2002*
- April 2002 - Father Juan Ramon Nuñez was murdered in Huila. *John Mark Ministries, 10/4/2002*
- April 2002 - Juan Carlos Villegas, an Associate Church Pastor, kidnapped. *Compass, 13/5/2002*
- March 2002 - Gunmen, allegedly working for Cali drug traffickers, assassinated Roman Catholic Archbishop Isaías Duarte Cancino at the door of a church at a wedding. The National Prosecutor General voiced his suspicion that local guerrilla cells may have allied themselves with drug traffickers to murder the Archbishop, who was known as an earnest peacemaker and champion for human rights. *CSW, 18/3/2002; Compass, 19/4/2002*
- March 2002 - According to estimates, since 1998 at least 27 Roman Catholic priests and 60 evangelical ministers have died at the hands of assassins. *Compass, 19/4/2002*
- February 2002 - Hector Peña, pastor of the United Pentecostal Church of San Vicente de Caguán, killed. Bernardo Urrego Osorio of San Vicente Christian and Missionary Alliance Church shot dead. *Compass, 15/3/2002*
- September 2001 - Three American missionaries captured by FARC revolutionaries in 1993 officially declared dead. *CSW 25/9/2001*
- August 2001 - Pastor Hernández Gutiérrez was shot dead as he was leaving Genesis Christian Church. *Compass, 21/9/2001*
- March 2001 - Onofre Hernández Benitez, Pastor of the Panamericana Evangelical Church in Arauca, was shot dead in front of his family. *Compass, 21/4/2001*

- 2001 - Since October, around 20,000 Christians have been forced from their homes in the Montes de María and Sucre regions. Recently, violence forced 10 church congregations to leave surrounding towns and settle as refugees in cities. *Compass, 23/3/2001*
- December 2000 - Sisinio Bernal, a US Minister from Kansas, was shot in Medellin (North West of Bogota). *Compass, 21/1/2000*
- May 2000 - Jorge Aldana, 28, an evangelical minister, was shot dead the day after Easter. *Compass, 19/5/2000*
- March 2000 - The civil war between the Government, rebel guerrillas, and right wing death squads - financed on all sides by the drug trade - has caused between 1-2,000,000 refugees, an estimated 10% of whom are Christians. Some young children have been kidnapped. *Compass, 17/3/2000*
- January 2000 - Two Pentecostal pastors killed. A pastor of the Nazarene Church in Bogotá kidnapped. *Compass, 18/2/2000*

Comoros Islands

Since Islam became the State religion in 2009, the penal code expressly prohibits conversion from Islam, and converts can be prosecuted in court. Christians are prohibited from sharing their faith or for openly distributing Bibles. *Barnabas Report for 2010: Open Doors Handbook 2013*

There has been a rise in sympathy for Islamic extremism, causing fear amongst Christians. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p30*

- October 2008 - House rented for law student Musa Kim to hide in whilst his wounds healed razed. When he converted to Christianity nine months earlier, his family beat him and burned his clothes. "Reporting this to the police will get you into more trouble" he said. *Compass Direct 8/12/2008*
- August 2008 - When Sheikh Hijah Mohammed, leader of a key Mosque in Chake-Chake in Pemba, became a Christian he was forced into hiding and immediately hunted by zealous Muslims. *Compass Direct, 8/12/2008*
- July 2008 - A Christian (25) who was suspected of having converted to Christianity had his passport confiscated at the airport, preventing his theological studies in Tanzania. *Compass Direct, 8/12/2008*
- May 2006 - Four men each sentenced to three months' imprisonment for 'Involvement with Christianity.' *Compass Direct, 8/12/2008*
- January 2000 - Taki Isalm (22) and Hassan Ali Toibibou now granted provisional release from prison, having been convicted of possession of multiple copies of the Jesus film (in Shimaore, the local language), anti-Islamic activity, and therefore disturbing the peace. *World Watch Monitor, 18/2/2000*

Croatia

- October 2012 - For 20 years Croatia's national radio station HRT has, through an agreement with the Bishop's Conference, broadcast a five minute programme *Praise be Jesus Christ*. This programme has been ended by HRT without warning or explanation. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 26/10/2012*
- March 2011 - A Catholic catechism teacher at a Zagreb Primary School was accused by a gay and lesbian association of homophobia for staying in line with Catholic Church teaching during catechism lessons. This caused uproar in Croatian society, and at a peaceful demonstration people wore stickers over their mouths to demonstrate Christians being silenced by Court proceedings. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 7/3/2011*

Cuba

There has been a massive rise in reported persecution cases and physical attacks on pastors, including multiple attacks and severe brutality: more than 100 this year to date compared to 28 last year. *CSW Appeal Letter, Sep 2012*

Christian children face being expelled from school because of their faith, and, for many, daily lives consist of ridicule and harassment from the authorities. *CSW Prayer Diary, Spring/Summer 2013*

- October 2013 - State Security and Communist Party officials are attempting to forcibly confiscate a property in Camaguey which serves as the national headquarters of one of the largest Christian networks on the island. It is also a house church. Documents presented in court confirm that the property, which is also home to one of the network's national leaders, was legally transferred to the present incumbent, Pastor Yiorvis Bravo Denis who, with his family and several church members, has been subjected to continued harassment by violent and abusive mobs who surround the property to intimidate the inhabitants with slogans and curses. The First Secretary of the Cuban Communist Party has instructed journalists to print defamatory pieces referring to the church leaders as 'Not pastors but common criminals'. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide, 25/10/2013*

Evidence (17)

- February 2013 – There has been a sharp increase in incidents of religious persecution in Cuba. The Full Gospel Church in Cotorro, Havana Province, is believed to have been targeted because of its rapid expansion, and the Pastor and his teenage son were threatened at their home in the middle of the night by a mob wielding sticks and baseball bats. A week later the Church was shut down by State Security Agents, and all its belongings seized. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p5*
- 2012 - Although Christians make up a significant proportion of the population, they face devastating discrimination. They are often denied job opportunities and their children may be required to renounce Christ at School. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013 p14*
- September 2012 - Cuban authorities have put heavy pressure on religious leaders to expel and shun any Christians involved with human rights activities. Pastor Mario Felix of Taguayabon Baptist Church, Villa Clara, has been arrested & imprisoned many times and is now subjected to a very ugly personal campaign and threats of beatings by government officials because of his pro-democracy and human rights work. *CSW Appeal Letter, Sep 2012*
- June 2012 - Christians are routinely attacked and harassed by the Government. Between January and June 2012, Caridad was detained almost every time she tried to go to church. She made it to Mass on just two occasions. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide, 23/10/2012*
- May 2012 - Christian lay leaders who have spoken out in favour of religious freedom report having loud music played outside their homes day and night, and vandalism of their property. *Cuba: Religious Freedom Report CSW May 2012*
- May 2012 - Christians face regular beatings from security officials and their thugs for which no one is held accountable. As victims are all leaders in smaller denominations or independent churches, they do not have an organised network for support. *Cuba: Religious Freedom Report CSW May 2012*
- May 2012 - When Reutilio Columbie, leader of a Pentecostal congregation in the eastern Moa region, protested against the illegal confiscation of a church-owned vehicle by Communist Party staff, he was beaten up and left for dead. Passers by arranged emergency medical help, but he has long-term brain damage. *Christianophobia: Rupert Shortt 2012, p246*
- March 2012 - Pastors have been arrested, beaten, fined and threatened, and Christian human rights activists physically stopped from attending church by being placed in solitary confinement on Sundays, in a crackdown by the authorities. *Barnabas News 16/3/2012; Christianophobia: Rupert Shortt 2012, p247*
- March 2012 - Hundreds of Christians were rounded up prior to the visit to Cuba of Pope Benedict and placed under house arrest or in prison to stop them taking part in any of the papal itinerary. This was under the policy of the Office of Religious Affairs of the Cuban Communist Party. *Christianophobia: Rupert Shortt 2012, p246*
- March 2012 - Caridad Caballero Batista and her husband Ezteban Sade Suarez were detained on their way to church, and held in a mosquito-infested cell by the authorities. Since the start of the year, they and others have been blocked, arrested, and sometimes violently prevented from attending Christian worship and activities. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*
- February 2012 - In Havana, a pastor has faced threats of violence because of his congregation's outreach to people on the margins of society. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p6*
- February 2012 - In recent years the Government, possibly to deflect international attention, has changed tactics from overt persecution – such as long prison terms and destruction of churches – to short-term detentions and more harassment of pastors. One pastor, Homero Carbonell, reported that he and his church had come under severe duress after he refused to expel families of political prisoners from the church. *Barnabas Fund: Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2012 p14*
- February 2012 - Four church leaders were detained in Bayamo while sharing the Gospel at the local bus station. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*
- November 2011 - Pastor Mario Barroso was arrested as he left his home for his teaching job at a seminary. *CSW Prayer Diary, Nov/Dec 2011*
- November 2011 - Pastor Omar Gude Perez and his family have been refused exit visas even though they were granted asylum in the USA. Other pastors have been put on house arrest, cited by Government officials, and threatened with imprisonment. *International Christian Concern 11/11/2011 Note* Pastor Omar and family have now been allowed to leave Cuba for USA. *CSW Prayer Diary Spring 2013*
- July 2011 - A Baptist pastor, his wife, and 21 others were arrested as they showed support for another pastor who was jailed for religious activities. *CSW weekly newsletter 1/7/2011*
- May 2011 - Three pastors have been detained and interrogated by Government forces. *CSW Relay weekly newsletter 13/5/2011*
- 2011 - Religious groups complain about widespread surveillance and infiltration by State security agents. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- September 2010 - Rev. Rodriguez and his family are facing intense persecution for their faith. Pastor Omar Gude Perez remains in prison for his faith. *CSW Prayer Diary, Sep/Oct 2010*
- August 2009 - Giliyanys Meneses delos Rios, a Christian, was put on trial for 'disturbing the public order' after she herself had been attacked in the street. *Relay - CSW Newsletter, 28/8/2009*
- July 2009 - Pastor Omar Gude Perez sentenced to six years in prison – falsely charged due to his leadership role in a fast growing Christian organisation in Lamaguay. *CSW Weekly email, 17/7/2009 [Note: Although Pastor Perez was released in 2011, his activities were strictly curtailed and his application to move to the United States was initially refused.]*
- January 2009 - Rev. Roberto Rodriguez is on trial for his faith. *CSW (Amy Greenfield), 12/1/2009*
- July 2008 - Methodist pastor Adalberto Ramirez, in Pilon, Granma Province, reported that the authorities had ordered him to disband his congregation of 150 & threatened to confiscate his church. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p245*
- July 2008 - Pastor Yogli Gonzalez Perez of the Pentecostal Congregational Church in Santiago de Cuba evicted from his house, and together with personal family items, was confiscated. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p245*
- May 2008 - Christian prisoners of conscience, Oscar Biscet Gongalez, Normando Hernandez Gonzalez, Victor Rolando Arroyo Carmona, Alfredo Rodolfo Batista & Dr. Jose Luis Garcia Paneque are held in solitary confinement cells without light. *CSW Response Issue 152, May/Jun 2008*
- September 2007 - Dr. Garcia Paneque, a devout Roman Catholic and supporter of human rights, sentenced to 24 years' imprisonment in April 2003, is now severely ill in hospital. Doctors have recommended emergency surgery on a cyst found on his kidneys. *CSW Response Issue 148, Sep/Oct 2007*
- May 2007 - Secret police threatened four pastors with 25-50 years imprisonment if they continued to accept financial assistance from international ministries around the world. They were forced to sign documents renouncing the help. *VOM USA, 22/8/2007*
- May 2007 - Pastor Carlos Lamdas was summoned to court on a ploy to send him back to prison. *VOM USA 17/5/2007*
- January 2007 - Pastor Rev. Carlos Lamelas, who spoke out for religious freedom, was imprisoned for four months without charge. *VOM - USA 24/1/07; CSW/Response Issue 145, Mar/Apr 2007.*
- 2006 – Although Government attitudes towards the church have softened very slightly, especially following the visit of Pope John Paul II in 1998, it is still extremely difficult to get permission to repair places of worship or to build new ones to meet the needs of growing congregations. Restrictions on new priests and religious entering Cuba still present difficulties, as does access to the media. The state still refuses to hand back church buildings nationalised in the 1960s. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06, Aid to the Church in Need, 2006 p27*
- October 2003 - Political detainees are not permitted to read their Bibles. Ricardo Gonzales Alonso, sentenced to 20 years, was mistreated for reading his Bible. *Christian Monitor News, 3/10/2003*
- October 2003 - Juan Carlos Gonzalez Leiva, a blind Christian, spent nearly two years in prison before being put on trial for 'public disorder' offences, with the Government requesting a six-year prison sentence. *CSW, 30/10/2003*
- November 2002 - Dr Oscar Biscet, a Catholic pro-life human rights activist has been re-arrested following release after three years in prison for condemning the Cuban system of free abortion. His re-arrest came after he and 11 others wanted to protest again. *Catholic World News, 4/11/2002 and 9/12/2002*
- July 2002 - An attorney and Christian Human Rights Activist has been incarcerated and tortured in Holguin in eastern Cuba. The activist, who is blind, has been held for four months, and refused adequate medical treatment and access to his Braille Bible. *Humanrights3445@yahoo.com 6/07/2002*

Cyprus (North)

- September 2012 - The Archbishop of the Cyprian Church reported, at a meeting at Rimini, that approximately 120 churches have now been profaned by being converted into storage rooms, museums and mosques, and their art treasures confiscated and sold. The Archbishop opined that the Turkish Government was trying to wipe out Christianity from that part of the island, and Christians are suffering restrictions of religious freedom and personal attacks. *Zenit.org, 22/8/2012*
- March 2012 - Bishop of Karpasia and Metropolitan of Morfou planned to visit St Mamas Church in North Cyprus, but the bishop was denied entry to the occupied area without explanation. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 14/3/2012*

Evidence (18)

- May 2011 - "Local Turkish Cypriot authorities have generally failed to take adequate measures to protect religious places of worship", said USCRIF Chair, Leonard Leo. The 200 year old Chapel of St Thakla in Vokolida was demolished, allegedly by accident. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 26/5/2011*
- December 2010 - On Christmas Day, in Rizokarpaso, security forces entered the church during worship, forced Christians out of the church and locked it up. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2011*
- December 2010 - The church in Yaloussa village was prevented by security forces from holding Christmas services. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2011*
- September 2010 - USCRIF Report into violations of Christian heritage in Northern Cyprus since the 1974 Turkish invasion has identified the disappearance of 15,000 icons of saints, innumerable sacred liturgical vessels, gospels, and many objects of value. Several cemeteries have been purposely destroyed, and owners not allowed to visit family graves. One church has been converted into a hotel (Ayio Anastasia in Lapithos), and at least three monasteries are now barracks for the Turkish Army. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, Sep 2010*
- August 2004 - A bomb exploded before dawn inside St Mamas Greek Orthodox Church in Nicosia, causing damage but no injuries. Since 1974, when the Turkish army invaded the north of the island, 68 churches have been destroyed or converted into mosques, including the Cathedral of St Nicholas in Famagosta. *Report 2005 on Religious Freedom, Aid to the Church in Need*

Czech Republic

- November 2012 - The 'Churches Property Restoration Bill', which would return Churches and Jewish property confiscated during the Communist era 'or pay' compensation - over a 30-year period - where return is no longer 'possible', is aggressively resisted by the Social Democrat Party, who describe the Bill as 'scandalous'. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 29/11/2012*
- November 2007 - A group of senators submitted a proposed amendment to a 2005 law which would have obliged churches to obtain State permission to establish spiritual institutions, charities, schools and medical facilities. The Constitutional Court has dismissed the proposal. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 14/11/2007*

Democratic Republic of Congo

Up to 4 million people have died here as a result of the recent 5-year civil war – more than in any conflict since the Second World War. Around 2 million (including 400,000 children) have been made homeless and are forced to live in camps. Recent violence has displaced 250,000 people. *Tearfund Prayer Diary, Spring 2009 & Tearfulness, Summer 2009*

The UN estimates over 200,000 women and children have been raped in the 12 years of fighting between Government forces and rebels. *Prayer Digest, 28/2/2011*

- December 2012 - A new Islamic rebel group called 'M23' has been plundering and destroying villages, forcibly recruiting boys, and raping women. Thousands of Christians in East DRC are in urgent need of food and shelter after escaping from them. *Barnabas Persecution Updated, 6/12/2012*
- July 2011 - In the Fizi region, pastors have had their houses burned and seen their wives and daughters raped by rebel militias. *Barnabas Prayer, July/August 2011*
- 2011 - Chepka was forced to see her husband being murdered before being brutally raped by his killers. *Tearfund, Summer 2011*
- November 2010 – As Fr Christian Mbusa Bakulene and a church worker were returning to their village on a motorbike they were stopped by two men in military uniform. One of the 'soldiers' asked 'which of you is the priest?' The gunmen then took money, before firing shots and killing Fr Bakulene. *Zemil 15/11/2010*
- December 2009 - Fr Daniel Cizimya Nakamaga (51) was shot in the head when gunmen broke into his presbytery in Kabare, Bukavu. Less than 48 hours later, attackers struck at a nearby monastery, killing Sister Denise Kahambu. *ACN News 8/12/2010*
- May 2009 - Muslim extremists are very active in areas of the country where even Christian pastors do not have a Bible. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2009*
- May 2009 - Nearly 100 people died, including 25 children, in attacks in Busurungi, North Kivu, targeting several churches and schools, as well as 700 homes and three health centres. *US State Department 'International Religious Freedom Report 2009: Democratic Republic of the Congo, 3/11/2010*
- January 2009 - The Lord's Resistance Army torched a church near the Sudanese border: the church was crowded with worshippers at the time, who were prevented from escaping. *BBC News (web) 19/1/2009*
- April/June 2008 - Many Christians are being killed in the ongoing civil war *Pray for Africa, Apr-Jun 2008*
- March 2008 - Human rights lawyer Marie Therese Niandu (a Christian mother of four) has been imprisoned in extremely unsanitary conditions in Kinshasa for 'crimes against the State'. There is a great risk that she will be tortured. Reports say she has been treated for a severe lung infection and may have suffered a heart attack. *CSW Response Issue 145, Mar-Apr 2007*
- May 2006 - Pastors Timothee Bupete, Fernando Kutino and Junior Nganda, arrested after appearing on a radio station for criticising the transitional Government, were, after a brief trial, sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. *CSW Response, Mar/Apr 2008*
- July 2003 - 11 workers of an English Christian organisation in Kinshasa murdered by rebels. *CWNews, 8/8/2003*
- January 2003 - 30 Catholic missionaries fled after rebels plundered mission stations. *Katholiek Nieuwsblad, 17/1/2003*
- July 2011 - Muslim radicalism is on the increase, and reports say that certain neighbourhoods and schools are no longer safe for Christians because of Muslim violence. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- June 2011 - Danish MP Naser Khader – born a Muslim in Syria – has received death threats by Facebook and telephone since he criticised the Syrian President and declared he was considering converting to Christianity. Threats included being 'cut into pieces' and 'trampled to death'. *Jihad Watch, 17/6/2011*
- January 2011 - Albanian member of the Church of Love in Vollsmose beaten by fellow countryman for wearing a cross around his neck. *Kristeligt Dagble, 12/1/2011*
- January 2011 - Massoud Fourouzandeh, Iranian-born leader and priest at the Church of Love in Vollsmose, has had to move his wife and family after their two cars were smashed and burned for having a cross hanging inside. Most people at the Church are former Muslims. *Kristeligt Dagbled, 12/1/2011*
- December 2013 - No-one has yet been charged regarding the deaths of five Christians following the attack on the Christian community in al-Khosous in April 2013, but three Christians have received sentences of 15 to 25 years for the death of one Muslim. *Barnabas Fund 17/12/2013*
- November 2013 - A group of Islamists marched on a church in Cairo shouting anti-Christian slogans immediately after Friday prayers at a nearby mosque. They tore down a banner and daubed the façade with insulting graffiti. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 29/11/2013*
- October 2013 - Masked motor-cyclists fired at people leaving a wedding at a Cairo church. Four family members killed, including Ashraf Messeiha (8) and Mariam Nabil Fahmy (12), and other children are amongst the injured. Two more girls missing. Five men arrested, one belonging to a terrorist organisation and four to the Muslim Brotherhood. *Barnabas Fund 23/10/2013*
- September 2013 - When Christian Hany Sedhom was kidnapped, his face was slashed as he was dragged out of his car before he was driven into the desert. For 48 hours he was beaten, threatened, and denied food and clean water. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 29/11/2013*
- August 2013 - Islamists broke into a Christian school in Bani Seuf, looted the contents, and replaced the cross on the gate with an al-Qaeda-style flag before torching the buildings. As two female workers fought through the mob to escape, they were sexually assaulted, and three nuns were paraded along the streets 'like prisoners of war'. *Barnabas Fund 22/8/2013*
- August 2013 - When soldiers and police broke up two pro-Morsi protest camps in Cairo, groups of armed men across the country attacked at least 42 churches and dozens of police stations. All the main mosques in Delga, a remote town in Minya Province, called for *jihad* against 'Christian infidels'. *Guardian 16/9/2013*
- August 2013 - Christian lawyer Samir Lamei Sakir's shopkeeper cousin Iskandar was attacked and killed in his own shop in Delga. His body was then dragged round the town behind a tractor before being rescued and buried by some of his Muslim friends, but a mob disinterred him and dragged him round the town again. *Guardian 16/9/2013*
- August 2013 - Following the deposition of President Morsi in July, the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters scapegoated the Christian community. In Minya, Christian properties were marked with a black X to identify them for attack whilst Muslim properties were given a red X for protection. *Barnabas Fund 22/8/2013*

Denmark

Egypt

Under Egyptian law, Muslims are not allowed to change their religious identities to another faith, although Christians are free to convert officially to Islam. *Compass, 15/12/2003*

Egyptian law also requires Christians to obtain special permission to build or even do minor repairs on their churches, and regularly ignites confrontations between the Muslim majority and the minority Coptic community. *Compass, 18/8/2000*

Evidence (19)

- August 2013 - *'At Luxor, and the villages around, we still have lots of problems; some churches took fire, some homes and shops belonging to Christians were destroyed, and six persons – one Muslim and five Christians – were killed at Dabbiah village. Last Friday the Islamists were around the church and the Bishop's house and they tried to enter and burn them.'* Bishop Zakaria, *writing to Aid to the Church in Need, quoted in appeal letter Oct 2013*
- August 2013 - The plight of many Christians, large numbers of whom are amongst the poorest citizens, has worsened considerably during the last year as the economy has worsened and a State of Emergency has been declared. Churches have stopped holding services. Many Christians are afraid to leave their homes and their children are afraid to play outside for fear of being kidnapped. *Barnabas Fund 22/8/2013*
- August 2013 - At least 58 Christian churches, schools, institutions, homes and shops have been attacked, looted and torched over three days by the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of Mohammad Morsi, the former President who was deposed in July. In addition, 85 shops, 16 pharmacies, 58 houses, 3 hotels and 75 buses and vehicles owned by Christians have been burned, seven Christians killed, 17 kidnapped, and hundreds injured. *AsiaNews.it 17/8/2013*
- July 2013 - Armed crowds in Delga scared away its meagre police force following the overthrow of President Morsi. They then unleashed a campaign of terror on the Coptic Christian minority, including the torching and looting of three of the town's five churches. Christians were afraid to leave their homes, even to go to work. Graffiti on one church wall said the Coptic Pope was 'a dog'. *Guardian 16/9/2013*
- July 2013 - Church minister Mina Aboud Sharween shot dead by Islamists in Sheikh Zuweid. *Barnabas Prayer Update 6/8/2013*
- July 2013 - Magdy Habashi, a Christian shopkeeper, was found beheaded five days after he was kidnapped. Death threats caused more than 100 families to flee their homes in North Sinai. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 202, Aug 2013*
- April 2013 - A Christian man, Mahrous Hanna Ibrahim, was killed and 84 people injured when a funeral procession at St Mark's Cathedral was attacked by a mob throwing stones and petrol bombs. Explosives were thrown at the Cathedral, which caught fire, and adjacent houses were set alight. Police fired tear gas at the mourners, and arrested four of them – but no instigators have been held accountable. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p14*
- April 2013 - Muslims unjustly accused Christians of defacing an Islamic building in al-Khosous, north of Cairo, with graffiti of a swastika. Five Christians were killed, and a church and Christian kindergarten were torched. A sixth man was killed in a fresh outbreak two days later. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p14*
- March 2013 - A Coptic church in Wasta, Beni Suef, has been repeatedly attacked over the alleged conversion of a Muslim girl, Rana el-Shazi, to Christianity. The church has denied this completely, and confirmed they have no relationship with the girl, nor do they engage in or encourage forced conversions. Islamic groups distributed leaflets demanding the church return the girl or face 'consequences'. They have thrown Molotov cocktails at the church, and forced Christians to close their shops. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p7*
- March 2013 - Christians were among those rounded up and abused when a Cairo mosque was turned into a torture chamber following protests in Cairo against the government. Christian Amir Ayad was left for dead at the side of the road after being severely beaten. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p14 & Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2013 p3*
- February 2013 - A church in Kom Ombo, Upper Egypt, attacked for several days over an unfounded rumour that a Muslim woman had converted to Christianity. 12 Christians were injured. When she returned to her family after a week, a local sheikh explained to villagers that *'the devil manipulates people's minds – she was curious'* and went on *'we will get to (people who encourage others to convert to Christianity) and hold them to account.'* *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p3 & Ahrum Online 9/3/2013*
- February 2013 - Two Christians, Maikel Adel Naguib Farag and Maikel Mossad Shaker, jailed for three years on very flimsy evidence of stealing a machine gun at the 'Maspero Massacre' in October 2011 when the military attacked a peaceful protest by Christians. Three soldiers were convicted of involuntary manslaughter of 14 protestors, but nobody has been held responsible for other deaths. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p3*
- February 2013 - Salafists in Sarsena claimed that St George's Church was an 'unlawful neighbour' to Muslims. The Church was set ablaze, and then the following evening, while a so-called 'reconciliation' meeting was taking place, Muslims threw Molotov cocktails and stones at the building. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p3*
- January 2013 - Over 500 Christian girls have been kidnapped by Muslims since the revolution of January 2011, and married, against their will, to Muslim men. A Christian NGO (The Assoc of Victims of Abduction and Enforced Disappearance) has documented each case, and says that Salafist sheiks, who are in collusion with the Interior Ministry, are behind almost all the abductions. *Barnabas Persecution Updated, 14/2/2013*
- December 2012 - Since the Arab Spring uprising, there has been a marked increase in the number of Christian girls and women who have been abducted, forcibly married and forcibly 'converted' to Islam – hundreds of victims have now been involved. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- December 2012 - Some of the new members of the National Council for Human Rights are opposed to human rights for Christians and women. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- December 2012 - Since the new Islamist-backed constitution was signed into law this month, the Government has been unable to impose necessary law and order, to the detriment of protection of Christians. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- December 2012 - Nadia Mohammed Ali and her seven children were all sentenced to 15 years in jail at a criminal Court in Benki Suef after converting to Christianity. Seven others were sentenced to five years in jail. *Mail online 17/1/2013*
- December 2012 - Christians Ephrem Marzouk (24) and his father, Ibrahim (61) were killed by a Muslim gang in Deir Mawas. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 194, Dec 2012*
- December 2012 - The Final Draft of the new constitution was rushed through the overwhelming Islamist Assembly, with objections being ruthlessly stamped down: Christians and liberals had previously withdrawn from the process, complaining that Islamists were hijacking it. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- November 2012 - Salafist Muslims forcibly invaded church land in Shubra al-Kheima, Cairo, on which a church was planned. They put a sign 'Al-Ramah Mosque' and performed Islamic prayers for 24 hours. Court later ruled Salafists must leave, and legal measures be taken to stop the building of a Mosque. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2012 - Two members of a Christian family shot dead as a notorious Muslim gang-leader tried to kidnap their female relative. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p15*
- October 2012 - Christians in Tala village, Beni Suef Governate, attacked by Salafist Muslims as they left a church service. The Muslims were angry that 10 Christians from neighbouring villages, which have no church buildings, came to Tala to worship. Five Christians hospitalised with broken limbs, and two cars from neighbouring villages torched. Muslims then went to Christian homes, and five more residents hospitalised. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- September 2012 - Two Christian boys, Nabil Farag and Mina Risq, aged 9 & 10, accused of blasphemy under a new law being used against minors notwithstanding that they are illiterate and therefore not able to identify Quranic text. They were accused of tearing up and urinating on pages of the Quran in the village of Ezbat Marco. (Note: In February 2013 they were found guilty, but were remanded into custody of their parents instead of being punished). *Barnabas Fund, 12/10/2012 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p15*
- September 2012 - Christian Bishop Kamel from Sohag Province claims he is innocent of insulting the Egyptian President and Mohammed, but was sentenced to six years prison. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- August 2012 - Opponents of President Mohammad Morsi were executed by the Muslim Brotherhood in front of the Presidential Palace by crucifixion – as allegedly mandated by the Quran. It is feared the next victims could be Christians, as Government propaganda has been encouraging Muslims to kill Coptic Christians, and promising rewards. *International Christian Concern, 24/8/2012*
- Summer 2012 - Leaflets from militant Muslim organisations called on *'all brothers and sisters'* to *'kill or physically attack enemies of the religion of Allah – the Christians in all Egypt, the slaves of the Cross.'* They promised money for whoever helps to *'achieve Allah's rights against his enemies.'* *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p15*
- May 2012 - A Salafist attack on three Coptic Orthodox churches in Cairo suburb Imbaba left up to 15 people dead and more than 230 injured. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- April 2012 - An investigation into the massacre of 27 Christians during a protest in Cairo closed, supposedly for lack of evidence; no-one convicted. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p15*
- April 2012 - The Coptic Church announced its withdrawal from a panel charged with drafting Egypt's new constitution. Church representatives said it was 'pointless', declaring that Christians were unable to exert any influence. *The Christian Post 4/4/2012*
- March 2012 - Pastor Rev. Makarios Boulos was sentenced to six months in jail over 'the building's excess height', when he was forced to rebuild his church after it had been destroyed by a Muslim mob. No one has been prosecuted for attacking the church in the first place. *Barnabas News 16/3/2012; Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 & Open Doors Prayer Diary Mar 2012*
- March 2012 - The death of Coptic Orthodox Pope Shenouda III increased fears among Copts of worsening Islamic persecution. *Independent 19/3/2012*

Evidence (20)

- February 2012 - A Christian teacher, Makrem Diab, was sentenced to six years' imprisonment by a Court in Assiut, having been found guilty of insulting Muslim Prophet Mohammad. The case was brought by a colleague who overheard a heated discussion between Mr Diab and another teacher. In his first appeal, a mob prevented his lawyers entering court. *Middle East Concern, 20/04/2012*
- February 2012 - Muslims in Kobry-el-Sharbat in Alexandria were enraged by a rumour that a Christian man had taken illicit images of a Muslim woman, and secured an eviction from the village of eight Christian families and burned their homes – even though there was apparently no evidence. (Note – A Parliamentary Commission subsequently reversed the decision.) *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2012 p15*
- February 2012 – Building contractor Moawad and his son Assad, an engineer, were shot dead at their home in Nag Hammadi when they refused to pay extortion money demanded by a known Muslim racketeer who has a record of kidnapping Christians for ransom. No police action. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2012*
- January 2012 - One year after the bombing of Saints Church in Alexandria, when 21 people were killed and many more wounded, no inroads have been made by the investigation. *International Christian Concern, 8/1/2012*
- January 2012 - A mob of extremists attacked Coptic Christians in Kebly-Rahmaniya village. Chanting 'Allahu Akbar', they burned down businesses, houses, huts, and shops. The village now has 300 mosques but only one Christian church, even though Christians are 50% of the population. *Asia News, 21/1/2012*
- 2011 - According to the Salafist website *Guardians of the Faith*, in an article 'Why Muslims are superior to Copts' "Being a Muslim girl whose role models are the wives of the Prophet ... is better than being a Christian girl whose role models are whores" and "Being a Muslim who fights to defend his honour and his faith is better than being a Christian who steals, rapes, and kills children (and) whose role models are Paul the Liar (sic) and the warmongering prophets". *Alaa al-Aswany, On the State of Egypt: What Caused the Revolution, Canongate, 2011*
- Winter 2011 - 'The Salafists' attitude to Christians is to say they can get their passport to go to USA, France, UK or somewhere else in the West" - Fr Antoine Greiche, Official Spokesman for the Catholic Church. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012 p30*
- December 2011 - Gamal Massoud's home was attacked after cartoons satirising the Prophet Mohammad appeared on his Facebook page. Massoud, a Coptic Christian, said that fellow students were responsible for the images - however, five other Christian homes were set alight and several Christians were injured. *Associated Press 31/12/2011* (He was later sentenced to three years jail. *Reuters 4/4/2012*)
- December 2011 - Between August and December, 11 Christian children were seized in a series of kidnappings in Nag Hammadi. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012*
- November 2011 - Radical Muslims are violently killing and terrorising Coptic Christians. For the first time in many years, churches are being systematically burned and destroyed. The media are urging the Muslim majority to stop buying goods from Coptic Christian merchants. *International Christian Concern, 11/11/2011*
- Autumn 2011 - According to the Egyptian Union of Human Rights, within six months of President Mubarak's downfall – and the succession by the Salafists and Muslim Brotherhood, and attacks on Christians – 100,000 Christians had emigrated. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012 p30*
- October 2011 - Many Coptic Christians observe their Church's tradition by having a cross tattoo on their wrist. When Auman Nabil Labib (17) was told by his teacher to cover his cross, he refused and showed the cross he wore under his shirt. His teacher flew into a rage and, with some of the other pupils, beat Ayman to death. The media reported the incident in Mallawi, Minya, as an accident with no sectarian implications. Only following the intervention of the Governor of Minya was an investigation set up. *Assyrian International News Agency website, 30/10/2011*
- October 2011 - A peaceful protest march by Christians supported by Muslims in Maspero Square, Cairo, came under brutal attack from the military as they ran over protestors with riot-control vehicles. Video footage shows protestors shot at, beaten and dragged through the streets. At least 25 killed and several hundreds injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 1/11/2011 & Open Doors Prayer Diary Apr 2012*
- September 2011 - A Muslim mob looted and destroyed seven Christian homes in Sohag to prevent the building of a church. *Release International Issue 63 Sep/Oct 2011*
- September 2011 - A mob of 3,000 Muslims attacked the Mar Gerges Church in Elmarenab village, Aswan. The church (and homes of local Christians) were set on fire after officially approved church renovations led to local tensions. *International Christian Concern, 5/10/2011; CSW Prayer Diary Nov/Dec 2011*
- September 2011 - Pastor Gorgy Thaber of St. George's Church in Beni-Ahmed al-Gharbiya village has received death threats because he planned to extend the church. *Release International Issue 63, Sep/Oct 2011*
- Summer 2011 - There have been death threats against women, including Christians, for refusing to wear a head veil; others have been forced out of their jobs and refused employment for being Christian. *Egypt – Faith in a Time of Turmoil: ACN Report, Summer 2011*
- August 2011 - Coptic Christian, Nabila Sedky (15) from Zawya el Hamra in Cairo, was abducted by a Muslim man on her way to school with the intention to force her to convert to Islam and marry him when she came of age. Six months later she appeared in a recording on an Islamist website, looking,
- August 2011 - Two Christians were killed and two others seriously injured when a group of Muslims shot at their vehicle in Nazlet Roman. *Hope & Aid for the Persecuted Church 24/8/2011*
- June 2011 - Thousands of Muslims shouting 'Allahu Akbar' attacked the Christian port of Western Kolosna in Minya (which is 75% Christian), looting and torching Christian homes and businesses. The trouble began when a Christian man tried to defend his wife who was being sexually harassed at a bus terminal. The Army and police arrived three hours after being contacted, but took no action. *AINA 1/7/2011 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 178, Aug 2011*
- June 2011 - In Awlad Khalaf village, Upper Egypt, a mob of 200 Muslims burned eight Christian homes. *Barnabas Prayer Sep/Oct 2011 & Dec 2011*
- May 2011 - Coptic Christians were attacked in their church in Cairo. 15 were killed and at least 60 more were injured. *Prayer Digest 16/5/2011 & ACN Night of Witness, May 2012*
- May 2011 - Youseef Abdullah, a lawyer speaking at the Maspero sit-in outside the State TV HQ in Cairo, asserted 'These [assaults on Christians] are not spontaneous, as some describe them. [They are] planned, serial attacks on Copts.' Fr Matthias Mancrious emphasised 'It is only the Salafists who embrace violence.' *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p 24*
- May 2011 - The Virgin Coptic Orthodox Church in the Cairo district of Imbaba was engulfed in flames when Salafist Muslims attacked Christians, killing 12 and injuring more than 200. Bishop Mina said '[Security Forces] will not stand up against people who do this sort of thing.' *Prayer Digest 16/5/2011 & ACN Night of Witness, May 2012 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- May 2011 – Slammed as a 'serious miscarriage of justice', a trial following an outbreak of sectarian violence in Minya in April in which two Muslims and two Christians were killed, ten Christians hospitalised, and scores of Christians' homes and businesses were looted and torched, sentenced 12 Christian men to life imprisonment while eight Muslims, jointly charged, were all acquitted. *Barnabas Prayer, September/October 2012 p5*
- April 2011 - Catholics interviewed in Luxor and other parts of Upper Egypt, spoke of widespread harassment and intolerance towards Christians, including death and injury threats to Christians who refuse to abandon their faith, death threats to women who refuse to wear a head veil, and refusals of employment to Christians. *Egypt – Faith in a Time of Turmoil: ACN Report, Summer 2011*
- March 2011 – Members of a large crowd crying 'Allahu Akbar' set fire to St Mina and St George Church in Sole. They were spurred on by a romance between a Christian man and a Muslim woman, whose father refused to restore family 'honour' by killing her. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p22*
- March 2011 - A nail bomb attack on a Coptic Christian church killed 23 and seriously wounded 80 others. *CSW Response, Mar/Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Anwar Mitri (45) secondary school administrator and Christian, had his right ear cut off by extremists who claimed it was legitimate punishment for breach of Sharia law. Not only had he refused to convert to Islam, but he had let a flat to a woman – who the Salafists claimed was a prostitute. *AINA 26/3/2011 & Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p22*
- March 2011 - Violent clashes broke out in Cairo when a Muslim mob attacked Christians who were protesting against the burning down of a church by Islamists: 13 people killed and 140 wounded. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2011 p2*
- February 2011 - Church leader Dawoud Botros has been stabbed to death at his home in Assiat. Following the overthrow of President Mubarak, attacks on Christians have increased. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 173, Mar 2011 & Prayer Digest, 28/2/2011*
- February 2011 - More than 20 worshippers killed and 70 injured when a car bomb exploded outside St Mark's Church in Alexandria. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p22*
- February 2011 - Egyptian armed forces stormed the 5th century St. Bnishoy Monastery in Wadiel-Natroun. Eight Christians were seriously wounded. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 173, Mar 2011 & Prayer Digest 28/2/2011*
- February 2011 - Ayman al-Zawahiri - soon to become leader of al-Qaeda after Osama bin Laden - described Coptic Christians as 'one of Egypt's main problems'. He also referred to Coptic Pope Shenouda III – who was renowned for his open-handed attitude towards Muslims, as a 'Zionist traitor'. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p 5*
- February 2011 - During the recent uprising and change of President, many Christians, including children, were attacked and killed. *Prayer Digest, 14/2/2011*
- February 2011 - Extremists broke into the home of a Coptic Christian family and abducted Nesma Sarwat (18), daughter of building contractor responsible for erecting SS Mary & Michael Church in Tabiya in Giza. 'Islam is the Solution' & 'The Church has to be demolished' slogans were written on walls of their home. *AINA, 19/02/2011*

Evidence (21)

- January 2011 - Two Christian families were massacred in their homes in Minya Province. 11 people including four children were killed and four others seriously injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 1/3/2011*
- January 2011 - At least 21 Christians were killed and 90 injured (including eight Muslims) on New Year's Day when a suicide bomber exploded a bomb outside the Two Saints Coptic Church in Alexandria. *BBC News and Media, Open Doors Letter, February 2011, CSW, 6/1/2011 & Barnabas Mar/Apr 2011,*
- November 2010 - Militants from al-Qaeda front 'Islamic State of Iraq' threatened to attack churches in Egypt saying "Wherever they can be reached ..we will open upon them the doors of destruction and rivers of blood". *CSW No Way Out Appeal Letter, Jan 2011*
- November 2010 - Three Coptic Christians were killed, hundreds injured, and 179 were arrested whilst protesting at the closure of their church in Tabiya by security forces, who used tear-gas and live ammunition. *AINA, 19/2/2011*
- November 2010 - In the farming village of Azeem in Samalout, Mynia Province, 1000 Christians live in subjugation and virtual slavery to the Muslim majority. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- July 2010 - Nagla al-Iman, a human rights lawyer and convert from Islam to Christianity, was arrested and tortured by security personnel. She has now been forced into hiding. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011 & Lent 2011*
- July 2010 - Maher-el-Gohary converted from Islam to Christianity 36 years ago when serving in the Egyptian Police Force. When he tried and failed to have the courts recognise his conversion on his ID Card, lawyers opposing his case advocated the death penalty for apostasy. His passport has been confiscated, and he was attacked by Islamic extremists who tried to behead him. He and his daughter have been forced into hiding. *Barnabas Prayer Update 166, Aug 2010 & Barnabas Aid, Sept/Oct 2010; CSW 'No Way Out' appeal, January 2011*
- June 2010 - Zeena Hom (19), a Christian lady, was kidnapped and subjected to great pressure to become a Muslim. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2010*
- 2010 - A study from the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR) found that in the two years between January 2008 and January 2010 there were more than 53 incidents of sectarian hostility and violence in 17 of Egypt's 29 Governorates. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2010*
- June 2010 - Of the 12 million Christians in Egypt, about 6 million live in poverty with scarcely enough to eat. They cannot obtain jobs and are constantly under pressure to convert to Islam. *Wilfred Wong (Maranatha) 30/6/2010*
- March 2010 - Up to 400 Christians were trapped inside their church in Marsa Matruih for 10 hours as a Muslim mob of 3,000 people surrounded and attacked the building. 23 Christians were badly injured. *Barnabas Prayer Update 162, Apr 2010*
- February 2010 - Muslims attacked a Christian couple, Zarih Elia and his wife, in the village of Sheikh Teloda, Samalout, in Upper Egypt. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2010*
- January 2010 - Three gunmen shot down six Christian worshippers and a security guard after evening Mass in the town of Nag Hammadi, 40 miles from Luxor. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 160, Feb 2010 & ACN Night of Witness, May 2012*
- November 2009 - A mob of up to 3,000 Muslims attacked Christian property in the town of Farshoot. Pharmacies and 55 Christian-owned shops and businesses were looted, and at least seven Christians severely injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated 158, Dec 2009 & Barnabas Aid, - Mar/Apr 2010*
- October 2009 - Muslims attacked a Church in Minya Province. Nearby Christian shops and cars were also targeted. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- September 2009 - A Muslim beheaded Abdo George Younan (63), a Christian, and injured two others. The authorities immediately sought to make excuses for the killer's actions. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- September 2009 - A death fatwa has been issued against Estfanos Shehata, a church minister, who wanted to convert a space in his family home for conducting weddings and funerals. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- September 2009 - A church in the town of Shebin-el-Korn has been gutted by fire. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- September 2009 - The homes of Coptic Christians in Meet El Korashji were set alight and plundered by a Muslim mob. *Release International Prayer Shield Sep/Oct 2009*
- September 2009 - Mohammed Hegazy, a Christian but raised as a Muslim - and therefore not allowed to 'change' his religion on his ID card - has, with his wife, been forced into hiding. *Release International Prayer Shield Sep/Oct 2009*
- September 2009 - When Egypt's Grand Mufti, Ali Gomaa, urged that apostasy lies beyond the scope of human judgement, and stated on 'Muslims Speak Out' (*Washington Post/Newsweek online forum*) that Muslims were free to change their religion, he was rapidly contradicted by Dar al-Iftaa, Egypt's most authoritative theological council - which declared "Islam forbids Muslims from renouncing their faith... if a Muslim did so [he or she] would be committing a mortal sin" - and that apostasy was 'a sort of crime' that 'requires punishment'. *Egypt: Religious Freedom Profile, CSW Sep 2009*
- July 2009 - Two Coptic Christians were arrested and held without charge after complaining that they had been beaten by a Muslim mob. *Sword Vol 4 No.5, Sep/Oct 2009*
- June 2009 - In Ezbel Boshra-East, a village of El-Fshn, a Muslim mob attacked the home of local minister to protest against its use for Christian prayer (there being no church in the village) *Barnabas Aid, Set-Oct 2009*
- June 2009 - Muslims attacked a church in Ezbel Boshra East, El-Fashn. The church was badly damaged and 25 Christians injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 153, Jul 2009*
- May 2009 - Six Christian brothers have been sentenced to three years in prison with hard labour for refusing to close their café in Port Said during Ramadan. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2009*
- May 2009 - If a Muslim converts to Christianity, under the law his children are considered Muslim and cannot attend church services of any kind. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated 152, 2/5/2009*
- April 2009 - Martha Samuel, who converted from Islam to Christianity, was detained at Cairo Airport where she was beaten and repeatedly raped because the authorities do not allow converts to register the change officially on their ID cards. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- April 2009 - Rahael, who left Islam to marry a Christian man, was arrested because her marriage was not officially recognised. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- April 2009 - The H1N1 (swine flu) virus scare provided the Government with the excuse they needed to placate Muslims concerned with their dietary laws. Egypt's 300,000 pig population was slaughtered, with derisory compensation to the mainly Christian farmers and butchers. The *Zabbaleen* ('garbage people'), mainly Christians, also lost most of their livelihoods, because up to 50% of the organic waste which they collected had been consumed by pigs. There has still been no recorded transmission of H1N1 from pigs to humans. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, pp20/21*
- January 2009 - Violence against Christians and their churches largely goes unreported. *Elim International - Issue 14, Jan/Mar 2009*
- November 2008 - Hundreds of Muslims attacked a newly built church building in a Cairo suburb, causing extensive damage and injuries. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 147, Jan 2009 & Mar-Apr 2009*
- November 2008 - Mohammad and Katarina Hegazy, converts from Islam to Christianity, had to go into hiding because Government will not officially recognise their conversion and they have had death threats made against them. *CSW Prayer Diary, Nov/Dec 2008 & Release International Issue 46, Nov 2008*
- October 2008 - Coptic priest Fr Matteos Wahba sentenced to five years in prison for marrying a Coptic man and a Christian woman from a Muslim background, based on documents provided by the couple showing them both to be Christians - even though the couple later stated publicly that the priest was unaware the documents were not genuine. (The couple then fled to Jordan as refugees.) *Egypt - Religious Freedom Profile, CSW, Sept 2009*
- June 2008 - A Muslim mob attacked the businesses and homes of Coptic Christians in the village of Al Nazla, Fayoum Province. *VOM USA 2, Jul 2008*
- May 2008 - As contractors began building a wall around Abu-Fana Monastery in Minya, about 60 armed men attacked both wall and a chapel. Two monks and two workers were shot and injured, and one Muslim killed. The attackers abducted three monks as they left, and, because they would not spit on a cross or deny their faith or accept Islam, they were beaten, whipped, and had thorns stuck into their feet. *CSW Egypt: Religious Freedom Profile, Sep 2009, p11*
- May 2008 - Several full-time Christian workers were abducted, beaten and tortured by Muslim extremists who tried to convert them to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 141, Jul 2008*
- May 2008 - In Cairo alone about 100,000 Christians are forced to work on rubbish tips as their only source of income. *TV Channel 4, 26/5/2008*
- January 2008 - Mohammed Hegazy, a convert to Christianity, who had been tortured whilst in custody, filed an unsuccessful bid to change his religious affiliation on his ID. Judge Muhammad al-Husseini ruled that, as Article 2 of the Constitution states that since Islam represents God's final revelation, to be a Muslim is, by definition, to practice 'freedom of religion' and that therefore leaving the Islamic faith is not possible. The court also refused him permission to allow his children to grow up as Christians. *CSW (Amy Greenfield) 30/4/2008 & CSW, 'Egypt: Religious Freedom Profile' pp4-5.*
- December 2007 - Muslims in Isna, Qena Province, attacked and set fire to Christian shops, cars and a Christian school. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2008*
- November 2007 - Shadia Ibrahim, a Christian lady, was sentenced to three years in prison for 'providing false information on an official document'. She stated on her marriage certificate that she was Christian - unaware that her father had just converted to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- October 2007 - Two 13-year old Christian twins, Mario & Andrew Medhat Ramsis, unwillingly 'became' Muslim after their estranged father converted to Islam. They are being forced to take Islamic education classes. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Oct/Nov, 2007*

Evidence (22)

- October 2007 - Coptic villagers in Gabal-el Teir, south of Cairo, were attacked by local Muslims over plans to expand the local diocesan headquarters. The compound had previously been rebuilt several times following earlier attacks. The Church member who reported the attack was arrested, and police, who attended after two hours, did not intervene. Local Christian-owned farms were set on fire and equipment stolen. The 'reconciliation' was that the walls could be rebuilt – but three metres inside the boundary, and no compensation. *Sectarian Violence in Gabel-el Teir, Watani, Nov 2009 www.watani.net.com*
- July 2007 - A church-run clinic in a needy area of Alexandria was recently demolished by police on the grounds 'it had no construction permit'. None of the buildings around it had construction permits – but they were left untouched. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2007*
- July 2007 - Muslim rioters attacked two Coptic Orthodox churches, injuring seven Christians and damaging Christian-owned shops. *Face2Face, Jul 2007*
- July 2007 - Eman Muhammed el-Sayed (26), a recent convert to Christianity, was abducted by the Muslim members of her family and badly beaten. Police, although called by her Christian husband, would not intervene. *Jubilee Campaign, 25/7/2007*
- May 2007 - A mob of 500 armed Muslims attacked Christians in Bemha, south-west of Cairo, following a rumour that a new church was to be built. At least 27 Christian houses and shops were set on fire and more than 10 Coptic Christians were injured in the attack. *Barnabas Fund, 31/5/2007 & VOM USA, 23/5/2007*
- February 2007 - Two Coptic Christian families were detained by police for 36 hours when they attempted to report an arson attack on their homes and shops in Armand (south of Cairo) by a Muslim mob. *VOM USA, 28/2/2007*
- June 2006 - A Christian man, Fouad Fawzy, was stabbed to death by Muslims at his shop in Zagazig Al-Sharqeya Province. *Barnabas Prayers, Nov/Dec 2006*
- May 2006 - 14 Christians stabbed in Alexandria, one fatally. Parliament formed a fact-finding committee, but it failed to report within the proscribed month. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p31*
- April 2006 - 78-year-old Copt, Nishi Atta Girgis, was killed and five Christians injured when three churches in Alexandria were attacked. *CSW, Egypt: Religious Freedom Profile: Sep 2009 (www.csw.org.uk)*
- October 2005 - A play performed in St George's Church, Alexandria, about strategies for resisting forced conversion to Islam was interpreted as being discourteous towards Muhammad. A crowd of 5,000 surrounded the church: four people were killed and about 90 injured: seven other churches in Alexandria and one in Cairo were attacked, and Pope Shenouda received multiple death threats. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, 2012, p13*
- October 2005 - The Isis Hospital in Alexandria, which is run by Coptic Christians, and a Christian-owned pharmacy and shop were ransacked following the showing of a contentious DVD about a Christian convert to Islam. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p31*
- September 2005 - Three young Christian women students at the Faculty of Medicine in El Minya, Upper Egypt, were stabbed in the back by radical Muslims for not wearing veils. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p31*
- May 2005 - A group of Coptic Christian men and women were imprisoned and forced to convert to Islam. Their families protested in front of a monastery in central Egypt to attract media attention. Reports suggested the young men were subjected to sexual abuse to force them to convert. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p30-31*
- January 2005 - Egyptian Christian father Hossam Armanious, his wife and two daughters, were found knifed to death in their home. Police investigating several theories, including religious tensions, as a potential motive. Armanious had been threatened during an internet chat-room session, following his critical comments on Islam. *Barnabas Fund, 19/1/2005*
- January 2005 - Gaseer Muhammad Mahmoud, a Christian convert, arrested and had his toenails pulled out before being transferred to El-Khanka mental hospital where he was 'kept in solitary confinement, beaten, whipped, and told he would be incarcerated until he renounced his faith' (He was released in June 2005 after a tide of international pressure.) *Congressional Hearing on 'International Religious Freedom Report' 15 Nov 2005 p80*
- January 2005 - A home for Coptic girls who are being enticed to leave their Christian families and convert to Islam has been closed, and Shafik Saleh Shafik, the Christian Director, detained. *Compass, 13/1/2005*
- November 2004 - Two teenage sisters raised as Christians by their mother are contesting the forced change of their official religious identity to Islam by their estranged father. *Compass, 8/11/2004*
- June 2004 - 17-year-old girl abducted and abused for the second time. Her 'Cross' tattoo was forcibly removed, and forced conversion to Islam attempted. *Barnabas Fund, 2/7/2004*
- June 2004 - The families of 21 Christians killed in January 2000 by a Muslim mob in El Kosheh were denied justice by the Egyptian Appeal Court, which acquitted 92, sentenced one to 13 years for killing the single Muslim victim, and sentenced three for setting a truck ablaze. *CSW 15/6/2004*
- May 2004 - Police Officer Ahmed Kelani deliberately drove a truck into a canal in El Minia, killing three (Fathers Ibrahim Mikhaell, Mahrous, and Nusef) of his five bound Christian prisoners who were in the back: they had been arrested for mending a fence. *Barnabas Fund, 6/5/2004*
- April 2004 - Young Christian girls 'won' bogus 'competitions' run by supermarkets. The receipt that was presented for signing for the 'prize' turned out to be a statement confirming conversion to Islam. Those literate enough to refuse were accused of theft and strip-searched. Some were raped. Most remained in the custody of their abductors. *Barnabas Fund, 2/4/2004*
- January 2004 - An Egyptian Christian was killed and two others seriously injured in a confrontation between about 300 soldiers and the staff of a Coptic Christian Centre for Handicapped Children near Cairo. *Compass, 7/1/2004*
- January 2004 - Four Christian students aged 19/20 who had in their possession Christian literature and tapes, arrested for 'disturbing national unity and threatening social peace'. Detention twice extended. Finally released without charge in April. *Barnabas Fund, 2/4/2004*
- January 2004 - The Patmos Christian Centre for handicapped children attacked for ninth time by 500 soldiers. One employee killed, seven - including a nun - beaten and hospitalised. *Barnabas Fund, 5/1/2004*
- December 2003 - Coptic Christian Bolis Rezek-Allah, secretly married to a woman convert, was stopped trying to leave Egypt. On finding the wife had managed to leave, policeman Hussein Gohar reportedly told him 'I'll bring her back and cut her into pieces in front of you.' *Compass, 4/12/2003 & Barnabas Fund, 2/12/2003*
- December 2003 - Five weeks after her arrest tripped off a major crackdown against Egyptian converts to Christianity, Mariam Girguis Makar (30) was sent back to El-Kanater Women's Prison, Cairo, for another 15 days. Her husband was also detained, beaten and interrogated, before being released. She was accused of falsifying Christian identity papers for herself and other former Muslims. At least 22 other Christians, some Coptic, some converts from Islam, were detained and interrogated. One convert died in Police custody, others face legal prosecution. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - 5,000 Muslims went on an anti-Christian rampage near al-Ayyat, burning four homes, eight shops, and the fields of eight families, then looting and destroying six more homes, because local Christians want to convert a small building they own into a church. Five Copts injured. *Barnabas Fund, 21/11/2003*
- November 2003 - The Patmos Christian Centre attacked for eighth time, this time by an Army truck driven repeatedly into the perimeter wall causing extensive damage. *Barnabas Fund, 19/11/2003*
- November 2003 - A Coptic Christian teenager, kidnapped by Muslims who claim she has converted to Islam, is being refused direct access to her Christian family, who believe she is being given drugs which affect her moods. *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- October 2003 - 22 Christians, including Mariam Makar and her husband, arrested in new crackdown, beaten, interrogated and tortured. Charged with falsifying ID papers, an act Christians are forced to do if they change their religion. *Jubilee Campaign, 24/10/2003 & Barnabas Fund, 24/10/2003*
- September 2003 - Father Abanoub forced to close St George's Church in Assiut after police attack. *The Voice of the Martyrs, 24/9/2003*
- August 2003 - 300 Police Officers with 14 bulldozers besieged the fourth century Coptic Monastery, claiming the walls have been constructed illegally. *Barnabas Fund, 19/8/2003*
- May 2003 - Christian couple Naglaa and Malak detained for four months in order to forcibly convert them back to Islam. *Barnabas Fund, 7/5/2003*
- April 2003 - Church in Assiut now prohibited from rebuilding, despite being given permission to demolish and rebuild. *www.dommini.org/openbook/egy2003040*
- January 2003 - An Egyptian court has postponed a retrial verdict of 96 people implicated in violent Muslim-Christian clashes three years ago. Judge Lotfi Suleiman advising the justices needed more time to study the 9,000-page case file. The month's delay was labelled a 'political decision' by Coptic Christian lawyer Mamdouh Nakhla, who noted that 'the tense, volatile situation in the Middle East' between Iraq and the United States might have made the judges reluctant to rule on the 'sensitive' case. Coptic Christians considered the initial ruling 'so lenient that it practically encouraged Muslims to kill Copts.' Observers noted the verdict seemed to imply that police investigators were either incompetent or part of a cover-up. *Compass, 11/2/2003*
- October 2002 - An Egyptian, who converted from Islam to Christianity in 1996, has been found in prison after disappearing for five months. He has been accused by the Egyptian authorities of 'reviling Islam and falsifying his identity papers'. *Voice of the Martyrs, 16/10/2002*
- July 2002 - Hany Samir Tawfik, a Coptic Christian, sentenced to 28 months' jail following extradition from Saudi Arabia for trying to get political asylum when working at the US Embassy in Riyadh after complaining of being persecuted for his faith. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p31*

Evidence (23)

- March 2002 - During the past 20 years, Egyptian authorities have been repeatedly accused by human rights observers of being lax in protecting the lives and property of Coptic Christians, who comprise at least 10% of the population. *Compass, 15/3/2002*
- March 2002 - Police failed to stop Muslim youths pelting a Coptic church with rocks and firebombs after the bell-ringer fired shots in the air and rang the bell vigorously to celebrate the local Bishop's arrival. *Compass 15/3/2002*
- February 2002 - Christians gathering to celebrate a First Communion Mass attacked with rocks and firebombs by Muslim mob. *CSW, 18/2/2002*
- February 2002 - The Egyptian military launched a series of attacks against a Christian farm in the Suez desert region, injuring several staff and inflicting considerable property damage on the Coptic-owned Patmos Centre for Handicapped Children. The assault was halted by civil police and State security officers. The Patmos Centre has a case, stalled in the Egyptian Courts for nearly five years, to recover extensive damages for similar army attacks in 1996 and 1997. *Compass, 15/3/2002*
- July 2001 - Two separate cases of Christian mothers being threatened with their young children being taken into care by Muslim guardians. *CSW, 24/7/2001*
- June 2001 - The wife and family of Dr. Kamal Hanna Morgan, 38, have been battling for more than a year to cancel a pharmacist's certificate of his 'conversion' to Islam. When Morgan signed the document 16 months ago, he had been undergoing treatment for paranoid schizophrenia, and his Christian family were only later informed by local State Security that he had become a Muslim. Morgan's family then learned that a court case had been opened in their village of El-Fayoum by Morgan, requesting custody of the couple's two young daughters: under Sharia law in Egypt, a Muslim father automatically retains custody of his minor children. *Compass, 15/6/2001*
- February 2001 - Three priests in the predominantly Christian village of El-Kosheh accused of failing to stop rioting over New Year 2000 in which 21 Christians were killed. The Sohag court acquitted all but four of 96 suspects, including seven defendants who had eluded arrest. 57 Muslims were being tried, 38 of them for murder. 32 Christians charged with offences including looting, arson and attempted murder. Coptic Bishop Wissa of nearby Baliana denounced the blanket acquittal of all the murder suspects as an incitement to more killings and injustice. *Compass, 16/2/2001*
- September 2000 - An Egyptian newspaper reports that 21 of 39 defendants from Dar al-Salaam were given prison terms for their role in Egypt's worst Muslim-Christian bloodshed in decades. Justice is seemingly being meted out to the Muslim culprits who rampaged through Dar al-Salaam last January: but the newspaper failed to mention that all four of the Muslims given 10-year jail terms were sentenced 'in their absence,' as they remain at large. If these fugitives are eventually captured, Egyptian law requires verdicts against them be cancelled in favour of a new trial. The remaining 18 defendants were acquitted for insufficient evidence. *Compass, 22/9/2000*
- July 2000 - A Coptic Christian was killed and three others injured during an attack by their Muslim neighbours in Sool, 30 miles south of Cairo. 38-year-old Coptic farmer Fakhri Ayyad MUSAAD was shot as he and three employees were working at his farm. According to Reuters, Muslim farmers claimed that 'unlicensed construction work' in a nearby field was a church. The Egyptian Interior Ministry, however, claimed that MUSAAD was the victim of a 'land dispute.' *Compass, 18/8/2000*
- July 2000 - A court in Sohag Governorate sentenced Coptic Christian Sourial Gayed Isshak to three years in prison with hard labour on charges of insulting Islam. Muslim witnesses testified they had heard the shopkeeper curse Islam in the streets. Isshak, 37, categorically denied the allegations. By contrast, an Egyptian Muslim author, accused of blaspheming against Islam and the Koran, was given only a six-month suspended sentence. *Compass, 18/8/2000*
- June 2000 - The State Security Intelligence (SSI) detained and brutally tortured a Coptic Christian in El Mahalla el-Kubra for the fourth time, accusing him of preaching Christianity to Muslims. *Compass, 21/7/2000*
- January 2000 - The Millennium Weekend violence in Sohag's El-Kosheh left 21 Christians dead and 260 of their homes and businesses destroyed or looted. *CSW 'Egypt: Religious Freedom Profile' Sep 2009 (www.csw.org.uk); Compass, 11/2/2003*

Eritrea

Since the beginning of 2013 the religious atmosphere in Eritrea has deteriorated with the authorities arresting at least 261 Christians. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have reported that the Government continues to incarcerate prisoners in inhuman conditions, and denies access to the Red Cross. *Open Doors USA, 29/8/2013*

Eritrea is regarded as one of the worst persecutors of Christians in the world. More than 2,000 Christians are in jail for their faith, some in metal shipping containers in scorching desert heat or in cramped underground cells – many without charge. Many thousands of Eritrean Christians have fled to Ethiopia and Sudan. *Release International Prayer Shield Jul/Aug 2009; Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2009 & CSW Prayer Diary Spring 2013*

The Eritrean Regime is a single-party dictatorship (and) is suspicious of (Christians), deeming their allegiance to God as a threat to its efforts to totally control society. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Appeal Letter May 2012*

On 5 July 2012, the UN Human Rights Council voted to appoint a Special Rapporteur, Ms Sheila Keetharuth, an expert who will investigate the infamous human rights situation in Eritrea. *CSW Prayer Diary Spring/Summer 2013*

Despite the 1997 Constitution guaranteeing religious freedom, all Christian churches except Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Lutheran are banned, and many Christians are jailed in appalling conditions. *CSW (Amy Greenfield), 8/5/2008*

- October 2013 - 'Being a Christian in Eritrea is like living in hell' – the testimony of Asmerom, a Christian imprisoned for his faith. 'Christians are treated like public enemy no 1. Security officials broke into our underground church, and we were all arrested – without any charge. There were 14 of us in a cell 10 feet by 14 feet. When one attempted to escape we were all punished. At noon, in temperature of 115 degrees and naked, we were severely beaten in the prison yard. After 15 months - almost all in solitary darkness - I was released and escaped to Ethiopia.' *International Christian Concern – Persecution Issue 3/3, Oct 2013*
- August 2013 - The authorities arrested 30 members of the Church of the Living God in Kushet, Asmara, who were gathered for prayer, and held them at a police station whilst pressuring them to recant their faith. *Open Doors USA, 29/8/2013*
- January 2013 - The homes of various Christians were raided by security police, and 50 people were arrested. One was a lady of 85, detained for hosting an underground church in her house. They joined hundreds of other Christians in Eritrean prisons: many more have fled the country to escape the persecution, and ended up in prison in Egypt where they have suffered rape, beatings and starvation. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p9*
- November 2012 - US State Department report says that religious freedom here is deteriorating. Evangelist, Mussie Ezaz, a member of the Kale Eiwot Church has been detained since 2007. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- 2012 – At least 105 Christians were arrested in 2012, and 31 Christians are reported to have died in prison. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- November 2012 - Abraham, who was raised as a Muslim, is now a prisoner of faith in Mitire prison, which is notorious for its harsh treatment of inmates. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- October 2012 - Adris Ali Mohammed (31) has died after two years in Aderset Military Camp. His sentence was for converting to Christianity and most of it was spent in a dungeon. *Open Doors Magazine Dec 2012*
- September 2012 - Thousands of Christians flee their homeland every year to avoid persecution. They risk being shot on sight by Government agents at the borders. *Release International Issue 69, Sep/Oct 2012*
- September 2012 - A young Christian woman was abducted and sold to Bedouin traffickers. She was severely beaten and is now suffering from gynaecological infections. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- August 2012 - 17 evangelical Christians were arrested in Emba-Derho, north west of Asmara, when security officials interrupted a prayer meeting. They were taken to the remote military training camp at Aderset, which is notorious for its harsh conditions. *Open Doors Magazine, Sep & Dec 2012*
- July 2012 – 25 Christians in Assab arrested for gathering for worship and taken to Adi-Nefase camp, where conditions are notoriously harsh. Christians conscripted to serve in the army can be imprisoned for attending prayer meetings, and receive severe punishments even for possessing a Bible. *Barnabas - Praying for the Persecuted Church, 2013 p16*
- March 2012 - All non-registered churches closed; and some of their leaders and members imprisoned for more than eight years. Even recognised churches are subject to excessive control. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012*
- March 2012 - The Patriarch of the Eritrean Orthodox Church, Patriarch Antonios, has been under house arrest since January 2006, and is being denied medical attention. There are over 3,000 Christians in prison simply for of their faith, often in deeply inhumane conditions including unscreened shipping containers. *ACN Report 2012 & International Christian Concern 16/3/2012*
- March 2012 - 44 countries called on Eritrea's Government to stop arbitrarily torturing and detaining its people. The Statement to the UN Human Rights Council highlighted concerns about severe clampdown on religious practice, inhumane prison conditions and extrajudicial killings. *Christianity Today, 18/02/2012*
- March 2012 - The US Commission on Religious Freedom continued its listing of Eritrea as a 'country of particular concern', concluding that 'systematic, ongoing, and egregious religious freedom violations continue'. Violations included torture, ill-treatment of religious prisoners, arbitrary arrests, detentions without charge, a prolonged ban on public religious activities, and interference in internal affairs of registered religious groups. *USCIRF 2012, p70*

Evidence (24)

- February 2012 - A woman who fled to the UK via Sudan described the persecution of Christians in 'unregistered churches' in Eritrea. When her brother and a friend refused to sign statements renouncing their Christian faith, they were imprisoned for two years, being required to 'count grains of sand under the extreme mid-day heat.' *Christianity Today* 18/2/2012
- January 2012 - More than 2,000 Christians and church leaders from Evangelical and Pentecostal Churches remain imprisoned without trial. Their only hope of being released is to sign documents declaring they will no longer practise their faith. *Release International Issue 65, Jan/Feb 2012* Many of their families have had no news from the prisoners in months. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- November 2011 - 26 Christian students from Mai Mefhi College of Technology, south west of Asmara, were arrested in June – most are still detained. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- October 2011 - Five young Christians who were imprisoned for their faith are known to have died inside military prison camps in western Eritrea. Two, arrested in 2009 during a Prayer Meeting in Tesenai, died of starvation and untreated health problems; a third of severe untreated malaria. two others from Dekemhare, also arrested at a prayer meeting, died after repeated torture and denial of medical treatment. *VOM 24/11/2011; Open Doors 26/10/2011; International Christian Concern, 30/10/2011*
- September 2011 - This is one of the harshest anti-Christian regimes in Africa. Many Christians have fled to Egypt as refugees, where they have been imprisoned and abused. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- July 2011 - An Eritrean Christian, who was threatened with execution in Saudi Arabia for sharing his faith with Muslims, will now be deported to his homeland, where he may face prison, torture and even death. *AsiaNews 23/7/2011; Barnabas News & Appeals, 29/7/2011*
- May 2011 - A Christian youth worker, Mussie Ezaz, was recently arrested together with Pastor Oqbamichael Tekle-Hainnanot at the Kale Hiwot Church. *Release International Issue 61, May/June 2011*
- May 2011 - Recent political changes in the Arab world have prompted a renewed crackdown against groups the authorities see as a threat – including unregistered churches. A recent US Embassy cable confirmed that torture and inhuman treatment of prisoners remains rampant in Eritrean jails. Although the Government categorically denies religious persecution, more than 1,500 Christians are believed to be imprisoned for their faith. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2011 p13 & CSW – Relay Newsletter, 13/5/2011*
- May 2011 - 64 Christians detained in Adi Abegto village near Asmara: only six have since been released. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- February 2011 - Two more Christians, one a 27 year old woman, have died in prison after being refused medical treatment. *Prayer Digest, 14/2/2011*
- January 2011 - Officials arrested 30 Christians from an unregistered church who were praying in a private house in Asmara. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- January 2011 – A US Embassy cable published by Wikileaks has exposed inhumane conditions for prisoners, including many Christians, and states that prisoners are fed only two pieces of bread three times a day, with as many as 600 being kept in a 40 x 38ft cell. *International Christian Concern, 20/1/2011*
- November 2010 - In the run-up to Christmas, security forces in the south arrested more than 40 men and women in a new clamp down on Christians. *CSW email newsletter, 19/11/2010 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 170, Dec 2010*
- November 2010 - Christians who share their faith publicly can be arrested and detained indefinitely. Almost all Eritrean pastors who are not affiliated to denominations recognised by the Government are currently under arrest. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- September 2010 - It is estimated that 2,200 Christians are currently in detention in camps, dungeons and metal shipping containers. Conditions are so appalling that several have emerged paralysed or blind. At least 10 have died. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2010*
- September 2010 - Many thousands of Christians have been forced to flee the country and live in refugee camps in neighbouring nations. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- July 2010 - 250 highly vulnerable Eritrean refugees are in danger of being forcibly repatriated by Libyan authorities. *CSW Urgent Prayer Alert, 6/7/2010*
- July 2010 - Yemane Kahasay Andom (43) died at Mitire Confinement Centre, and reports suggest he was secretly buried in the camp. A member of the Kale-Hiwot Church, he was weakened by physical torture, suffering from severe malaria and kept in solitary confinement in an underground cell for two weeks. *Compass Direct News 27/7/2010*
- May 2010 - Kidane was detained at a church service along with other worshippers, and taken to a prison. He was kept in a cell, very dirty and very hot, measuring seven by five feet, with one other person, for six months. He was offered freedom if he renounced his faith, but replied "I want to stay here with the peace of the Lord rather than go out without his peace." *Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Appeal Letter May 2012*
- May 2010 - Hana Hago Azgedom (41) died of a heart attack whilst in an isolation cell in Alla military prison camp after a severe beating with an iron bar for refusing sexual advances from the camp commander. She had been imprisoned for three years for refusing to abandon her religious beliefs. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p48*
- April 2010 - Senait Oqbazgi Habta (28) died of malaria and anaemia in captivity at Sawa Military Training Centre. She was arrested in 2008, along with 15 other university students, for attending a Bible study group. They had been imprisoned in metal shipping containers without toilet facilities or medical care. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p48; Barnabas prayer Focus Updated 164, Jun 2010 & Wilfred Wong, Jun 2010*
- March 2010 - 90 Christians arrested in the recent wave of arrests, and will be imprisoned because of their faith. *CSW Response Issue 160, Mar/Apr 2010*
- March 2010 - Military officials arrested 17 men at prayer in Segenaite. Reports suggest they were soldiers doing national service who belonged to various evangelical groups. *ASSIST News Service 31/3/2010*
- March 2010 - Efreem Habtemichel Hagos (37), who belonged to a non-recognised church, died in isolation in the military camp at Adi-Nefese near Assab after suffering from malaria and pneumonia for three months. He was denied medical care for refusing to renounce his faith. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p48*
- December 2009 - 30 elderly Christian women arrested for praying together in a private house in Asmara. Most were members of an evangelical church with Methodist roots. *International Christian Concern 16/12/2009 & Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- October 2009 - Security forces raided the home of Tewelde Hailom, founder and Pastor of Full Gospel Church in Asmara, arrested three people and placed Pastor Hailom under house arrest. A week later, seven more people were arrested, and six weeks later another three were detained. *MNN 21/10/2009*
- September 2009 - The Government called on citizens to inform the Police of any unregistered gatherings of Christians in private homes. The Statement declared meetings of unregistered groups, in homes to be criminal acts deserving legal punishment, but, in practice, registration cannot be obtained. It is estimated that Christians account for 45% of Eritrea's population. *MNN, 21/10/2009 & Barnabas Fund: Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2009 p 20*
- September 2009 - The President of Eritrea not only persecutes Christians in his own country but supports the Somalians to do the same. *Relay – CSW weekly Newsletter, 21/9/2009*
- September 2009 - It is estimated that there are over 2,000 Christians held in detention in underground prisons and in enclosed shipping containers in desert areas. They are subject to horrific torture to try and make them deny their faith. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009 & Release International, Sept 2009 & Elim Outreach – Issue 14, Jan/Mar 2009*
- July 2009 - Christians from 'unregistered' churches are regularly harassed, imprisoned, tortured and murdered for their faith. 'Samuel' (24) was arrested with 19 others whilst attending a friend's wedding in 2005. He was imprisoned, and on one occasion was suspended by his arms from a tree, as though crucified, for three days. He is still in prison. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2009*
- June 2009 - A public meeting denouncing government interference in the internal affairs of the Coptic Church, led by Fr Gebretensai Hadeqo, in the chapel of St Mary in Asmara was visited by security forces, who arrested 15 Orthodox monks. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p47*
- June 2009 - Four young Christians died after being kept in an underground cell at Assab, near the Red Sea, where temperatures reach 49°C, for nearly six years. Diet there is reportedly three pieces of bread/day plus one cup of tea and three cups of water. *In chains for Christ 4/6/2009*
- May 2009 - Pastor Tesfatsian Hagos has been detained without charge since 2004. *Release International Issue 49, May 2009*
- May 2009 - Helen Berhane, a gospel singer, was imprisoned for 2½ years in Mai Serva Military camp, where she was beaten, tortured and eventually left disabled. *CSW, 21/5/2009*
- January 2009 - Three Christians incarcerated in military prisons for their faith died between October 2008 and January 2009. Mehari Gebreneguse Azgedom (42) died from torture and complications from diabetes; Mogus Hagus Kiflom (37) from torture for refusing to recant his faith; and Teklesenbet Gebreab Kiflom (36) after being refused medical attention for malaria. *Compass Direct News 21/1/2009 & Release International – Issue 48, Mar 2009*
- January 2009 - Security forces arrested 27 Christians from the Rhema Church during a Sunday Service in Assab, bringing to 300 the number of such arrests over the previous 16 weeks. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p47*
- November 2008 – 1,200 Christian Eritrean asylum-seekers, forcibly returned from Egypt, have been held in a military prison camp since June. *Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 08: CSW Prayer Diary Sep/Oct 2008*
- October 2008 - Soldiers shut down a school in Deki-zero, and imprisoned all the teachers, including an 80-year-old man and wife. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 149, Feb 2009*

Evidence (25)

- October 2008 - In Asmara, 52 Christian women and girls were arrested during a prayer meeting. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated - Issue 149, Feb 2009.*
- May/June 2008 - Tens of thousands of Christians have fled from religious persecution to neighbouring countries of Kenya, Sudan, and Ethiopia. *CSW Prayer Diary, May/June 2008*
- May 2008 - Police arrested 34 evangelical Christians in the city of Keren. They were all members of the Light of Life Church. *VOM USA, 11/6/2008*
- January 2008 - 30 Christian youths belonging to the Pentecostal church in Massawa have been arrested. Reports say that they were tortured to reveal the names of other Christians. *VOM USA, 8/2/2008*
- October 2007 - Pastor Oqbamichael and Pastor Mussie Ezaz, both of Kale-Hiwot Church, now arrested and imprisoned for their faith. *VOM USA News, 20/10/2007*
- August 2007 - Police arrested 10 members (four men & six women) of the Full Gospel Church in Kahawata. *VOM USA, 30/8/2007*
- August 2007 - Pastor Leule Gebreab of Asmara Apostolic Church was arrested by police. *VOM USA, 30/8/2007*
- June 2007 - Over 2,000 Christians who refuse to renounce their faith are imprisoned in appalling conditions. *Open Doors Press Release, 18/6/2007*
- June 2007 - At least 20 Christians, including Pastor Michael Abraha and several children, from the Kale-Hiwot Baptist Church, south of the capital Asmara, were arrested and detained recently. *VOM USA, 21/6/2007*
- February 2007 - One of the last remaining free Christian leaders in Eritrea, Pastor Habtom Tesfamikael, of the Asmara Full Gospel Church, has recently been arrested and imprisoned for his faith. *VOM News and Prayer, updated 20/2/2007*
- January 2007 - In New Year raids in Asmara, the police and military jailed 68 more Christians. *Faith News, 5/2/2007*
- November 2006 - The Government forced the church at Kale Hiwot to 'surrender' its buildings and all its physical assets to the State. The church also managed an orphanage and kindergarten. *VOM USA, 3/11/06; Face2Face Oct 2006*
- July 2006 - Christian college students from Halhale College in the capital Asmara were arrested and detained as they left examination halls after their final exams. 500 Christians are currently imprisoned without charge. *CSW, 20/7/2005*
- May 2005 - In the southern state of Karnataka, security forces raided a Christian wedding service and detained between 250 and 300 guests. *CSW, 31/5/2005*
- April 2005 - 16 pastors are among 900 Christians imprisoned in Eritrea. *Compass, 20/4/2005*
- March 2005 - Leading Evangelical pastor Kidane Weldou has disappeared from Asmara, presumably taken by Security Forces. *International Christian Concern, Apr 2005*
- March 2005 - Christian publisher in Asmara closed down by National Security Office. *Compass, 1/4/2005*
- March 2005 - Demoze Afweki, vice-manager of the Housing and Commerce Bank of Eritrea and member of the Full Gospel Church, arrested and jailed at Wongel Mermera. *Compass, 1/4/2005*
- March 2005 - Police raided a private home in Assab, and arrested 10 members of Word of Life Church. *Compass, 1/4/2005*
- February 2005 - 131 Christian children rounded up by police whilst attending classes at Eritrean Orthodox Church in Asmara. 30 were detained. *CSW, 23/2/2005*
- February 2005 - 31 Christians jailed in last 10 days. Total of 187 arrests for 'illegal' Christian activities since start of year. *CSW, 23/2/2005*
- January 2005 - Since New Year's Eve, 150 Christians arrested, including 60 members of the Rema Charismatic Church. *CSW, 26/1/2005*
- January 2005 - 67 evangelical Christians arrested at a wedding ceremony in Barentu, including the wedding couple. *'Witness'; Release International, Mar 2005*
- January 2005 - Eritrean authorities extend their crackdown on religion to include Roman Catholic citizens, detaining 25 during a wedding rehearsal in Asmara, including the bride and groom. *'Witness'; Release International, Mar 2005*
- December 2004 - 60 members of the Rema Charismatic Church in Asmara have been arrested for holding a New Year's Eve celebration in the home of one of their church leaders. *Compass, 5/1/2005*
- December 2004 - Between 300 and 400 Christians currently detained without charge. Owning a Bible can lead to arrest and torture. *CSW, 13/12/2004*
- November 2004 - Three senior Orthodox priests, Dr Futsum Gebrenegus, Dr Tekeleab GP, and Rev. Gebremebhin, arrested. *CSW, 29/11/2004*
- September 2004 - Five evangelical Christians arrested for holding a prayer meeting in their church office in Asmara. *Compass, 15/9/2004*
- August 2004 - Three Eritrean Pastors, Rev. Haile Naizgi and Dr. Kiflu Gebremeskel of the Full Gospel Church and pastor Tesfatsion Hagos of the Rema Evangelical Church, held without charges in police station cells in Asmara since May, have been transferred to an unknown location. At least 400 members of evangelical churches in Eritrea are known to be imprisoned for their faith. *Compass, 25/8/2004*
- August 2004 - More than 70 soldiers, imprisoned for their faith, have been held under severe conditions for over two years at the Assab Military Prison. *Compass, 25/8/2004*
- June 2004 - A member of the Rema Church, Berhane, has reportedly refused demands that she sign a paper recanting her faith in Christ and promising to stop participating in Christian activities. *Compass, 4/6/2004*
- May 2004 - Police have jailed three prominent pastors, escalating a two-year Government crackdown against the country's evangelical Christians. Haile Naizgi, Chairman of the Full Gospel (Mullu Wongel) Church, and Dr. Kiflu Gebremeskel, Chairman of the Eritrean Evangelical Alliance, were arrested in Asmara, but were not charged or brought to court, as required by law, within 48 hours. *Compass, 4/6/2004*
- May 2004 - Popular Christian singer Helen Berhane, 29, who recently released an album of music popular among youth, arrested and incarcerated in a shipping container at the Mai Serwa military camp. *Frontline; Open Doors, Aug 2004; Compass, 4/6/2004*
- May 2004 - Pastor Tesfatsion Hagos of the Rema Evangelical Church in Asmara was arrested while visiting the port city of Massawa. *Compass, 4/6/2004*
- March 2004 - 20 members of the Kale Hiwot church arrested during a home group meeting in Assab. *Compass, 1/4/2004*
- March 2004 - Eritrean authorities raided the homes of evangelical Christians last week, arresting and jailing entire families caught praying and reading the Bible together. *Compass, 23/3/2004*
- March 2004 - Kelete, a lay leader in the Rema Church, Asmara, arrested at midnight with wife, six children and father-in-law, for praying together. *CSW, 2/4/2004*
- February 2004 - 51 Protestant Christians, worshipping in secret in Asmara, imprisoned. *CSW, 2/4/2004*
- January 2004 - Since May 2002, when the Government ordered independent Pentecostal and charismatic churches closed, members have gathered secretly in private homes. Now, neighbours are hired to report to security agents any such gatherings. Police "spies" are rewarded with special benefits, including exemption from military service and allotments of sugar and flour. Hundreds have been arrested for holding worship services, possessing Bibles or witnessing about their faith - at least 286 Eritrean evangelicals are known to be imprisoned in nine different locations. *Compass, 30/1/2004*
- January 2004 - Protestant pastors say the Department of Religious Affairs has made no progress toward the official registration of their churches, blaming the threat of war with Ethiopia over the Badme boundary dispute as a 'much more serious' concern than registering this handful of churches. *Compass, 30/1/2004*
- November 2003 - Authorities in Asmara have sealed the Full Gospel Church. The large complex had been the church's HQ and meeting place for 11 years. *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- November 2003 - Protestant evangelical pastor and seven church members arrested in Mendefera. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - 14 evangelical Christian women soldiers and 63 men held at Assab, where the authorities use torture and isolation to force retraction of evangelical beliefs. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - 10 Christian women arrested in Sawa. *Voice of the Martyrs, 26/11/2003*
- September 2003 - 57 teenage Eritrean Christians were held in metal containers at the Sawa Military Training Camp, enduring extreme temperatures, total darkness and near-suffocation for having Bibles. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- September 2003 - 12 evangelical Christians arrested and food rations withheld after refusing to sign a pledge denouncing their faith. *Voice of the Martyrs, 17/9/2003*
- August 2003 - 32 students tortured for having Bibles. *World Evangelical Alliance, 22/8/2003*
- May 2003 - Two full-time evangelists and 54 members of the Rema Church arrested. *Voice of the Martyrs, 9/5/2003*
- April 2003 - 56 church members taken for 'conscription for military service'. Fellow church members say most had already completed their mandatory military service. *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- February/March 2003 - 170 Christians imprisoned, beaten and threatened with death by security forces after raids on five churches. *Voice of the Martyrs, 9/4/2003*
- May 2002 - US Embassy in Eritrea reported the Eritrean Government had recently closed all Christian churches other than those of the Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Mekane Yesus (Lutheran) denominations. *Voice of the Martyrs, 29/5/2002*

Evidence (26)

Ethiopia

Muslim fanatic group Kewarjah is repeatedly blamed for attacks against Christians in the south-west. A new law banning all religious messages and talks from public spaces is expected to bring a wave of restrictions against Christians. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

One of the poorest countries in the world and ranked 173 out of 180 on the Human Development Index. The Constitution allows traditional Courts to resolve disputes, sometimes resulting in Christians being tried under Sharia law. *Barnabas Aid May/June 2007*

- June 2013 - Two Christians charged with 'Crimes against Islam' – even though no such crime exists in Ethiopia's penal code. Alemlayehu Legese charged with owning literature which explores Islam's history from a Christian standpoint, and Tamirat Woldeglorgis accused of proselytising to Muslims. Both were denied court appearances, and both report personal abuse. *International Christian Concern 7/6/2013*
- November 2012 - Chalim Waga was killed by Muslim extremists for his faith. *Open Doors Prayer Diary - Dec 2012*
- August 2012 - Authorities have closed a Church in Lalibela, and are now targeting believers' houses. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Aug 2012*
- July 2012 - A believer in Tigray State has been jailed twice for publicly sharing her testimony. *Open doors Prayer Diary, Jul 2012*
- March 2012 - In Western Ethiopia, two Christian converts from Islam were beaten to death. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Mar 2012*
- November 2011 - 500 Muslim students, accompanied by Muslim police, burnt down a church in the village of Qoto Baloso, Silte Province. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 183, Jan 2012*
- September 2011 - Muslim attackers beat Christians Abraham and his pregnant wife, Birtukan, killing the man and severely injuring the woman. *International Christian Concern, 2/9/2011*
- July 2011 - Courts have sentenced 579 Muslims to jail terms of up to 18 years for their part in the widespread anti-Christian violence earlier this year in which scores of churches and homes were burnt down and thousands of Christians were displaced. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 1/7/2011*
- March 2011 - Thousands of Christians were forced to flee their homes in Asendaho, Jimma Zone, when Muslims rampaged through five districts, looting property and torching at least 55 churches and dozens of homes. Many Christians were killed or injured. *Barnabas Aid May/June 2011* Muslims are reported to have said "When we have finished burning their Churches and homes, we are going to kill the Christians." *Open Doors magazine, April 2011*
- March 2011 - The numbers of displaced (Christians) is increasing daily. 2,500 believers huddled in a place called Ako without food, shelter or medicine. *Open Doors magazine, April 2011*
- November 2010 - A Christian, Tamirat Woldeglorgis (30), was jailed for three years for 'desecrating the Koran' in the town of Moyale. He was accused by a Muslim, but no evidence of this 'desecration' was forthcoming. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
- June 2010 - Nura Ahmed, a 13-year-old Muslim-background Christian, was stabbed to death in Bambasi town for refusing to renounce Christ and marry a Muslim man. *Open Doors Letter Guide 18, Apr 2011*
- 2009 - Muslim extremists and radicals attacked two churches recently, injuring 17 Christians and killing one. *Barnabas Fund - Praying for P.C., 2009*
- 2009 - Islamists from other countries have spread anti-Christian teaching and discouraged Muslim contact with Christians. Harassment and violence against Christians has been growing, especially in Muslim-majority areas. Smaller Christian groups struggle to acquire land for buildings and to obtain registration with Government. *Barnabas Fund - Praying for the Persecuted Church, Advent 2009 p22*
- November 2008 - Azib Simon (37) died after malnutrition and torture in prison for her faith. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 08*
- November 2008 - Teame Weldegebriel has been in Mai Sirwa Maximum Security Prison for two years for his faith. *Release International Issue 46, Nov 2008*
- March 2008 - Wahhabic Muslims attacked Christians in Nensabo town, south east of Addis Ababa. At least two Christians were killed and dozens were seriously injured *VOM USA, 19/3/2008*
- March 2008 - Islamic radicals attacked two Churches in the village of Nensebo Chebi in the Uromia region. One man, Tula Mosesa (49) was killed and 17 badly injured – several had their arms severed by the attackers. One Church has been burnt three times. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 139, May 2008 & Barnabas Prayer, July/August 2008*
- February 2008 - Two recent Christian converts from Islam, Jemmat Abdo and his wife, were badly beaten by Muslims in the city of Addis Ababa. *VOM USA, 27/2/2008*

- January 2008 - The house of a Christian family in the city of Jijiga was bombed by Muslims. *VOM USA, 25/1/2008*
- October 2007 - Muslims attacked 25 Christian families and demolished 12 homes in Seka Yoyo. *VOM USA, 24/10/2007*
- September 2007 - An underground church leader, Jemmal Sembet (35), imprisoned, and several other Christians beaten and tortured in an attempt to find leaders of other underground churches. *Barnabas Fund Prayer Focus Issue 132, 5/10/2007*
- April 2007 - Muslims at Bambasse attacked the home of evangelist Tolosa Megersa, killing all his sheep and cattle. *VOM USA, 19/4/2007*
- April 2007 - There is a growth in anti-Christian violence following the influx of Muslim refugees from neighbouring Somalia. *Barnabas Aid, May/June 2007*
- March 2007 - Two Bible school students at Jimma were imprisoned and fined. *VOM USA, 19/4/2007*
- March 2007 - The home of Full Gospel Church leader, Lemmu Abdissa, was raided and destroyed. *VOM USA, 19/4/2007*
- November 2006 - Four districts in Western Ethiopia have been subject to anti-Christian violence, which has left 2,800 people displaced. 350 houses were burnt down, 10 churches destroyed and five Churches converted into Mosques. At least 25 Christians have been killed in the violence, which centres on Bereha, Dingo, Yaka, Beto and Goro. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2007*
- March 2003 - 11 homes of evangelical Christians burnt down. *Voice of the Martyrs, 26/3/2003*
- March 2003 - Two evangelical church leaders, Kiros Meles and Ababayeh Desalegn, released after imprisonment without trial for 10 months. *International Christian Concern, 4/2003*
- September 2002 - Five churches were destroyed during violence in Maychew after riots which resulted in the death of an Orthodox Church member. *Compass, 13/9/2002 & Voice of the Martyrs, 11/12/2002*
- June 2002 - Christians of four different evangelical denominations attacked. Their churches in Maychew damaged. *The Voice of the Martyrs, 12/6/2002*
- May 2002 - A group of Muslims seriously damaged a church in the town of Wello and severely injured a man who worked near the church. *Offene Grenzen, 31/5/2002*
- March 2002 - In protest against American attacks on Afghanistan, thousands of Muslims gathered in Agressa. In response to their demand for revenge, the Government destroyed the church in Agressa and arrested three of its leaders. *Voice of the Martyrs, 13/3/2002*
- 1999-2001 - A protestant leader reports "Churches have been ordered to stop singing or praying together, leaders have been whipped and beaten, and in some areas mission work provoked violent reactions". *Compass, 14/12/2001*

Europe

A report by an Austrian-based NGO has catalogued wide-ranging examples of anti-Christian discrimination throughout Europe over the last five years. It highlights instances of hate crimes against Christians and church buildings, the restriction of freedom of conscience, and interference with employment, education and parental rights. It also notes that Christianity has been marginalised by defamation and insult, negative stereotyping and the suppression or removal of religious symbols. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 171, Jan 2011*

- October 2012 - "Many of the mass-media broadcast a presentation of the Christian faith and history that is full of lies, misinforming the public as to content of our faith as well as what makes up the reality of the Church." *Cardinal Peter Erdo, President of the European (Catholic) Bishops' Conference, Rome Reports TV News Agency 17/10/2012*

Fiji

- August 2011 - Around 1,000 delegates had already arrived in Suva for the Methodist Church's Annual Conference when, at the last minute, the country's military-led Government cancelled it. The Government also issued a directive to the Methodist Church banning all church activities except Sunday worship. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 180, Oct. 2011*
- September 2009 - The Methodist Church Conference has been banned because 'the church was getting too involved in politics'. *Barnabas Prayer, Sept/Oct 2009*

Finland

- December 2011 - The Catholic Church has reported to OSCE a total of 21 hate crimes directed against Christians in 2011, ranging from insult to vandalism to physical assault. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 31/12/2011*
- April 2011 - A Lutheran Church leader has been charged with inciting racial hatred after he described one of the world's most wanted men as a terrorist. *Barnabas Fund newsletter, 28/4/2011*

Evidence (27)

France

- December 2012 - Students from Therese Leon Blum School were warned against making the sign of the Cross on a school field trip to the nearby Cathedral St-Jus. The school would not enter into correspondence with parents. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, Dec 2012*
- December 2012 - After several previous attacks on the church, the nativity scene at the Church of Barby, Savoy, was set on fire. The Church of St Rambert in Lyon was also broken into, damaged and desecrated. Various Churches in Bretagne, Saint-Lys, Vaudan, Soissons, Alsace, Vauban, Meslay-du-Maine Bignon-du Maine and Nice had earlier been robbed, damaged, set on fire, and painted with satanic symbols. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p58-60 & 63*
- December 2012 - The wooden nativity scene of the local parish church, outside the Tourist Office in Frejus severely vandalised, with the statues of Mary and Joseph being decapitated. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p64*
- November 2012 - The journal 'Charlie Hebdo' published a front-page caricature of the three persons of the Holy Trinity engaging in homosexual intercourse. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p61*
- November 2012 - The Christian 'Symposium for Life' in Biarritz interrupted by men in nuns' habits and women with devil horns carrying signs 'Yes, yes to sodomy; no, no to the Inquisition'. Press coverage failed to report the anti-Christian nature of the demonstration. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p62*
- October 2012 - The annual 'Marathon of the Bible', involving over 500 readers, which has been held in Paris since 2003, denied permission this year. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p56*
- October 2012 - 70 Christian graves vandalised in the Albi cemetery in Fonlabour. A dozen graves also targeted by vandals in Tilleuls Royen, and another dozen in Moustey (Landes). *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p56/57/58*
- September 2012 - The Christian bookshop in front of St Eloi Catholic Church in Bordeaux vandalised for the 26th time. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p56*
- September 2012 - Church in Chassieu city spray-painted 'Islam is gaining momentum', the name of a terrorist, and the new idol of the suburbs 'M.Merah'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p55*
- August 2012 - In the name of 'tolerance' the city of Broue has ordered the removal of a cross from the entrance to the city cemetery, which, it says, 'is a public building, where there should be no religious symbols'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p52*
- April 2012 - The Public Schools Conservatory in Rennes refuses entrance to pupils from Catholic schools. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p48*
- February 2012 - An art exhibition displaying disrespectful and mocking statues of the Virgin Mary opened at Galery Albane, Nantes. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p39*
- February 2012 - The Church of Epinais, which had just been restored, completely destroyed – five young men arrested. Four days later the Chapel of St Joseph in Chatillon vandalised and the Holy Sacrament stolen. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p40*
- November 2011 - A Spanish play called 'Golgotha Picnic' by Argentine-born Rodrigo Garcia, due to open in Toulouse before transferring to Paris, depicts Christ as 'madman, dog, pyromaniac, messiah of Aids, devil-whore and no better than a terrorist', according to Bishop Dominique Rey of Frejus-Toulon. *BBC News Europe, 16/11/2011*
- 2011 - SDIG records of attacks on places of worship and cemeteries continue to identify vandalism of Christian sites and symbols as being by far the most targeted, with up to 90% of all recorded cases in both 2011 and 2012. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 13/7/2012*
- October 2010 - A Report of the Gendarmerie National identifies that most desecrations since 2005 have been aimed at Christian cemeteries and Christian places of worship. The French daily *Le Figaro* reports one every other day in France alone. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p32*
- September 2010 - The number of places of worship and cemeteries vandalised between January and September 2010 totalled 485, 410 of which were Christian. The increase in such events is almost 100% in two years. *French Government Information Service (les Reselections Generaux) 25/1/2012 / Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 25/1/2012*
- May 2009 - Six swastikas were found tagged on several columns in the Basilica of St Dennis, Paris. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p32*

- February 2009 - 67% of French Catholic parents say that public schools do not respect freedom of conscience of their children. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p21*
- February 2007 - The Government has recommended a charter 'to keep religious traditions and beliefs out of its hospitals and other institutions'. *Faith News, 5/2/2007*
- May 2001 - The National Assembly has adopted an 'anti-sect law. Human Rights Groups and prominent Christian leaders have criticised it as a blow to religious freedom. *Compass, 15/6/2001*
- June 2000 - The French Government's list of 173 'dangerous sects' included an Evangelical Church. *CSW USA, 21/1/2001*

Gambia

- October 2010 - Pastor David Fulton, sentenced to three years' hard labour, has been released from prison after the payment of a fine. *CSW - Relay, 16/9/2010*. David & Fiona were imprisoned for 'inciting hatred against the President'. Fiona was due for release from prison in September but remains incarcerated. *Relay CSW Weekly Newsletter, 24/10/2009*
- December 2008 - British church leaders David and Fiona Fulton, who have worked in Gambia for nine years, arrested on charges of sedition. If found guilty they could face 25 years in prison. Lawyers are afraid to represent them for fear of Government reprisals. *CSW Amy Greenfield, 11/1/2008; CSW, 13/3/2009*

Gaza and West Bank

Anti-Christian violence has increased, mostly caused by Islamic extremists. The authorities fail to uphold the rights of individual Christians, causing some to flee to safer areas. In Gaza, Christians are enticed into becoming Muslims, especially during Ramadan, with offers of jobs, housing, wives and diplomas. Sometimes the approach is more violent: a Greek Orthodox monastery in Bethany, West Bank, was the repeated target of attacks, forcing the nuns to ask President Abbas to intervene. *Open Doors World Watch List 2014 p26*

Because of extreme pressure from both Muslims and Jews, the Evangelical Christian population has dwindled to around 5,000. Many Christians are denied access into Israel for religious festivities. *Release International Prayer Shield May/June 2009*

- April 2012 - Thousands of Palestinian Christians from the Gaza Strip and West Bank are unable to attend Easter celebrations in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre. *Jerusalem Post, 16/4/2012*
- April 2012 - Two parish priests living in the Palestinian Territories have spoken out against 'false allegations' regarding Palestinian Christians by Israeli spokespersons including Ambassador Michael Oren, claiming that such spokespersons have inaccurately stressed Christian persecution by Muslims when recent studies show 'Israeli occupation and settlement activities are the main reason for Christian emigration'. They highlighted land being taken from Palestinian Christians, including a recent attempt by Israel to confiscate land belonging to 58 Palestinian Christian families. *Jerusalem Post, 16/4/2012*
- September 2011 - Miss Yara Odeh, a post-graduate student at Bethlehem University, had her car pelted with rocks by Israeli settlers when she was caught in a traffic jam near the settlement of Shiloh in the Palestinian Territories. Nearby Israeli soldiers refused to help. *Email correspondence to ACN from Bethlehem University*
- September 2011 - Dr. Adwan, faculty member in the Arabic Department of Bethlehem University, was attacked by about 20 Israeli settlers who threw rocks at his car, injuring his head, shoulder and stomach after his way was blocked by a pile of burning tyres. *Email correspondence to ACN from Bethlehem University*
- March 2011 - Several Christian stores and schools have been vandalised by Muslim extremists. The Islamist Hamas Government does nothing to protect Christians. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- February 2011 - Dr. Maher Ayyad (55) a Christian surgeon in the Gaza Strip, had a bomb hurled at the car in which he was travelling. He was unharmed, but has since received text messages warning him to stop his 'evangelical work' or face the consequences. *CBN News 28/02/2011*
- February 2011 - A fatwa, posted on the web by Jama'at Al-Tawhid Wal-Jihad – a Gaza-based Jihadist group – stated that while Islam prohibits the killing of innocents, Jews and Christians may be targeted because they are not innocent but 'aggressive combatants'. *Middle East Media Research Institute, 5/2/2011*
- 2010 - Some church leaders faced threats for having contact and sharing the Gospel with Muslims. *Open Doors Handbook 2010*
- August 2009 - Christians face significant difficulties in areas under the Palestinian National Authority, both in the West Bank and especially Gaza where they have come under pressure from Islamists to conform to Muslim practices – eg women being forced to cover their heads in public, and being stopped from selling alcohol. Clothes shops have been told to remove mannequins displaying lingerie. *Reuters, 4/8/2009; Assist News Service (ANS) 1/8/2009*

Evidence (28)

- August 2009 - Schools in Gaza City imposed a new dress code on girls, requiring traditional Islamic sleeved robes and covering of the hair. Boys and girls to be taught in separate buildings. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p232*
 - July 2009 - Masked Arab men broke into the home of a Christian couple in Gaza City and beat them severely. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
 - May 2009 - Church authorities had sent Muslim scholar Prof Thiab Ayyoush, a leading expert on Christian-Muslim relations, an invitation to address an inter-faith conference in Jerusalem as part of the Pope's visit to the Holy Land, but West Bank authorities refused a Permit to Travel. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p77*
 - April 2009 - On Good Friday 2009, the 'Way of the Cross' - previously celebrated in the streets of Gaza - had to be performed inside the compound of the Church of the Holy Family due to 'increased security concerns'. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p77*
 - March 2009 - The minority Christian community endure violence and deprivation from both the Muslim and Jewish forces, having their homes destroyed and being forced to live in camps. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2009 & Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2009*
 - January 2009 - Elias Maalough, a Christian evangelist, was recently attacked and had his left eye gouged by Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
 - May 2008 - Since Hamas came into power in June 2007, attacks on Christians has greatly increased. Muslim gunmen attacked guards at the al-Manara Christian school and stole their vehicle. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
 - February 2008 - Gunmen attacked the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in Gaza city, blowing up its library and causing huge damage. An al-Qaeda affiliated group claimed responsibility. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2008*
 - January 2007 - There has been an upsurge of violence against Christians of all denominations following Pope Benedict's controversial quotes against Islam. Ten churches have been attacked in the West Bank and Gaza. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2007*
 - October 2007 - Rami Ayyad, who ran a Christian bookshop, kidnapped and brutally murdered by Muslim fanatics. *VOI USA, 17/10/2007*
 - June 2007 - A Christian school and monastery in Gaza City were attacked with rocket-propelled grenades. *Barnabas Fund, 2/7/2007 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 129, Jul 2007*
 - April 2007 - A bomb was detonated at the Bible Society bookshop - no-one seriously hurt but shop contents were destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2007*
 - 2005 - A detailed analysis of Christians in Palestine from 1992 to 2004 by Prof Weiner of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem states '*The radicalisation of Palestinian Islamic communities... is developing into a dangerous threat to the Christian communities, to individuals and the lifestyle they practice. The return to archaic and fundamentalist ideology... aggravated by difficult economic and social conditions has... caused a high rate of emigration amongst Christians (which is) a threat to its very existence. Its status as a persecuted minority is overlooked because international attention is focussed on terrorism... rather than the present needs of human rights.* *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p47-48*
 - September 2005 - A dossier of 93 alleged incidents of abuse in the West Bank by 'Islamic fundamentalist media' lists 140 cases of apparent land theft by gangs backed by corrupt judicial officials, despite repeated appeals to the Palestinian Authority to rein in Muslim gangs. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p49*
 - September 2005 - A Muslim mob from the West Bank village of Deir Jarir, shouting "*Allah Akbar*" (God is great), and "*Burn the Crusaders*" attacked the neighbouring Christian village of Taybeh, north of Ramallah. The incident was sparked by rumours of a relationship between Hiyam Ajaj (23) and the son of her Christian employer. Hiyam was murdered by her family, who then turned on Taybeh: at least 13 homes were torched, residents beaten, houses looted and cars burned. *World Evangelical Alliance, 16/9/2005 & Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p46*
- ## Georgia
- October 2006 - Politicians are denying Christian minorities the right to build places of worship. Those affected include Baptists, Pentecostals, the Armenian Apostolic Church and the True Orthodox Church. *Forum 18, 27/10/2006*
 - January 2001 - Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze is on the verge of signing a draft amendment to the Constitution that would grant 'State Church' status to the Georgian Orthodox Church. Once signed, a one-month period of public debate will begin: Parliament will then re-examine the draft amendment and vote on it. Western European sources in Tbilisi said the potential Orthodox concordat is aimed at thwarting activities of non-traditional religions and denominations in Georgia. "*There are serious signs that Georgian society is drifting towards religious intolerance, with the tacit agreement of the political authorities and law enforcement forces,*" said George Gogia, spokesman for Human Rights Watch. *Compass, 19/1/2001*
- ## Germany
- August 1999 - 70 policemen disrupted a Christian meeting of 400 people and destroyed religious items used in worship. *Compass, 19/1/2001*
 - December 2012 - Two days before Christmas the Evangelical Church in Bremen Tenever was so badly vandalised that it was not possible for Christmas celebrations to take place. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, Dec 2012*
 - December 2012 - Following his appearance on German TV opposing homosexual adoption, Martin Lohman, a Catholic intellectual, received email threats. One anonymous threat said '*I am homosexual with AIDS and am now set on giving my disease to you too (by stabbing you with my dirty needle)*'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p62*
 - December 2012 - Following her assertion on German TV *Tough but Fair* that children need both a father and mother, a journalist from the station wrote on his Twitter account 'Birgit Kelle is a witch; witches get burned.' *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p 63*
 - November 2012 - The Church of St James in Lubeck broken into - cash stolen and sacred space profaned - the 10th case of church desecration in Lubeck this year. Many similar incidents have occurred around the country. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, Nov 2012*
 - October 2012 - The Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs have banned further free distribution of Bibles by Gideons International in schools in Berlin. Gideons have been distributing many millions of Bibles all over the world - including Berlin - for many years. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p58*
 - August 2012 - A large poster at the entrance to a cultural centre in Kassel shows a caricature of Jesus on the cross, with an offensive caption which has caused strong indignation amongst Christians in the town. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p53*
 - August 2012 - Three masked fans of Russian punks 'Pussy Riot' disrupted Mass in Cologne Cathedral by storming to the altar screaming and imitating prayer gestures. Their banner sought the release of the punks and all prisoners. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, Oct 2012*
 - July 2012 - The German magazine '*Titanic*' presented the Pope as a senile incontinent person in a photomontage with a large urine stain on his white robes whilst giving a blessing. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report - Germany 2012 p7*
 - December 2011 - The left-wing extremist group '*Antifa Freiburg*' published a 'Christmas wish' that '*we will not give up hope that there will be a miracle that we can warm ourselves next year at the glow of burning Churches.*' *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report - Germany 2012 p7*
 - November 2011 - *Die Presidentinnen* (The Female President) is a theatre play by Werner Schwab, first shown in Vienna. It has now opened in Cologne, promoted as a 'Play about the Lies of Life, Disappointed Hope, and meaninglessness'. Posters show a crucifix hanging on a toilet, which, for Christians, is deeply offensive, implying that Jesus Christ is the King of Lies to be flushed away in the cleansing process. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report - Germany 2012 p8*
 - October 2011 - Vandalism of Christian graves and statues in Mulheim, Osthevern, Niedereschach, Essen, Schonau and Westerkappeln has included disturbing fresh graves and turning crosses upside down to indicate satanic practices. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report - Germany 2012 p10-11*
 - September 2011 - A radical atheist group called 'What the f ...' released a video on YouTube in which crosses are being destroyed with much hatred and violence. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report - Germany 2012 p11*
 - March 2011 - A Catholic Christian pharmacist in Berlin's Neukolln district had his windows smashed because he refuses to sell the 'morning after' pill. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report - Germany 2012 p6*
 - November 2010 - An atheist father forced the withdrawal of a crucifix from the wall of his son's classroom in Regensburg, Bavaria, despite the opposition of the majority of the other parents. Morning Prayer has been changed to a neutral 'Good Morning Circle'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report - Germany 2012 p6*
 - April 2010 - The house in Markt am Inn, the birthplace of Josef Ratzinger - later Pope Benedict XVI - was vandalised and sprayed with insulting comments. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p25*
 - October 2009 - Orthodox Priest Aleksejs Ribakovs badly beaten and forced to move to another city to protect his family. One of the suspects was caught and identified as a young Muslim who proclaimed hatred of Christians. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p34*

Evidence (29)

- May 2009 - Anti-Christian posters at a psychotherapy congress depicted Jesus as a pig nailed to the cross, and used slogans such as 'We are here to hurt your feelings'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p25*
- December 2008 - Government agency Federal Central Unit of Political Education (Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung) has defamed Evangelicals as 'hostile to the Constitution'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p23*
- May 2008 - 15,000 peaceful young people at the Christian Youth Festival 'Christival' were disturbed by the so-called 'Anti-sexistic Alliance' shouting 'Masturbation instead of Evangelism', and 'Never Again Jesus'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p29*
- July 2007 - Sedar Dedeoglu of Luedenscheid, who claims to be a direct descendant of the Prophet Muhammed, is afraid to return to his homeland of Turkey since converting to Christianity and, with his family, worships at a church in Germany. He has regularly received death threats from Muslims unable to accept his conversion, which his family regard as shameful and an insult to the Prophet himself. *WND, 2/7/2007*

Ghana

- January 2011 - Although Ghana is a mainly Christian country, Muslims now control the media and 'big business' in the nation. Christians are being swamped with Islamic propaganda. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- September 2000 - Rev Tiwayi Dukulo reports Islam dominates local radio station broadcasting, asking people to come forward to condemn the Bible. *Compass, 22/9/2000*

Guinea

- May 2008 - Although there is supposedly religious liberty for Christians, intolerance by the Muslim majority has greatly increased, especially for converts from Islam to Christ. *Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2008*
- Autumn 2005 - Lamine Yansane of Boke sought refuge in Canada following the fatwa placed on him by his father, an Imam, who disowned him and called him a traitor to Islam when he converted to Christianity, the faith of his wife. *The National Post (Canada), 21/2/2009*

Gulf States

Christians have to worship in secret, and sharing the gospel with Muslims is not allowed. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011*

Guyana

2009 - The Christian Church is under attack from both Muslims and Hindus. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*

Haiti

A year since the earthquake which killed over 200,000 people, there are still more than 1 million left homeless. The number of street children is estimated at 25,000. *Jubilee Action, Autumn/Winter 2010*

- May 2010 - Following the devastating earthquake, many people turned to Christ and church services were full. However, there has been a backlash from voodoo worshippers here. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2010*
- September 2004 - Christians report that recent violence and disasters put them at even greater risk. Relief organizations trying to feed hurricane victims run risks from organized gangs trying to hijack food convoys. *Compass, 29/9/2004*
- September 2004 - Jean-Moles Lovinsky Bertomieux, a Baptist minister who hosted a popular Christian radio programme, was murdered in an apparent robbery attempt. Tens of thousands of people attended Bertomieux's funeral, many of them to protest the rising crime wave and urge the Government to take action. *Compass, 29/9/2004*
- April 2003 - Haiti's President Jean-Bertrand Aristide declared voodoo an officially recognized religion. Some evangelical Christians believe official recognition of voodoo threatens their freedom of worship and even their personal safety. *Compass, 15/8/2003*

Hungary

A controversial change in the law has meant that many Christian denominations have lost official recognition. The 300 de-certified Churches and groups include major Protestant denominations such as Episcopalians and Methodists, most evangelical Churches, and many small Roman Catholic Orders. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 18, 7/5/2012; Barnabas Prayer - Mar/Apr 2012 & Barnabas News 13/1/2012*

The Constitutional Court struck down this law, but the Government reintroduced it by changing the Constitution and then cancelling the Court's power to overrule. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p7*

- January 2010 - In a famous Hungarian talkshow, the statement was made 'a child's life can be destroyed by two things: Christianity and pornography'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p25*
- March 2001 - Several Christian denominations - Independent Methodists, Charismatics, and Reform Adventists - and the leading opposition political party have lodged appeals to the Constitutional Court over an amendment to Hungary's tax laws which mean that donors will in future receive tax exemption only on contributions to 'socially significant' religious organizations. To be eligible, religious organizations must either have existed for 100 years and have had an organised structure in place before 1928, or have the support of 1% of all taxpayers. By mid-January, only 14 out of approximately 130 registered religious bodies had fulfilled these conditions. *Compass, 23/3/2001*

India

Hinduism is experiencing a revival in India, and religious intolerance is on the increase. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p23*

Religious militants are one of the most prominent attackers of the Christian minority, claiming that every Indian has to be a Hindu. 'Anti-conversion' laws have been adopted in several states, and are frequently used as a pretext to disrupt church services and to harass and accuse Christians. Permission to build or renovate a church building is almost impossible and Church activities can be perceived as "hurting religious feelings" or "disturbing peace and order". *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

Many Christians are in danger from an extreme form of Hindu nationalism known as Hindutva, which seeks to enforce Hindu dominance. Christians are seen as a soft target as they do not retaliate. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011; Open Doors Handbook 2011*

India's Constitution pledges to uphold freedom of religion and belief, as well as other liberties. However, there are certain ambiguities in this and other relevant pieces of legislation. Dalits (Untouchables - they occupy the lowest level of Indian society) who convert to religions other than Hinduism, Sikhism or Buddhism - usually Christianity or Islam - lose their status as Scheduled Castes, and thus their eligibility for remedial measures. Many Christian and Muslim Dalits, and Adivasi Christians, conceal their religious identity for fear of reprisals: and those who attack members of these communities know they cannot be prosecuted under the Scheduled Castes Act. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p155; Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*

- December 2013 - Around 4,000 Christians in India were targeted in 2013 in 200 major acts of violence. The report by the Mumbai-based Catholic-Christian Secular Forum and others identifies over 1,000 women, 500 children and 400 church and community leaders. There were seven murders and over 100 attacks on churches and worship meetings. *Barnabas Fund 27/1/2014*
- December 2013 - Five Hindu extremists, who appeared to be drunk, attempted to disrupt a Christian prayer meeting in Chhattisgarh. When Shyam Sunder told the assailants to leave they kidnapped him and beat him mercilessly. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014, p3*
- December 2013 - Although the practice of 'untouchability' or ostracisation based on one's caste was officially outlawed in 1950 when quotas for education and government positions were created for Dalits, Christians and Muslims were not included in affirmative action and they still face discrimination and mistreatment because the origins of their faiths were outside India. A peaceful march in New Delhi by Christians and Muslims to push for equal rights for all Dalits was attacked by police using batons, canes and water cannon. 400 were arrested, including Archbishop Couto and six other bishops. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh apologised the following day. *CNA Daily News, 29/12/2013*
- November 2013 - When Harish Gemethi's brother was miraculously healed ten years ago he came to Christ along with 45 other people. Since then he has consistently received threats from Hindu extremists which culminated in the disappearance of his seven-year-old son Anmol on his way to Sunday School in Gamidi Village, Dunderpur. Next day Anmol was found in a pond with broken toes; neck cut; burns to face, hands and abdomen; and his mouth taped. He had died by drowning. A Christian woman from the same village was murdered seven years ago. *Barnabas Fund / Morning Star News 2/12/2013*
- October 2013 - Despite a Maoist group claiming responsibility, and there being no evidence against them, seven Christians have been imprisoned for life for the killing of militant Hindu leader Laxmanananda Saraswati and four of his aides in Orissa in 2008. Following the deaths, militant Hindus blamed Christians, sparking anti-Christian violence that left 90 Christians dead - for which few prosecutions have yet been brought. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014, p3*
- September 2013 - Hindu extremists entered Living Hope Church in Bangalore and stopped the Service, accusing the Pastor and Church members of forcibly converting people. One week later they returned shouting 'No prayer. No church'. Church members were beaten on both occasions. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014 p4*
- August 2013 - A 30-year-old Christian woman in Bakoudi, Madhya Pradesh, was raped, stabbed and strangled with her own sari. Two Hindu suspects arrested. *Barnabas Fund 27/1/2014*

Evidence (30)

- April 2013 - A Christian-run orphanage in Srinagar attacked after Islamic leaders falsely alleged it was converting Muslim children. After a group of mullahs tried unsuccessfully to kidnap the children a violent mob vandalised the building. The mullahs tried to kill the Pastor who runs the home, but police intervened and also proved the accusations groundless. The Islamists then threatened the landlord, who has given notice for the home to vacate. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p8*
- March 2013 - The Survati family in Uttar Pradesh had just sat down to eat when armed assailants burst into their home: Mrs Survati was maimed as her hand was cut off and Arvind (20) was beaten unconscious. Archana (22) suffered a broken hand, and the father and daughter Antika were also beaten. The family host prayer meetings in their home. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p8*
- February 2013 - More than 30 Christians were hospitalised with serious injuries after an attack with iron rods by Hindu extremists on a church in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh State. Police refused to lodge a complaint. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 16/2/2013*
- February 2013 - Anand Rao arrested in Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh, as he was about to deliver a lecture on the Bible following complaints by Hindu nationalists that he was engaged in forcible conversions. He was bailed next day for lack of evidence. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 16/2/2013*
- February 2013 - Two church leaders were assaulted by Hindu extremists during a prayer meeting in Nagpur, Madhya Pradesh. Police refused to take action, arguing that the building was not registered for worship. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 16/2/2013*
- February 2013 - Around 60 police officers surrounded Phatachanchara village, Orissa State, and forcibly entered Christian homes during the night. They interrogated Pastor Jahaya Mandal about his ministry; Deacon Komeil Roita and church members were tied to trees and beaten before being forced to walk barefoot over thorny and rocky ground for four kms so their feet bled. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p8*
- February 2013 - Pastor R D Joshua of Saltanpur, Uttar Pradesh, was attacked by about 10 people with links to the BJP (the political wing of the Hindu nationalist movement) whilst leading a service. He was tied to a tree, beaten viciously, his arm broken and his body covered with bruises. Initially the police refused to register a crime. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p2-3*
- 2012 - Many people in Orissa were attacked simply because they or their family members are Christians. Lalita is a young Hindu whose uncle is a Christian; because of this, she was viciously gang-raped. There was a superficial police investigation, but the court didn't even allow her to testify. *CSW Appeal Letter, Feb 2013*
- 2012 - A Christian cemetery in Midiaka, Kandhamal, has been desecrated, gravestones removed and trees and bushes uprooted. Kandhamal in Orissa was one of the areas worst affected by anti-Christian violence in 2007/8. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- December 2012 - Attacks against Christians occur almost every other day in Karnataka as Hindu nationalists rouse hostility. *Barnabas Fund, 5/1/2013*
- November 2012 - Police burst into a Christian prayer meeting in Boothpada village in Madhya Pradesh, ordered the meeting to close, and the believers to leave the area. Around 20 Hindu extremists then began shouting abuse and beat the two pastors, one very severely. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- November 2012 - Delhi High Court, after investigation, sought the replies of various social networking sites including Google and Facebook to a plea for removal of 'defamatory and derogatory' articles against a church and a Christian NGO from their sites. Bishop Dr K P Yahannan, President of Gospel for Asia, had maintained 'certain persons with vested interests are continuously trying to malign the reputation of (Gospel for Asia and Believers Church) by uploading defamatory contents onto the internet' with the object of discrediting and thereby choking off financial and other support.' *Journalism of Courage, India, 27/11/2012*
- November 2012 - Death threats have been made to Pastor Giri Babu and his family in Madhya Pradesh. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - A group of Hindu nationalists in Chippagiri Gowtown, Karnataka State, locked 30 church members in their homes before demolishing their Church, threatening to kill them if they attempted to escape. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2012 - Reports of anti-Christian violence in Karnataka occur almost every other day. It is thought the BJP Party is painting Christians and Muslims as enemies of Hindus as their election tactic. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- October 2012 - 10 Hindu extremists broke into the family home and attacked a Christian pastor and his family in the village of Naya Baans, Narela in Delhi. The pastor and his wife and one of their daughters needed major hospital treatment. *Open Doors Magazine, Dec 2012*
- September 2012 - A mob of 50 Hindu extremists broke up a prayer meeting in Hassan, Karnataka. Police detained four Christian worshippers overnight. *Open Doors Magazine, Nov 2012*
- September 2012 - Four Christians forced to leave their village (during the middle of the night in heavy monsoon rain), and many more beaten, in attacks in Chhattisgarh. A 600-strong mob broke down the doors of the families' houses, damaged possessions, and tried to force them to renounce Christ. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- September 2012 - Hindu attackers broke up a prayer meeting in Orissa, Kandhamal district. Pastor Nayak suffered severe head injuries and fractures to both arms. *Open Doors Magazine, Nov 2012*
- September 2012 - Over 400 Christians were forced to flee their homes in the States of Jammu and Kashmir due to pressure from the Muslim majority. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- August 2012 - An anti-conversion law in Himachal Pradesh was successfully challenged in the State High Court. The law required those wishing to convert to be listed in a public registry, which Christians claimed was being used by Hindu extremists to track new believers whom they then persecuted and even murdered. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p9*
- August 2012 - Edwin Raj from Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu State, was killed when a Hindu mob attacked a prayer meeting. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- August 2012 - Church leaders refused to give money to a mob who attacked their church in Orissa – the mob then beat them and destroyed furniture. Village leaders sided with the mob, and punished the believers. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- August 2012 - Hindu radicals severely beat Pastor Robinson Thankamani as he walked to church. *International Christian Concern, 10/8/2012*
- July 2012 - Hindi extremists in Chhattisgarh forced 15 Christians to participate in Hindu worship rituals, then assaulted them and chased them out of the village. *Open Doors Magazine, Sep 2012*
- July 2012 - Since terrible violence by Hindus on Christians in Orissa State in 2007/08 when at least 50 Christians were murdered, around 18,000 Christians injured, and numerous Christian women raped, the courts have made 1 conviction and 156 acquittals. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- July 2012 - In Madhya Pradesh, the names of 20,000 Christians have been deleted from the electoral roll – deliberately disenfranchising them. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- June 2012 - A church leader and 12 families in his congregation in the village of Mitrapur, Orissa, were attacked by Hindu extremists. *Barnabas Fund Prayer Focus, 29/6/2012*
- June 2012 - Over 400 Christians in Kashmir have fled their homes under threats from Muslims. *International Christian Concern, 8/6/2012*
- May 2012 - The 119-year-old church in Srinagar was torched by Muslim extremists. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- May 2012 - Dalits, or 'untouchables', account for 25% of the country's 1.2 billion people, 80% of whom are Christian. They continue to face intense abuse and discrimination. *International Christian Concern, 11/5/2012*
- April 2012 - On Easter Sunday, Hindu extremists attacked and severely beat Rev. Ratnababu and his family in Andhra Pradesh. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 187, May 2012*
- March 2012 - 100 radical Muslims completely disrupted a church meeting in Nukangram village, West Bengal State. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- March 2012 - Church service in Chichgaon, Madhya Pradesh, violently disrupted by Hindu extremists, who beat the assistant pastor and two other Christians, and then had them arrested. When the church pastor complained to the police, they arrested him also. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013*
- March 2012 - Hindutva extremists attacked Christians holding a prayer meeting at a church member's home in Kalkaji, New Delhi, alleging that Christians had desecrated statues of Hindu gods and goddesses and made insulting remarks about them. *CDN, 29/03/2012*
- March 2012 - Hindu extremists forced their way into a prayer meeting in Bangalore at 11 pm and ordered the two ladies conducting the meeting, Parimala and Padmavathi, to stop immediately. The invaders verbally abused the Christians, accused them of forcible conversions, and filed a police complaint against them. The women were forced to write that they would not visit houses and distribute Christian literature, nor conduct future night prayer meetings. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p11*
- February 2012 - Satwantin Mandari, a Christian, was expelled by her husband from their home in Tuthuly village, Kaner, after Hindutva extremists told Mr. Mandari that they would ostracise the family unless his wife returned to Hinduism. *CDM, 29/03/2012*
- January 2012 - Pastor Chandrakanth Kalappa Charan was beaten by Hindu extremists and forced to parade naked through his village in Karnataka State. He was then arrested by the police. A group of Hindu extremists had burst into a prayer meeting, abused the Christians, and attacked Chandrakanth. There were two more similar incidents in the next nine days. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 p11*

Evidence (31)

- January 2012 - Christian teacher Shrimati Sambhai, from Kanker, Madhya Pradesh, was prevented from starting her new job because of her Christian faith. The Madhya Pradesh Government appointed her as a pre-school-teacher, but the village head and community leader persuaded the State to revoke her appointment because of her faith. *CDN, 29/3/2012*
- January 2012 - Rev Chander Mani Khanna and four church leaders issued with a fatwa for 'spreading communal disaffection and immoral activities, and to be expelled from the State' by a Sharia court in Jammu and Kashmir. It was alleged, falsely, that he had 'attracted Muslim youth to Christianity by monetary payments'. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p11*
- January 2012 - Hindutva radicals armed with sticks and iron bars attacked 20 Pentecostal Christians in a private home in Karnataka State. They accused the Christians of proselytising and forced conversation. Pastor Shanthakumar Srirangam lost a finger and Mrs. Yashodamma, another church member, received a head injury. *Asia News, 12/1/2012*
- January 2012 - Graves in a Christian cemetery were destroyed by a bulldozer and the area used as a car park. Christians claimed the incident was instigated by local BJP (Nationalist Bharatiya Janata party) councillor, Chanchal Parmar. *www.indianexpress.com/news, 1/2/2012*
- 2011 - Christians were targeted in 140 violent incidents in 2011, including murders, assaults, arson attacks and the destruction of property. Militant Hindu nationalists are fiercely opposed to what they see as 'foreign religions'. *Release International Issue 65, Jan/Feb 2012 & Barnabas News, 30/1/2012*
- December 2011 - On Christmas Day, a group of Christians in Karnataka State were enjoying their Christmas meal when about 20 Hindu extremists carrying stones and clubs forced their way into the house and beat up the men, women and children, some seriously. Elsewhere in Karnataka a prayer hall was damaged. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 p3*
- December 2011 - Also on Christmas Day, Hindu mobs attacked Christians in the town of Haleyangadi. *International Christian Concern, 8/1/2012*
- December 2011 - Christian activist Rabindra Parichla was murdered in Kandhamal, becoming the third Christian leader to be murdered in the region this year. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 183, Jan 2012*
- Christmas 2011 - In Kandhamal, Orissa State, the home of a young Christian couple was burned down whilst they were at a Christmas celebration at their village church. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012 p3*
- November 2011 - The Rev. Chander Mani Khanna of All Saints' Church in Srinagar arrested on charges of 'disturbing communal peace' when a local Sharia Court accused him of 'luring Muslims into converting to Christianity'. *Jubilee Campaign USA: 0688 - C Main Street, Fairfax VA*
- November 2011 - Sister Valsa John (52), a Sister of Charity of Jesus & Mary, was killed when up to 50 people broke into her home in Pachuwara village, Jharkhand State, pulled her from her bed, and attacked her with a scythe and other sharp instruments. *ACN NEWS, 29/11/2011*
- November 2011 - Pastor Swamidasa Jula was badly beaten and thrown from a moving train by Hindus in Andhra Pradesh. He was hospitalised with fractured arms, back and head injuries. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- September 2011 - Hindus attacked a Christian burial service in Manpuri, Uttar Pradesh. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- September 2011 - Masked gunmen ransacked the church in Kollam, Kerala. *International Christian Concern, 9/9/2011*
- September 2011 - Our Lady of Vailankanni Catholic Church in Kottukulangara, South Kerala, was attacked by vandals who destroyed the altar, vestments, and confessionals. When church members went to investigate, the vandals threw them out. *Agenzia Fides, 6/9/2011*
- September 2011 - In each of the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh there are more than 100 serious physical assaults on Christians each year. *Release International Issue 63, Sep/Oct 2011*
- August 2011 - Attackers targeted Mother Mary Syro-Malankara Catholic Church in Hyderabad, setting fire to the main altar, Bibles, missals, hymnals, crucifixes and liturgical vestments. Parish priest John Felix, in an open letter to State authorities, claimed it and previous attacks had all been made possible by 'inactivity and neglect of the Police.' *ACN News, 7/9/2011*
- August 2011 - Christians at Grace Church, Dhantari, Chhattisgarh, ordered to stop services after complaints by Hindu hardliners. Congregation warned that local authorities could not be responsible for violence resulting from non-compliance. Similar developments in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka. *CDN, 17/8/2011; 15/4/2011 & 20/5/2011*
- August 2011 - In the Orissa anti-Christian violence in 2007 and 2008, 54,000 were made homeless (*AsiaNews 4/11/2008*): Archbishop John Barwa now reports that local groups and lower level officers in Kandhamal continue to block the supply of rebuilding materials- despite good will from higher ranking officials. *ACN News, 23/8/2011*
- July 2011 - About 150 Pentecostal Christians, gathered for their weekly prayer meeting in Bighpur, Uttar Pradesh, were attacked by 75 members of the BJP led by Himesh Dixit, Sybhash Bajpai and Chinh Patel, who accused the pastors of engaging in forced conversions and paying people to attend. Police arrested the pastors, house owner and his wife. *AsiaNews.it 16/7/2011*
- July 2011 - In North Orissa, six recently baptised Christians were arrested and charged with 'illegal conversion to Christianity' by Hindus. *Release International Issue 62, Jul/Aug 2011*
- July 2011 - Hindu extremists attacked Good Friday services in Karnataka State. Many Christians were injured, and Bibles and hymn books were destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- July 2011 - Baptist Pastor Minoketan Nayak of Midiakia-Kutipada village in Baliguda, Orissa, was murdered after giving two men a lift to a nearby village. His body was found in a pit with a hole behind his ear, but police refused to investigate. *ACN News, 26/8/2011*
- May 2011 - The Hindutva BJP political party now holds or shares power in ten states, and wields great influence in the police and legal system where it promotes discrimination against Christians and others in its bid to make India a religiously 'pure' Hindu nation. Violent attacks on individuals and churches are widespread, and whole Christian communities have sometimes been targeted. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p7-8*
- May 2011 - Corruption is rife, particularly discriminating against Dalit Christians. Christian candidates for the Police Force may pass the entrance examinations but be denied places because they refuse to pay bribes, and it is hard for Christians to obtain justice in the courts. Many offences against Christians are not investigated. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p8*
- May 2011 - As Sunemia, a Christian girl and daughter of a local pastor, was returning from her classes, she was kidnapped by two young men, taken to a Hindu temple, and forcibly married to one of them. Her present whereabouts are unknown. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p6*
- April 2011 - Pastor Ramesh Devda (30) beaten up by Hindu extremists in Meghnagar, Madhya Pradesh. Photo of Pastor Devda by *Compass* shows injuries to face and hands. *Compass Direct News, 22/4/2011*
- March 2011 - Hindu extremists attacked four church leaders and a pregnant woman, killing her unborn child at a school in Kolar district, Karnataka State. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011 & Barnabas, Mar/Apr 2011*
- February 2011 - Following threatening calls, St. Paul's International School in Srinagar was set on fire, completely destroying the administration block, library and computer centre. *Christian Post, 24/2/2011*
- February 2011 - There have been physical attacks against Christians in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra. *Prayer Digest, 28/2/2011*
- January 2011 - Pastor Mallappa Hanumanthappa and his brother were recently attacked by Hindu extremists in Karnataka State. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
- December 2010 - Christian villages in Orissa State attacked again by Hindu extremists who destroyed homes, raided church meetings and physically attacked Christians. Some Christians displaced in 2007 and 2008 have been told not to return or their lives will be in danger unless they convert to Hinduism. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p14*
- December 2010 - Hindu extremists attacked Christians in Karnataka State. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 171, Jan 2011*
- December 2010 - 50 Christians have been attacked in Kenger Upangara, Bangalore, along with several church buildings. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 171, Jan 2011*
- November 2010 - Pastor Shiju Kuriakose was attacked by Hindu extremists in Bangalore, Karnataka, and beaten with steel rods. *Release International Issue 58, Nov/Dec 2010*
- October 2010 - Aswini Sahu, Sanatana Jena and Amulya Swain - Christian converts - tricked and then confined in a house in their village of Paikamara in Puri, assaulted, and ordered to reconvert to Hinduism. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p29*
- September 2010 - A half-built church in Byappanahalli in Bengaluru district attacked. Report accusing local Christians of forced conversions filed by culprits with police, who halted construction and arrested pastor and seven church members. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p168*
- September 2010 - Muslims attacked the church in Malerkutta, burning furniture and destroying the building. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec*
- September 2010 - A Christian school in Tandmarg, Kashmir was burnt to the ground. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010 & Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2010*
- Summer 2010 - Fr. Jim Borst, who ran the Good Shepherd Community School in Shivpora, Kashmir and had a valid visa until 2014, issued with a 'Notice' to leave by the District Registration Officer following accusations by local Muslims of forcible conversions. *www.persecution.in*

Evidence (32)

- August 2010 – The Reformed Presbyterian Church in Haridwar, Uttarakhand, which was legally erected 150 years ago, twice attacked by 1,500 extremists with a bulldozer. Police refused to record the incident. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p40*
- August 2010 - Pastor Hema Naik, who runs an orphanage for 55 children in Chitradurga, north west of Bangalore, was attacked by the BJP, who then had him arrested and charged with anti-conversion laws. *Release International Issue 58, Nov/Dec 2010*
- August 2010 - Around 200 RSS extremists disrupted the screening of a Christian film in Mahalingpur in Bagalkot district, confiscating equipment belonging to a local pastor. Police ordered Pastor Inachi never to enter the village again. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p168*
- August 2010 – Around 60 extremists disrupted a prayer meeting led by Pastor John Harris at Kanakgiri, forcing the congregation outside, verbally abusing them, accusing them of forcible conversions, and attempting to have them arrested. Police ordered the Christians to stop 'all Christian activities' in the area. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p167*
- July/August 2010 - In July and August there was a spate of attacks by Hindu extremists against Christians in Karnataka State. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- July 2010 - Amit Gilbert (23) was killed when Hindu extremists raided a Christian meeting in Madhya Pradesh. *Release International Issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010*
- June 2010 – Hindu extremists forced entry into the home of Bhakta Bivar in Nuapada, stole four Bibles, and forced Bivar into a Hindu temple. There they burned the Bibles, forced him to eat food already sacrificed to Hindu gods, and said they would murder him and his family if they remained Christians. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, June 2011 p29*
- June 2010 - Eight Islamists stopped a car containing a Christian, Professor T.J. Joseph, who was returning from church with his family. After threatening the family, they amputated the professor's hand in retaliation for a question paper he had prepared containing a reference to the Prophet Muhammad they judged offensive. The investigating policemen themselves received death threats. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p39*
- June 2010 - The authorities closed down the Christian Orphanage and Bible Study Centre in Bari, in the Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 166, Aug 2010*
- May 2010 - Seven students at a Bible College in Mumbai (Bombay) were hospitalised after a Hindu mob stormed through their campus. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- May 2010 - Christian evangelist, Ravi Murmu from Jamalpur, Bihar State, was murdered by Hindu extremists. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 164, Jun 2010*
- May 2010 – Around 50 extremists forced their way into a church in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, attacked Pastor Sonam and his wife, threatened to kill their one-year-old son, and accused them of using the church as cover for a brothel. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p39*
- April 2010 - At Betul, Madhya Pradesh, a dozen or so extremists interrupted Evening Prayer at the Lutheran Church, assaulting members of the congregation. Pastor Amit Gilbert was assassinated. *Asia News, 4/4/2010*
- April 2010 - In Karnataka State there have been 1,000 recorded attacks on Christians in 500 days. *Barnabas Fund 102, Apr 2010*
- March 2010 - In Dinapur, Chhattisgarh, around 25 militants forced their way into a service at the Believers Church, confiscated piles of Christian literature, insulted the congregation, and threatened violence. One Christian, a Government worker, was told she would lose her job if she did not return to Hinduism. Police detained the Christians for three hours. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p37*
- February 2010 - Hindu extremists objected as a local minister preached in public, even though he had police permission to preach. Police then jailed him. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p29*
- February 2010 - Over 300 Hindu extremists forcibly entered 22 Christian households in Gokula, Mysore, attacking the residents as they tried to force them to write that they had been converted to Christianity under duress. Police prevented some receiving medical treatment. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p31*
- February 2010 – Extremists, allegedly led by local councillor, forced their way into New Life Fellowship Church in Karwar, Uttara Kannada, where they falsely accused two Christians of forcible conversions. The two men suffered grievous bodily harm requiring hospitalisation. Police registered the attack, but no arrests made. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p31*
- February 2010 - At Mondakia Relief Camp in Kandhamal District, a Hindu extremist attempted to rape Afasari Nayak, a Christian woman. Other Christian refugees rescued her, but her assailant returned with four others threatening severe consequences if a complaint was filed. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p29*
- January 2010 - At Bidarikere in Davangere, extremists forcibly entered a church service, attacked Pastor Raju, and set fire to Christian literature. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p166*
- January 2010 - Memorial Gypsy Church in Hyderabad burnt down – Pastor Nayak severely burned. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p168*
- January 2010 - Services at Calvary Gospel Church at the home of Sekhar and Kala Chandra in Dudda, Hassan district, were stopped by police after a complaint by Hindu activists, and the couple were ejected from their home by the landlord. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p167*
- January 2010 - Militants interrupted a prayer meeting in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh, and took 35 members to the police station where they were beaten and harangued into signing false statements saying they were bribed into becoming Christians. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p35*
- January 2010 - The 'Jesus Loves Holy Temple Church' in Chitradurga was burnt down. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p167*
- January 2010 - At Tidi in Karnataka, Hindutva activists marched into a prayer meeting in a private house, kicked and punched those present – including women and children – seven of whom needed urgent medical treatment, which Government hospital refused to provide. *CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p35*
- January 2010 - At Mundolli village in Uttara Kannada, Hindu extremists desecrated a cross next to St Lourdes' Church. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p166*
- January 2010 - The Government of Karnataka State are determined to introduce an 'anti-conversion' bill to stop Hindus converting to Christianity. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 159, Jan 2010*
- In 2009 there were at least 159 attacks on Christians. *Christian Voice, Feb 2010; CSW Response, Sep/Nov 2009*
- November 2009 - Three Sunday attacks by Hindus on Christian churches and property in Tamil Nadu State and Coimbatore. The Indian Government has allowed visits from European Union representatives to review Hindu violence to other communities. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- October 2009 - Hindu extremists continue to attack Christians. Pastor Vijay of Ludhiana, Punjab, was badly beaten. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2010*
- October 2009 - Two Christian evangelists, Ganesh and Chandru, attacked whilst preaching in Laskmeshwar, Karnataka. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 157*
- July 2009 - Hindu nationalists attacked the church of Pastor Rejesh Kurdekar in Shimoga district, Karnataka. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jul/Aug 2009*
- July 2009 - Hindu extremists set fire to Jesus Prayer House Church in Chitoor, Andhra Pradesh. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jul/Aug 2009*
- July 2009 - In Orissa State, violence against Christians is still a regular occurrence. Manoj Pradhan, the Hindu extremist, won a seat in the State Assembly while still in jail: he is charged with 14 cases relating to violence against Christians, including murder, rioting and arson. *CSW e-newsletter 23/7/2009*
- May 2009 - Hindus set fire to the church in Sidapuram village, Warangal City, Andhra Pradesh. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- May 2009 - In Medak, Andhra Pradesh, Pastor Erra Krupanandam was beaten by Hindu militants, fracturing his back and ribs. *Release International - Prayer Shield May/Jun 2009 & Barnabas Gifts 2009/2010*
- May 2009 - Militants attacked Pastor A K Wilson in Uttam Nagar, New Delhi and damaged his house. *Release International - Prayer Shield May/Jun 2009 & Barnabas Gifts 2009/2010*
- May 2009 - After Hindu violence in Orissa, more than 70,000 Christians are still affected, many having lost identity papers when forced to flee. Many still live in makeshift shelters and have very little income or food. Hundreds of children in Kandhamal have lost a full year of schooling because they are in refugee camps. *Relay, CSW Weekly Newsletter, 29/10/2009 Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2009*
- April 2009 - In Bihar State, Pastor Vinod Bhaskar (35) and four other worshippers were shot when a Hindu extremist burst into their church service. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated Issue 151, Apr 2009*
- January 2009 - Extremists killed Lalji Nayak (80) with an axe in the village of Brudangia, Orissa. *Release International Prayer Shield Jan/Feb 2009*
- January 2009 – UN Special Rapporteur expressed 'concern that Laws and Bills on religious conversion in several Indian States are being used to vilify Christians and Muslims'. Report of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Asma Jahangir: Addendum: Mission to India, 26 Jan 2009, para 70
- January 2009 - Three Christians attending a prayer meeting in Dumarbhavna, Chattisgarh State, were abducted by Hindu extremists and severely beaten. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009*

Evidence (33)

- 2008 - A Catholic priest, attacked in Kandhamal, said *"I am local. I was born here. I studied here. But now I have become a foreigner."* Griffiths, *Conversion, Re-conversion and Violence in Central Orissa* p47
- September 2008 – Fr Thomas Chellan (57), for seven years Director of the Divyajyoti Pastoral Centre in Konjamendi, was one of the first victims of the anti-Christian pogrom launched by the VJP following the assignation of Swami Saraswati. He and Sr Meena Barwa, who also worked at the Centre, were beaten with axes, spades and crowbars, abused, wounded and stripped: Fr Thomas had kerosene poured over his head in preparation for becoming a human torch, and Sr Meena was hunted down and publicly gang raped. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p 149 & Asia News 3/9/2008*
- September 2008 - A Catholic priest described how his father, a catechist, had an axe held to his neck as he was told to reconvert. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p151*
- September 2008 - Attacks by Hindu extremists have spread to 12 states. A Christian was hacked to death by militants in Phulbani, Orissa, and on same day militants ransacked four churches in Karnataka, three in Bangalore and one in Kodagu. *Sword Vol.3 No.6, Nov/Dec 2008*
- September 2008 - Clerics in Balliguda in Kandhamal have given evidence of how 'reconverted' Hindus were forced to carry out extensive rituals as proof of their changed allegiance. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p151*
- September 2008 - Following the assassination of VJP local leader Swami Saraswati, Christians are now facing cries of *'This is a Hindu land and foreign religions don't belong here' and 'Become Hindus or leave'*. A Christian in Raikia Relief Camp was told by the Peace Committee *'If you don't reconvert, we will kill you'*. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p150/1*
- August 2008 - Fr Thomas Pandippallyil (38) tortured and assassinated on his way to conduct worship near the village of Balampilly, Mosalikulunta, in Andhra Pradesh. There were wounds to his face, his eyes had been gouged out, and his legs crushed: his motor cycle was found 1 km away. The Bishop of Hyderabad denounced *'the growing climate of violence against (Christians)'*. *AsiaNews.ii 18/8/2008*
- August 2008 - 28 Christians, who had been forced to flee the carnage in Orissa after their homes were destroyed, were contacted by the assailants to set up a 'Peace Committee'. On returning to their village, they found hundreds of people gathered around a bonfire. In the presence of a Brahmin priest, they were tonsured and submitted to a Hindu 'reconversion' ceremony. To seal the process, Bibles were to be burned the following day, but they escaped during the night. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p150*
- August 2008 - An unprecedented wave of anti-Christian violence has spread from Orissa to the States of Karnataka, Madhya, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkland. The initial targets included all sorts of church people, and stemmed from a publication which was probably a malign hoax. At least 50,000 Christians from over 300 villages have been forced to flee their homes. Some 4,000 houses and 168 churches have been the burned or destroyed and many Christians have been killed or are missing. *Jubilee Campaign, Oct/Nov 2008 & CSW India Report 'Communalism, Anti-Conversion and Religious Freedom, Jun 2011 p29 & Release International Prayer Shield, Nov/Dec 2008*
- June 2008 - 15 Hindu extremists disrupted a Sunday service run by Pastor Jonathan Singh in Kishen Nagar, Uttarakhand. The pastor and church members were badly beaten. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- July 2008 - Evangelist Shyan Kumar (22) was attacked by Hindu extremists in Baswapur, Andhra Pradesh, as he was sharing the gospel with a group of beggars. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- June 2008 - By the 'Gujarat Religious Freedom Act' (which has lain dormant since 2003) Christians and other non-Hindu religious can now face three years in prison if they are found to 'forcibly convert' someone by 'fraud or allurements'. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 140, Jun 2008 & CSW (Amy Greenfield) 9/5/2008*
- May 2008 - Pastor Rampal Kouli was beaten by Hindu militants in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh. *VOM USA, 11/6/2008*
- May 2008 - In Baliguda, Orissa, at least seven Christian men have been in prison on false charges since December 2007 when radical Hindus attacked Christian homes and churches. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- May 2008 - A thatched church in Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh, was destroyed. *VOM USA, 11/6/2008*
- April 2008 - Pastor Mohan Babu and two other Christians were severely beaten by Hindus for holding a vacation Bible School near Bangalore city in Karnataka State. *VOM USA, 18/6/2008*
- April 2008 - Three pastors who were distributing Christian tracts in the town of Devarkonda, Andhra Pradesh, were beaten by Hindu militants. *VOM USA, 30/4/2008*
- April 2008 - Pastors and members of the Manna Ministry in Krishnapuram, Andhra Pradesh, were beaten by a group of Hindu extremists *VOM USA, 16/4/2008*
- March 2008 - Sr Mercy Tuscano and Sr Philomena D'Mello attacked by more than 49 Hindu extremists in Alibaug, Maharashtra. Sr Mercy was kicked in her private parts and dragged almost 100 metres by her hair; Sr Philomena was thrown on to a barbed wire fence and similarly attacked. Police initially bailed those accused on non-bailable offences. *All India Christian Council, 15/3/2008*
- January 2008 - Several Christian families in Udaipur district, Rajasthan State were attacked and beaten by Hindu extremists. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- December 2007 - Christians in Bhubaneswar, Orissa State, are under attack from Hindu extremists – nine Christians have been killed since Christmas and many more injured. *Ecumenical News International, 3/1/2008*
- December 2007 - Over Christmas, Hindu extremists launched violent attacks against Christians in Kandhamal District of Orissa State. A large number of Christians died, and at least 95 churches and 750 Christian homes were burnt down. Police stood by and watched. Christians were blamed for the assassination of a local VJP nationalist, but most neutral observers believe the culprits were Maoist insurgents. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 141, July 2008, Barnabas Aid, March/April 2008 & Barnabas Prayer, March/April 2008*
- November 2007 - 150 Hindu extremists attacked and destroyed a Christian church in Chattisgarh. *Prayer Focus Update 135, Jan 2008*
- October 2007 - Pastor Fanesh Murthy was attacked by Hindu extremists in the village of Rampura, Karnataka. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- October 2007 - Pastor Thadikal and his wife were attacked by Hindu extremists in the Vayandu district of Kerala. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- July 2007 - Muslims from the Molvis Al-Hadis Mosque in Baramulla assaulted house church leader Pastor Basher Masih. *VOM USA, 15/8/2007*
- July 2007 - Pastor Devampu was beaten by Hindu radicals in the presence of the police in Kanipackham, Andhra Pradesh. *VOM USA, 17/7/2007*
- June 2007 - Hemanta Das, a convert from Hinduism, was beaten to death by Hindu fanatics at his church, the Guwahati Baptist Church. *VOM USA 2/8/2007*
- June 2007 - A member of the Hindu radical group Hindu Iryavedi attacked a Church congregation in Bangalore, and seized the church for use as a Hindu temple. *VOM USA, 30/8/2007*
- June 2007 - Hindu extremists in Uttar Pradesh have issued death threats to Daya Marandi, a Gospel for Asia missionary. *VOM USA 7/6/2007*
- May 2007 - Rev George Minj and Sister Teresa Kindo were attacked in a village near Ranchi by Hindus. *VOM USA 23/5/2007*
- May 2007 - Manzoor Ahmad Chat, a convert from Islam to Christianity, was kidnapped and beheaded in Pulawamar district, Kashmir. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 127, May 2007*
- April 2007 - Pastor Jayasheelan and eight other Christians were attacked by more than 90 people at a prayer meeting in Rajankumte village in Rajasthan. Police did not interfere with the mob but instead jailed the Christians. *VOM USA, 10/5/2007*
- April 2007 - Five Christians visiting the Gandhi Hospital in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, were arrested by police for distributing Christian literature. *Barnabas Fund – Prayer Focus Update 127, May 2007*
- March 2007 - Pastor Abraham Burdham was badly beaten with rods and a sword in Orissa, and his hand was severely damaged. 20 Christian families have had to flee the area. *VOM USA 4/4/2007*
- March 2007 - There were 200 recorded attacks on Christians, mainly by Hindu radicals, last year. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2007*
- March 2007 - Pastor Anand was attacked by Hindu radicals. Local police refused to register his complaint and doctors denied him treatment. *VOM USA, 22/3/2007*
- March 2007 - In Himachal Pradesh more than 100 Christian converts have been forced to return to Hinduism under the new Himachal Pradesh Anti-Conversion Law passed in February. *VOM USA, 8/3/2007*
- February 2007 - Pastor Goda Israel was abducted and murdered in Andhra Pradesh. *VOM USA, 28/2/2007*
- February 2007 - Radical Hindus demolished a church which was under construction in the Niladeri Bihar slum. *VOM USA 28/2/2007*
- January 2007 - In Lambini village, Karnataka State, a Hindu mob prohibited Pastor Revanna Naik from holding a service and instead forced Christians to bow down before Hindu deities. *VOM USA, 14/1/2007*
- December 2006 - Just before Christmas, Hindu extremists burned down churches and disrupted services in several states. A pastor and 10 missionaries were beaten and arrested for singing carols. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- December 2006 - Five states currently have 'anti-conversion' legislation. This generally weighs against Christian communities. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 4/12/2006*

Evidence (34)

- September 2006 - Dozens of Hindu militants stormed a Christian school in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh State. They threatened nuns and vandalised the premises. *Face2Face, Oct 2006*
- June 2006 - Hindu militants invaded a house church service in Bhilai, Chhattisgarh State. David Ram (leader) and his wife were severely beaten and then taken to the police station to be charged with 'promoting enmity between religious groups'. *Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2006*
- June 2005 - 200 Hindu extremists attacked a church in Moti Chowk village, Chhattisgarh. Police then arrested nine of the Church members for 'disturbing the peace'. During May and June, churches in several States were attacked. *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- May 2005 - Gunmen opened fire on the Believers' Church in Thoubal district, Manipur State. *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- May 2005 - In Andhra Pradesh, two pastors have been abducted: their bodies later discovered on the outskirts of Hyderabad *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- May 2005 - Pastor Isaac Raju was kidnapped and killed. *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- May 2005 - After Pastor K Daniel was kidnapped, there was evidence of acid being poured over both his body and face; *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- January 2005 - An Indian priest was attacked by three men and left in critical condition. *Catholic Times, 23/1/2005*
- January 2005 - Catholic school attacked by mob of 70 Hindu arsonists. *Compass, 26/1/2005*
- December 2004 - Rev Fr Saji Abraham attacked at his altar by three men with metal rods *CSW 10/1/2005*
- December 2004 - Christian driver in Ahmedabad suffered 26% burns after being doused in petrol and set on fire for asking for a salary advance to celebrate Christmas. *CSW 1/10/2005; Catholic Times; 23/1/2005*
- December 2004 - Two Christian pastors attacked on their way to a prayer meeting in Rajasthan. *CSW, 1/10/2005*
- November 2004 - Five Christians charged with 'wounding the religious feelings of Hindus' in the state of Orissa. *Compass, 2/11/2004*
- November 2004 - Church in Mangalore attacked by mob and warned against converting Hindus. *Compass, 29/11/2004*
- October 2004 - Two Indian missionary pastors, Tulsiram and Vijay, of Gospel For Asia (GFA), kidnapped and beaten in Chhattisgarh State. *CSW, 14/10/2004*
- October 2004 - Hindu villagers in Orissa dug up the body of a dead Christian from local Hindu cemetery and ceremonially 're-converted' him to Hinduism along with members of his family. Local Christians claimed that the Hindu cremation grounds had previously been used by Christians. *Compass, 12/10/2004*
- October 2004 - A 71-year-old Catholic priest has been murdered in a ritual reportedly to appease the soul of a Hindu Priest killed at the temple 20 years previously. *Compass, 7/10/2004*
- October 2004 - Four nuns and three brothers of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity attacked in Kerala. *Compass, 4/10/2004*
- September 2004 - Four Christians, including Pastor Gopinathan, hospitalised after their church in Udupi, Karnataka State attacked by Hindu militants. *CSW, 14/10/2004*
- August 2004 - Dr Jeremiah Sunder (47), wife Hannah and mother Pankajam killed by a mob in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. *CSW, 15/9/2004*
- August 2004 - Fr John Sunderman has been left in a coma following an attack by armed assailants in Jharkhand State, and Fr Albanus Turkey hospitalized. *CSW, 14/10/2004*
- August 2004 - Church of Our Lady of Charity in Raikia, Orissa, attacked by 300 Hindu militants who burned Bibles, tore down the tabernacle, destroyed statues of saints, and damaged musical instruments, doors, windows, and other church property. Police present but did not intervene. *CSW, 14/10/2004*
- August 2004 - Kerala church minister, Job Chittilappilly, brutally knifed to death while praying. *Barnabas Fund No 97, 11/2004*
- August 2004 - Four young Christian women attacked whilst distributing Gospel tracts in Orissa. *CSW, 14/10/2004*
- July 2004 - A mob, who police say were leaders of the extremist Hindu organisation Vishwa Hindu Parishad, attacked a church under construction in Gujarat State, demolishing walls, gratings and windows. *Compass, 23/7/2004*
- July 2004 - Hindu militants with knives attacked a pastor and his family. *Compass, 2/7/2004*
- February 2004 - Six female Hindu converts to Christianity, two aged 15, stripped, beaten, tortured and tonsured by group of up to 35 Hindu extremists in Kilipala, Jagatsinghpur. *Barnabas Fund, 25/2/2004*
- February 2004 - Eight Christian women stripped, their heads shaved and made to walk through a village in Orissa after refusing to denounce their faith. *Compass, 17/2/2004*
- December 2003 - Praveen Togadia, General Secretary of the VHP, called for Maharashtra to adopt anti-conversion laws similar to those imposed in five other Indian states. *Compass, 29/12/2003*
- December 2003 - Dilip Singh Judeo, Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests, has vowed to re-convert 30,000 Christians to Hinduism within the next 12 months. One of India's most vocal anti-Christian campaigners, he sponsored the legal defence of Dara Singh, the assassin of Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two sons. He was then trapped on video by the *Indian Express* newspaper as he accepted a bribe of millions of rupees to release mining rights for protected land in Chhattisgarh and Orissa States. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- December 2003 - The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), known as the 'World Hindu Council', held a re-conversion rally on Christmas Eve in Dang District, south Gujarat. They claimed that 500 members of tribal groups re-converted to Hinduism during the rally, but Government officials present at the event said only one pastor and a handful of Christians attended. *Compass, 29/12/2003*
- October 2003 - 100's of BJP party members burned Bibles and evangelistic tracts. *Compass, 10/10/2003*
- September 2003 - 15 people injured when militants fired a grenade into a mission school in New Colony, Palwama. *Christian Monitor News, 21/11/2003*
- September 2003 - Indian Federal High Court ruled there is "no fundamental right to convert to another religion" and that the "Government can impose restrictions on conversions in the public interest". *Press Trust of India, 16/9/2003*
- August 2003 - Church and Bible school in Haryana attacked by 250 Hindus led by a local BJP politician. *Compass, 15/8/2003*
- August 2003 - One missionary and four Church leaders arrested and charged with forcibly converting people to Christianity. *Compass, 15/8/2003*
- August 2003 - Brother of a Capuchin Father attacked and threatened with crucifixion by Hindu fundamentalists. *Assist News Service, 18/3/2003*
- July 2003 - A meeting of the All India Christian Council heard 50 cases of persecution of Christians, including the attack on Brother Prashant who was smeared with 'religious' red powder and made to utter Hindu slogans by saffron-clad men. *Compass, 14/7/2003*
- July 2003 - In the run-up to state elections, the ruling VJP party is believed to have inspired attacks against Christian groups as a way of raising 'ideological issues' higher up the election agenda. This has resulted in disruptions, assaults on priests and damage to church properties. *Compass, 14/7/2003*
- March 2003 - The Gujarat State outlawed change of religion, except in exceptional circumstances, subject to a penalty of three years imprisonment and 1,000 Euro fine. *Katholieke Nieuwsblad, 3/2003*
- March 2003 - Capuchin monk killed and a Catholic chapel destroyed by Hindu activists in Karnataka. *C W News, 10/3/2003*
- February 2003 - Christian evangelist was driven out of a northern village by local police and Hindu activists. *Aid to Church in Need 'Violence Against Christians', 2003.*
- January 2003 - Head of the Pondicherry Central Jail, G. David, targeted by Hindus over Christian conversions. *Voice of the Martyrs, 8/1/2003*
- December 2002 - Father T.J. Abraham and Christian Church in Maliapota robbed of \$5,000 and jewellery by armed gang. *CWNews, 26/12/2002*
- December 2002 - Convent in Tamil Nadu attacked and robbed by gang. *Compass, 14/12/2002*
- November 2002 - A senior minister in the State Government of Gujarat has warned Christians from the Dang tribe to 'decide whether they want to live as Hindus or die as Christians': Systematic persecution of the Dang tribe began four years ago and has now intensified as militant Hindu campaign to confiscate Dang territory for the Hindu god Rama. *Compass, 15/11/2002*
- November 2002 - Eight Korean missionaries in Bihar State beaten by members of Bajrang Dal. *International Christian Concern, 11/2002*
- August 2002 - India's ruling political party, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has gone public with its anti-Christian agenda. BJP Vice-President Kailashpati Mishra accused Christian missionaries of provoking large-scale violence in Jharkhand State that left five people dead and hundreds injured. Riots followed passage of the State's new domicile policy, which bars employment for those who settled there after 1932. *Compass, 9/8/2002*
- July 2002 - A Hindu extremist organisation confidential circular has been found which urges members of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to rape Christian women during riots, sell Christian girls into the flesh trade, and recruit doctors to dispense poisoned drugs. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- June 2002 - A BJP member of the Legislative Assembly presided at a mass conversion ceremony in which 400 tribal Christians were formally re-converted to Hinduism. Christians complain that the Orissa Freedom of Religion Act, which restricts religious conversions, has been totally ignored when applied to Hindus, and especially that a BJP Legislative Member openly associated with such a highly controversial incident. *Compass, 9/8/2002*

Evidence (35)

- June 2002 - A family with mixed Indian and British ancestry has been refused refuge in the UK, as persecution of Christians in India is 'an aberration'. *Compass, 21/6/2002*
- June 2002 - Australian missionary, Graham Staines, and his two sons burned alive by Hindu fundamentalists. *VOA News, 22/9/2003*
- May 2002 - The family of a Christian pastor was attacked and beaten up by a gang of 10 to 12 Hindus in Jharkhand. *International Christian Concern, 26/5/2002*
- May 2002 - Hindu extremists in the capital of Gujarat State have written slogans on walls calling for the ethnic cleansing of Christians 'after Muslims have been wiped out'. Gujarat has suffered communal riots that have claimed 2,000 lives – mainly of minorities. *Compass, 13/5/2002*
- April 2002 - The Protestant Church in Moodabari was attacked by a group of 60 Hindu fundamentalists who feared that Hindu youths throughout the region were being drawn to Christianity. *International Christian Concern, 14/4/2002*
- March 2002 - Four Christians, trying to report attacks on a school in Khurda, were assaulted and one hospitalised. Church buildings damaged, and at least one burnt down. *Barnabas Fund, 7/3/2002*
- February 2002 - A group of Christians was attacked in the town of Mysore. A number of people were injured, four requiring hospital treatment. The Christians were accused of 'forcing Hindus to accept Christianity'. *International Christian Concern, 8/2/2002*
- February 2002 - A deaf Christian charity worker has lost his appeal against a 10-year sentence for drug smuggling in Manali. The trial judge made no allowance for the Christian's deafness and would not grant him an interpreter. *Compass, 15/2/2002*
- February 2002 - Catholic church attacked by 50 Hindu fundamentalists from the Bajrang Dal organisation. *The Washington Post Online, 17/2/2002*
- December 2001 - The Government is to introduce a Bill into Parliament that will prevent money going to missionary organisations, claiming that it is designed to prevent foreign funding for terrorists. *Compass, 14/12/2001*
- October 2001 - Christian workers continue to report violence against them in Northern India despite talks between leaders of the mainline churches and Hindu fundamentalists. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
- July 2001 - A militant Hindu website displays the names of evangelists together with secular and Christian scholars from India and other 'enemies of Hinduism' on its 'hit list'. *Compass, 20/7/2001*
- May 2001 - 10 men who attacked the Foreign Missionary Sisters' Convent 850 km southwest of New Delhi and gang-raped four nuns have been convicted and sentenced to life in prison. *Compass, 18/5/2001*
- November 2000 - Church leaders in India complain that the Orissa State Government is anti-minority after reports of increases in persecution in the State. *Compass, 17/11/2000*
- February 2000 - Christian nephew of a prominent Indian journalist beaten by members of Vishwa Hindu Parishad. *Compass, 18/2/2000*
- December 2013 - The South Sulawesi Christian Church in Pangkep, which the authorities sealed off in November, has been demolished. Verbal permission to repair the roof was given in 2011, prompting protests from the Islamic Joint Forum. When work started, the authorities ordered demolition. *Barnabas Fund 10/12/2012*
- August 2013 - Islamists in Lenteng Agung, West Java, are demanding the removal of Susan Jasmine Zulkifli who was recently appointed Local Authority Chief because, as a Christian, they say she cannot take part in Muslim ceremonies and prayers. *Barnabas Fund 2/9/2013*
- July 2013 - Christian parents in West Papua, who were enticed by the promise of 'free schooling' for their children, have seen their children removed to Islamic religious schools for 're-education' in strict boarding schools where they study the Quran and are pressured to convert to Islam before being sent home to spread Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013, p13*
- March 2013 - As Pastor Palti Panjaitan was attempting to leave his church, Filadelfia Batak Christian Protestant Church, he and members were pelted with rotten eggs, dung and bags of urine by a mob of Muslim extremists. He stopped a blow from the leader of the attack with his hand: no action was taken at the time, but three months later police have instigated assault charges. The Church had been sealed by the authorities for 18 months, despite the Supreme Court ruling it should be given a permit a year earlier. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013, p13 & Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p20*
- March 2013 - Church in Setu, Bekasi, demolished by authorities who had repeatedly refused to issue the required permit, even though the pastor confirmed it had complied with all requirements. Suggested that the demolition was ordered to win support of Islamic extremists before regional mayoral elections. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013, p13*
- February 2013 - The Islamic Defenders Front (FPI), a militant Islamist group, regularly pressures local authorities to refuse building permits to churches, notwithstanding Supreme Court judgements in favour of churches. In 2012 the FPI also pressured the closure of 45 places of Christian worship in Aceh Province alone. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p20*
- February 2013 - In provincial capital Makassar, Southern Sulawesi, four churches were subjected to attack by Molotov cocktails. Police said they believed the fire bombings were intended to stir up religious tensions. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 197, Mar 2013*
- January 2013 - A church in Mekargalith, West Java, has been attacked three times in the past two years, and many of the congregation are now too afraid to attend services. In the latest attack, about 50 Islamic Defenders Front members vandalised the building and physically assaulted the pastor – at one point throttling him with his own necktie. Local authorities have repeatedly obstructed the church's attempts to obtain a permit, and the pastor was later jailed for three months for operating without one. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p6*
- December 2012 - Churches in Aceh province have been under Sharia law since 2001, and officials recently closed down nine churches. Christian homes and a church were recently attacked by two bombs in Poso, central Sulawesi. *Release International Issue 71 Jan/Feb 2013*
- November 2012 - The Mayor of Tasikmalaya in West Java has introduced Sharia law. Two more Churches in West Java have been closed by the authorities. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 195, Jan 2013*
- November 2012 - Two Christians, Roy Kalbulan and Ribur Manulang, have been detained since May in Banda Aceh for proselytising. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - It is very difficult for Churches to obtain permission for building work: applications need support by 90 Church members and 60 non-Christians. Stasi Mahakarya and Gereja Pentakosta Sion Churches in West Pasaman threatened with mob-force to prevent their proposed extensions. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- 2012 - Over 150 local Sharia bylaws have now been adopted in at least half of Indonesia's Provinces, and often take precedence to the disadvantage of Christians. *Open Doors Handbook 2011 and 2013 & Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2012 - Many Christian schools face closure for not teaching Islam. *Barnabas Persecution Updated, 12/10/2012*
- August 2012 - In West Java, two churches - Bogor (with a 500-strong congregation) and Bandung were closed down. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- August 2012 - Radical Islamists forced the closure of St. Johanne's Baptist Church and Batak Karo Protestant Church. *International Christian Concern, 24/8/2012*
- July 2012 - Local Muslims in Banda Aceh beat and imprisoned two Christian believers accused of baptising a woman. *Open Doors Magazine, Jul 2012*
- July 2012 - 30 Christians were injured when a suicide bomber attacked the Bethel Full Gospel Church in Solo, Central Java. *Release International Issue 68, Jul/Aug 2012*

Indonesia

"The Indonesian Government's failure to take decisive action to protect religious minorities from threats and violence is undermining its claims to being a rights-respecting democracy" - Asia Director of Human Rights Watch, on the release of a 2012 report detailing a sharp rise in religiously motivated Indonesian violence. The authorities are criticised for condoning certain extremist Islamic groups, and discriminating against non-Muslim minorities. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013*

Though the extremist Islamic organisations do not have strong political representation, their influence is widespread as they take to the streets and steer public opinion. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p32*

UN Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay has drawn attention to increasing violence towards religious minorities, including Christians, and to Indonesia's "narrow and extremist interpretations of Islam". She said "I was distressed to hear accounts of violent attacks, forced displacement, denial of ID Cards and other forms of discrimination and harassment (and) that the police have been failing to provide adequate protection in these cases". *Barnabas prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*

- December 2013 - The GKI Yasmin congregation in Bogor, West Java, again celebrated Christmas in a make-shift worship space as their church remains sealed, despite two Supreme Court rulings in the congregation's favour. The church was initially granted a permit in 2006, but the municipality revoked the permit at the behest of the local Muslim-majority residents. The new Mayor, due to take office in April 2014, has pledged to review the situation. *Jakarta Globe 25/12/2013*
- December 2013 - The Ulema Council, a group of Islamic leaders in the Sharia-governed Province of Aceh, have warned the Muslim community not to join in Christmas celebrations, calling them 'haram' (sin). Christians in the Province have been warned to 'respect' Islamic traditions. *Asia News 18/12/2013*

Evidence (36)

- June 2012 - The Government in Aceh ordered the closure and demolition of 17 Protestant Churches, two Catholic Churches and one non-denominational Church. *International Christian Concern, 22/06/2012: Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- May 2012 - A bomb was exploded in a mainly Christian neighbourhood in Ambon. Dozens of people were injured and many houses set alight. In Picuan, North Sulawesi, the main church in the area was set alight and many cars and homes torched. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- April 2012 - After their village was almost razed to the ground nearly four years ago in a brutal attack by a Muslim mob from a neighbouring village (see May 2008), families in Horale, Maluku Province, were forced by their neighbours into the cost of a legal battle to confirm that the land of their village is rightly theirs. The Supreme Court has now ruled in their favour. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 p9*
- 2012 - The GKI Yasmin Church remains closed – even though the President of the country pledged to accept its re-opening. The church has been illegally sealed since 2008, forcing the congregation to continue to hold services in the street. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 & International Christian Concern, 17/2/2012*
- January 2012 - Radical Muslim groups and the authorities have closed down or demolished over 50 church buildings in the last two years. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012; Barnabas Prayer Focus 181, Nov 2011 (Jakarta Christian Forum FKKJ)*
- January 2012 - 100 members of the GKI Yasmin Christian congregation had their service disrupted by Muslim hard-liners and 50 officers of the Public Order Agency in Bogar city. *International Christian Concern, 27/1/2012*
- 2011 - To avoid inciting hostility, churches barely reach out to Muslim-background believers (leaving them) isolated. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- December 2011 - Papuan Christians who were celebrating 50 years independence from the Dutch, were shot and arrested by Indonesian authorities. *International Christian Concern, 9/12/2011*
- November 2011 - The number of extremist attacks on religious freedom for Christians has more than tripled in the past two years. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011, Setara Institute for Peace & Democracy*
- October 2011 - A crowd of about 100 armed with bamboo sticks held a demonstration against the GKI Yasmin Church in Bogar, West Java, followed two weeks later by a threatened attack and much verbal abuse. Reported that most demonstrators came from elsewhere, as local Muslims are supportive of the Church. *Jakarta Post, 1/11/2011 & CSW October Briefing, p9-10*
- September 2011 - Attacks on two churches in Tangerang resulted in injuries to one of the Pastors. *CSW, 'Indonesia Briefing' - visit in Oct 2011 p8*
- September 2011 - Pino Damayanto (31), claiming it was his religious duty to 'kill the enemies of Islam', perpetrated the suicide bombing of a church in Solo, Central Java. More than 20 people injured. *Magnis-Suseno, 'Protecting the Rights of Minorities in Law and Practice'*
- August 2011 - Over 100 Muslims set fire to two house churches in Logas Tanah Darat, Riau, Sumatra. Nearby Christian houses in Pasarbaru were also burned to the ground. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- June 2011 - A church in Klaten, Central Java, attacked with Molotov cocktails *CSW, 'Indonesia Briefing' - visit in Oct 2011 p8*
- March 2011 - Nine people who attacked a pastor with a club and stabbed a church elder in a church in West Java, sentenced to between five and seven months. *CDN, 4/10/2011*
- March 2011 - Young Sundanese believers in West Java are often isolated and marginalised. In schools, teachers give them poor grades, even if they perform well. *Open Doors Prayers Diary, Mar 2011*
- February 2011 - When Antonius Richmond Bawengan (58), a Christian, was convicted of blaspheming Islam, many Muslims considered the sentence too lenient. He had been found guilty of distributing books and leaflets that allegedly 'spread hatred about Islam' and was given the maximum sentence of five years in jail, but Islamic hard-liners wanted a death sentence. The mob stormed the Temanggung Court House, and violence spread to surrounding neighbourhoods, where two churches were set ablaze and a third damaged. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p13*
- January 2011 - Muslims forced the closure of Churches in West Java, South Sulawesi, Sumatra and other Provinces. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
- 2010 - The World Evangelical Alliance Religious Liberty Report for 2010 cites 75 incidents of violations of religious freedom against the Christian community in 2010, criticising police, media and politicians for their inaction. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011 p13*
- December 2010 - Seven churches were forced to close, and mobs threw out all the crosses and other equipment from them. *CSW Indonesia visit diary, 2011*
- December 2010 - At least 12 people came on six motorcycles, armed with knives, to attack the congregation of the HKBP Church in Ciketing. Police generally don't want to be seen to help Christians, and often only stand and watch. *CSW Indonesia Visit Diary, 2011*
- December 2010 - On Christmas Day, authorities attempted to stop GKI Yasmin Church in Bogar, West Java, holding a service, and sealed the church. In January, the Supreme Court ordered the church be re-opened, but the city authorities did not comply with the judgement. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p136 & CSW Weekly Newsletter, 18/8/2011*
- December 2010 - There is massive migration (of Muslims) to West Papua from other parts of Indonesia. A church leader from the majority Christian indigenous West Papuans said "(There) is an Indonesian programme to establish Papua as part of an Islamic state". Serious human rights violations, including extra-judicial killings and rape, have been reported. 'Thousands have been killed, and thousands are now in hiding in the forests.' *CSW Indonesia visit diary, 2011*
- December 2010 - An angry Muslim mob forced 100 Christians out of their homes and house church gatherings in Rancaek Wetan village near Jakarta. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 171, Jan 2011; Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- December 2010 - The High Court has ruled that the local Government should remove their 'prohibited' sign on the Bekasi Church and allow worship, but the seal is still there. The church's relationship with local Muslims used to be good, but now, being threatened by radicals, many have stopped their support. *CSW Indonesia visit diary, 2011*
- November/December 2010 - Muslims interrupted a Sunday service at HKBP Church in Bandung. In December, the church asked for police protection, and two hours later a 300-strong mob from a local mosque demanded the church's closure. Some from the mob went to seven other Churches interrupting worship and removing crosses. Local Government officials erected signs around the HKBP Church banning future worship. *CSW 'Indonesia Briefing', May/Jun 2011 p13*
- September 2010 - Two church leaders from Batak Christian Protestant Church in Bekasi, Jakarta, were attacked by Muslim fanatics. Asia Sihombing was stabbed and Luspida Simandjuntak was beaten with sticks. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010 & Release International Issue 58, Nov/Dec 2010*
- August 2010 - A mob of 300 Muslims attacked a church in Bekasi. It was the fifth attack in recent weeks. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 167, September 2010*
- August 2010 - Nine members of different Islamic organisations in Bekasi, West Java, are persuading mosques to prepare for a 'war' against Christians. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 166, Aug 2010*
- July 2010 - Students at Arastamar Evangelical Theology School are still without a proper college building two years after armed Islamic extremists destroyed the original one. *Release International Issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010*
- May 2010 - A website that was blasphemous to Muslims led Islamic Defenders Front to attack St Bellarmine School in Bekasi, West Java. The blog was allegedly run by the school, but the school has never had such a blog. *UCAN, 7/5/2010*
- May 2010 - At least 30 attacks have been reported on churches in Indonesia between January 2009 and May 2010. *CSW Appeal Letter, Sep 2010*
- April 2010 - Taman Yasmin Church in Bogor, West Java, closed down by the local Mayor *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- April 2010 - Hundreds of Muslims attacked a Christian church building in Cibeureum, Bogor Regency, West Java. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- March 2010 - Two Churches had building permits cancelled after protests by Muslim groups. Santa Maria Immaculata Church in Citra Garden, West Jakarta, was already part built, on the basis of the initial permit. *CDN, 25/3/2010*
- January 2010 - Two Churches and a pastor's house were set on fire by a Muslim mob in Sibuhuan, Padang Lawas region. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 161, Mar 2010*
- January 2010 - In the Purwakarta district of West Java, the authorities have withdrawn permission for local Christians to build a church. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2010*
- 2009 - In central Sulawesi and the Maluku Islands, hundreds of churches and thousands of homes have been destroyed since the troubles began. It has been estimated that 30,000 Christians have been killed and 500,000 driven from their homes. *Barnabas Fund, Praying for Persecuted Christians, 2009*
- 2009 - Christians from Maluku report that the Muslim Government is encouraging mass migration of Muslims into their area. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
- December 2009 - A new church in Bekasi Regency was burned down by Muslims. The same mob had previously forced 21 churches near Bandung to close. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010 & Release International Issue 54, Mar/Apr 2010*
- November 2009 - In Java, Christian pastors face harassment and threats of violence and opposition from Muslim communities. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- October 2009 - Security forces evicted 700 Christian students from their accommodation in the city of Jakarta. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated 158, Dec 2009*
- July 2009 - Muslims attacked the Christian village of Horale. The mob killed four Christians and set fire to 120 houses and three churches, and many people were injured. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*

Evidence (37)

- July 2009 – Muslim groups stopped the building of a Catholic-owned home for disabled children in Batu, East Java, alleging it might be used for missionary activity. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p144*
- April 2009 - The congregation in Depok, West Java, have been forced out of their church because the Muslim mayor revoked its permit. Church leader Frans Koagow and his wife, Ferry, were brutally murdered in North Sulawesi. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jul/Aug 2009*
- 2008 - Churches in Bandung received a letter from a radical group asking for money to ensure their safety. *CSW 'Indonesia Briefing', May/Jun 2011 p14*
- December 2008 - In the village of Letwaru on Seram Island, Maluku, two churches and 50 other buildings were burned down by a Muslim mob. Several people were injured. *Release International – Prayer Shield, Mar/Apr 2009*
- August 2008 - Members of a house church in Pondok, East Jakarta, were attacked. *Release International – Prayer Shield, Nov/Dec 2008*
- July 2008 - Muslims forcibly closed down a church in Jatimala, Bekasi, West Java. *VOM USA, 2/7/2008*
- July 2008 - Hundreds of armed Muslims attacked students and staff at Setia Bible College, Jakarta. 20 Christians suffered head and shoulder wounds, were slashed by knives, and had acid thrown over them. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 08 & Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- July 2008 - A Muslim mob again attacked the Arastramar Evangelical College in East Jakarta with spears and Molotov cocktails. 265 students were injured, and over 1,500 students had to be evacuated. *Methodist Recorder, 11/9/2008 & Prayer Digest, 4/8/2008*
- June 2008 - Islamic militants from the Islamic Defenders Forum and Hit-ut-Tahir Indonesia attacked participants in a rally to promote religious tolerance. *CSW Response Issue 154, Sep/Oct 2008 & CSW Prayer Diary, Sep/Oct 2008*
- June 2008 - 110 Christian churches were closed down between 2004 & 2007 by various Muslim groups. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Jun/Jul 2008*
- May 2008 - Christian village of Horale was attacked by a Muslim mob. They burnt down 120 houses, three churches, and the village school, and destroyed 15 hectares of crops. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 140*
- March 2008 - The Islamic Government has said "conversion to Christianity is a bigger evil than terrorism." *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2008*
- February 2008 - Islamic extremists forced the closure of two churches - on Java and on Sumatra (Bethel Church, Pekanbaru, Riau Province). *VOM USA, 19/3/2008*
- November 2007 - 250 radical Muslims badly damaged a Church in South Bandung, West Java. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- November 2007 - 30 Islamic vigilantes attacked and destroyed the house of Ranto Gunawan in Bandung, which had been used for house church worship for 20 years. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- 2007 - Throughout 2007, at least 25 churches in West Java were forced to close due to attacks by Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 136, Feb 2008*
- October 2007 - Christian leaders who were imprisoned in April for 'praying for Muslims and thus guilty of abusing the Quran' were sentenced to five years in prison. *VOM USA, 31/10/2007*
- June 2007 - Muslim extremists in West Java threatened to close down Churches operating in private houses. *Face2Face, Jul 2007*
- May 2007 - The Arastamar Evangelical School of Theology was recently attacked by 200 Muslim militants who forced the staff and students off their campus. *CSW – Response, May/Jun 2007; Release International Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009.*
- April 2007 - More than 40 Christian leaders have been arrested after a video recording of them praying for Muslims was leaked to Islamic organisations. *VOM USA, 27/4/2007 & 11/7/2007*
- March 2007 - Western Sumatra has adopted an ordinance requiring all students to pass both written and oral exams on the Quran, which will be enforced by 2008. *Barnabas Fund, 5/3/2007*
- November 2006 - Christians in Banda Aceh, whose homes were destroyed by 2004 tsunami, have been prevented from moving into new houses which have been provided by a Christian organisation – even though the organisation built 200 houses for Muslim tsunami victims. *Barnabas Aid, Nov 2006*
- October 2006 - Church leader Irianto Kongkoli (40) was shot dead in Palu. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2007*
- October 2006 - An armed group set fire to a church near Poso. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2007*
- October 2006 - Protestant church leader Rev. Irianto Kongkoli (40) was assassinated in central Sulawesi. *CSW/Response Issue 144, Jan/Feb 2007*
- October 2006 - A Muslim mob burnt down the Evangelical Mission Church in Aceh. *Face 2 Face, Oct 2006*
- May 2006 - Bombs were set off in Tentena, Sulawesi, killing at least 19 Christians. *Barnabas Fund, Sep2005*
- Early 2006 - Churches in West Java reported an escalation in violence and 'threats' against 'illegal' churches in the area, and that Islamic fundamentalists had forcibly closed 35 churches in 2005. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p37*
- December 2005 - An anonymous message to Radio Station *Timor Voice* announced 'On the eve of New Year, 31 churches in Kupang will suffer the same fate as Bali with the bombs in October'. It purported to be from 'The Jihad for the Prophet Mohammed' of which Azahari, the suspected bomb-maker responsible for the 2002 and 2005 Bali attacks, is a member. Security forces drafted 2,500 police and soldiers into the area. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' pp36-37*
- October 2005 - Construction of a new church in Bekasi, West Java, was halted after pressure from nine fundamentalist Muslim organisations. The authorities gave in, despite the church having met all the criteria for permission to build. The previous month, 500 demonstrated against the church, shouting 'Not a single church must be built here'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p36*
- October 2005 - A group of Catholics were attacked whilst reciting the Rosary in a private house in West Java. The attackers forced them to stop praying, and demanded they sign a declaration not to pray again in their homes. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p36*
- October 2005 - Three teenage schoolgirls, cousins, were beheaded as they walked to school in Poso district, Sulawesi. The head of one of the girls was put in a bag and left on the steps of a church. A fourth cousin was critically injured. A few days later two more students were shot. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p129*
- August 2005 - 200 Islamic extremists forced the closure of the Chapel of Margahayu in West Java: the priest gave in to prevent church members being beaten up. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p35-36*
- July 2005 - Three women, Eti Pangesti, Ratna Bangun and Doctor Rebekka Zakaria, arrested on charges of 'Christianisation' of children in West Java. After nine court hearings, Dr Rebekka was sentenced to three years whilst demonstrators shouted 'kill Rebekka, burn Rebekka' and brought a coffin to court. *Christian Herald, 30/7/2005 CSW Appeal Letter, Sep 2010*
- May 2005 - Bombs were set off in Tentena, Sulawesi, killing at least 19 Christians. *Barnabas Aid, Sep 2005*
- May 2005 - Indonesian police blamed Islamic militants for two bombs that killed 20 people in a market in a Christian area of Sulawesi Island. *Sunday Times, 29/5/2005*
- January 2005 - Tsunami Relief effort in Aceh infiltrated by Islamic extremist groups, who prevented orphans being cared for by Christians, and forced one relief post to close because it was run by Christians. *Barnabas Fund, 14/1/2005*
- December 2004 - Two Churches in Central Sulawesi attacked during Sunday services - three people injured. *Compass, 14/12/2004*
- October 2004 - More than 1,000 people were forced to flee their homes after rioting between Christian and Muslim groups in Sulawesi. The riots came after a law which split Polewali Mamasasa into two separate territories: Muslims were concerned that the split would place some of them into Christian majority Mamasasa. *Compass, 29/10/2004*
- September 2004 - Local authorities in Rancaekek ordered 12 churches to close their doors. The congregations had applied for permits as early as 1993 but were refused as officials said that the land was reserved for housing. Since then Christians had been meeting in local houses but the authorities declared this illegal. *Compass, 29/9/2004*
- July 2004 - Two worshippers were killed by a gunman during the Sunday service and four other worshippers wounded during an attack thought to be in retaliation for the earlier murder of a Muslim in Central Sulawesi. The stabbing to death of a Christian woman is also linked to this incident. *Compass, 22/7/2004*
- July 2004 - Rev. Susiandy Tinulele shot dead by four masked men whilst preaching. *Barnabas Fund, 19/7/2004*
- April 2004 - Two masked men with assault rifles stormed Tabernacle Church in Kilo Village, Poso, Central Sulawesi, spraying gunfire at choir and injuring seven, including a four-year-old girl. *Barnabas Fund, 19/4/2004*
- April 2004 - Monsignor Mandagi, Catholic Bishop of Maluku, reports at least 36 Christians killed and more than 159 injured by Islamic militants in Ambon. A church and Christian university were also set alight in the violence, and 200 homes were burned. *CSW, 30/4/2004 & Barnabas Fund, 28/4/2004*
- March 2004 - Three Christians gunned down in separate incidences in Poso region in four days. Pastor Freddy Wulsan (25) and Tanalida (37) were killed, and Rosio Pilongo (41), the Christian Dean of the School of Law at Sintuwu Maroso University, seriously injured. *Barnabas Fund 5/4/2004*
- December 2003 - A Protestant synod treasurer, his nephew and another Christian murdered in Central Sulawesi. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- December 2003 - Village of Tiwaa attacked by gunmen who focused fire on house of Christian Chief. One person seriously injured. *Barnabas Fund, 9/12/2003*

Evidence (38)

- December 2003 - Two Christians hospitalised by gunmen in Poso. *Barnabas Fund, 9/12/2003*
- November 2003 - Two Christians, Ruslam and Arifin gunned down in front of their young families in Tabamawo. Mrs. Sandra Tengker and two others hospitalised *Barnabas Fund, 9/12/2003*
- November 2003 - 10 Christians killed and 30 homes damaged after raids in Paso in Sulawesi. *Christian Monitor News, 17/10/2003*
- November 2003 - 20 gunmen strafed houses of predominately Christian village of Kilo Trans, killing two. Most Christians at prayer meeting, so avoided violence. *Barnabas Fund, 9/12/2003*
- November 2003 - Four Christians killed by Muslim gunmen. Severely beaten and mutilated bodies of Mr. Tadjodja (58) and his nephew (26) found between two Muslim villages. Two more Christians, Dennis and Mr. Bowo dragged from motorbikes and beaten to death. *Barnabas Fund, 18/11/2003*
- November 2003 - Two Christians were killed, six are missing and 38 homes damaged after masked and armed raiders attacked a Christian village in Central Sulawesi. *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- October 2003 - Five Christian villages attacked by masked gunmen crying "Allahu Akbar". 11 Christians, including a woman seven months pregnant and a six-year-old girl, killed. *Barnabas Fund, 20/10/2003*
- October 2003 - Christian convert from Islam gunned down in broad daylight in Pandiri, south of Poso, by motorcyclists. *Barnabas Fund 20/10/2003*
- September 2003 - Bomb discovered in church in Tomata one Sunday. *Barnabas Fund, 20/10/2003*
- August 2003 - One Christian was killed and five severely injured in several attacks in Central Sulawesi. One incident involved a bomb being thrown into a Christian restaurant in which two male customers lost limbs. *Compass, 15/8/2003 & Voice of the Martyrs, 23/7/2003*
- July 2003 - Two pastors killed and 11 churches destroyed in attacks by Indonesian military in Wamena, in the Central Highlands of West Papua. *Compass, 14/7/2003*
- June 2003 - Central Sulawesi's leading Protestant church leader, Rinaidy Damanik imprisoned. His family and lawyers regularly threatened. *Voice of the Martyrs, 23/7/2003*
- October 2002 - Mob destroyed church in Muslim city of Makassar in South Sulawesi. *Barnabas Fund: 15/10/2002*
- September 2002 - 17 churches used by 10,000 Christians closed down by local Government authorities in Aceh Province. *Barnabas Fund: 4/10/2002*
- September 2002 - Two Christian villages in Tentana, Central Sulawesi, attacked by Muslim extremists, four people killed including a three-year-old child. *International Christian Concern, 9/2002*
- September 2002 - Three Christian villages attacked by armed gangs on the island of Morotai. *CWNNews, 18/9/2002*
- August 2002 - Christians attacked in Matakoto village near Poso in Central Sulawesi. Seven shot, four missing, and 27 houses burned. *Barnabas Fund: 7/7/2002*
- August 2002 - Jihad fighters attacked two Christian villages in central Sulawesi. All Christian houses were razed to the ground and at least one Christian was killed. *Catholic World News, 13/8/2002*
- April 2002 - Protestant church in Ambon City burned. Six people stabbed to death, including a six-month-old baby. *De Volkskrant, 29/4/2002*
- November 2001 - Christians attacked in Soya village near Ambon, in Maluku. 12 dead, six injured, and 30 homes burned. *Barnabas Fund, 30/4/2002*
- November 2001 - 1,700 Muslim extremist fighters attacked the Christian village of Waimulang in Maluku, killing two and forcing 1,000 to flee. Over 3,000 Christians have been killed by militant Muslims since May 2001. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- June 2001 - Six Ambon Christians killed and five churches damaged by Muslims protesting against the attempts to impeach President Wahid. *Compass, 15/6/2001 & Barnabas Fund, 20/6/2001*
- October 2000 - Militant Muslim forces are moving to besiege the Christian enclave at Paso where more than 100,000 Christian refugees are housed on the island of Ambon. The militants are threatening to inflict a jihad 'holy retribution' - if the Christians do not evacuate the island. *Compass, 20/10/2000*
- 2000 - Christian - Muslim conflict stirred up by gunmen affiliated to the Laskar Jihad militant group, who had been trained in camps in Java. 'These fighters transformed what had been communal violence into massacres and forced conversions of Christians' according to *Religious Freedom in the World: Marshall (Ed), rowman & nLittlefield (US) 2007 p203*

Iran

Iran is officially a Shia Muslim country, but it remains firmly in the grip of a ruling elite whose concepts of religious tolerance inevitably place minority groups – including other Islamic denominations – at a distinct disadvantage. In 2012 the US Commission on International Religious Freedom Annual Report stated: *'Iran is a constitutional theocratic Republic that discriminates against its citizens on the basis of religion or belief. During the past year, religious freedom conditions continued to deteriorate, especially for religious minorities. Physical attacks, harassment, detention, arrests, and imprisonment intensified.'* *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*

A Report by the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran has revealed that the authorities treat standard Christian practices such as being a member of a house group or attending a Christian conference as illegal acts. It also describes a pattern of systematic and arbitrary arrest and detention of Christian converts from Islam, and presents clear evidence that their lives are threatened. The Government has not approved a single new church building since the revolution. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p9*

Iran executes more people per year than any other country except China. *CSW Prayer Diary, 2012*

- December 2013 - On New Year's Eve, four Christians meeting at the home of one of them in Karaj arrested, and equipment including a computer, CDs and books confiscated. *Middle East Concern 16/1/2014*
- December 2013 - On Christmas Eve, security agents raided a house church gathering in East Tehran. The house owner, Mr Hosseini, and four others were arrested, and books, CDs and various equipment confiscated. The agents also searched the home of a neighbour and beat him up as a warning not to publicise anything he may have seen. The whereabouts and situation of the five detainees is unknown. *Middle East Concern 16/1/2014*
- December 2013 - Rev Vruir Avanesian (61), well known Christian musician who now has heart disease and diabetes and requires dialysis three times a week, sentenced to three and a half years' imprisonment for 'anti-government activities and promotion of ideas contrary to the Islamic State of Iran' – a euphemism for Christian ministry. *Barnabas Fund 17/12/2013*
- November 2013 - Christian prisoners in Iran may be subjected to mental as well as physical torture by interrogators and guards. Pastor Farshid Fahi, who was sentenced to six years' imprisonment for apostasy, told in a recent letter 'your wife has been arrested, and you need to give your children to someone's custody, and your father has had a heart attack'. In fact both his wife and children have left Iran because of continual harassment. *Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2013*
- October 2013 - A court in Rasht sentenced four Christians to 80 lashes each for drinking communion wine and possessing a receiver and satellite antenna. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 29/11/2013*
- July 2013 – In the last few years, Iranian authorities have responded to the growth of Iran's churches by persecuting Christians in manners not seen since early days of the Iranian revolution over 30 years ago. Christian converts face harassment, threats, arrest and imprisonment – some are subjected to abuse and torture, while others have to pay exorbitant sums for bail. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p9*
- June 2013 - Six Christians given prison sentences of 44 months each for attending a house church and spreading Christianity. One of them, Vahid Hakkani, denied medical treatment for internal bleeding. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 29/11/2013*
- May 2013 - Earlier this year one ayatollah defamed Christianity and declared that today's Christians are 'a shame to Christianity', while another warned against the growth of house churches by saying they attract 'ungodly youth who have gone astray', and induce them to convert. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p13*
- January 2013 – Pastor Saeed Abedeni, who holds Iranian and American passports, sentenced to eight years in the notorious Evin Jail in Tehran for 'planting house churches' which were 'intended to undermine national security'. A former Muslim, he was trained as a suicide bomber with militant group Hezbollah. Initially subjected to threats, torture and beatings, he was told that he would never be freed unless he returned to Islam. Medical treatment was refused, one nurse refusing to touch him because, as a Christian, he is considered 'unclean'. He appears now to have 'vanished' from jail, and fears for his safety are great. It is estimated that over 150 Christian converts languish in prison for their faith. *International Christian Concern 25/1/2013; Barnabas Prayer Focus 197, Mar 2013; Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p9 & Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p9 & 17*
- 2012 - Legally sanctioned Christian churches – Armenians and Assyrians - are subject to restrictions, including not being allowed to worship in Farsi, the national language, and leaders being required to sign 'loyalty letters' promising to have no contact with Muslims. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012 Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*

Evidence (39)

- December 2012 - Three clergy and a wife from church in Ahwazin sentenced to a year's imprisonment for 'converting to Christianity, inviting Muslims to convert, and propagating against the Islamic regime through promoting evangelical Christianity'. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- December 2012 - Six Christians from the Church of Iran, who are members of a house church in Shiraz, remain in prison following a raid on the church in October. *CSW Response, Jan/Feb 2013*
- Late 2012 - 40 Christians from four churches in Shiraz and Kavar arrested in a sweep by security agents, and accused of 'having contact with enemies of the Islamic regime abroad'. Some freed on payment of large bail, others remain in jail. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2012 - Homayoun Shokouhi and his wife Fariba, converts from Islam, were arrested early 2012, leaving 17-year-old-son to care for his 12-year-old-sister. Judge offered to free Fariba if she would renounce her faith, but as she refused to recant, he set bail at \$200,000. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2012 - Pastor Farshid Fathi Malayeri, from a Muslim background, is serving six years in jail for apostasy. At least 19 others are known to be in jail because of their Christian faith. *Maranatha Community, 12/10/2012 & CSW Prayer Diary Jan 2013*
- October 2012 - Five Christians from Muslim backgrounds have been imprisoned in Shiraz since February. *Maranatha Community, 15/10/2012*
- October 2012 - State security agents have been permanently posted to St Luke's and St Paul's Churches in Esfahan, where they interfere in many aspects of church life. They have installed listening devices, been ordering clergy around, spreading false rumours, and threatening the congregation by warning them of 'dire consequences' if they persist in their faith, and ordered them not to bring children to services. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013; Barnabas Persecution Update, 12/10/2012*
- October 2012 - Shahin Lahouti, a talented musician, arrested on trumped-up political charges along with six other converts from Islam when police raided a prayer meeting. The other six were released after making extortionate bail payments, but Shahin sentenced to two and a half years in Adel-Abad prison in Shiraz for 'action against national security'. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide 16/9/2013*
- September 2012 - Many Christians have been jailed for "religious propagation and acting against national security". Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani has been in prison since October 2009 in Lakan prison, sentenced to death for apostasy. He refuses to recant his faith. *Release International Issue 69, Sep/Oct 2012 & Open Doors Prayer Diary Sep. 2012. [Note: Pastor Nadarkhani has now been released. Open Doors Handbook 2013]*
- August 2012 - Discussions are taking place in Parliament to prohibit the distribution of Bibles. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Aug 2012*
- 10th July 2012 - In a public speech, President Ahmadinejad stated that Christianity and Judaism do not exist. *International Christian Concern, 13/7/2012*
- July 2012 - Most Christians, even if they can afford it, have difficulty finding lawyers willing to defend them. Mohammad Ali Dadkhah, main defence lawyer for Iranian Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani, has been sentenced to nine years for 'speaking propaganda against the system through interviews with foreign media' and 'membership of an association seeking the soft overthrow of the Government'. *Open Doors Magazine, Jun 2012 & International Christian Concern, 4/5/2012*
- May 2012 - A Farsi-speaking church with 100 members in Janat-Abad forcibly closed down. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 189, Jul 2012*
- April 2012 - A Christian cemetery in the Ghale Dokhtar area of Kerman Province was completely demolished. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- March 2012 - Three pastors - Parviz Khalay, William Belyard and Behrouz Sadegh Khandjani - have been jailed for their faith for allegedly committing "crimes against national security". *Release International Issue 66, Mar/Apr 2012*
- February 2012 - Retired nurse Mrs. Hakimpour (78), sister-in-law of the former Anglican Bishop Iraj Motahedeh, was seized at her home by the authorities and released three days later. No reason was given for her arrest, but similar arrests have taken place across the country. Both leaders and church members are being targeted - in some raids entire congregations have been seized. *Farsi Christian News Network, 3/3/2012 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 p7-8*
- February 2012 - Christian convert Masoud Delijani was sentenced to three years' imprisonment charged for 'having faith in Christianity', 'holding illegal house church gatherings', 'evangelising Muslims' and an unspecified action against Iran's national security. *BosNewsLife, 29/2/2012*
- February 2012 - 10 Christians were arrested in Shiraz because they had gathered in a house church for worship. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, May 2012*
- February 2012 - 13 people were detained after a raid on a house church in Kermanshah. *Middle East Concern, 5/3/2012*
- February 2012 - Six Christians were detained after a House Church raid in Isfahan, including Anglican minister Hikmat and a 78 year old woman. *Middle East Concern, 5/3/2012*
- February 2012 - Eight church members were detained after raids in Shiraz. *Middle East Concern, 5/3/2012*
- February 2012 - Christians Arash Kermandjani (29) and his wife Arezo Youmouri (26), imprisoned for eight months without charge, were attacked on their release. *'From the moment we got past the prison gates we never felt safe - quite the opposite: we feared attack by Islamic vigilantes and agents of the Islamic regime. All employment was closed to us, and we were constantly under surveillance, so we decided to leave our country for our safety and seek refuge elsewhere.'* *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 pp11-12*
- Late 2011 - Fatimeh Noari, a Christian convert from Islam, was convicted in late 2011 for 'attending a house church, insulting sacred figures and activities against national security'. She is a university student, and was sentenced to 'one year's deprivation of education'. This is the first time such a penalty has been imposed on a Christian convert: it is against international law to deprive anyone of education on religious grounds. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 p7*
- December 2011 - Authorities in Ahwaz, south-west Iran, arrested Pastor Farhad Sabokrouh, his wife, two assistant ministers, and members of a local church during a Christmas raid. Church members released, some after two months in prison, with no charges filed. Pastor, wife and two assistant ministers sentenced to one year's detention. *International Christian Concern, 8/1/2012, US Commission on International Freedom 2012, p85 & Middle East Concern 16/1/2014*
- December 2011 - Farshid Fathi, a Christian convert from Islam, arrested Christmas 2010, has remained in Evin prison, Tehran, since. He has been subjected to periods of solitary confinement, intense interrogation and denied communication with his family. Charges are derived from his leadership of house churches, which have been presented as anti-state political activity. *Middle East Concern 23/12/2013*
- December 2011 - House church leader Noorollah Qabitzade, a convert from Islam to Christianity, has been in prison since December 2010. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012*
- November 2011 - Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani has been in prison since October 2009 on charges of apostasy. He is still facing a death sentence as his appeal to Iran's Supreme Court was denied in June 2011. Much of his time in prison has been in solitary confinement. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2011; Release International Issue 63, Sep/Oct 2011 & CSW Weekly Newsletter 8/7/2011*
- September 2011 - A child was taken hostage by the security forces in a bid to coerce the Christian parents to make a statement against Christians in prison. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- 2011 - At least 285 Christians were arrested during the first six months of this year. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Jan 2012*
- August 2011 - Ayatollah Hadi Jahangosha declared *'The West is trying to divert our youth by publishing and advertising false Gnostic books...'* He identified house churches as *"a deviant sect, stating that 'real Christians' do not believe this distorted Christianity-Protestantism."* *CNS News, 26/8/2011*
- August 2011 - Authorities seized 6,500 pocket Bibles in Zanjan in the North West. Parliamentary Advisor Majid Abhari told Mahr News Agency that 'Christian Missionaries were out to deceive Iranians'. *CNS News 26/8/2011; Barnabas Prayer Focus 179, Sep 2001 & Release International 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- July 2011 - False and insulting stories about Christians have appeared in Government media. An article on *Youth Online* website alleged that women evangelists were going into stores, using shopping as a pretext to converse with staff, and then suggesting sexual liaisons and insulting Islam. *Barnabas Fund & CNS News 26/8/2011*
- June 2011 - Almost 300 Christians were officially arrested during the last 12 months, but CSW judges believe 'the full figure is almost certainly much more.' Many released after short imprisonment, but exorbitant bail demands 'some in excess of \$30,000, and declarations of renunciation of faith' sometimes required. Laptops and mobile phones often confiscated, and used to obtain information on activities and identities of other Christians. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide 'Iran: Summary of Concerns and Recommendations, Aug 2011*
- May 2011 - A Professor at Azad University was sacked for 'propagating Christianity', and a Christian student at the same University, Mostafa Zangooyee (24), was arrested for sharing his faith. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- May 2011 - 11 members of the Church of Iran, including Pastor Abdolreza Ali-Haghejad, were tried by the Revolutionary Court in Bandar Anzali for 'acting against national security'. *International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran, 4/5/2011*
- May 2011 - Recently, six Christians were tried for attending a house church. *CSW Weekly Newsletter, 13/5/2011*
- May 2011 - 11 Christians were taken to court for taking part in a house church meeting. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- May 2011 - Three churches in Tehran have been ordered to stop holding Friday services in Farsi, the national language. One church was told that if the order was ignored, the building would be bombed *'as happens every day'*. It is easier for people to attend a church on a Friday as Sunday is a working day. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p7*

Evidence (40)

- May 2011 - Targeted raids on unregistered 'house churches' have meant many Christians arrested in the last year. The house churches cater mainly for converts from Islam, who have been described by the Governor of Tehran as 'hard-line missionaries' into Islam. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2011 p11*
- April 2011 - Pastor Behrouz Sadegh-Khanjani of the Church of Iran and five other church members were sentenced to a year in prison for 'propaganda against the Regime' by the Revolutionary Court in Shiraz. However, the court acquitted them of 'acting against national security'. They had also been charged with apostasy, blasphemy, and 'contact with the enemy.' *International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran, 4/5/2011*
- April 2011 - Pastor Vahik Abrahamian is still in jail four months after he was cleared of all charges. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 11/8/2011*
- 2011 - Between June 2010 and March 2011 at least 282 Christians were arrested in 14 cities. *Release International Issue 61, May/June 2011*
- December 2010 - More than 70 Christians were arrested in Tehran and Mashhad in pre-dawn Christmas raids in a crackdown on the house church movement. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 172, Feb 2011*
- November 2010 - Hamid Shafiee and his wife Reyaneh Aghajary (both converts to Christianity) and church leaders in Isfahan, arrested in February, are still awaiting a Court hearing. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2010*
- November 2010 - Morteza Tamadon, Governor of Tehran, threatened further arrests of church members, and declared Evangelical Christians had inserted themselves into Islam 'like a parasite' *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p48*
- November 2010 - Pastor Youcef Nardarkhani from Rasht charged with apostasy by the Gilan Assize Court. First arrested in October 2009, he now faces the death penalty. His wife Tina was arrested in June and sentenced to life imprisonment, but now released following an appeal. He had questioned the Muslim monopoly on religious education of children in Iran, which contravenes Iran's Constitution. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 169 & 171, Nov 2010 & Jan 2011; Voice of Martyrs 4/12/2010*
- October 2010 - Benham Irani, 41, a pastor from Karaj, who had been convicted of 'crimes against national security' and sentenced to one year in prison, now told he will have to serve five years because of a previous conviction. *US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012, Annual Report p.85. (January 2013 - Pastor Benham is now suffering from severe stomach ulcers and colon complications, and has not received adequate medical treatment. He has also been beaten severely and regularly whilst in jail. CSW Prayer Diary, Jan 2013)*
- 19 October 2010 - Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said (at the holy city of Qom) that Iran's enemies want to shake the country's religious and societal values through the spread of Baha'ism and the Christian house church network. This was the fifth public statement from an Iranian leader condemning Iranian Christians in two months. *Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2011*
- July 2010 - 15 recent converts on their way to a Christian meeting were detained by security forces in Mashhad in Khorasan Province. They were subjected to harsh interrogation: some were released after a week, but the remainder are still imprisoned. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 167, Sep 2010*
- July 2010 - Abbas Amiri & his wife Sakineh Rahnama, both in their 60's, physically assaulted by security officers at a church meeting. Abbas died from injuries two weeks later, and his wife died from her wounds and stress related causes the following month. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2010*
- July 2010 - Many Christians have been imprisoned without charge, especially converts from Islam. *Release International Issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated 154, Jul 2010*
- June 2010 Pastor was detained in Karaj, near Tehran, along with other members of his church. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- April 2010 - April Reza was arrested and imprisoned for leading a home-based church in Tabriz. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2010*
- February 2010 - Church Leader Rev. Wilson Issavi arrested in Karmanshah - his whereabouts are still unknown. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 162*
- December 2009 - Mrs Hamideh Najaf was arrested because of her contact with a foreign Christian TV network. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010.*
- December 2009 - A meeting of 70 new converts from Islam to Christ was raided by security Police - all Bibles and other Christian books were seized. *Barnabas Prayer, March/April 2010*
- September 2009 - An Islamic court in Shiraz sentenced three Christian converts to eight months suspended plus five years on probation for 'co-operating with anti-Government movements' - a reference to Christian TV stations. *CSW Iran: Religious Freedom Profile' Sep 2009 p 5 ff*
- August 2009 - Two Christian women from a Muslim background, Maryam Rostampour (27) and Marzieh Amirizadeh (30), who have been held in Evin prison, Tehran, without charge since March, have been ordered by a Judge to recant their Christian faith, but refused. Their Bibles have been confiscated. *Barnabas - Praying For The Persecuted Church - Advent 2009*
- August 2009 - At least 30 Christians from Muslim backgrounds arrested and detained between June and August, mostly during Church gatherings. *CSW Appeal Letter Sep 2010; Sword Vol. 4 No. 5, Sep/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Police raided a meeting of Christian converts in Fasham, north of Tehran. All 24 participants arrested, and devotional objects seized. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p 59*
- July 2009 - Christian broadcaster SAT-7 and other satellite channels found their signals blocked by the Government. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 pp59-60*
- July 2009 - In Rasht, eight Christians were arrested, most of whom were converts from Islam. *Sword Vol. 4 No. 5, Sep/Oct 2009*
- June 2009 - Substantial numbers of converts from Islam to Christianity, especially Anglicanism and Assemblies of God, are such that 'influential voices in the Regime have supported reintroduction of traditional punishments for apostasy' (death for a man, life imprisonment for a woman). *BBC Persian Service, 23/6/2009*
- June 2009 - Four Christian men - Ali Reza Aghajery (30), Mahomood-Reza Daylammi (29), Ali Kazemian (40) & Adel Pashangian (30) - were arrested and held without charge in the city of Shiraz. *Release International Issue 52, Nov 2009*
- May 2009 - Muslim pensioner Abdul Zahra Vashahi (62) arrested in Bandar Mahshar in an attempt to curb the activities of his son, John Reza Vashahi, who has lived in the UK for 10 years. John writes a blog 'Jesus for Arabs'. *Compass Direct News, 20/5/2009*
- May 2009 - Three families (Gholamzadeh and his wife; Anari & his wife; and Hamid Hussein and his adult children), converts from Islam to Christianity, were arrested, imprisoned and held without trial for a year. Now they are being tried as apostates. *Barnabas Prayers Focus Update, Issue 153*
- April 2009 - Widowed Mrs. Fatemah Pauki, a retired school teacher, had her pension stopped because she is a convert from Islam to Christ. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- January 2009 - Parliament has provisionally approved the death penalty for leaving Islam. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2009 & Release International Prayer Shield, Nov/Dec 2008*
- December 2008 - Christians in Tabriz, Shiraz and Shanandaj were summoned by secret police to sign promises that they would not meet to celebrate Christmas. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- September 2008 - The Prosecutor at the Revolutionary Court in Shiraz requested the death penalty for Mahmoud Matin-Azad (52) and Arash Shiraz (44) by evoking Sharia Law and citing Ayatollah Khomeini's book *Tahrir-ul-Vasile*, which proscribes death for apostasy. *Sword Vol3 No6, Nov/Dec 2008*
- 9th September 2008 - Parliament gave provisional approval to a Bill that mandates the death penalty for any male Muslim who converts to another faith. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 144, Oct 2008*
- 2008 - Ayatollah Khomeini declared that 'non-Muslims of any religion or creed are najess (impure)'. He held that although a handshake was not najess, contact with the bodily liquids of a non-Muslim was. Thus, washing the clothes of non-Muslims and Muslims together, eating food, consuming products or using utensils touched by non-Muslims are seen as potential sources of defilement. Some Muslims will not work alongside an apostate. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, 2012 pp 56-57*
- August 2008 - Secret police stormed a house church in Isfahan: two senior citizens - Abbas Amisi and Sakineh Rahnama - horribly beaten and are now in intensive care. The whereabouts of eight men, six women and two children who were arrested are unknown. *Prayer Digest, 4/8/200; Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- August 2008 - House church leader, Mohsen Namvar, was arrested in Tehran. *VOM USA, 18/6/2008*
- June 2008 - Makan Arya (31) and his wife Tina Rad (28) were arrested in East Tehran for 'activities against the holy religion of Islam' and 'activities against national security'. They were threatened with the death penalty. They had held a Bible study at their house. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 142, Sep 2008*
- May 2008 - Ramtin Soodnmand was arrested on charges of apostasy in Shiraz, along with 15 converts. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- May 2008 - Eight Christians, some of whom were converts from Islam, were arrested. Many face interrogation and imprisonment. *Barnabas Prayer Sep/Oct 2008 & Marianne Kallon@lco.gov.uk 29/30 Sep 2008 & Ziya Meral' CSW.org.uk*
- May 2008 - Christian couples, Homaigon Shakohic Gholamzadeh and his wife and Amir & his wife Fatemaeh were arrested at the airport and imprisoned because of their house church activities. *VOM USA 11, Jun 2008 & Prayer Focus 140*
- May 2008 - Police arrested 12 Muslim converts to Christianity in Shiraz. They also confiscated books and computers. *VOM USA, 28/5/2008 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 140*
- February 2008 - The Government is reviewing a bill for the Islamic Penal Law that provides for the death penalty for apostasy. *VOM USA, 13/2/2008*
- July 2007 - Islamic leaders are trying to wipe out Christianity; the level of persecution has greatly increased. *VOM USA, 11/7/2007*

Evidence (41)

- June 2007 - A new wave of persecution of Christians has started. Christians have been arrested and imprisoned for worshipping in their homes. *VOM USA, 27/6/2007*
- December 2006 - 15 Christians were arrested in Teheran on proselytizing charges. At least one, Behrooz Sadegh, remains in prison. *Faith News, 5/2/2007*
- December 2006 - A Christian couple who led a church of 200 members have been forced to flee the Country. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- December 2006 - Secret Police arrested leaders of the 'Jesus Only' movement in the cities of Tehrani, Karaj, Rasht and Bandar-Anzali. They were imprisoned and interrogated for over a week. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- November 2006 - Issa Motamadi has been imprisoned since July, accused of apostasy from Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- May 2006 - Ali Kaboli (51), who converted to Christianity 33 years ago, arrested at his workshop in Gorgan, Golestan, and interrogated incommunicado. He has been threatened in the past for holding 'illegal' religious meetings in his home, and could still be charged with apostasy. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p39*
- 2005 - Ramzi Garmou, Chaldean Archbishop of Teheran, commenting on the number of Christians living in Iraq which has fallen by two-thirds in 30 years, said that 'above all, (this) is due to emigration which has accelerated since the Islamic revolution' and that 'Christians belong to minorities distinguished not only by their faith but also by language and culture (which) makes them doubly strangers in the eyes of the people'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p38*
- November 2005 - Iranian Ghorban Tori (50) converted to Christianity whilst living in Turkmenistan. He formed a church for Muslim converts, for which he received death threats. He was abducted from his home, and hours later his beaten body was found outside his house. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p39*
- April 2005 - Rev Hamid Pournand, an Army colonel, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for 'deceiving Iranian armed forces' by not declaring his faith when he became a Christian, despite being a Christian for 25 years and documents proved that his superiors had always known. *International Christian Concern Website, Apr 2005; www.Christiantoday.com, 7/4/2005; Compass, 4/2/2005*
- September 2004 - 80 Pastors from the Assemblies of God Church arrested at their Annual General Meeting in Karaj. *Compass, 10/9/2004*
- May 2004 - A Christian Iranian pastor, his wife and two teenage girls arrested and held without charges in Northern Iran. *World Evangelical Alliance, 27/5/2004*
- January 2013 - A car bomb killed a Christian medical student Ayyoub Fauzi Ayyoub Al Sheikh near the university in Mosul. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p6*
- January 2013 - Christian teacher Shdha Elias (54) was found with her throat cut in Mosul. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 196, Feb 2013*
- December 2012 - In the Province of Dohuk, the Kurdistan Regional Government has begun a systematic and illegal confiscation of farm lands belonging to Chaldean Christian villagers. *Maranatha - Willfred Wong, Dec 2012*
- December 2012 - Radical Muslim cleric Ayatollah Ahmad Al Hassani Al Baghdadi issued a fatwa threatening Christians with death unless they convert to Islam. Referring to Christians as 'polytheists', he said 'their women and girls may legitimately be regarded as wives of Muslims'. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- December 2012 - Sermat Patros (29) kidnapped from his family's furnishing store in Iraqi Kurdistan, and ransom of \$500,000 demanded. Blindfolded and tied down, he was rescued after three days. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012 p15*
- May 2012 - Many Christians who fled to Kurdistan are now experiencing a new wave of Islamic attack and violence. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*
- May 2012 - 20 Christian families in Mosul received threats, and the house of another Christian was set on fire. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- Spring 2012 - Over the past eight years, 71 churches were attacked - mostly bombed - 44 in Baghdad and 19 in Mosul. Nearly 600 Christians have been killed in religious and politically motivated attacks, including 17 priests. Two bishops were kidnapped - one of them, Archbishop Paulos Rahho, died in captivity. In most cases, those responsible for the crimes said they wanted to rid the country of Christians. *AINA 22/3/2012 & ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- Spring 2012 - Christians in Zakho complained that the Regional Government had returned only 40% of the land lost when they fled persecution in the 1960s, much of which proved very difficult to irrigate. The problems were compounded by identity cards including the holder's religion, making it easier for employers to discriminate against Christians. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- March 2012 - Noorollah Qabiltzade, a convert from Islam to Christianity who was imprisoned as a house church leader Christmas 2010, has refused his freedom on condition he renounce his faith. Instead, for sharing his faith with fellow prisoners, he has been transferred to another prison in Ahwaz, 100 miles further from his family. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012 p4*
- March 2012 - St Matthew's Syrian Orthodox Church in Baghdad was hit during bombings that killed 52 people. Two guards were killed, and five people wounded. The Iraqi Government said the attacks were intended to 'present a negative image of the security situation' ahead of the Arab League Summit - that targeting a church would generate more media coverage and concern in the West. *AINA, 22/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Reports list the grotesque killing of very young Christians, including a seven-month-old baby, and two 14-year-old boys - one reportedly decapitated for being 'a dirty Christian sinner', and another 'crucified in his village on the edge of Mosul'. *AINA 22/3/2012*
- March 2012 - 93 members of St. George's Church, Baghdad, have been killed in one year. 11 out of 13 former Muslims baptised as Christians were killed within a week of their baptism. *Release International - Issue 66, Mar/Apr 2012*
- January 2012 - Terrorists opened fire on the Chaldean Archbishop's residence in Kirkuk. No reason given for the attack although police believe it may have been politically motivated. *Asia News, 11/01/2012*
- January 2012 - Pastor Jamal, a convert from Islam, has been in captivity since July 2010. For days on end he has been blindfolded and handcuffed in solitary confinement, received little food and water, and has been regularly interrogated. *Barnabas Prayers, Jan/Feb 2012 p7*
- December 2011 - 100 (mainly youths) threw stones at a church and homes in Zakho belonging to Christians. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- December 2011 - Muslims in the city of Zakho attacked 20 Christian-run shops. Leaflets were put on the walls of burned shops threatening death to owners if they re-opened. At least 30 people were injured and millions of dollars' worth of damage was caused. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 183, Jan 2012 & ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- December 2011 - Authorities raided a Christmas service in Ahwaz, detaining everyone. Children were particularly distressed as the security agents had their faces covered. Eventually all were released except the pastor and two leaders, whose whereabouts are unknown. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012 p2*
- September/October 2011 - Emmanuel Hanna Paules (60) was murdered in Kirkuk and Bassam Eshoo was shot dead in Mosul in the restaurant where he worked. Three other Christians were taken hostage and only released after a large ransom was paid. *Barnabas Prayers, Jan/Feb 2012*
- August 2011 - Five churches were bombed in three weeks of Ramadan. At least 13 people were injured in the bomb blast at Holy Family Church, Kirkuk. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 1/11/2011 & ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- July 2011 - Kurdish Pastor Jamal, a convert from Islam, was kidnapped from his home in Dehok. He is still missing. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2011*

Iraq

Iraq's Constitution provides for religious freedom, but people of all faiths suffer, especially Christians but also Yezidis and Muslims of different traditions. *ACN 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012 p48*

'Extremist Sunnis and Shiites are at war over everything else, but united by a common denominator - the persecution of Christians.' *'Chaldeans' Last Stand', Anthony O'Mahony, Tablet 30/6/2007*

As Christians have fled the country, their number has dropped from 1.5 million to an estimated 350,000. Christians in Mosul and Baghdad particularly face violence and threats from kidnappers. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*

Doura was once one of the biggest Christian communities in Iraq with 30,000 families. Now there are only 2,000 left. They feel strangers in their own land, and that makes them want to leave. The bleeding from migration is continuous. Five of Doura's churches have closed - two car-bombed, the others due to the kidnapping of their leaders. *Barnabas Fund, 17/12/2013*

- December 2013 - Christmas has been declared a national holiday in Iraq for the first time, and Ammar Al-Hahim, head of the Shiite political party Islamic Council of Iraq, gave the Christmas Eve Address at a church in Baghdad. Referring to al-Qaeda he said 'They target you like they target us. There are people in Iraq who believe anyone who has a different opinion should be killed'. The UN estimates 8,000 people were killed in Iraq in 2013. *Barnabas Fund website, 2/1/2014*
- December 2013 - A car bomb went off near a church during Christmas Mass in the capital's Dora neighbourhood, killing at least 26 people and wounding 38. Iraq's dwindling Christian community has often been targeted by al-Qaeda and other insurgents. *Daily Telegraph, 26 Dec 2013 p21*
- December 2013 - Despite major Government security efforts to protect churches and Christians over the Christmas season, two bombs exploded in the market place in the Christian district of al-Athorien, killing 11 and wounding 21. *Barnabas Fund website, 2/1/2014*
- July 2013 - Pastor Jamal (Abdi Ali Hamzah), who was kidnapped in 2010 before again being jailed in northern Iraq for preaching, has been released after 21 months during which he was subjected to torture and put in solitary confinement in attempts to persuade him to reconvert to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p9/10*

Evidence (42)

- June 2011 - The number of Christians in Iraq has dropped from 1.4 million to 400,000 since the invasion. *Barnabas Aid, May/June 2011*
- May 2011 - Baghdad University's Music Department has been closed because, allegedly, music is incompatible with Sharia law. *ACN 17.5.2011*
- May 2011 - Orthodox Christian Arakan Jehod Jacob was shot dead by Muslim fanatics in Mosul. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 177, Jul 2011*
- May 2011 - The majority of Christians who have fled the violence in Iraq have gone to Syria – a country with a remarkable history of welcoming Christian refugees. But they are not allowed to work legally, and most find their savings soon depleted, and most quickly become dependent on charity. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2011 p11*
- May 2011 - Ashur Yacob Issa (29) was kidnapped, tortured and decapitated in Kirkuk. His family had been unable to pay the £61,500 ransom the kidnappers demanded. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 177, Jul 2011; Can, 20/5/2011*
- April 2011 - At least two Iraqi policemen and two passers-by suffered shrapnel wounds in a bomb blast on Easter Day outside Sacred Heart Church in Karrada district. *www.aina.org/news.20110424154010.htm*
- April 2011 - Four police officers were wounded in a firefight with gunmen outside St. Mary the Virgin Catholic Church in Karrada on Easter Day. *www.aina.org/news.20110424154010.htm*
- March 2011 - Chaldean Archbishop Bashar Warda, speaking in Ireland, said that common expressions of sectarian belligerence to Christian people included direct threats in letters enclosing bullets; text messages mentioning potential targets; personal threats in the street; threatening language by police and army personnel; burglary and extortion; and threatening graffiti, including quotations from the Quran, on the walls of Christian homes. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing, 2012 p28*
- March 2011 - "The grief and sorrow of our congregations is palpable, where not one person has been unaffected by tragedy since 2003. Each family has suffered decades of losses from Saddam's regime, the sanctions prior to the occupation, and the devastation of the Gulf War (and) the Iran-Iraq War." Archbishop Warda, speaking in Dundalk, Ireland in 2011. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing, 2012 p29*
- March 2011 - Following a hostage siege at a Church in Baghdad, 50 Christians were killed. *Barnabas Mar/Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Two Christian brothers Saad and Raad Hannah were gunned down in their car. Many other Christians have been killed by Muslim activists. *Barnabas, Mar/Apr 2011*
- February 2011 - Youssif Isho (70) was stabbed to death at his home in Baghdad by Islamists. Nothing was stolen, indicating that this was a targeted killing rather than a robbery. *Prayer Digest, 28/2/2011 & Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2011*
- January 2011 - Iraqi Archdeacon Emanuel Youkhana said Christians were being systematically attacked in a bid to drive them out of the country, and Islamisation now affected every aspect of Christians' daily lives. Christian women feel pressurised to wear the veil in public. *ACN NEWS, 17/05/2011*
- January 2011 - A Christian doctor, Noyia Youssif Nayia, was shot dead at the hospital in Mosul where he worked. *Barnabas News, 20/1/2011*
- December 2010 - An elderly Christian couple, Hikmat and Samira Sammak, were stabbed to death in their Baghdad home. *Zenit News, 6/12/2010*
- December 2010 - In late November and December, many Christians were murdered in multiple attacks in Baghdad and Mosul by Muslim fanatics. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 171, Jan 2011*
- December 2010 - Two killed and 14 injured in co-ordinated bombings on Christian homes in Baghdad. *Barnabas Lent Prayers 2011*
- October 2010 - The 'killing sword will not be lifted' was the threat from Al-Qaeda after the siege at Baghdad Cathedral which began with a car bomb during evening worship and left more than 50 Christians dead and 60 maimed and injured. It took four hours for security forces to arrive. *Sunday Times Magazine, 24/4/2011; Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011 & W. Wong, Dec 2010/Jan 2011*
- October 2010 - Following the car bomb and siege at the Cathedral, Al-Qaeda said Christians everywhere were 'legitimate targets' and extended their threat to 'all Christian centres, organisations, and institutions, leaders and followers'. *Barnabas Lent Prayers 2011* Note: Later that day, dozens of Muslims gathered outside the ruined Church, appealing for Christians to stay in the country. One Muslim man said "The Christians are the people of Iraq for thousands of years, and Christianity is one of the oldest religions in Iraq. We invite them not to leave, because all Iraqis feel their pain". *Barnabas Prayer Letter Jan/Feb 2014 p3*
- 2010 - Over the last 20 years Christians have been targeted by savage violence, resulting in a massive decline in the Christian population from 1.5 million in 1990 to about 400,000 today. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 167, Sep 2010*
- September 2010 - Following a purge by Sunni Muslims in Mosul, Nima Noail (50), a civil servant, and his family were forced to leave the country – leaving behind all their possessions. *Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2010*
- June 2010 - Hani Salim Wadi (34), a Christian businessman was shot dead in Kirkuk in a 'targeted killing'. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2010*
- May 2010 - 80 Christian students were injured by bombs detonated in Mosul. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2010*
- February 2010 - Mr Dahan, the father of a teacher at a Church-run Kindergarten in Mosul, abducted and killed. He had been kidnapped two years previously and beaten until his family paid a ransom of \$5,000, at which point he refused to leave, saying "If all us Christians leave (Iraq), who is going to stay in the land of the Prophets and pray in our churches?" *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing, 2012 p29*
- February 2010 - In Mosul, seven more Christians were murdered in the space of 10 days. Seven bomb attacks were carried out on Christian targets, causing much destruction and many casualties. *Barnabas Aid, May/June 2010*
- February 2010 - Fr Mazen Ishou Mitoka, from Qaraqosh, was kidnapped four days after his ordination. Released, a year later armed men entered his home and killed his father and two brothers in front of his mother and sister-in-law. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing, 2012 p29*
- February 2010 - Alechoa Meboka and his two sons Mukhlos and Basem were killed in their home: and Wissam George (20) and Zia Toma (21) were shot dead and Ramsin Shmael (22) wounded. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 161, Mar 2010*
- January 2010 - Neither the Iraqi Government nor the coalition troops seem willing or able to protect Christians. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- January 2010 & December 2009 - Five people were killed and over 40 injured, as many churches were attacked (over Christmas and New Year). *Wilfred Wong, Maranatha - Feb/March 2010 & Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2010*
- December 2009 - Christian brothers Ranko and Rimon Najib were murdered in Mosul by terrorists. *Wilfred Wong, Maranatha - Feb/Mar 2010 & Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2010*
- December 2009 - Four bombs exploded in Baghdad, killing at least 118 and severely injuring 464 people. *BBC News; Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 159, Jan 2010*
- December 2009 - A Kurdish minority group attacked the Christian majority town of Bartilla causing widespread damage. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- November 2009 - Six bombs were detonated, targeted at two Christian buildings in Mosul. Five people were killed and at least 26 wounded. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 158, Dec 2009*
- November 2009 - Recently co-ordinated bombings destroyed seven churches in a three-day period. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2009*
- November 2009 - In Kirkuk, a Christian doctor, Samear Gorgees Yousif (55) was kidnapped by Islamic fundamentalists. *Release International Issue 52, Nov 2009*
- September 2009 - In Mosul, at least six churches were badly damaged by terrorist attacks. *Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Many hundreds of Christians killed and many thousands have had to flee the Country from persecution. Five Christians were killed in the northern city of Kirkuk recently. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jul/Aug 2009*
- July 2009 - Terrorists bombed several churches, killing four and injuring 18. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009 & Wilfred Wong, 30/9/2009*
- June 2009 - There are at least 58 Christian villages in the north that have had their land partially or completely misappropriated by the Kurds. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Jun/Jul 2009*
- May 2009 - Canon Andrew White, of St. George's Anglican Church in Baghdad reports that 88 of his congregation were killed in attacks in the last year. *Release International Prayer Shield, May/June 2009*
- April 2009 - In the war-torn region the trafficking of children has greatly increased. Between April and December 2008, the authorities rescued 957 children who were trafficked. *Jubilee Action, Summer 2009 No.3*
- April 2009 - Three Christians were murdered and two severely injured in attacks by Islamic extremists in Kirkuk. The Christian population in Iraq has dwindled from 1.5 million in 1990 (1.2 million in 2003) to 600,000 who have (little) means of escape. *Barnabas Fund email, 30/4/2009*
- November 2008 - Hundreds of thousands of Iraqi Christians are now refugees in the Lebanon. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- October 2008 - At least 13 Christians were murdered in Mosul, and a further 2,000 were forced to flee the city. There are 12,000 internally displaced Christians in northern Iraq. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, 30/1/2009*
- June 2008 - Over 190 Christian families from Dora, Baghdad, were forced to flee following threats from Islamic militants. *Jubilee Campaign, Jun/Jul 2008*
- 2008 - Muslim Kurds have seized much Christian land in the north, including over 58 villages. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Aug/Sep 2008 & Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- April 2008 - Father Youssef Adel (47), Assyrian Orthodox Priest, shot dead in the district of Karradah, Baghdad. *VOM USA, 16/4/2008*
- April 2008 - Church leader Yousif Adil Abbodi (47) assassinated in a drive-by shooting in Baghdad. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2008*
- February 2008 - RC Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho kidnapped, his driver and two body guards murdered. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2008 & CSW Prayer Diary May/June 2008*

Evidence (43)

- January 2008 - Nine churches and Christian buildings attacked and destroyed, including three churches attacked by car-bombs in Kirkuk. *Prayer Focus 136, Feb 2008; Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2008*
- December 2007 - On Christmas Eve, six co-ordinated bombs were set off in Baghdad. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 136, Feb 2008*
- December 2007 - A Christian brother and sister, Osma and Maison, were kidnapped and shot by Shi'ite militia in Basra. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- October 2007 - Hostility and violence to Christians has reached a level that can only be termed ethnic cleansing. *Barnabas Fund, 5/10/2007*
- June 2007 - Jizya (a traditional Islamic tax levied on Christians and Jews) is being levied in the Dora region of Baghdad. Christians are being forced to pay or be killed. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2007 & Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2007 & VOM USA, 2/8/2007*
- June 2007 - The Mahdi Army, a group led by extremist cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, issued a declaration purporting to impose wearing the veil on Christian women. Fatwas banning wearing the cross have been issued, and Churches are under threat for displaying the cross. *Anthony O'Mahony, "Chaldeans' Last Stand", Tablet, 30/6/2007*
- June 2007 - Chaldean Convent of the Angel Raphael in Baghdad's Doura quarter taken over by Shia militants. *O'Mahony, "Chaldeans' Last Stand", Tablet, 30/6/2007*
- June 2007 - Fouad Salim was killed by Muslim militants in Baghdad. *VOM USA, 11/7/2007 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 129*
- May 2007 - On the eve of the Chaldean Church's Synod, Fr. Ragheed Ganni and three deacons, Ghasson, Bassam and Bosman, were shot dead outside The Holy Spirit Church in Mosul where he was Parish Priest. *Anthony O'Mahony, "Chaldeans' Last Stand", Tablet, 30/6/2007; Barnabas Aid Sep/Oct 2007 & VOM USA 2/8/2007*
- May 2007 - 350,000 Christians have fled their homes since 2003. *Barnabas Aid, May/June 2007*
- January 2007 - The Christian population has fallen to one third of its level 20 years ago. *Barnabas Fund Email, 12/1/2007*
- December 2006 - Numerous bombings, murders and kidnappings of Christians go on unabated. In Mosul, 30 named church leaders have been killed. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2006 & Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2007*
- December 2006 - Many Christians are being kidnapped and brutally murdered. A three-year-old child was kidnapped in Baghdad - the child was returned to the family beheaded and served on a dish of rice. *Barnabas Fund, 19/12/2006*
- December 2006 - A Christian boy, 14, was crucified in Basra. *Wilfred Wong/Barnabas Fund, 19/12/2006 & Barnabas Fund, 27/11/2006*
- June 2006 - Baghdad priest Fr Jamil Nissan narrowly escaped death when a bomb smashed a wall of his Church of the Ascension. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p43*
- January 2006 - In Baghdad and Mosul dozens of Christian university students were physically attacked by Muslim undergraduates who also shouted abuse at them. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p43*
- January 2006 - Fadi Raad Elias (14), an altar server at Kirkuk's Church of the Immaculate Child, was killed when a bomb went off in the Church. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p43*
- January 2006 - At least three people died and more than 20 were injured when bombers targeted six churches packed with people as Sunday services got under way in Baghdad and Kirkuk. Chaldean Patriarch Emmanuel narrowly escaped with his life. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p43*
- 2006 - Fr Boulos Iskander, a Syrian Orthodox priest, kidnapped and beheaded even after a ransom was paid. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p28*
- October 2005 - Canon Andrew White of St George's Church, Baghdad, told a meeting at London's Houses of Parliament that there is now 'a price on my head' and that it is now unsafe for him to make the short journey from his home to church services. He also said that all the St George's lay-leaders had suddenly disappeared, presumably kidnapped. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p43*
- October 2005 - Canon White of St George's Church, Baghdad, advised that a close church associate disappeared followed by a ransom note. When ransom paid, his head was sent to family in a bag. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p42*
- August/September 2005 - Christian leaders spoke out concerning a proposal in the new Constitution which stated 'No law can be passed that contradicts the undisputed rules of Islam' which was perceived as 'opening the door' to discrimination against Christians. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p41*
- March 2005 - Emmanuel III Dely, Patriarch of Baghdad of the Chaldeans, declared 'In Iraq, there is ... no religious liberty - nor is there any political or cultural liberty'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p41*
- March 2005 - Islamist group 'Brigades for the Elimination of Christian Agents and Spies' announced a witch-hunt of Christians accused of collaborating with the US-led forces 'right into their homes and churches'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p41*
- January 2005 - In the lead-up to national elections, Minas Ibrahim al Yussufi, Secretary General of Christian Democratic Party, was kidnapped. A campaign of intimidation against Christian parties included forbidding candidates depicting crosses on election literature or even wearing crosses. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p41*
- December 2004 - Chaldean Archbishop Faraj Rahho of Mosul was frogmarched out of his home by masked intruders, who then torched the building as he watched. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p41*
- November 2004 - Bombs exploded at two churches in Baghdad within 10 minutes of each other. Three people killed, and 40 injured. *Jubilee Campaign*
- October 2004 - Written threats, kidnappings, bombings and murder by Muslim extremists are driving thousands of Iraq's minority Christian population out of their ancestral homeland, fleeing for safety to neighbouring Jordan and Syria. Church bombings had started the exodus. *Compass, 6/10/2004*
- August 2004 - Islamic extremists conducted lethal terrorist bombings against five churches in Baghdad and Mosul, beginning with Saints Peter and Paul Church in the Christian town of Al Dora. 12 killed and many injured. Thousands caused to flee. *Jubilee Campaign; Barnabas Fund, 2/8/2004*
- March 2004 - Four American Christians killed and a fifth critically injured by gunmen in Mosul. *www.christiantoday.com, 24/3/2004*
- December 2003 - Bomb explosion at Church in Baghdad. *Barnabas Fund; 2/8/2004*
- November 2003 - Bombs discovered at two Christian schools in Mosul and Baghdad, with messages ordering 'convert to Islam or be killed'. *Barnabas Fund, 2/8/2004*
- September 2003 - Missile attack on convent in Mosul. *Barnabas Fund, 2/8/2004*
- August 2003 - Christian woman, Sabheha Anis, kidnapped raped and murdered by group of Muslims. *Sabian Mandaean Association, 25/8/2003*
- August 2003 - Christian Jeweller, Slaim Mohi Jezani shot dead in Alsha'ab. *Sabian Mandaean Association, 25/8/2003*
- August 2003 - Two Christian men, Ihasan and Yahya Berdan, attacked and killed in Ba'qoba. *Sabian Mandaean Association, 25/8/2003*
- August 2003 - Hakhmet Fouad murdered in the Mechanic districts. *Sabian Mandaean Association, 25/8/2003*
- August 2003 - Christian Woman Fakhira Khather Al-Kamisi murdered by Muslims in A-Dowra district. *Sabian Mandaean Association, 25/8/2003*
- May 2003 - Two Christians from the Armenian and Syrian Catholic Churches murdered for selling alcohol in Basra. *Weekly Telegraph, 14-20/5/2003*
- May 2003 - When St George's Anglican Church in Baghdad was re-opened after being sacked by looters, there was a warning of a major bomb threat: the church was surrounded by tanks while Apache helicopters hovered overhead. *The Road to Canterbury, Andrew Altherstone, Darton Longman and Todd Ltd, 2013 p73*
- April 2003 - In Baghdad 21 Christians murdered after the city fell. 20 killed in Nasiryah. *Press Release, The Sabian Association, 14/4/2003*
- February 2003 - Kurdish Christian taxi driver Ziwar Mohammed shot 28 times for refusing to deny he was a Christian. *Southern Cross, 4/2003*

Ireland

- February 2012 - After Bishop Boyce of Raphoe Diocese argued that Ireland is under attack from 'aggressive secularism' he was investigated by police for 'hate crime'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p39*
- September 2011 - Popular Irish singer Sinead O'Connor used social media to warn the Pope that she would shoot him if he were to visit Ireland, and posted on her Twitter account that 'there would be a bloodbath'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2011 and web page*

Israel

- October 2013 - At least 17 attacks on Christian sites in the Holy Land have occurred in the last three years, the latest being the desecration of stone crosses on graves at the Cemetery of Mount Zion in Jerusalem. *'Times of Israel', 10/10/2013*
- December 2012 - Many Priests have been spat at by ultra-Orthodox Jews as they walk the streets of Jerusalem. *Open Doors Magazine, Dec 2012*
- 2012 - The current custodian of Jacob's Well at Nablus (where Jesus met the Samaritan woman *John 4:4*) has prepared his tomb for what he senses may be a sudden death. This follows several personal attacks and the gruesome murder of his predecessor whose killers first gouged out his eyes because he would not remove Christian symbols which, they said, made it impossible for Jews to pray there. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p27*

Evidence (44)

- February 2012 - Vandals spray-painted "Death to Christians" and "We'll crucify you?" on Jerusalem's Baptist Church and a Greek Orthodox Monastery. Believed to be the work of Jewish extremists who have vandalised other Christian and Muslim holy sites. The words 'Price Tag' had also been painted on the monastery – referring to the retribution some settlers say they will seek in the event of Government curbs on settlement-building. *Associated Press, 27/02/12: www.Haaretz.com Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- February 2012 - Some church leaders report that they are spat at every day, (usually by ultra-Orthodox Jews), and Jerusalem's Mayor's advisor on the Christian community admitted that a church spray-painted 'Death to Christianity' feels 'besieged'. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2012 p13*
- January 2012 - Gabriel Cadis, an Arab Christian, was stabbed to death in Jaffa whilst walking in a Christian parade. *International Christian Concern, 13/1/2012*
- 2011/2012 - The Israeli Government has made it harder for non-Israeli priests, religious and seminarians to get visas, which, when issued, are now valid for only one year instead of two, and very often for single entry. In the past, multiple-entry visas enabled Jordanian students to visit their families three or four times a year. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- 2011/2012 - In 2011 and the early months of 2012 there was an increase in sporadic acts of aggression towards Christians in the environs of Jerusalem with hard-line ultra-Orthodox Jews, in particular the Yad L'Achim group, targeting Messianic Jews. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2012*
- 2011 - A Christian woman who emigrated to Israel in 2011 had her citizenship revoked after six months because of her affiliation with Messianic Judaism. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013 p18*
- 2011 - Since the construction of the separation barrier in 2002, Palestinian Christians in the West Bank have had great difficulty in reaching their places of worship in Jerusalem. Arab Christian leaders are often prohibited from entering Gaza for their pastoral work. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p16*
- 2011 - The Ministry of the Interior has reportedly tried to revoke the citizenship of Messianic Jews and other Christians, refused to process their immigration applications, and denied them welfare benefits or passports. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p16*
- 2011 - The Director of the Garden Tomb, a major Christian site in Jerusalem, was refused a visa renewal because of the length of his stay in the country, even though there is no legal limit on the period of residence. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p16*
- 2011 - More than 30 Messianic Jewish and other Christian leaders reported that posters had been hung up in their neighbourhoods by an ultra-Orthodox organisation warning 'avoid dangerous missionaries'. Their photos, names addresses were shown. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p16*
- October 2011 - At least five tombs were smashed and about 20 others sprayed with graffiti in Muslim and Christian cemeteries in Jaffa on Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, apparently by militant Jewish settlers. *Guardian, 9/10/2011*
- June 2011 - Bishop Giacinto-Boulos Marcuzzo of Jerusalem stated that the minority Christian community in Nazareth is in danger of dying out, following a decade of Christian emigration which began with harassment after local Islamists' attempts to build a mosque next to the Basilica of the Annunciation. *Voice of America, 01/01/2011*
- June 2011 - 20 Yad L'Achim ultra-Orthodox Jews demonstrated outside the home of Messianic Jews Serge & Naama Kogen (Israeli-born residents), for 90 minutes, claiming they were part of a missionary group 'targeting' the community. *CDN, 20/07/2011*
- April 2011 - Israeli authorities propose an 'Arnona' (property tax) on church buildings and properties, which would contradict solemn promises given to the churches by successive Israeli Governments. *Armenian Mirror Spectator, 21/04/2011*
- Late 2010 - Souvenir shops in Bethlehem removed the symbol of the cross from their products for fear of Islamic militants in their area. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p16*
- Advent 2010 - Christians continue to suffer discrimination from the Muslim majority in the West Bank and Gaza and from extreme Orthodox Jews in Israel. Many Christians have fled abroad for safety, and the Christian population of Bethlehem is now estimated at 30%; in the 1950s it was 90%. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Advent 2010*
- December 2010 - Following the worst fire in Israel's history, which left 44 Israelis dead and exposed critical needs within Israel's Firefighting Force, Christian organisations offered to donate equipment to the Force. Interior Minister Eli Yishai of the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party, who has allowed his Department to persecute Messianic Jews and Christians, rejected all such offers. *Maoz Israel Report, Mar 2013*
- October 2010 - Basement windows of the Alliance Church Ministry Centre in Jerusalem broken, and lower floors set on fire and gutted. Volunteers sleeping in the overnight accommodation treated for smoke inhalation. Basement renovations later also destroyed. *Compass Direct News, 4/11/2010*
- July 2010 - The Christian School in Bethlehem faces local opposition. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- June 2010 - Many of Israel's Messianic Jews live in an atmosphere of indifference towards them at best or hostility at worst. *Maoz Israel Report, Jun 2010*
- Easter 2010 - Greek Orthodox Archbishop Atallah Hanna said that Israel, by limiting the number of permits for Christians from the West Bank and Gaza to visit Jerusalem at Easter, showed a desire 'to violate religious freedom'. He called for Jerusalem 'to remain an open city for all Christians'. Yusef Daher of the World Council of Churches argued that Israelis were undermining a tradition of religious freedom going back 900 years. *ACN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 p79*
- March 2010 - A Christian leader in Nazareth has had his car set on fire. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- December 2009 - There is no doubt that Israel's Messianic Jews and Christians are not only threatened with violence, but are a target for harassment by the Israeli Government and rabbinical authorities. *Leah Ortliz, Maoz Israel Report, Dec 2009*
- December 2009 - Yossi Yomtov, a Christian of Jewish ethnic origin, sought police protection after being attacked four times because of his faith. In two instances, a youth attacked him with pepper spray and a stun-gun. *Compass Direct News, 30/12/2009*
- September 2009 - Christians in Beersheba are facing hostility from ultra-orthodox Jews who have obtained police permission to demonstrate outside the local Christian church. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2009*
- August 2009 - Referring to the 'Security Fence' erected around the West Bank from 2000 onwards, RC Archbishop Fouad Twal said "We have a new generation of Christians that cannot visit the holy places of their faith, just a few kilometres from where they live" *ACN News, 11/8/2009*
- May 2009 - Steve Khoury, an Arab Christian, was beaten up for preaching the Christian Gospel. *Release International Prayer Shield, May/June 2009*
- May 2009 - Around 70 graves in Palestinian Christian cemeteries in the West Bank village of Jiffna were desecrated. *International Christian Concern, 26/5/2009*
- May 2009 - Naim Koury, church leader in Bethlehem, reports his Church is under pressure from both Jewish and Islamic influences. *Release International Prayer Shield, May/June 2009*
- March 2009 - In the recent outbreak of violence a church and a Christian hospital were among the buildings hit. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- February 2009 - Israel's Channel 10 broadcast a programme which lampooned Jesus and the Virgin Mary: the director of the programme declared it was his intention to destroy Christianity. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p77*
- April 2008 - The harassment and persecution of Christians, particularly Messianic Christians, by fundamentalist Jews goes largely unreported in the media. *Testimony of an Israeli Christian at Maranatha Gathering at Harpurhey, Manchester, 5/4/2008*
- March 2008 - Amiel Ortiz, the son of Messianic pastor David Ortiz, was seriously injured when a bomb delivered to the family home in the town of Ariel, exploded in his hands. The bomb was hidden in a gift basket which Jews exchange on the Purim holiday. Militant Orthodox Jews are suspected. *VOM USA, 2/4/2008*
- March 2007 - St. Aphrem's Syrian Orthodox School, a new Christian school in Bethlehem, has been attacked by Muslims and the Jewish community. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2007*
- January 2006 - Christians in the Palestinian territories and Bethlehem have concerns, following the election of Hamas. In a report in the Wall Street Journal, Haasa El Masalmeh said "We of Hamas will one day or another introduce (jizya)" (the tax Islam demands of infidels). *Rapporto 2006*
- December 2005 - The Mayor of Bethlehem, Victor Batarseh, expressed concern that slower security checks – including on Christian pilgrims - are part of a deliberate Israeli policy of economic war on the City. He also criticised the Palestinian National Authority for starving the city of funds to celebrate Christmas. *Asia News, Dec 2005*
- November 2005 - The Pope has reminded President Moshe Katzav of an 'Agreement' reached in the 1990s to give recognition to the Catholic Church and Church Institutions in Israel. If granted, this status would enable access to Civil Courts to protect Church buildings and reclaim properties confiscated over the years. *Aid to the Church in Need Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06 p49*
- May 2005 - After her trip to the Holy Land, Marie-Ange Siebrecht, Head of ACN's Asia-Africa Projects, reported bad treatment of Christians by Israeli authorities, including institutionalised anti-Christian sentiment in the police force. *Aid to the Church in Need UK Special Report, May 2005 p49*

Evidence (45)

- February 2005 - About 5,000 Christians fled for their lives after being targeted by fanatical members of Druze, an Islamic sect, who went on the rampage in Maghar, 10 miles from Galilee. Up to 4,000 attacked, using petrol bombs and stones. 125 shops and homes and 180 cars were burned. Christians who resisted were beaten. It took three days for police to restore order. *Rapporto 2006 & Aid to the Church in Need UK Special Report, May 2005 p48*
- July 2003 - Muslim convert to Christianity slaughtered and cut into four pieces by Islamic extremists after returning to his family. *Barnabas Fund, 29/7/2003*
- October 2001 - Reports of increasing numbers of Christians murdered, including two Christian sisters and one girl recently raped and her family forced to relocate, confirmed by Israeli security source. *Barnabas Fund, 22/10/2001*
- October 2001 - Christians in Bethlehem made homeless and impoverished by Palestinian gunmen seizing and occupying their homes. *Barnabas Fund, 22/10/2001*
- June 2001 - Greek Orthodox monk Father Gerasimos's car ambushed and riddled with bullets by Palestinian gunmen. *Barnabas Fund, 22/6/2001*
- June 2001 - In Beit Jala, 300 Christian homes destroyed and several churches damaged. *Barnabas Fund, 22/6/2001*

Italy

- October 2009 - Professor Luigi Lombardi Vallauri's teaching contract at the Catholic University of Milano was not prolonged after he taught, *inter alia*, that 'Jesus was through and through a bad human being'. However, the European Court of Human Rights ruled that this was a violation of his freedom of opinion. This contrasts with the cancellation in January 2008 of the Pope's visit to University La Sapienza following anti-Catholic protests and (false) accusations that the Pope is not supportive of scientific discovery. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p18/16*
- June 2009 - Gay pride parade in Rome depicts crosses with sex items, ridicules the suffering of Jesus by live imitations, and carries anti-Catholic flags. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p25*
- August 2008 - Unidentified hooded men attacked four Franciscan monks in their Monastery in Turin. All four were hospitalised. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p34*
- June 2000 - Sr Maria Laura Mainetti (60) murdered by a group of girls in Chaivenna, Lombardy, in a ritual act of Satanism. Their former teacher, she was lured by one of the girls to a dark alley on the pretext of needing help following rape and pregnancy; the girls then took turns in stabbing her 18 times. *The Guardian, 1/7/2000 & Zenit 6/11/2005*

Ivory Coast

After the 2011 disputed elections, more than 1,500 died and 1,000,000 were made homeless. *Tear Fund - Tear Times, Summer 2011*

- May 2011 - Two Christian brothers, Raphael Aka Kouame and Kouassi Privat Kocau, crucified by Muslim forces. Raphael died from his injuries - incredibly his younger brother Kouassi survived the ordeal. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 177, Jul 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 29/6/2011*
- October 2002 - Christians targeted by rebel soldiers and their supporters. *Barnabas Fund, 22/10/2002*

Jordan

Leaving Islam is not officially recognised and public evangelism of Muslims is against Government policy. Converts can find their marriages annulled, and children taken from them. They also face discrimination and threats of mental and physical abuse. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

- 2013 - Although traditional Christians still enjoy a relatively high degree of religious freedom, following the 'Arab Spring' Christians from a Muslim background are facing more violence and greater pressure from Muslim Brotherhood and Salafist influences in family, government and society. *Open Doors World Watch List 2014 p22*
- June 2012 - Vivian Salameh, a Christian, was recently fired from the Jordan Dubai Islamic Bank for refusing to wear the Islamic headscarf. Salameh was the Assistant Manager of Corporate Operations before this happened. *International Christian Concern, 1/6/2012*
- March 2011 - The Government withdraws the Certificates of Good Behaviour from Christians who have converted from Islam. These are needed for job applications. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- 2010 - Two Christians reported to have been physically harmed or strictly limited in their freedom because of their faith. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- November 2009 - A Christian brother and sister, Fadi and Rawan, forfeited their inheritance by declaring that they would remain Christians. (Muslim law is very strict on this point). *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2009*

- July 2009 - A military court has passed sentence on three militants who planned to explode a car-bomb outside a Church in the capital. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- March 2009 - Recently there has been a crackdown on foreign Christian workers and a tightening of controls over the small communities of Christians. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- January 2009 - Muhammad Abbad, (40), and his wife, who converted to Christianity 15 years ago, were forced to flee the country after being charged with apostasy in a Sharia Court. Now their families have taken their two children. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2009*
- April 2008 - Jordan's Sharia Courts, which rule on family law, have convicted converts to Christianity of apostasy, stripping them of all legal rights. North Amman Sharia Court has annulled the marriage of former Muslim Mohammad Abbad because of his conversion, stating that 'marriage depends upon the creed, and the apostate has no creed'. *Compass Direct, 9/6/2008*
- January 2003 - Court ruled the two children of a Christian widow, Siham Qandah, should be handed over to her Muslim brother after he told the Court 'they would otherwise receive a Christian upbringing'. *Open Doors, 18/2/2003*

Kazakhstan

Talking about one's religious beliefs with others in public is not allowed, and the country's Agency of Religious Affairs recently ordered people to report any person doing so to the police. Sharing one's faith, which is considered 'missionary activity', requires personal registration; conviction is punishable by 'corrective labour' or up to four months' imprisonment under the proposed new penal code. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2014 p14*

Neither Kazakhstan's constitution nor the country's international human rights obligations allow punishments for exercising human rights without State permission. However, in 2013 alone more than 150 people - including Christians, Muslims and devotees of Hare Krishna - are known to have been fined or punished for 'offences' such as those above, and most are now banned from leaving the country. *Forum 18, 11/11/2013*

- December 2013 - More than 150 fines to punish individuals for exercising their rights to freedom of religion or belief were handed down in 2013. Anatoly Lazarenko (79) from the Council of Churches, West Kazakhstan, fined in November. *Forum 18, 14/1/2014*
- December 2013 - Nurdilda Oraz, Head of Interior Ministry Press Service, claimed 'Police never raid our citizens' when asked why police raided Christians celebrating Christmas Day, and fined Yuri Rudenko for leading a meeting for worship. *Forum 18, 14/1/2014*
- December 2013 - After raids on a Baptist Church and Christian Centre in Astana in October 2012, two Christians each fined four weeks' wages for having 'extremist' materials - despite only one of seven items confiscated being banned. No published list of banned material appears to exist. *Forum 18, 6/1/2014*
- October 2013 - 12 icons and three Bibles seized from Aleksandr Surkov, a commercial bookseller in Uralsk, on the pretext of 'the State must defend citizens from harmful materials'. *Forum 18, 8/1/2014*
- April 2013 - Seven mostly elderly Christians fined after their church in Zhaskent was raided on Easter Sunday; the raid and subsequent interrogation were so traumatic that one church member, Galina Gileva (73), suffered a heart attack. Another group of Christians was fined for taking part in an unregistered religious meeting in Ayagoz. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p14*
- April 2013 - Notwithstanding recent further tightening of already stifling controls on Christian activities, and heavy-handed police tactics, President Nazarbayev claimed 'Kazakhstan is an example to the world of equal rights and freedom for all citizens' and that 'religious freedom is fully secured'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p10*
- March 2013 - An Easter Sunday service at a state-registered church in Stepnogorsk raided, and visiting pastor Igor Andreikin told he required specific State permission to preach there, and would be officially warned. The church is also concerned about an apparent attempt by the authorities to discredit or blackmail its pastor, visiting pastors and members. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p11*
- March 2013 - A court in the Akmola region ordered the destruction of 121 Bibles and Christian books belonging to Baptist Vyacheslav Cherkasov, a street evangelist from Schuchinsk. An Appeal Court later overturned the ruling, but upheld a fine of 86,550 Tenge - equivalent to one month's average wage - for violating rules regarding distribution of religious literature. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p14 & Forum 18 News Service 15/3/2013*
- March 2013 - Pastor from Oskemen fined after his church was raided; his church refuses to seek State registration on principle. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p14*
- January 2013 - A Seminary attached to a church in Almaty has been liquidated by court order after its parent organisation had been unable to register it as a religious education establishment, as required by the 2011 Religion Law. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p14*

Evidence (46)

- January 2013 - Churches in Petropavi, Taiynsha and Kishnekol were targeted by police raids during services, supposedly intended to 'counter manifestations of religious extremism and terrorism'. The pastors each received a fine equivalent to almost twice the average monthly wage. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p15*
- December 2012 - All religious groups have been forced to 're-register' and over a third have been effectively shut down. Under this law, groups must have at least 50 members locally, 500 regionally, and 5,000 nationally. Out of over 660 Protestant churches, 204 will be closed. *Open Doors Magazine, Dec 2012; Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- 2012 - Harsh new Religion Laws include compulsory censorship of religious materials, and training of Christian leaders has become more complicated. In 2012 there was an increase in raids on churches and heavy fines. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- September 2012 - Pastor Makset Drabbarbergenov, a native of Uzbekistan, faces extradition to Uzbekistan for 'illegal religious teaching and literature distribution'. *Open Doors Magazine, Nov 2012 & Forum 18, 14/9/2012*
- August 2012 - A Protestant has been given a large fine for 'illegal missionary activity'. *Forum 18 New Service, 28/2/2013*
- May 2012 - Five Baptists in the Akmola region were recently detained for handing out literature and spreading their faith. *Forum 18, 4/5/2012*
- March 2012 - Christian groups are among 579 deregistered groups under harsh, new, religious laws. *Barnabas News, 1/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Under the 2011 Religion Laws, churches in prisons have now been closed, and Christian literature confiscated from prisoners. Ministers have been denied access to prisons. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 p4*
- March 2012 - A prayer room used by Christians in a home for disabled people in Almaty has been closed, also under the 2011 Religion Laws. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 p4*
- February 2012 - Aleksei Asetov, a Baptist leader in Ekibastuz, Pavlodar Region, has been heavily fined for leading an unregistered 'religious organisation'. The fine is equivalent to 18 months' average wages. He is the fourth Christian known to be fined under the new Religion Act. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p6*
- December 2011 - Security officials raided the state-registered New Life Church in Atyrau, and members of the church were assaulted. A policeman knocked 17-year-old girl unconscious. Authorities had blocked the Christians from using their regular and legal address, so they met elsewhere - which under the new Religion Law is not permitted. *Forum 18, 16/12/2011 & Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 p5*
- September 2011 - Five Baptist congregations in the Karaganda region raided by Police. *Forum 18, 30/9/2011*
- September 2011 - A Russian Protestant Pastor, Leonid Pan has been deported - even though he lived for 15 years legally in the country and is married to a Kazak woman. *Forum 18 News, 2/9/2011*
- September 2011 - Under the new Religion Law, the Government is restricting religious freedom by insisting all religious groups re-register with the State. Places of worship require approval by both national and local authorities. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 8/9/2011; Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2011*
- August 2011 - Pastor Yerzhan Ushanov of Taraz, Jambyl Region, is facing prosecution for praying for the sick. He was accused by secret police of using hypnotism. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 178, Aug 2011*
- March 2011 - The Government has recommenced raids on and re-started punishments for Christian worship in private homes and unregistered churches. Baptist Pastor Andrei Panafidin was fined for the seventh time for leading 'unregistered worship' in Taraz. *Forum 18 News, 31/3/2011 & 1/4/2011*
- January 2011 - Christians face discrimination for their faith, and converts from Islam face great pressure from Muslim neighbours. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- June 2010 - A religious study text book containing insulting and offensive language about the Christian faith has been issued. *Forum 18, 16/6/2010*
- April 2010 - Pastor Vissa Kim, in Taraz, was fined 10 months' minimum wages for allegedly harming a woman's health by praying for her. *Forum 18 News, 1/4/2010*
- April 2010 - Sergei Mironov was given one year's 'restriction of free movement' because of his Christian work. *Forum 18 News, 1/4/2010*
- December 2009 - A church pastor is facing criminal charges for 'causing severe damage to health, due to negligence'. He is said to have agreed to a church member's request to pray together for her health to improve. *Forum 18, 23/12/2009*
- December 2009 - The Spiritual Centre for Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts and Alcoholics in Beskaraga, which had been registered as a public association since 2006, was closed by the district court, and its founder, Christian Sergei Mironov, fined for allegedly 'carrying out unauthorised religious activities and converting people to Christianity'. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p83*
- December 2009 - Victor Leven is to be deported for leading worship of a Baptist congregation in the Akmola Region. *Forum 18 News, 4/12/2009*
- December 2009 - Newspapers in Akmola ran an article by 'anti-cult' activist Gulnara Orazbaeva, accusing Christians of spreading the bird flu (H1N1) virus. *Forum 18, 23/12/2009*
- November 2009 - Feruza Utegenova of the New Life Church in Aktau has been deported to her native Uzbekistan for giving a 12-year-old child a Christian children's newspaper. She is now cut off from her four children. *Forum 18, 5/11/2009*
- October 2009 - Two brothers, both Baptists, have been prosecuted for 'religious worship without state registration'. *Forum 18 News, 5/10/2009*
- August 2009 - Four Christians in Syrym, Jambeyt - Ivan Isayev, Sergei Krasnov, K Batimov and N Maksina - who were visiting friends, were fined 50 times the minimum wage for unregistered religious activity. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p82*
- August 2009 - Police raided a house in Uspen where local Christians were meeting with visiting members of the Pavlodar Grace Church. The police allegedly beat local woman Safura Mil until she signed a document stating she had been forced to submit to a religious ritual, and two visitors, Kayrat Zhgangozhin and Ramil Imankulov, were charged with 'having forced people to hold religious services or take part in religious activities.' Police Inspector Nurserik Aytzkanov, denying anyone was beaten, said 'they were imposing their religion on the town by saying "Jesus Christ is the only God, and you must believe in him".' Such preaching is prohibited. *Forum 18, 27/8/2009*
- August 2009 - Police filmed the worship service at the Baptist Church in Rudny, Kostanai Region: shortly afterwards, the film was broadcast with a negative commentary, and the church pastor fined. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p81-82*
- July 2009 - Anti-terrorism police targeted two women at a church in Aktau; they were fined for 'carrying out missionary activity without local registration'. *Forum 18 News Summary, 10/7/2009 & Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Priests are facing difficulties gaining access to prisons and other institutions. *Forum 18, 10/7/2009*
- June 2009 - Following a police raid, Pastor Maksim Tashenov fined for participating in religious activity in a different region to that where his church is registered. *Forum 18, 9/6/2009*
- June 2009 - Pastor Vasily Kliver has been jailed for five days for 'running an unregistered Church'. *Forum 18 News, 12/6/2009*
- May 2009 - The Bible Institute at Almaty was closed down by Government officials. *SGA - Breakthrough, Oct/Dec 2009*
- March 2009 - The Government is proposing a new law which would make it more difficult to distribute Christian literature or to have children at Church services. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated 150, Mar 2009*
- February 2009 - Three Baptist Ministers, including Yusi Rudenko from Almaty region, have been jailed for running unregistered worship. *Forum 18, 11/2/2009*
- February 2009 - Although the law here forbids any restrictions of the rights and freedoms of individuals, many officials encourage intolerance to Christians. One pastor was fined for 'unregistered religious activity' and his Church closed down. *Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2009*
- October 2008 - In the town of Aral, secret Police raided a Sunday church meeting, arresting seven of the congregation. *Forum 18, 12/12/2008*
- October 2008 - Baptist Pastor Andrei Blok was given four months' imprisonment for leading an unregistered church. *Forum 18, 10/10/2008*
- September 2008 - Churches which do not receive State registration are punished. In Ayagoz, a Church Pastor, Pavel Leonov, was fined 100 times the minimum monthly wage for refusing to register the congregation. *Forum 18, 12/9/2008*
- July 2008 - The Government has recently closed down the newly constructed Grace Protestant Church in Semey in the east. *Forum 18, 4/7/2008*
- May 2008 - Police interrupted a New Life Church meeting in Aktobe. *Forum 18, 30/5/2008*
- May 2008 - The Government is instigating more restrictions on freedom of thought, conscience and belief. *Forum 18, 2/5/2008*
- April 2008 - Both registered and unregistered churches are being charged with holding illegal meetings. *Forum 18, 25/4/2008*
- March 2008 - Two Baptists, Pyotv Panafidin and Ivan Friesen, were given huge fines for carrying out peaceful religious activities. *Forum 18, 28/3/2008*
- March 2008 - Baptist, Dmitry Jantsen, was warned that his congregation and several others would be closed down. *Forum 18, 28/3/2008*
- January 2008 - There has been a revival of State hostility to Christian organisations. Fourteen Protestant churches faced heavy-handed check-ups in the city of Almaty. *Forum 18, 15/2/2008*

Evidence (47)

- June 2007 - A mother and her young child were barred from their home in Shymkent, which was also used as a Baptist House Church. *VOM USA, 27/7/2007*
- June 2007 - Baptist Pastor Viktor Kandyba, his wife & family, were threatened with the seizure of their home in Semey because he led 'unregistered' worship. *VOM USA, 27/7/2007*
- May 2007 - Homes, cars, washing machines and even pigs have all been confiscated as Baptists in the Council of Churches refuse to pay fines imposed for conducting worship services 'without registration'. *Forum 18 News Summary, 11/5/2007*
- April 2007 - The intolerance of religious freedom has been stepped up by a 'State Programme of Patriotic Education'. *Forum 18 News Service, 4/4/2007*
- February 2007 - A new Religion Law has banned all unregistered religious activity, and registered religious communities with less than 50 members are banned from publishing or importing religious materials or conducting open services. *Forum 18, 23/2/2007*
- November 2006 - Pastor Kim U Sob, who led the Presbyterian Church in Kyzyl-Orda for eight years, was convicted of missionary work without registration, and forced to leave the country. *Forum 18, 17/11/2006*
- October 2001 - Christian leader Asylbek Nurdanov imprisoned, tortured and threatened by local police in Kazalinsk, to force him to renounce his faith. *Keston News Service: 26/11/2001*

Kenya

Levels of faith-related violence reduced in 2013, but Christians continue to be targeted and killed, particularly in the north-east. Communication between Christian and Muslim leaders is increasingly problematic, particularly following the introduction of Muslim Kadhi Courts. September's attack on the Westgate Centre in Nairobi by al-Shabaab extremists complicated matters further. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p31*

- February 2013 - Somali minister Rev Abdi Welli shot dead and Pastor Ibrahim M Makunyi severely wounded in the market place in Garissa. Militant Islamist group al-Shabaab suspected. Abdi Welli was a convert from Islam who had served as missionary in both west and east Africa. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 197, Mar 2013*
- 2012 - Al-Shabaab and similarly inspired extremist groups were responsible for a high level of violence against Christians; 22 were killed and more than 10 Churches were burned, looted or destroyed. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- November 2012 - Seven people were killed and 33 injured in an attack on a 25-seater minibus near St Teresa Church in Eastleigh. The blast occurred just as the congregation was leaving Sunday service. *CSW Response, Jan /Feb 2013*
- October 2012 - A grenade was thrown into a Garissa church, killing the pastor and injuring 13. Similar attacks have occurred in Mombasa. *CSW Response, Jan/Feb 2013*
- October 2012 - Pastor Juma was killed by a Muslim mob while taking part in an evangelism mission in Mombasa. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Nov 2012*
- September 2012 - A Muslim attacker threw a grenade into a Sunday School class at St. Polycarp Anglican Church in Pangani, Nairobi, killing four people including a nine-year-old boy, seriously injuring seven others, and triggering ethno-religious violence. *Open Doors Magazine, Nov 2012; CSW Response, Jan /Feb 2013*
- August 2012 - Five churches in Mombasa were attacked by Muslims: at least four people were killed. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- July 2012 - Islamic militants of al-Shabaab attacked the Africa Inland Church and a Catholic church in Garissa, using firearms and grenades. 17 Christians killed, including two policemen guarding the Churches, and 65 injured. Many shot as they tried to escape. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 190, Aug 2012; Open Doors Magazine, Aug 2012 & International Christian Concern, 6/7/2012*
- May 2012 - Pastor Jackson Kioko and another pastor were planning to hold a mission when they were surrounded by a crowd who accused them of being thieves and burned them alive. Pastor Jackson had been married eight days. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Aug 2012*
- April 2012 - An Islamist militant detonated a grenade in a Nairobi Church, killing one worshipper and wounding 16. *International Christian Concern, 4/5/2012*
- March 2012 - Islamic terrorists threw a grenade into an open-air Christian gathering in Mrwapa. Two people were killed and around 50 were wounded. *Barnabas Fund, 187, May 2012*
- January 2012 - Abdi Mose (54) and his family, who converted from Islam to Christianity, were forced to flee Kenya after their house was burnt down by the al-Shabaab Muslim militia. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2012*
- January 2012 - A group of Muslims attacked a church seminar in Garissa with such ferocity that the church was destroyed and four Christians were hospitalised, one of whom, Titus, later died of his injuries. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2012 p8*
- November 2011 - An Islamist terrorist group attacked a church in Garissa in the north-east. A grenade killed two members of the church and severely injured three others. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 182, Dec. 2011*

- September 2011 - Six Christian missionaries, three men and three women, were abducted by Muslims in Nairobi. After three days they were released; the women had been repeatedly raped and the men severely beaten. The women have been given drugs to reduce the risk of them contracting AIDS. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 168, Oct 2010*
- June 2011 - A panel of judges has ruled that the country's Islamic courts are 'illegal and discriminatory'. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 164, Jun 2010*
- January 2011 - Two Kenyan women have been rejected by their families because of their decision to follow Christ. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- November 2009 - Muslim leaders are asking that Islamic courts (called Kadhi Courts) are retained in the Constitution. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- July 2009 - In Central Province, Christians are being attacked and threatened by the Mungki sect – a politico-religious group which rejects Christianity and 'westernisation'. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2009*
- May 2008 - Jared, a Christian leader, was stabbed and beaten by a group of Somali Muslims in Wajir in the North East. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 140*
- January 2007 - A Christian radio station, Hope FM, was attacked by Islamic militants. One man was killed, three others injured, and part of the building was damaged by fire. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- November 2006 - There has been a spate of attacks on Christians from a Muslim background. Some have been shot, others evicted from their homes or forcibly divorced. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- July 2003 - Five churches were set on fire by Muslim youth angered by the arrest of a 'travelling Imam'. *Open Doors, 16/7/2003*
- April 2003 - Bishop Benjamin Lele of Kitui reported that, over the past few weeks, 15 parishes and four convents have been robbed, resulting in the closure of a Catholic school. *Catholic World News, 25/4/2003*
- September 2002 - Two people were killed in an attack on a Catholic church in Bonchari by about 100 men, some of whom were carrying kerosene to set the church alight. *Catholic World News, 16/9/2002*

Kosovo

- Summer 2010 - Several church buildings have been attacked this summer by Islamic extremists. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2010*
- August 2009 - Gjon Mehaj converted to Christianity from Islam together with 20 members of his family. Days later, a radical Muslim group burnt his house to the ground. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 156, Oct 2009*
- March 2004 - In an eruption of violence by Albanian Muslims, 31 Christians died and 40 religious sites destroyed. *Barnabas Fund, 6/4/2004*
- September 2003 - Most members of the Protestant churches who are ethnic Albanians are afraid to declare themselves Christian, fearing persecution from local kinsmen. *Forum 18 News: Religious Freedom Survey, Sep 2003*
- November 2002 - Explosions in Ljubovo and Djurakovac severely damaged Christian Churches. *Barnabas Fund, 20/11/2002*
- November 2001 - Christian church in Staro Gracko completely destroyed by three explosions. *Barnabas Fund, 20/11/2001*
- July 2000 - Orthodox Serbian Christians now face systematic destruction of their churches and monuments by Albanians. *Associated Press, 17/7/2000*
- May 2000 - Masked armed men broke into The Fellowship of the Lord's People Church compound, bound four men and told one boy, 14, at gunpoint, to deny Jesus. They stole money and wrote Islamic graffiti on the walls. *Compass, 19/5/2000*

Kurdistan

- January 2012 - Pastor Jamal, a convert from Islam, has been in captivity since July 2010. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*

Kuwait

The Constitution declares that the State protects freedom of belief: however, conversion from Islam is not permitted and evangelism is strictly forbidden. Christians experience discrimination because of Government policies. *Open Doors Handbooks 2011 & 2013*

- July 2012 - A law to prevent the construction of new churches has been proposed. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2012 p5*
- March 2012 - A man reportedly insulted the prophet Mohammad on Twitter, and is now being interrogated. Many here have called for him to be put to death for such 'serious offences'. *International Christian Concern, 30/3/2012*
- May 2011 - The Government recently declined a request to build a Church. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2011*

Evidence (48)

Kyrgyzstan

- May 2013 - Proposed new regulations would require any church to have at least 200 adult founders in one locality to be allowed legally to exist. Amendments to the Religion Law have imposed harsher and more wide-ranging rules on censorship of religious literature: an organisation found to have literature branded 'extremist' could now be banned. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p5*
- December 2012 - 'Almas', a young Kyrgyz girl, had her face pressed against a burning stove and was systematically beaten by her parents till she lost consciousness, following her conversion from Islam to Christianity. *Bos News Life 18/12/2012 & Open Doors*
- August 2012 - 'Amangul' lost all her Muslim family and fiends, and also her job as a teacher, when she converted to Christianity. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- June 2012 - Five Baptists in the Nrayn region were attacked and badly beaten. Parliament is about to tighten State censorship of religious worship. *Forum 18, 15/6/2012 & Forum 29/6/2012*
- March 2012 - Christian Pastor Fazli suffered a knife attack from a Muslim after distributing children's literature in the village. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Mar 2012*
- December 2011 - All unregistered religious activity is banned. The Grace Presbyterian Church is facing a threat to its legal existence. *Forum 18, 22/12/2011*
- November 2011 - In the last few years more than 16,000 Christians have left the country to go to Russia, Europe and the USA. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2011*
- July 2011 - Muslim villagers often object to the burial of Christian converts from Islam in local cemeteries. Muslim leaders in a village in the Ak-Suu region refused to allow a Christian widow to bury her husband (45) in the local cemetery because of his Christian faith. *Barnabas Prayer, Sept/Oct 2011 & Jul/Aug 2011*
- July 2011 - When a Christian convert from Islam became a widow, her Muslim relatives turned her and her five children out of their home because she refused to revert to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- January 2011 - Christians are targeted for their faith by both the ethnic Kyrgyz and ethnic Uzbeks, especially in the capital, Bishkek. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- 2010 - In some regions, Christians find it difficult to get jobs because of their faith. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- September 2010 - In a six-week period this year, seven churches have been attacked in the capital city of Bishkek. Several women were badly beaten by the Islamic fundamentalists. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 167, Sep 2010 & Nov/Dec 2010*
- April 2010 - At least 80 people were killed and 1,500 injured following an uprising in the capital Bishkek. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 163, May 2010*
- May 2009 - The new law severely restricts Christians from sharing their faith and attempts to stop children being involved in 'religious activity'. It has forced many churches to close or operate underground. *Forum 18, 29/5/2009; Tearfund Prayer Diary, Summer 2009*
- March 2009 - Distribution of religious literature is now forbidden in public places, and activities leading to the conversion of others are forbidden altogether. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- February 2009 - The President has introduced a new law restricting 'religious organisations'. Churches with less than 200 members will not be allowed to register and the 'sharing of one's faith' is forbidden. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 149, Feb 2009*
- October 2008 - The Government is concerned about the high numbers of young people joining Christian churches, and is introducing a new Religion Law which will make it more difficult for religious communities to gain legal status. *Forum 18, 3/10/2008*
- June 2008 - Edwards Sands, the Rector of the Protestant United Theological Seminary at Bishkek, has been forced to leave the country. *Forum 18, 20/6/2008*
- June 2008 - Muslims prevented the burial of a 14-year-old Baptist in the village of Kulanak. *Forum 18, 6/6/2008*
- March 2008 - The Government is considering the introduction of strict controls on religious activity which will severely limit the growth of the Christian church. *Forum 18, 7/3/2008*
- April 2007 - A church in Osh has been refused registration because of its 'organised religious activities'. The Pastor, Mr. Nikitin said that the church had done nothing to infringe Kyrgyz law. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 126, Apr 2007 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2007*
- January 2006 - Saktinbai Usmanov's body which was discovered by neighbours - showed that he had suffered multiple knife wounds and his head was smashed. A large crowd prevented his burial in the villager cemetery on the grounds that non-Muslims may not be buried alongside Muslims. In 2002 masked men had invaded his home, threatening him at knife-point if he did not re-convert to Islam, following which the village Mullah forbade his attendance at village weddings and funerals. *Forum 18 News, 17/2/2006*

Laos

Laos is unique as one of the few remaining Marxist-Leninist countries that also follow Theravada Buddhism, and Christians who do not participate in traditional Buddhist ceremonies face aggression. The majority of Christians are from a tribal background and face severe persecution, mostly instigated by animists and spiritists who lose their trade due to conversions. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

Christians also face violence from the State for not renouncing their faith, being labelled 'enemies of the State.' *CSW/USA*

Conducting church services requires Government permission, which is rarely given. Only a limited number of registered Christian congregations are allowed to have services. *Open Doors World Watch List 2014 p14*

- February 2013 - Three pastors - Bounma, Somkaew and Bounmee - from Savannakhet Province detained by police when they attempted to make a copy of a Christian DVD for each of them for personal use. Two were held in high security, where Pastor Bounma was kicked and beaten. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p14*
- January 2013 - Sakien and Dong, a couple from Chumpoy, Attapeu Province, have been thrown out of their village for converting to Christianity. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p14*
- October 2012 - Christian families in several Savannakhet villages told to perform animist rituals (to confirm their return to traditional religion) or face eviction from their villages. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- September 2012 - Five Christian leaders in Phin district of Savannakhet Province arrested for encouraging converts not to renounce their new faith: three still in prison, with Adang and Onkaew chained and now seriously ill. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- July 2012 - Ten Christian families in a village in Prabang Province have been ordered to leave the village. *Release International Issue 68, Jul/Aug 2012*
- July 2012 - Officials have ordered the confiscation of four church buildings in Saybuli, Savannakhet Province, because they are not 'recognised'. Another was ordered to close on the grounds that it did not have proper planning permission (49 years earlier). *Release International Issue 68, Jul/Aug 2012*
- June 2012 - Two members of the security force, Khamson and Tonglai, were dismissed from their posts for becoming Christians. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- June 2012 - Four Christians arrested in Luang Namtha Province, and charged with 'spreading the Christian faith'. Christians in at least 15 other villages reported being harassed by Government agents. *Release International Issue 69, Sep/Oct 2012 & International Christian Concern, 6/7/2012*
- April 2012 - Six district officials ambushed a Church worship service in the Songkorn district, arresting the Church leader, Pastor Khamson and closed down the Church. *International Christian Concern, 20/4/2012*
- April 2012 - Officials ordered the closure and confiscation of the church building in Khamnonsung village, Savannakhet Province, claiming the Christians did not have permission for it - despite its dating from 1968 (before the Communist regime came to power). This follows the closure of three other churches in the district. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- March 2012 - Seven church leaders were arrested and placed in wooden stocks for 16 days and each fined US\$125 because they had held a Christmas party attended by over 200 people. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr, 2012*
- February 2012 - 24 families (about 145 people) in Luangprabang Province ordered to renounce their faith or face expulsion. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 p10*
- January 2012 - A 50-year-old building in Nadaeng village, Saybuli District, seized by the authorities - local people having defied an order in December to stop meeting there for religious purposes. There are 30 church buildings in Saybuli, but 23 are deemed illegal. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 p10*
- December 2011 - Christians in Natoo village, Savannakhet Province, told 'If you want to continue to live in our village, you must cease all beliefs and practices in the Christian faith'. They were given until the next day to decide. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 p5*
- November 2011 - Officials in Nonsawang village recently evicted 10 Christians from their homes and they can only return if they renounce their faith. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- November 2011 - Out of 19 Christian families who were expelled from Katin village, Salavan Province, in 2010, 16 are still living in the jungle. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- August 2011 - Christians in several villages have been ordered to stop worshipping in private homes. Several Christians have been arrested. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 11/8/2011*
- July 2011 - Many Christians face expulsion from their villages and destruction of their livestock and crops. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*

Evidence (49)

- July 2011 - Army troops killed four Christian women in front of their families and confiscated Bibles and other Christian literature. *Release International 62, Jul/Aug 2011*
- May 2011 - Christian families - 65 people - who were forced at gunpoint from their homes in Katin Village, have had their crops destroyed, leaving them on the brink of starvation. *Barnabas Aid, May/June 2011*
- January 2011 - 11 Christians, including Pastors Wanna and Yohan, were arrested at gunpoint in Nakoon village, Lao, and charged with 'holding a secret meeting'. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2011; CSW Response Mar/Apr 2012 & Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2011*
- In 2010 - 25 Christians were killed and at least 20 arrested and held without trial, and a number of churches destroyed. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- December 2010 - 11 Christian families who were expelled from their homes in the village of Katin, Salavan Province, have been threatened with death if they attempt to move back. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 170, Dec 2010*
- September 2010 - Thao Oun, an Elder of the Boukham church, Savannakhet Province, was imprisoned and threatened with death if he did not give up his Christian faith. 10 children in the village were expelled from school because they were Christians. *Release International Issue 52, Nov 2009 & Release International Issue 55, May/June 2010*
- May 2010 - Pastor Wanna, from Nakoon village church, Hinboun District, arrested for holding Christian meetings at his home. Since then, he and members of his church have been subjected to official 're-education'. Local authorities have told them "Whoever believes in the Christian faith is caught in the trap of the enemy". *Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2011*
- January 2010 - With guns drawn, 100 officials raided the Sunday morning worship service in Katin village, Salavan Province, and drove out 48 Christians for refusing to deny Christ. The 'officials' seized all the Christians' personal possessions, and marched them four miles into the forest, leaving them only pieces of plastic for protection. These Christians are suffering from prolonged lack of adequate food and clean water - several have since died. *Release International Issues 55 & 56, May/June & Jul/Aug 2010; Barnabas Prayer & Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2010 & Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- January 2010 - Refusing to educate children in the Buddhist faith can lead to imprisonment and loss of land, and the Christian minority suffer much harassment, especially in the country. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- July 2009 - Nine Christian families had their animals slaughtered to punish them "for believing in the Christian faith". *Barnabas Fund, 2010 Report*
- July 2009 - Dozens of Christian families in Katin village, Salavan Province were warned they would lose their homes and livestock if they refused to abandon their Christian faith. A pig was confiscated from each of nine families - most of whom were new converts - each worth six week's salary, for disobeying an order forbidding them to convert. *Barnabas Prayer Update 154, Aug 2009; The Very Stones Cry Out, Caroline Cox & Benedict Rogers 2011 p75-6*
- 2009 - A village Church with 2,000 members was reduced to only 20 after 200 Christian men were arrested and accused of being separatist rebels. *Barnabas - Pray for the Persecuted Church 2009*
- January 2009 - Village officials in the village of Boukham voted to expel 55 families after failing to make them renounce their faith. *Release Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009 & Release International Prayer Shield, Nov/Dec 2008*
- November 2008 - Pastor Tsong Khan has served nine years in prison for his Christian ministry. *Release International Prayer Shield, Nov/Dec 2008*
- August 2008 - A pastor and two 18-year-old Christians were arrested after they refused to sign papers renouncing their faith. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2009*
- July 2008 - 17 Christian families in Katin, Salavan Province, were held without food for days in an attempt to make them renounce their faith. *Release Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009 & Release International Prayer Shield, Nov/Dec 2008*
- July 2008 - Police broke into a house church in Boukham and arrested the Pastor, Mr. Sompong and other church leaders. They were imprisoned with their feet in wooden stocks. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008 & Release International Issue 46, Nov/Dec 2008*
- May 2008 - Persecution of Christians is again on the increase. Christians have been evicted from their villages and have lost their land and livelihoods. *CSW Prayer Diary, May/June 2008*
- March 2008 - Eight Pastors were arrested when entering Thailand and escorted back to Laos. *VOM USA, 2/4/2008*
- February 2008 - Officials arrested 58 Hmong Christians and sentenced nine church leaders to 15 years in prison for 'conducting Christian ministry and meetings' that had grown beyond acceptable levels for Communist officials. *VOM USA, 1/9/2008*
- September 2007 - Many Christians are persecuted and imprisoned for their faith, losing their teeth due to poor diet and health conditions. *CSW Response Issue 148, Sep/Oct 2007*
- August 2007 - 12 Pastors were arrested in November of last year for attending a Christian meeting. Nine have now been released, but Pastors Amkha, Bua and Van Thong are still detained. *VOM USA, 22/8/2007*
- June 2007 - In Nam Thuam village, the leader is charging anyone who converts to Christianity \$52. Three families face eviction because they cannot afford to pay. *VOM USA, 14/6/2007*
- May 2007 - Government authorities expelled seven Christian families from their village to a new settlement 12 hours away, leaving their crops, tools and livestock behind. *VOM USA, 23/5/2007*
- April 2007 - Pressure from the authorities has forced nine families to leave their homes and belongings in the Nam Heang village. *VOM USA, 27/4/2007*
- November 2006 - Pastor Van Thong, who heads the Lao Evangelical Church, and 11 others arrested after attending Christian meetings in Vientiane Province, and are being held at Thong Harp prison. They are not allowed any visitors. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- November 2006 - Two Christians, A-Kouam (60) and A-Vieng (35), were arrested in Savannakhet Province for carrying out evangelisation. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- 2005 - Christians of the Bru ethnic group arrested in southern Laos, allegedly for 'possessing illegal arms' - a claim denied by the Laotian Movement for Human Rights. 24 were beaten, chained and tortured with red ants to force them to deny their faith: those who did were released, but two who refused were jailed for three years. *Asia News, as reported by Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p53*
- December 2005 - The Government intervened by posting soldiers around a church to prevent the ordination of Sophone Vilavongsy (32): it would have been Laos's first priesting for 30 years. No reason given. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p52*
- July 2005 - The Government is particularly opposed to the repatriation of Christians amongst at least 6,000 refugees presently in Thailand whom Thailand wants to repatriate. The refugees don't wish to go home, complaining of a lack of human rights. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p52*
- March 2005 - 17 Christian men, including church leaders, from Hueyhoy Nua and Pa-long villages in Savannakhet Province, detained after being ordered to stop all Christian evangelism. The torture they face includes being stripped naked, bound, and exposed to animals, snakes and insects, with only water to drink. *BosNewsLife, 5/4/2005*
- February 2004 - Persecution of Christians from Attapu Province has increased. In one village, officials told Christians they would face death if they did not either abandon their Christian faith or leave the village. *Compass, 26/3/2004 & www.christiantoday.com, 11/3/2004*
- September 2003 - 12 Christians from the Bru minority tribe arrested in May 2003 still held in prison, under pressure to abandon their faith. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- June 2003 - Five Christian men, Mr Boukeo, Mr Khamsouka, Mr Tongswat, Mr Nuang and Mr Keopong ordered to leave their village accused of causing 'disorder and disharmony'. *Radio Free Asia, 2003*
- June 2003 - Churches in Hin Houa Seu, Hang Keng and Pha Poun ordered to close. *Radio Free Asia, 2003*
- May 2003 - 20 Christians arrested for not renouncing their faith. *Radio Free Asia, 2003*
- July 2001 - A round-up of 11 Christians brought the current number of Christians in jail to 33. The total number of Christians in Laos has doubled since 1997, and an insecure communist Government recently replaced Marxism with a narrow, Buddhist-style nationalism. *Compass, 20/7/2001*
- July 2001 - Seven Church leaders from Savannakhet were imprisoned for a month, held in stocks and handcuffs, and forced at gunpoint to renounce their faith. *CSW, 10/7/2001*
- April 2001 - The authorities have closed two churches, one of them founded in 1902, in the south of the country, affecting up to 100 families. Lao authorities are pressuring individual families to sign affidavits renouncing their Christian faith. *Compass, 21/4/2001*

Lebanon

The outlook for the Church is uncertain in a country with a uniquely strong and rich Christian culture. Violence has become a problem. Christians are emigrating as Lebanon becomes increasingly Islamicised, and their proportion of the population is now well below 50%. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011, Aid to the Church in Need p86 & Lebanon Daily Star 28/9/2009*

- June 2010 - Leaflets threatening Christian villages around the southern port of Sidon were distributed. Villagers given an ultimatum of one week to leave the area. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, Sep/Oct 2010*
- June 2010 - A bomb exploded in Zahle, coinciding with the visit of a Christian denominational head. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 165, Jul 2010*

Evidence (50)

- November 2006 - Many thousands have fled and been made homeless by the conflict between Israel and the Muslims. The 39% of the population who are Christian are the people who have suffered most. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2006*
- August 2003 - Canadian Christian Bruce Balfour arrested and imprisoned for 'collaborating with the enemy'. *Assist News Service, 13/8/2003*
- May 2003 - An Arab convert to Christianity was killed in a bomb blast outside his Tripoli apartment, adjacent to the home of Dutch missionary Gerrit "Joep" Griffioen who had been 'repeatedly threatened' and was thought to have been the target of the attack *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- December 2002 - An American woman in southern Lebanon was shot and killed at the Unity Centre, a prenatal clinic providing care to women in Sidon and Ein al-Helweh Palestinian Refugee Camp. Militant Muslims had opposed the Church's presence in the City for more than a year. *Compass, 14/12/2002*
- September 2002 - The Lebanese Government have closed down a Christian TV station, claiming that it was 'jeopardising relations with Syria'. *Catholic World News, 13/9/2002*
- May 2000 - Missionary Jacob Jakarta and his wife attacked. Their neighbour, an Arab convert, was killed trying to disarm one of the bombs. *International Christian Concern, 6/5/2003*
- January 2000 - Three Christian women suffered violent deaths over New Year's weekend in two separate attacks. *Compass, 21/1/2000*

Liberia

- Summer 2008 - Many Christian women are suffering from HIV/AIDS after being raped by soldiers in the current 14-year civil war. *Tearfund, Summer 2008*
- January 2008 - Rev. Canton's residence burnt down, allegedly following incitement by Sheik Konneh. *International Christian Concern, Jan 2008*

Libya

Libya's General National Congress has voted to make Sharia the source of all legislation, and a special committee will review all existing laws to ensure they comply. The temporary Government and nascent security forces have been struggling to contain Islamist militias who control parts of the country. *Barnabas Fund 16/12/2013*

It is still forbidden to import Arabic scriptures or to evangelise. There is no central government and the rule of law is absent, so Islamist extremist movements including the Salafists are able to perpetrate violence upon believers. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

- September 2013 - Waleed Saad Sdhaker (25) and Nash'at Shenouda Ishaq (27) were surrounded by Muslims on a rural road near Durna. The assailants robbed and beat the two Christians, and demanded they recite the 'Shahada' - the Islamic confession of faith. When they refused, they were tied up and shot. *Barnabas Fund, 16/12/2013*
- March 2013 - Ezzat Atallah (45), who was arrested on suspicion of spreading Christianity, died in prison having allegedly been tortured to death. Dozens of other Egyptian Christians, mostly from St Mark's Church in Benghazi, are also detained and tortured. St Mark's has itself been attacked twice. *Barnabas Fund, 16/12/2013*
- February 2013 - At least 48 Egyptian Christians were seized and tortured by Salafists who accused them of 'proselytising'. Their heads were shaved, and acid used to burn off the traditional crosses on their wrists. One detainee, Ezzat Atallah, was tortured to death. These arrests followed those of four other expatriate Christians, also accused of 'proselytising'. Evangelising amongst Muslims is still prohibited. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2013 p4*
- February 2013 - At an Egyptian Coptic church in Benghazi, two church leaders were assaulted by Islamist gunmen, who attempted to lynch one of them, Paul Isaac. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2013 p4*
- May 2012 - Christians with a Muslim background are forced to worship in secret. *Release International Issue 67, May/June 2012*
- April 2012 - Despite the regime change in 2011, the secret police still harass Christians. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Apr 2012*
- November 2011 - Since winning control, the new leadership regime have imposed Sharia law in several areas. Christians face an uncertain future. *International Christian Concern, 24/10/2011 & Prayer Digest, 1/11/2011*
- July 2011 - The fighting has driven tens of thousands of mainly foreign Christians out of the country. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- April 2011 - After the uprising in Egypt, Libya has been plunged into chaos. Fears are being expressed by the larger expatriate church made up of mainly African Christians who are worried for their safety on two counts: for being believers, and for being black Africans. *Open Doors Magazine, Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Colonel Gaddafi is stirring up Islamic feelings against 'Christian forces' as he attempts to stay in power. *Barnabas Fund, 25/3/2011*
- November 2010 - The few isolated Christians here are subjected to extremely harsh conditions. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*

- February 2010 - The Government has imprisoned Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers. They are being mistreated before being forcibly returned to Eritrea. *CSW - Relay Newsletter, 19/2/2010*
- July 2009 - A Christian from Ghana, Daniel Baidoo, has been released after eight years of a 25-year sentence for 'distributing Christian material' following intervention by the Vice President of Ghana. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- July 2009 - Massoud Hanna has been arrested for (Christian) proselytising. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- May 2009 - Christianity here is brutally suppressed. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2009*
- March 2009 - Libyan Muslims almost beat to death Moflah Abudghani (28), a Christian, at the West Drayton Removal Centre in the UK. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2009*
- May 2008 - A young Muslim to Christian convert and democracy campaigner was whipped, raped and branded with a cross. *CSW Prayer Diary, May/June 2008*
- August 2002 - Two female and two male students at Nasser University in Tripoli convicted for converting to Christianity. *Voice of the Martyrs, 21/8/2002*

Liechtenstein

- December 2009 - Graffiti on several church buildings, presumed to be by satanic groups. Two similar incidents reported in 2008. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p33*

Lithuania

- September 2012 - Fashion label 'Robert Kalinkin' promotes their 2013 collection entitled 'Jesus Mary' with posters mocking Jesus and Mary. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 19/9/2012*
- January 2012 - Pizza company *Kalpedele* uses anti-Christian advertising mocking the Last Supper and including the satanic number 666. *Alliance Defending Freedom for Faith and Justice website, 28/1/2012*
- December 2009 - Several cases of vandalising of churches and cemeteries in various parts of the country occurred in 2008 and 2009. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p33*

Macedonia

- August 2009 - The State continues to discriminate against the Serbian Orthodox Church. *Forum 18, 7/8/2009*
- September 2008 - Roma Christians, who are usually poor and are converts from Islam, suffer harassment and persecution from the state and from their own community. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- April 2008 - A new religion law is designed to prevent the Serbian Orthodox Church from gaining legal status. *Forum 18, 4/4/2008*

Malawi

Malawi is the poorest country in the world that is neither involved in, nor recovering from, civil war. 17% of children are forced to live on less than 12 pence a day. 26% of children aged between 5 & 14 are engaged in child labour. *Jubilee Action Spring 2011*

- January 2011 - Muslims have been burning Bibles which were issued to schools. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- June 2003 - 200 Muslims attacked several churches in Mangochi, breaking windows and doors. *Barnabas Fund, 3/7/2003*
- December 2001 - Mission church south of Lake Malawi burned. *Compass, 14/12/2001*
- December 2001 - Two Christian school teachers working in the southern area of Lake Malawi stoned and threatened with machetes if they continue to hold meetings in their houses. *Compass, 14/12/2001*

Malaysia

Evangelising Muslims is forbidden. In five States conversion is a criminal offence punishable by a fine or jail term. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p29*

Chinese or Indian citizens can choose their religion, but it is almost impossible for a Malay Muslim to convert to Christianity. People who want to change their religious affiliation on their identity cards from Islam now have to go to Sharia courts. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

- December 2013 - The Bible Society again raided and Bibles confiscated after the Court ruling that only Malay Muslims are entitled to use the word 'Allah' for God. *(Open Doors World Watch List 2014 p29)*
- October 2013 - An appeal court has ruled that non-Muslims cannot use the word 'Allah' to refer to God, even in their own faiths, overturning a 2009 lower court ruling. Christians argued they have used the word, which entered Malay from Arabic, to refer to God for centuries. *BBC News Asia 14/10/2013*

Evidence (51)

- March 2011 - The Bible Society of Malaysia has been informed that the consignment of 5,000 Al Kitab Bibles held at Port Klang for the past two years have been 'chopped' by the words - in Malay - "Reminder: This Al Kitab Berita Baik is for the use of Christians only. By Order of the Home Minister" being stamped on each cover, contrary to an agreement that if any such words were required they would be imprinted only by the Christian importer. The Home Minister also requires that each copy be numbered. (Note: after protests, this requirement subsequently dropped.) A separate batch of 30,000 Al Kitab Gideon Bibles is held at Kuching Port. *'The Malaysian Insider', 16/3/2011*
- August 2010 - The Government offered better housing (with electricity and other assistance) to Orang Asli people if they converted to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- July 2010 - A batch of 5,000 Al Kitab Bibles (Bibles in the Malaysian national language) has now been impounded for 18 months. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- January 2010 - Jahut tribe church in Temerloh, Pahang State, had its water and electricity supplies cut off in January following Islamic Government harassment. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- January 2010 - Bishop Ng Moon Hing and his wife forced to cancel a visit to England because his church, All Saints in Taiping, was petrol bombed. Other churches bombed include an RC Brethren, Lutheran, Assembly of God, and Anglican Churches. Rev. Jim Dainty, 10/1/2010 & *Barnabas Prayer Focus 160, Feb 2010*
- January 2010 - There have been more attacks on churches in the growing dispute over the use of the word 'Allah' by non-Muslims. Petrol bombs have been thrown at a church and convent school in Perak and at a church in Sarawak. Christian minorities in Egypt, Indonesia and Syria freely use the Arabic word to refer to God. *BBC News Channel 10/1/2010*
- December 2009 - The Government has said that the Catholic Herald newspaper may not use the word 'Allah' to refer to the Christian God. The paper sued, and the court ruled in their favour. The Government has appealed. *BBC News Asia 14/10/2013*
- September 2009 - Authorities confiscated 10,000 Bibles imported from Indonesia. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- May 2008 - Islamic Parti Islam Semalasia is attempting to introduce Sharia law in five states. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- April 2008 - Legislation makes explicit mention of the death penalty for apostasy. *CSW Amy Greenfield, 30/4/2008*
- January 2008 - Customs Officers confiscated 32 Bibles from a Christian woman at Kuala Lumpur airport. *VOM USA, 13/2/2008*
- November 2007 - Kelantan State has changed the law to increase the penalty for conversion from Islam to another faith. The new law permits six strokes of the cane, fines, and up to five years in prison. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2007*
- September 2007 - Lina Joy, who converted from Islam to Christianity and married a Christian man, is not legally married because a Muslim woman in Malaysia is not allowed to marry a Christian. *Barnabas Prayer, Set/Oct 2007*
- July 2007 - Civil courts have abrogated their duty to protect the rights of non-Muslims, in many instances. *Barnabas Fund, Jul/Aug 2007*
- June 2007 - The Government demolished a Christian church building in an Orang Asli settlement in Gua Musang, Ulu Kelantan. *Prayer Focus Update 129, Jul 2007 & Face2Face, Jul 2007*
- November 2006 - Muslim protestors surrounded the Catholic church in Ipoh, Perak State, though no Christians were injured. *VOM USA, 14/11/2006*
- November 2006 - The Government is in the process of Islamisation of the country's laws, especially on the subject of apostasy from Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- June 2006 - Government authorities demolished a church belonging to the Orang Asli tribe of indigenous Christians in Kuala Lumpur. *VOM USA, 27/6/2006*
- October 2004 - Azlina Jailani, who adopted the name Lina Joy when she became a Christian in 1998, has appealed a second time to change her religious status, having first applied in 2001. The judge ruled, 'As a Malay, the plaintiff exists under the tenets of Islam until her death.' Lina Joy appealed that this contravened Malaysia's Constitutional Guarantee of Religious Freedom. *Compass, 18/10/2004*
- August 2004 - Malaysians are debating whether ethnic Malays have the right to choose their own religion under the terms of the Constitution, the Quran and Sharia law, following a decision of the Kelantan Sharia Court. Four Malay Muslims had originally applied to change their religion in 1992. Since, under the Constitution, all ethnic Malays are considered Muslims from birth, all four were imprisoned for 20 months. They eventually renounced Islam under a Commissioner of Oaths in 1998, hoping to sidestep the Sharia system, but were then sentenced for contempt of court. *Compass, 18/8/2004*
- June 2003 - The Malaysian Government has impounded a shipment of 1,000 Bibles destined for Indonesian language speakers in Malaysia. This follows a ban in April of 34 religious books, 12 of them Christian. Christians may use

the Malay language version of the Bible, known as the Al-Kitab, only in churches and in private homes. *Compass, 16/6/2003*

- April 2003 - The Minister for Home Affairs added the Iban Language Bible to the list of banned books. *CWNNews, 28/4/2003*
- July 2002 - The State Government of Terengganu approved a Bill introducing hudud, the criminal code based on Sharia law, under which Muslims who renounce Islam are guilty of apostasy - which under the Bill is punishable by death and confiscation of the offender's property. *Barnabus Fund: 9/7/2002*
- October 2001 - The Prime Minister's declaration that Malaysia is an Islamic State has led many to question the true motives behind (recent) attacks on five churches. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- October 2001 - Christ Community Centre Church in Subang Jaya completely destroyed by fire - the fourth church burnt in four weeks. *Barnabus Fund, 1/11/2001*
- July 2001 - A Christian community centre in Sungai Petani in Kedah State was set ablaze by suspected members of the Malaysian Militant Group (KMM, or Kumpulan Militan Malaysia). Church members are 'discouraged and demoralised' by the destruction of their building. *Compass, 21/9/2001*

Maldives

All citizens must be Muslims, and legislation forbids the practice of any religion except Islam. This is the only country in the world which requires all citizens to be Muslim by law: it is moving towards Deobandi Islam - the religion of the Taliban. Churches are forbidden, and the import of Christian literature prohibited. New regulations in 2010 included stricter policies on tourists caught bringing in Bibles. *Open Doors Handbooks 2011 & 2013*

In 2012, Abdulla Yameen ousted Umar Nasheed - the pro-democracy President elected in 2009 - in a coup. The top priorities of the new Ministry of Islamic Affairs were declared to be to block all religions except Islam and to strengthen the Islamic Academy to issue fatwas. *Maoz Israel Report, May 2014 p7*

The Constitution prevents non-Muslims from voting and holding public positions. It also states that a 'non-Muslim may not become a citizen of the Maldives'. Government initiatives must conform to Islamic Sharia law. *Persecuted & Forgotten? 2011 edition: Aid to the Church in Need p89*

Although migrant workers - there are 80,000, mostly Christians, Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims from South Asia - are officially allowed to practice their faith privately in their living quarters, most migrants are domestic helpers living with their employers, and therefore have no privacy in which to practice their faith. *Forum 18, 23/6/2009*

- October 2012 - Bangladeshi Christian Jathish Biswas (46), Director of Way of Life Trust, deported after being held in jail for 23 days for being found with 11 books on Christianity when he arrived at Ibrahim Nasir Airport. A US Christian was also deported. *International Christian Concern, 6/12/2012 quoting Morning Star News*
- April 2012 - All non-Muslim public worship is forbidden in this country. Maldivian Christians who practise their faith run the risk of imprisonment and torture. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Apr 2012*
- September 2011 - Under its 'Religious Unity Act' it is illegal to spread any religion other than Islam or to carry or display in public any books on religion other than Islam. Penalties of up to five years in jail exist for anyone who preaches anything but Islam. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 180, Oct 2011 & Barnabas News & Appeals, 23/9/2011*
- January 2011 - The Muslim Government has debated a Bill making it illegal to build any places of worship for non-Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- April 2010 - The religiously conservative Adhaalath Party opposed the Ministry of Islamic Affairs' plan to introduce comparative religion at university level, stating that the public's understanding of the basic principles of Islam should be strengthened first. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p90*
- March 2010 - Parliament has debated a Bill to ban non-Muslim places of worship and any public practice of non-Muslim faiths. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- February 2010 - Ministry of Education asked an Indian teacher to leave the country for allegedly preaching Christianity to her students. It comes two months after an American family was deported after being suspected of carrying out missionary work. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011, Aid to the Church in Need p90*
- June 2009 - There is almost no religious freedom for migrant workers - who are generally Christians from South Africa. *Forum 18, 24/6/2009*
- February 2009 - The Government has created a powerful Ministry of Islamic Affairs. Christians who were previously excluded 'only' from voting in elections have now been stripped of citizens' rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of movement and habeas corpus. *Forum 18, 20/2/09 & Barnabas Fund Praying for Persecuted Christians 2009*
- November 2008 - A new law states that a 'non-Muslim may not become a citizen of the Maldives'. This will mean that around 3,000 Maldivian Christians will lose their citizenship. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2008*

Evidence (52)

- August 2002 - Five people were arrested for 'disseminating religious literature'. The Maldives claim to be 100% Muslim. *Voice of the Martyrs, 7/8/2002*

Mali

Predominately Muslim, Mali had long accommodated Christians peacefully, until March 2012 when groups linked to Al Qaeda seized power in the northern part of the country and imposed a regime based on Sharia Law. Contacts reported that most Christians fled, abandoning homes and churches that were later confiscated or destroyed. 'If you stayed, you were killed' said Ronald Boyd-MacMillan of Open Doors. 'All churches were closed. There were house to house searches: it was pretty clear they were looking for Christians to kill.' *Open Doors 8/1/2013*

The abuse of Sharia law by Islamic militants in the north, with appalling human rights abuses including public executions, amputations and floggings, have forced many, especially Christians, to flee south to Bamako. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2013; Barnabas Prayer Focus 196 Feb 2013*

[Despite] the French military intervention in January 2013, the presence and infrastructure of Christianity in the north has been largely destroyed [as] the Christians who fled are afraid to return. *Open Doors World Watch List 2014 p26*

- December 2013 - Thousands of Christians have been forced to flee south, especially to the capital Bamako, as Islamist rebels advance through the country. Their plight has been made worse by food shortages exacerbated by drought. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 196, Feb 2013 p14 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun p14*
- April 2012 - All church buildings in Gao and Timbuktu have been destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2012 p9*
- March 2012 - As the heavily armed Islamists rampaged through the north of the country, they have looted homes, vandalised church buildings, and occupied a Bible school. There have been massacres and women have been raped as Christians have been chased: many Christians abandoned their homes and fled south to escape the violence. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2012 p9*
- August 2001 - Muslims who own property are frightened to rent to Christians, fearing criticism from Muslim religious leaders influenced by a growing fundamentalism. *Compass, 24/8/01*
- July 2001 - Muslim city authorities, who have rejected repeated requests for permission to build new churches, are building a mosque that will accommodate more than 2,000 for prayers. There is tremendous pressure upon Mali from surrounding Muslim states to declare itself a Muslim state *Compass, 20/7/2001*
- July 2001 - Senior pastor Jean Pierre comes across many cases of people who have been rejected by their families for converting to Christianity. *Compass, 20/7/2001*

Malta

- November 2012 - A consortium of homosexual, secular humanist and abortion groups campaigned against the appointment of Maltese Dr Tonio Borg as the new EU Health and Consumer Protection Commissioner simply because, they said, he was a Christian with 'staunchly conservative and outdated views'. *Observatory on Intolerance & Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p60*

Mauritania

Religious beliefs and practices are strongly restricted by Government policies. Pressure on Muslim-background believers from family, tribe members and local Muslim leaders is very high. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

Citizens are Muslims by default. The Government restricts evangelism and the distribution of non-Islamic religious materials. Conversion to another religion is punishable by death. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*

- May 2012 - Christians have been accused of burning copies of the Quran. The country has a very poor track record of fair treatment for Christians. *International Christian Concern, 25/5/2012*
- 2011 - Christian expatriates working in Mauritania must obtain official authorisation to meet in private homes. Expatriates suspected of sharing their faith with Mauritians are subject to harassment, interrogation, brief imprisonment and expulsion. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent' 2011 p28*
- March 2011 - Pastor Ahmadou Abu Bakr's bullet-ridden body was dumped in Qulata: he had been threatened by a local Islamist group affiliated to Al Qaeda because of his Christian witness. His widow Maymuna said he was the fourth to be martyred for his faith in south-west Mauritania since 2009. He left Islam for Christianity in 2008. *International Christian Concern, 6/3/2011*
- 2010 - A young woman was burned to death by her family when they discovered she had become a Christian. Over 20 Christians received death threats, and most had to flee their homes to escape a similar fate. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*

- September 2009 - Police in Nouakchott closed three of the few expatriate-only churches, arrested 81 people including the pastor, and confiscated Bibles and furniture. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent' 2011 p28*
- June 2009 - Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for shooting dead Chris Leggett (39), Head of the English and Computer School, for allegedly trying to convert Muslims to Christianity. *BBC News Africa, 16/3/2011*

Mexico

Caciques (community bosses) have used violent tactics to discourage the spread of Christianity in indigenous regions. *Christian Persecution Information*

- November 2012 - Cristina, (5), saw her parents and brother murdered by gunmen on their way home from church. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Nov 2012*
- September 2012 - Six Tzotzil Indian Christian families from the Yashtinin community expelled from their homes in San Cristobal under threat of their lives. Their offence was evangelising. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Sep 2012*
- July 2012 - A gang of criminals stormed a church near Mexico City on a rampage of beating, robberies and rape. *International Christian Concern, 20/7/2012*
- February 2012 - Two Baptist missionaries, John and Wanda Caslas, were murdered at their home near Monterrey. *International Christian Concern, 10/2/2012*
- June 2011 - Christina, Lucia and Arnulfo witnessed the murder of their parents and brother who were shot dead on their way to church in Huixtlan. Their father Sebastian had been an elder in the local church, and the survivors have continued to receive warnings to leave the village or 'what happened to your parents will happen to you.' *Open Doors Magazine, Aug 2012*
- August 2004 - 50 believers from La Palizada threatened with expulsion by caciques. *Open Doors, 22/8/2004*
- July 2004 - Seven Protestant families from the village of Chiapas were attacked by an armed mob and forced to flee their homes. *Nazarene Missions, 14/11/2004*
- March 2004 - More than 80 adults and children of the indigenous Huichol tribe, who are Christian, are threatened with expulsion from temporary homes in Tenzompa, Jalisco. In 1987, they began constructing a church in Santa Catarina, their ancestral home. This resulted in kidnapping and jail - where at least seven were tortured. In 2002, they were expelled from Santa Catarina and took refuge in Tenzompa, subsisting as best they could and hoping for Government assistance. They petitioned town elders for land to build permanent dwellings and plant crops, but have now received the expulsion order. *Compass, 8/3/2004*
- November 2003 - Evangelical Christian pastor assassinated near the town of San Juan Chamulas. He is the second evangelical pastor to die in two weeks. *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- September 2003 - Town authorities in Cuatemetl have prohibited worship in the local chapel and forbidden believers to visit evangelical churches in nearby towns. Three Christian men were tortured and jailed for three days in June, and their pastor threatened with death. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- July 2003 - The Bishop of San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, has appealed for an end to the violent and prolonged persecution of evangelical Christians. Over the past 30 years, 35,000 have been forcibly expelled from ancestral lands in Chamula and other districts. *Compass, 14/7/2003*
- September 2002 - Native pastor of San Juan Chamula jailed with ten other evangelical Christians for celebrating a public worship service. *Compass, 15/11/2002*
- June 2001 - Pentecostal pastor shot dead by unknown assailants near Villa Hidalgo Yalalog in Oaxaca State. *Compass, 15/6/2001*

Moldova

- June 2009 - A new law which penalises unregistered religious activity (aimed at unregistered churches) has been condemned by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) *Forum 18 News, 12/6/2009*
- February 2008 - Four Romanian Orthodox priests about to be expelled. Government refuses to allow volunteers to work without a salary. *Forum 18, 15/2/2008*
- October 2007 - Igor Velikanenko (of New Life Mission) and two students in Transdnier, who were handing out Christian literature, were seized and interrogated by State security officers. They were eventually fined and the literature confiscated. *Forum 18, 19/10/2007*
- April 2003 - Police in Bendery confiscated books and arrested three Christians: Vyacheslav Bachu, Vladimir Boligar and Dmitry Masterov. *Voice of the Martyrs, 30/4/2003*
- June 2002 - A new Article has been adopted which represents a restriction of religious activity. The law prohibits all religious activities that 'can be harmful to a person's health or that encourage citizens to refuse to take part in activities of the life of the society'. Those convicted could face a five-year prison sentence. *Voice of the Martyrs, 26/6/2002*

Evidence (53)

Mongolia

- January 2012 - Ten Government officials raided the Canaan House Church in Xilinhot. The pastor and two church officials were arrested, property destroyed, and Bibles and other Christian literature confiscated. *International Christian Concern, 24/2/2012*
- August 2007 - Seven house church leaders have been in prison for worshipping in Koule Town. *VOM USA, 30/8/2007*
- November 2006 - Christian evangelist Wn Gilan has been sentenced to one year's 're-education through labour' for spreading the Christian Faith. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- April 2000 - Mongolian medical doctor of ethnic Kazakh descent sentenced to 13 years in prison labour camp in western Mongolia on charges of 'distribution of wrong religious propaganda', and forced to sign a statement renouncing any further contact with Christians. *Compass, 21/4/2000*

Morocco

Christians from Muslim backgrounds face the greatest persecution, which seems to have increased, although restrictions also apply to the small historic Catholic and expat communities. It is becoming increasingly difficult for foreign workers to enter the country. Islamist movements are rapidly gaining influence, including an Islamist Party in Government. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p31*

- September 2013 - Moroccan Christian Mohamed El Baladi has been sentenced to 30 months in prison and fined 1500 dirham for 'evangelising and attracting people to the Christian religion'. After police vilified him for leaving Islam, he was denied legal representation and fined three times the maximum proscribed by the Penal Code. *Open Doors Magazine October 2013 & Morning Star News, Tizi Ozou, Algeria 27/12/2013*
- April 2013 - The Supreme Ulema Council, which represents official Islam in Morocco, published a *fatwa* saying Muslims who renounce their faith 'should be condemned to death', though a senior human rights government official later said that '(the *fatwa*) does not concern our government and commits us to nothing'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013*
- March 2012 - In March, three brothers were arrested because of their Christian activity. *Open Doors Magazine, May 2012*
- March 2011 - The Government considers all its citizens to be Muslim. Foreigners who are accused of sharing the Gospel with Muslims are liable to expulsion. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2011*
- 2010 - 'Z', who grew up in a wealthy and strong Muslim family, converted to Christianity and began listening to Christian songs and sermons in Internet cafes. As he was leaving his house, he was surrounded by four men who accused him of dishonouring his family and Islam, stabbed him, and left him for dead. *ACLJ, 3/10/2011*
- 2010 - Increased tension between Sunni and Shiite Muslims led to a Government crackdown on religious groups. At least 150 foreign Christians were expelled from the country, and there were reports of local Christians being beaten and harassed. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- June 2010 - The authorities are continuing to expel foreign Christians. Eight more expatriate believers deported, accused of 'threatening public order'. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- May 2010 - A pastor, his wife and a relative were arrested and interrogated for their faith. They were released next day. *Release International Issue 55, May/June 2010*
- March 2010 - All 16 overseas workers at the Village of Hope Children's Home were deported at a few hours' notice, leaving behind the children, all Moroccan, who were in their care. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010 & Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2010*
- March 2010 - Police have raided several Christian meetings and forced many foreign missionaries to leave the country at a day's notice. *Wald Rabat Updated, 8/3/2010*
- March 2009 - Christian leaders and their families are facing persecution and harassment. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- December 2006 - Radouan Benchekroun, President of the Council of Muslim Scholars in Casablanca, stated 'To deny one's religion is the biggest sin a Muslim can commit.' Lahcen Daoudi - a Deputy of the Islamic Justice and Development Party - added 'If there is proselytism or children/teachers come to school with a Crucifix, we cannot tolerate that!'. *AFP, 13/12/2006*
- December 2005 - Former Muslim Jamaa Ait Bakrim sentenced to 15 years prison for converting to Christianity and proselytising. He was also convicted of removing two abandoned phone poles which were touching his property. *ACLJ 3/10/2011 & Morning Star News, Tizi Ozou, Algeria 27/12/2013*

Myanmar (formerly known as Burma)

Burma is currently in a transition, moving from a former military junta towards parliamentary democracy: there are hopeful signs of change including release of many political prisoners and preliminary ceasefires. However, the European Burma Network has warned that the Government has not implemented any of the calls for action from last year's UN Resolution, and, for some Burmese, the situation has actually got worse, Christianity being referred to as the 'C-virus'. *The Evangelical Alliance, quoting The Spectator, October 2013 and the International Society for Human Rights*

The army ignores a promised ceasefire and continues its heavy bombardment, causing many civilian casualties. *Barnabas Persecution Update 14/2/2013 & International Christian Concern 25/1/2013*

There are over 2,100 political prisoners in Burma. *CSW Response, Nov 2009*

One of the most repressive regimes in the world, Myanmar has more child soldiers than any other nation. Thousands of children are abducted and conscripted every year, some as young as 11. It is estimated there are over 70,000 active 'soldiers' under the age of 18. *Release International Issue 52, Nov 2009*

- November 2012 - The Chin, Kachin and Karen Christians continue to be persecuted despite the country's recent political reforms. Government attacks on the Chin people include intimidation, harassment, sexual violence, forced labour and closure of Churches. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- October 2012 - Burmese military fired mortars and machine guns into a Kachin refugee site. In the last six months, 70,000 Burmese (mainly Christian) have been displaced by violence in Rakhine and Kachin states. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, December 2012 & Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- 2012 - Violence against the Christians of the Kachin tribe is rampant - at least 10 Christians reported killed in 2012. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- May 2012 - A pregnant woman hid for two days under a bed as bullets flew over her. She heard a Burma Army soldier tell others: 'If you see a Kachin, just kill them!'. *CSW Appeal Letter, Jul 2012*
- May 2012 - A 48-year-old Christian grandmother was tortured, stripped and gang raped for three days by Burmese soldiers as she sheltered in a church in Luk Pu village, Kachin State. Much of the village was destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012; CSW Appeal Letter, July 2012*
- May 2012 - Five to seven-year-old Kachin children were mercilessly gunned down by the Burmese military. 75,000 Kachins have been displaced by the military - villages and churches destroyed, women raped and prisoners tortured. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- March 2012 - The army ransacked Sim Lum Pang Mu Baptist Church in the Bhamo district. Soldiers burned Bibles, stole the villagers' belongings, and stole money from the church donations boxes. *International Christian Concern, 30/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Soldiers disrupted a conference of 1,000 Christians in Matupi Township and threatened delegates - including a Christian Member of Parliament - at gunpoint, even though the gathering had official permission. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012 p185; International Christian Concern, 30/3/2012*
- November 2011 - Government soldiers killed a woman and injured six others in the Tarlawgyi area of Kachin State's Waingmaw Township. Ten homes were burned down in Nam Wai village and five more in Hpa Ke village in Bhamo district. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2012*
- November 2011 - Soldiers attacked an Assemblies of God Church in Muk Chvik village, Waimaw Township. 50 members of the congregation were taken away as forced porters for the army and Rev. Yajawng Hkawng was tortured and needed hospitalisation. Donation boxes were reported looted. *CSW News Report, Nov 2011*
- November 2011 - A bomb killed seven children and injured another 16 in a Christian orphanage. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2012*
- November 2011 - Recent restrictions placed on Christians in Kachin State require written requests at least 15 days in advance for permission to hold activities such as 'reading the Bible, fasting and prayer'. *Christian Post, 14/11/2011*
- October 2011 - Troops seized control of a Catholic church in Namsan Yang village, Waimaw Township, where 23 people had gathered for worship. Live rounds were fired. Jangma Awng Li, the priest's assistant, was beaten when he tried to negotiate. Both this church and the nearby Baptist Chapel were destroyed. *CSW News Report, Oct 2011*
- 2011 - Pastor Bawi Thiang and his family forced to flee Burma following threats on his life. Beaten by the Army because of his involvement in Church activities, his vision is now substantially impaired. *CSW Annual Report 2011*
- August 2011 - The army has planted landmines around the Baptist Church at Katsu, Kachin, and also in the schoolyard and along several main roads. Villages have been subjected to extortion, torture and looting. *International Christian Concern, 9/9/2011 & Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2011*

Evidence (54)

- June 2011 - This month the Government broke a 17-year ceasefire with the Kachin Independence Organisation. In the following six months Burmese soldiers have raped, tortured and killed civilians. Around 30,000 Kachin people (mainly Christian) have been displaced by the conflict. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- May 2011 - The army have launched military action on civilians in Shan State. Mortar bombs have been fired at villages and more than 3,000 villagers have been forced to flee their homes. *CSW, 23/5/2011*
- March 2011 - Following the sham elections last year, Christian minorities still face severe persecution. At least 2,200 political prisoners remain in jail. *CSW Prayer Diary, Mar/Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Many children from the Christian groups have seen their parents killed in front of them by Burmese soldiers. Many hundreds of children hide in the jungle to avoid being conscripted into the army as carriers and slaves. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- 2011 - Christians are prohibited from buying or renting properties for their activities. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- November 2010 - Pastor D of Matupi Township, Chin State, reported that, as his church doesn't have a building, they have to worship in private houses. The authorities demand money for this, and since 1988 they have been paying 100,000 to 200,000 kyats. They also pay 100,000 kyats to hold a meeting, and 5,000 kyats for a letter to travel elsewhere to preach. *CSW: 'Burma Visit Report', Nov 2010*
- November 2010 - Pastor A of Matupi Township, Chin State – which is mainly Christian - reported that sometimes the military come during a church meeting requiring portering or to give them chickens or pigs. Many villages are presently contributing forced labour to construct a 25 mile road. Labourers have to work for three months, provide their own food, and all materials for the road construction. *CSW: 'Burma Visit Report' Nov 2010*
- November 2010 - Pastor A also reported that he wants to open a children's home to help families who are at work all day. The Government home is only for Buddhists – if both parents and children convert, they will take them. The monks are connected to the military: some carry pistols, and are clearly working as intelligence agents. *CSW: 'Burma Visit Report', Nov 2010*
- November 2010 - The Baptist Church and Nursery in Gangaw Township, Mergui Division, has been ordered to close. Religious leaders are forbidden by law from engaging in politics, and pastor Mang Tling (47) observed this, but the village headman reported him, wrongly, for encouraging local Christians to support a particular party in elections. *CSW: 'Burma Visit Report', Nov 2010*
- July 2010 - 100 Christian children were on the brink of starvation as they fled anti-Christian violence and made their way through the jungle to seek refuge in an orphanage. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2010*
- January 2010 - Christians have been neglected by the Government aid programme following the effects of cyclone Nargis in 2008. Chin Christians are treated as the enemy by the ruling military junta. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- January 2010 - Over 2,000 Karen villagers forced to flee their homes following attacks by the army. At least five people killed; 74 houses, a mobile clinic and two schools burned down. One village has been attacked five times in recent years with landmines being planted in the village. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2010 & CSW Relay 28/1/2010*
- 2010/2009 - Chin and Karenni tribes, who are largely Christian, are severely persecuted by the Burmese authorities, and also face massive food shortages because of crop failures. *Barnabas Gifts, 2009-2010*
- September 2009 - The army attacked two displacement camps for Karen Christians close to the Thai border. In one camp at least 90 children were forced to swim across the river into Thailand. Chit Pe and Aung Soe Wei were both jailed for 18 months for publicly praying for the release of the opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi. *Release International Prayer Shield, Sep/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Over 5,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were forced out of their camp by the military, who then scattered landmines throughout the area. *CSW Weekly Newsletter, 23/7/2009*
- July 2009 - In one Christian Karen community, 20 families walk to church each week even though it takes eight hours each way. The group has been attacked at least six times by the Burmese Army. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- March 2009 - In Rangoon over 100 house churches have been closed down by the Government (who have not allowed any new church building over the last 40 years). There is a famine affecting the Christian Chin state in West Burma. *Release International Issue 48, Mar 2009 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2009*
- March 2009 - 650,000 Karen, Shan and Karenni Christians are still internally displaced, due to the military Government. *Sword Vol. 4, No.2, Mar/Apr 2009*
- March 2009 - The Burmese army continues to destroy Christian villages and ruin their camps. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- November 2008 - 14 leading democracy activists were jailed for 65 years each. *CSW Amy Greenfield 17/11/2008*
- September 2008 - Christians still suffer from severe persecution at the hands of the military junta. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- March 2008 - Millions have been displaced from their homes, many suffering from the horrors of rape, murder, forced labour, torture and religious persecution. *CSW - Response, Mar/Apr 2008*
- February 2008 - On 14th February, Padoh Mahn Sha, General Secretary of the Karen National Union and a prominent Christian leader, assassinated on the Thai-Burmese border. *CSW Response, May/Jun 2008*
- December 2007 - Christmas celebrations and carol singing were again banned by the authorities in Matupi Township, Chin State. *Interview with Pastor C (46), CSW 'Burma Visit Report', Nov 2010*
- September 2007 - The military junta has imprisoned an estimated 1,400 prisoners of conscience, which includes Christians, journalists, doctors, students, and pro-democracy activists. Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi has spent 12 of the last 18 years either in prison or under house arrest. *CSW Response, Sep/Oct 2007 Issue 148*
- August 2007 - Min Ko Miang, a democracy activist imprisoned from 1989 to 2004, was re-arrested for his campaigning against the Government. *CSW Advocacy Team, 6/5/2008*
- June 2007 - Christian Rights workers were warned that the military Government was preparing a major assault on individual believers, missionary workers and church leaders. A list of Christians is being compiled. *Face2Face Vol. 2, Issue 2, Jul 2007*
- February 2007 - Persecution of Christian Karen, Karenni and Chin tribes by the military goes on unabated. Many Christians are being killed and many thousands made homeless. Government has asked for all the names of Christian Children's Homes, assemblies, pastors, leaders, members and families. The Government has also fixed the time for worship, and forbids Christians to meet outside these 'official times'. *VOM USA, 28/2/2007*
- February 2007 - A leaked Government document describes the intention of the military regime to wipe-out Christianity in the country. 'There shall be no home where the Christian religion is practised' begins the document. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 124, Feb 2007*
- January 2007 - The military recently attacked a village on the Moei River in Eastern Burma. They set fire to the church, school and houses, looted and destroyed the clinic, and set fire to the crops. All the villagers were made homeless. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2007*
- January 2007 - The army has intensified its attack on Karen civilians, who are predominantly Christian. In one valley of the Mon Chaung River, 1,450 people have fled their homes following machine-gun attacks. At least 20,000 Karen have recently had their homes destroyed. *Response/CSW 144, Jan/Feb 2007*
- December 2006 - The Karen, Karenni and Shan people suffer systematic atrocities at the hands of the Burmese military, which include widespread and systematic rape, extrajudicial executions, extortion, forced labour, destruction of livestock, crops and villages. Tens of thousands are reported to have died and over 600,000 been displaced. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Dec 2006 - Jan 2007*
- In 2006 - An estimated 16,000 people were forced to leave their homes and 30 villages destroyed, together with all crops and livestock, by Government soldiers of the State Police and Development Council. *Daily Telegraph, 27/5/2006*
- August 2005 - Persecution and serious violations of human rights of Christians in the ethnic minorities (the Karen, Karenni, Shan, Mon, Chin, Kachin and Arakan) continues unabated. These include forced labour (often on Sundays); forced relocation, torture, murder and rape; the destruction of villages, crops and livestock; the use of human minesweepers; and religious persecution. Over 2,500 villages have been destroyed since 1996, and Burma has the highest number of forcibly conscripted child soldiers in the world, estimated to be at least 70,000. *CSW, 3/8/2005 & Ben Rogers/CSW, 22/9/2005*
- February 2005 - Every household in 20 villages in Chin State was forced by the State Peace and Development Council to donate 5,000 kyats (\$4) and contribute labour for the construction of a Buddhist Monastery, even though most were Christian. *Benedict Rogers/CSW, 'Carrying the Cross', Jan 2007 p36*
- October 2004 - Military forces are carrying out a deliberate policy of genocide against the Karen, Karenni and Shan ethnic tribes, including summary executions, rape, forced labour and destruction of villages, food stores and crops. About 40% of Karen and 50% of Karenni people are Christians. *Jubilee Campaign press release, 15/10/2004*
- October 2004 - Over 650,000 Karen, Karenni and Shan are internally displaced, and up to 200,000 have fled to Thailand. Many are in hiding, and are normally killed on sight if discovered. Extreme nationalist views are that good, authentic citizens of Burma should be Buddhists and not followers of non-Buddhist religions such as Christianity. *Jubilee Campaign press release, 15/10/2004*
- June 2004 - Army attacked Gay Lo village near Karen/Karenni border causing many casualties and forcing 1,000 people to flee their homes. *CSW, 7/7/2004*
- March 2004 - Christian children in Chin State between the ages of 5 and 10 abducted to become novice Buddhist monks. *CSW, 31/3/2004*

Evidence (55)

- September 2003 - Due to increasing tension, the Thai Government has banned all foreign NGOs from refugee camps along its border with Myanmar. Christian refugees in particular are affected by the ban, as church-run schools and orphanages in the camps rely on outside funding and the input of Christian NGOs. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
 - August 2003 - In a letter sent from Mae La refugee camp, Dr. Simon, director of the Kawthoolei Karen Baptist Bible School and College, said 'We are badly in need of moral, spiritual, physical and material support from our brothers and sisters around the world, especially our Christian leaders.' *Compass, 12/9/2003*
 - August 2003 - Christian groups repeatedly attacked by local police to force them to close churches. In most cities it is virtually impossible for churches to register, forcing them to be subject to raids and closures. *Jubilee Action*
 - April 2003 - Dr Salia Tun Than, Christian political prisoner, began a hunger strike in protest at being denied a Bible and Holy Communion. *International Christian Concern, 27/4/2003*
 - November 2002 - Soldiers destroyed the Baptist Church where Saw Stephen was the pastor. His earlier church was destroyed in 1999, after which he was placed under house arrest in a small room with no family contact. He has spent much of the past few years on the run. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p181, p182*
- ## Nepal
- The Rastra Prajatantra Party–Nepal (RPP-N) gained political power following the November 2013 elections with an agenda which included reinstating Nepal as an official Hindu kingdom, as it was until 2006 when it became secular. However, in December the Party announced a split, making this course less certain. *International Christian Concern, 2/12/2013 & 31/12/2013*
- December 2013 - The homes of four Christian families, living in a village, were attacked and destroyed by suspected Hindu extremists, who then set fire to the local church, burning it to the ground. *International Christian Concern, 10/1/2014*
 - October 2013 - A Hindu radical, Kumar Sardar, claiming to be in pain and in need of healing prayer, lured Debalal - a Christian from a Believers' Church - to his home, and murdered him with a knife. *International Christian Concern 1/11/2013*
 - October 2013 - As numbers of Hindus and Buddhists – particularly from lower castes who are attracted by equal rights – become Christians, so persecution, discrimination and social pressures increase. Rumours against Christianity are becoming more common, as are outright attacks. *International Christian Concern 7/10/2013*
 - July 2013 - The majority Hindu community oppose the rights of Christians and others to bury their dead, and finding plots for departed loved ones may be very difficult. A Government Commission set up burial plots to be purchased in each of the country's 75 Districts, but space is extremely limited and up to 10 bodies may occupy a single grave. These sites have frequently been desecrated, and the land seized. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p15*
 - February 2013 - Preliminary results of the 2011 census put the number of Christians at 2 million, rather below documented church records of 2.5 million. However, when final census results were published more than a year after the event, the number had shrunk to 375,699 – 1.4% of the population instead of 7%. It appears that enumerators did not visit every house, and assumed that anyone with a Hindu name was a Hindu. An accurate estimate of the size of the Christian minority is important for political reasons. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p11*
 - January 2013 - In the six years since Nepal became a secular state in 2006 the new leadership has been reluctant to give equal rights to the Christian minority. *International Christian Concern 12/1/2013*
 - 2013 - The Nepal Defence Army and other Hindu extremist groups are intent on reinstating Nepal as an official Hindu kingdom with Hinduism as its national religion. Most new Christians are converts from Hinduism, and face ostracism from their communities. Although personal conversation is allowed, evangelising is forbidden. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p32*
 - August 2012 - The Minister of the Lalitpur Church bombed in May 2009, Robin Rai, received a phone call from a man claiming to be Sangharsha, the new leader of the nationalist group Nepal Defence Army (NDA), saying another bomb would be planted at the church if it did not help the NDA. When Mr Rai asked what kind of help, the caller hung up. Other Christian leaders have received similar threats, and the NDA have been circulating leaflets ordering Christians and Muslims to leave the country. Police are taking the threats seriously. *Barnabas Fund, 20/8/2012*
 - Summer 2012 - The Chairman of a Christian federation was phoned by Sangharsha of the NDA who told him Christians are 'not welcome' and ordered him to dissolve the federation and leave the country. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p32*
 - July 2012 - Two men arrested for threatening to blow up churches, murder Christians and kidnap pastors. *International Christian Concern 5/7/2012*
 - July 2012 - Hindu extremists are pressing for Hinduism to be privileged and protected in the new national Constitution, while Nepal's Muslims are demanding to be recognised as a distinct community within the Constitution which should show positive discrimination in their favour. The interim Constitution has a commitment to freedom of expression and religion for all. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012 p11*
 - July 2012 - 500 worshippers were ignored as they gathered inside Kathmandu's oldest Protestant church whilst authorities tore down the exterior walls to enable a road expansion. Police were deployed to prevent Christians interfering with the road works. *International Christian Concern 23/7/2012*
 - June 2012 - An editorial refers to Christians as 'criminals' who have come to Nepal to 'suck the blood' of former Hindus and Buddhists who have converted to Christianity. It calls for converts to reconvert and 'chase away the Christian destructive force'. *International Christian Concern 23/6/2012*
 - January 2012 - Buddhist villagers drove Christians and their pastor out of their village. The pastor was accused of 'bringing a foreign religion into the village, and teaching ideals which were offensive to society'. Whilst persecution is not as common as it used to be, attacks against converts is still a major issue. *VOM Canada 2/1/2012*
 - November 2011 - A bomb was found outside the Navajivan Protestant Church, in Kathmandu. It was defused before it could explode. Five days later another bomb was found outside another church. *International Christian Concern, 9/12/2011 & Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012 p6*
 - November 2011 - An extremist Hindu group exploded a bomb beside the offices of the United Mission to Nepal in Kathmandu. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 183, Jan 2012*
 - September 2011 - Police foiled a series of attacks against Christian churches and buildings by Hindu extremists. *Release International Issue 63, Sep/Oct 2011*
 - July 2011 - A draft law threatens freedom of religion, and would restrict evangelism by Christians and others. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 1/7/2011*
 - October 2010 - Indra Rai Waglan, a local Christian missionary, was savagely attacked in Nepal by Hindu fanatics. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
 - March 2010 - The new Government's Constitution states 'no person shall be entitled to convert a person from one religion to another'. *CSW - Relay Newsletter, 20/3/10*
 - May 2009 - A Hindu group, the Nepal Defence Army, bombed a cathedral in Lalitpur, South Kathmandu, during Mass. Two women were killed and more than eight injured. *Zenit News Agency 25/5/2009*
 - December 2008 - Even though missionary activity is banned, the Christian population has grown from 50,000 in 1990 to an estimated 800,000. Christmas Day was recognised for the first time as a Public Holiday in 2008. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009 & Prayer Digest 29/12/2008*
 - July 2008 - Father Johnson Prakash Moyalen, a Roman Catholic priest, was killed by armed extremists. *VOM USA, 16/7/2008*
 - March 2008 - Although the status of 'Untouchable' was officially abolished 40 years ago, many Christian Dalits suffer harassment and persecution on both Christian and 'caste' grounds. *CSW Prayer Diary, Mar/Apr 2008*
 - April 2007 - A Christian orphanage in Birganj was bombed by Hindu fundamentalist group 'The Nepal Defence Army'. 80 children were made homeless. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update, 31/5/2007*
 - January 2007 - Although Nepal is on the brink of a lasting peace, Christians still suffer religious persecution from the Hindu extremists. *CSW/Response Issue 144, Jan/Feb 2007*
 - 2006 - When the Burmese Army captured a 37 year-old Karenni man they held him for ten days, torturing him by rolling logs up and down his shins until the skin wore to the bone. They then poured water down his throat until his stomach swelled, then stamped on his stomach until he vomited. 'On the Side of the Angels', Joseph d'souza and Benedict Rogers, Authentic Publishers, 2007
 - July 2003 - Christians from a small house church in northern Nepal were attacked by fellow villagers, resulting in hospitalisation for at least one member. Buddhist and Hindu villagers destroyed houses and cornfields belonging to Christians for refusing to give up their faith. *Compass, 15/8/2003*
 - June 2003 - Hindu extremists have reportedly declared that they will shed blood to protect Hinduism. A Nepali evangelist witnessed an attack on a newly built church in Jhapa district, Beldangi: 'There were about 100 believers, but the Hindus came with almost 1,000 people to break down the church. The police also came and took everything away and arrested the three church leaders.' *Compass, 15/8/2003*
 - October 2002 - Maoist rebels attacked two Catholic schools in the Gorkha region, torching classrooms. Fr Anthony Sharma said 'The Maoists want to abolish private property.' *Zenit News Agency 13/10/2002*
 - February 2002 - Maoist rebels have been very aggressive towards Christians. A Hindu couple, whose son had converted to Christianity, were attacked for allowing his conversion. When the son went to help his parents he was shot dead and the house destroyed. *Stimme der Martyrer, 11/2/2002.*

Evidence (56)

Netherlands

- December 2013 - Afghan convert to Christianity Mostafa Najafi is facing deportation after his asylum application rejected. Following his conversion, he had to flee Afghanistan where apostasy is judicially punishable by death, and even his own father threatened to kill him. Neither is he safe in the immigration camp, as hard-line Muslims there have threatened to kill him. *Barnabas Fund 17/12/2013*
- July 2011 - A funeral procession in Amersfoort was disrupted by Muslim youths in a religiously motivated incident. The Government has presented a new Bill to end the multiculturalism that has encouraged Muslim immigrants to create a parallel society in Holland. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 8/7/2011*
- August 2009 - Christian teachers have been treated disrespectfully at an Islamic school in Amsterdam, where pupils are taught that 'only Muslims can be good people'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p19*
- March 2006 - War Memorial Cross was removed in Baarsjesweg, Amsterdam, after Muslims said it 'disturbed' them. After protests by War Veterans it was replaced. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p28*

New Zealand

- July 2011 - New Zealand is the leading exporter of 'halal' meat (animals that have been killed in accordance with Islamic Sharia law and using a Muslim blessing). Over the past 20 years a portion of the fees for halal certification has been used to build mosques and Islamic centres in eight cities across New Zealand. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2011*

Niger

Until recently, Niger has been a typical West African country – a mostly moderate Islamic, constitutionally secular state. Now there are indications that the government is becoming increasingly influenced by Islamic religious leaders. Since 1991, dozens of Islamic associations have emerged, including extremist groups. Persecution comes mainly from family and local community. At least seven churches were attacked in 2013, and Christians face death threats and threats of abduction.

- In the last 20 years, Islamic associations such as Izala and Tariqa have emerged, which aim to restrict the freedom of 'deviant Muslims' and minority religions including Christianity. *Open Doors Handbook, 2013*
- November 2012 - Two churches were burned down by Muslim rioters in Zinder. A woman and two pastors were injured. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Nov2012*
- September 2012 - Hundreds of Muslims streamed out of mosques after Friday prayers in Zinder, Niger's second city, and attacked a church, trashing it and setting it on fire in protest against the film *Innocence of Muslims*. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p33*
- December 2011 - In this traditionally tolerant country, the authorities took threats against the Christian minority so seriously that they protected most of the larger churches in Niamey with a heavy police presence. In one church, an armed policeman guarded the preacher in the pulpit and another 10 officers sat in the congregation. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p33*

Nigeria

Nigeria has the largest population in Africa, is the eighth largest oil producer in the world, yet it is the 13th poorest nation in the world. *News of Ireland Outreach International – Outlook Jun/Aug 2012*

Boko Haram - whose name translates as 'Western education is forbidden' or 'Western education is sinful' – is an extremist group waging a war against the establishment in Northern Nigeria by targeting Government buildings, the Military, police, markets, banks, schools, mosques and churches. It has also attacked the UN Headquarters in the capital, Abuja. Their aim is to replace secular government with Islamic Sharia Law. They have declared 'a war on Christians'. *ACN 'Night of Witness' 2012*

- New Year's Eve 2013 - In the fourth attack on the church, Fulani gunmen opened fire on the worshipping congregation in Maihakorin Gold, Plateau State, killing three and injuring 12. One church member was widowed for the second time, her first husband having been similarly slain in 2002. *Barnabas Fund 21/1/2014*
- 2013 - Local government and social groups leave hardly any space for Christians to live their own lives; many Christian villages are denied basic facilities such as wells and schools. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p10*
- 2013 - Boko Haram, which now has its headquarters in Borno State, has killed at least 900 Christians in 2013 in its stated campaign to establish Sharia across Nigeria. *Release International Monthly Archives, 22/01/2014*

- December 2013 - Eight Muslim Fulani herdsmen, dressed in military camouflage and wearing bullet-proof vests, killed six members of one family in Foron, five of them children, in a rural area of Plateau State. *Morning Star News, Jos, Nigeria 21/12/2013*
- December 2013 - After Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shakau 'clearly stated his war is against Christians', gunmen killed eight men celebrating a wedding in Tashan-Alede and another four men the following day in Kwajffa, both in Borno State. *International Christian Concern, 31/12/2013*
- December 2013 - Although Christmas was celebrated relatively peacefully compared to recent years, many Christians feared attending Christmas services which had been targets for violence in the recent past in attempts to spread terror. Consequently turnout was quite low. *International Christian Concern, 26/12/2013*
- December 2013 - Muslim Fulani herdsmen killed two Christians in Gwol, and earlier four Christians in Tixkan. Apart from attempting to impose Sharia law, the attacks seem to aim to take over land belonging to displaced Christians. *Morning Star News, Jos, Nigeria 21/12/2013*
- December 2013 - Muslim Fulani herdsmen attacked the Christian community of Bara in Kaduna State. *Morning Star News, Jos, Nigeria 21/12/2013*
- November 2013 - Islamist youths armed with axes and machetes attacked staff and students at Ejigbo Baptist High School in Osun State: many injured, and Principal Layi Ogunola regained consciousness only after hospitalisation. The attackers also tried to burn down a Baptist church: they were upset that Muslim students, forced to attend the school following State education reforms, were prevented from wearing the Hijab. *Morning Star News, Jos, Nigeria 13/12/2013*
- November 2013 - Islamic extremists have killed at least 205 Christians in the last six months in rural areas in Benue State. Muslim Fulani gunmen killed 25 Christians in seven villages on 9th November: the previous night three were killed and many injured in two other communities, Ikpele and Okpopolo. 6,000 Christians have fled in fear. *Morning Star News, Jos, Nigeria 13/12/2013*
- November 2013 - About 40 Christians were killed in night-time attacks on four villages in Plateau State. Assaults were believed to be Fulani tribesmen, and those killed whilst sleeping included children and pregnant women. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2014 p4*
- November 2013 - In a new tactic, Boko Haram is abducting Christian women who it 'converts' to Islam on pain of death, and then 'marries' to its fighters. 'Hajja' (19) was one such, who spent three months as a slave of a 14-strong guerrilla group, cooking and cleaning for them and carrying equipment as they moved, before she escaped. In a cave she had had a knife pressed against her throat and given the choice – convert to Islam or die. Before escaping, she had been forced to lure fellow Christians into a trap, and watch as their throats were cut. *Reuters US, 17/11/2013*
- November 2013 - Refugees in Cameroon told representatives of Jubilee how Boko Haram insurgents first burned down three churches in their home town of Gwoza to test what the authorities would do. Since nothing was done, they burned down another 24 churches and 318 Christians' homes, and killed several Christians. Police told villagers to defend themselves, using bows and arrows and stones. They fled. Although they would like to return, lack of security makes this impossible. *Jubilee Campaign, 22/11/2013*
- September 2013 - As members of the Deeper Life Church in Gombe prayed together for the persecuted church, they became victims themselves as gunmen opened fire, killing a father and son. *Voice of the Martyrs, USA, 10/9/2013*
- August 2013 - 'More Christians were killed in Nigeria in 2012 than in the rest of the world combined'. *Jubilee Campaign USA 6/8/2013*
- July 2013 - Between 5th and 7th July Fulani Muslim herdsmen killed 60 Christians in attacks on villages in the Guma area of Benue State. 7,000 Christians displaced. There is now a serious internal refugee problem in several States. *Morning Star News, Jos, Nigeria 21/12/2013*
- May 2013 - Boko Haram, which has been targeting Christians and others in its campaign to establish an Islamic State in the north, has rejected any suggestion of an amnesty, claiming it has 'not committed any wrong to deserve an amnesty'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p13*
- May 2013 - Pastor Faye Musa Pama assassinated at his house in Borno State by suspected Boko Haram members. He had arranged the funerals of many fellow priests and pastors similarly murdered whose churches were afraid they may be targeted if they arranged the funerals themselves. He had refused to leave Borno, saying 'God called me to protect his people'. *Jubilee Campaign USA 16/5/2013*
- March 2013 - A suicide car bomb attack devastated the bus station in Sabon Gari, a Christian enclave in Muslim-majority Kano. Islamist militant group Boko Haram suspected. Official counts estimated a death toll of 41, but local church leaders calculate around 400 casualties, as part of Boko Haram's 'intended extermination of Christians and Christianity from Northern Nigeria'. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p16*

Evidence (57)

- March 2013 - 13 Christian factory workers shot dead in Sheka, Kano State. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p10*
- February 2013 - Six people killed and many injured when the Christian village of Aduwan Gida, Kaduna State, was raided by 'terrorists'. A substantial amount of property was also destroyed. *Release International Monthly Archives, 25 Feb 2013*
- February 2013 - Various churches in Mubi, Adamawa State, attacked: eight Christians killed, and three churches and a number of homes set ablaze. The violence drove Christians to stay at home after dark and keep away from services. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p10*
- Christmas 2012 - Twelve people died in attacks on churches in Yobe and Borno States. Twenty homes and a church were razed to the ground. Since December 2010, over 45 Christians in northern states have died in attacks by Boko Haram on Christmas Services. *CSW Response & Prayer Diary, Spring 2013*
- 2012 - In some northern States, Christian girls have been obliged to wear the hijab; and in Kano State a large body of enforcers frequently break into Christian households in search of alcohol. It is estimated that the expansion of Sharia has led to 60,000 deaths in recent years, most of them Christians or adherents of traditional religions. *Marshall, Religious Freedom in the World p 310*
- December 2012 - Muslim Students Society of Nigeria disputed ownership of the land on which a church had just been built in Ilorin. After repeated threats, the church was burned to the ground, and musical instruments and equipment destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- December 2012 - Church members are unable to get employment because they have Christian names. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - Army Chief of Staff Azubuike Ihejirika estimated that Boko Haram has been responsible for 3,000 deaths since 2009, many of them Christians, as it seeks to establish an Islamic state. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- November 2012 - Two Boko Haram suicide vehicles attacked St. Andrew's church in the Military Barracks in Jaji, Kaduna State, during a service. Death toll estimated by witnesses at 50. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 195, Jan 2013*
- November 2012 - A tailor, Chibuke, accidentally mis-pronounced the name for a popular outfit while speaking with a Muslim in Bichi, Kano State. Muslims launched a violent response, killing four Christians, and torching seven churches, eight shops and a house. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- November 2012 - In Potiskum, Yobe State, hundreds of Christians fled their homes after a series of explosions and shootings attributed to Boko Haram. *Release International Issue 71, Jan/Feb 2013*
- November 2012 - In Borno State, gunmen attacked the Church of Brethren in Atagara village. *Release International Issue 71, Jan/Feb 2013*
- 2012 - Boko Haram claimed the lives of at least 800 Christians in 2012. Local Government decisions in the northern Sharia States mean that Christians experience threats of abduction and forced marriage, as well as restrictions in employment, schooling, clean water and healthcare. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- November 2012 - A senior church leader from Maiduguri reported that 100 bombs have been exploded there, some of them in schools. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - A church leader from Taraba State described how 25 churches in the Jalingo area have been destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - Five members of one Christian family in Madauchi-Zonkwa, Kaduna State, were shot inside their house, which was then set ablaze with them still inside. Soldiers stationed nearby failed to intervene despite gunshots ringing out for almost an hour. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- November 2012 - Two congregations in Bauchi state have been completely wiped out. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- October 2012 - Gunmen simultaneously attacked three villages in Riyom area of Plateau State: 14 Christians killed including five children, several injured, and property destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- October 2012 - Seven people killed when an explosive-laden car was driven into a church in Malali neighbourhood of Kaduna State. Dozens were injured. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- October 2012 - Following election of a Christian in a Student Union poll at the Polytechnic in Mubi, Adamawa State, gunmen asked students if they were Muslim or Christian. Christians were then asked to deny Christ: those who would not were shot instantly. At least were 46 were killed; Boko Haram believed to be involved. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- September 2012 - Church in Bauchi attacked by suicide bomber – at least four people killed, including a seven-year-old boy. Dozens were injured. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- September 2012 - Boko Haram attacked 12 villages in Plateau State. 50 Christians trapped in one house were burned alive. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- August 2012 - Muslim gunmen invaded the Deeper Life Church – at least 19 were killed. *International Christian Concern, 24/8/2012*
- August 2012 - Islamic terrorist group Boko Haram attacked a primary school, Catholic church and police station. Boko Haram is held responsible for 1,400 deaths and many more injuries and damage since 2010. *International Christian Concern, 24/8/2012*
- July 2012 - Senator Gyang Damong was one of those shot dead as mourners attended a funeral for over 100 Christians who had been killed by the Muslim group Boko Haram the day before. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Nov 2012; Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012 & Open Doors, Aug 2012*
- July 2012 - Nine Christian villages around Jos were attacked. Dozens were killed. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 190, Aug 2012*
- July 2012 - Militant Muslims destroyed 43 Christian-owned farms in Plateau State. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- July 2012 - About 10 villages in the Barkin Ladi area of Plateau State were attacked by suspected Boko Haram gunmen. Over 40 Christians were killed, and more than 1,000 were displaced as their homes were burnt. *Open Doors, August 2012*
- July 2012 - Over 50 people, mostly women and children, died when sheltering in the residence of the pastor of the Church of Christ in the village of Maseh, which was burnt to the ground. Pastor and family amongst the victims. *Open Doors, Aug 2012*
- July 2012 - Christian villages of the Fulani tribe were attacked once more, and 80 people were killed. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- June 2012 - 74 were killed in three co-ordinated bombings on three churches in Kaduna State. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- June 2012 - Church in Biu, Borno State, attacked during a Service – one woman killed, many injured. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- June 2012 - A suicide bomber killed 10 Christians, with more than 62 injured, at a church in Jos, Plateau State. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012 & Barnabas Prayer Focus, 29/6/2012*
- June 2012 - At least 52 people killed and 74 wounded in rioting sparked by suicide bombings of three churches in Kaduna State. Boko Haram Islamists said they carried out the bombings. Men armed with rifles prevented help reaching the wounded. *Reuters/AFP, Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012; The Times (UK), 19/6/2012.*
- June 2012 - Suicide car bombers killed at least 18 people and injured more than 40 in attacks on two churches – the Harvest Field of Christ and Living Faith Church - in Yelwa Tudu, Bauchi State. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- June 2012 - Gunmen attacked a church in Biu, Borno State, killing one woman and injuring three. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 189, Jul 2012*
- May 2012 - The Islamic militant group, Boko Haram, have claimed more than 1,000 lives since mid-2009 and more than 300 this year. *Release International Issue 67, May/Jun 2012*
- May 2012 - In Yobe State, 20 churches have been torched and many lives lost. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*
- April 2012 - While Christians were worshipping at Bayero University, Kano, bombs were thrown into the building, killing 20 people and severely injuring 22. Students attempting to escape were shot. *ACN News, 30/4/2012 & International Christian Concern, 4/5/2012*
- April 2012 - Up to 40 people died and at least 30 injured when a suicide bomber detonated explosives in Kaduna city after being refused entry to a nearby church where an Easter Day service was taking place. 60 buildings severely damaged. *CSW, 10/04/2012 & (Nigerian) National Post, 8/4/2012*
- April 2012 - Islamic terrorists threw a bomb at hundreds of Christians watching a football match in Jos. One person was killed and at least nine injured. *International Christian Concern, 27/4/2012*
- March 2012 - Following a second church bombing in two weeks in Jos – this time seven people died - a church leader said 'a palpable terror is being unleashed in Christians, so that Sunday is transformed from a day of worship to a day of fear'. Later the same day, gunmen ambushed Christians in Chungwi village, killing three people. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p2*
- March 2012 - Following their threat to 'eradicate Christians from certain parts of the country', Boko Haram threatened to kidnap Christian women. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p2*
- March 2012 - Up to 12 people died and 42 were injured when a Boko Haram suicide car bomb interrupted Mass at St Finbarr's Catholic Church in Rayfield, Jos. *Christian Today, 11/3/2012*
- March 2012 - In declaring a *War on Christians*, Boko Haram said it would launch a series of *coordinated* attacks in order to '*eradicate Christians from certain parts of the country*'. *International Christian Concern, 5/3/2012*
- February 2012 - Two women and an 18-month-old child killed, and around 50 injured, when a suicide bomber forced his way into the grounds of the Church of Christ headquarters in Jos. The premises were reportedly on a list of Boko Haram targets. There was a similar attack a week earlier at a church in Suleja, near Abuja. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p2*

Evidence (58)

- February 2012 - At least 10 people were killed by a car bomb attack on an 800 seat Protestant church in the city of Jos. Boko Haram said "We attacked simply because it's a church, and we can decide to attack any other church. We have just started". *Crisis Consulting International, 27/2/2012 & Barnabas News, 16/3/2012*
- February 2012 - An estimated 95% of Christians in Yobe State have fled the violence of Boko Haram, mostly to the mainly Christian south or neighbouring Cameroon. In the first few weeks of 2012, at least 291 people have been killed and 20 churches torched by Islamic militants. *Prayer Digest, 27/2/2012 & Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p2-3*
- January 2012 - Islamic extremists bombed the Evangelical Church and surrounding houses in Tafawa Balewa, Bauchi State, killing seven Christians and leaving many injured. *Open Doors Magazine, March 2012 & ACN - Christians and the Struggle for Religious Freedom, 2012*
- January 2012 - During a four-hour rampage, Muslim extremist group, Boko Haram, destroyed 10 Christian church buildings in Damaturu. They have been responsible for at least 45 major attacks, including assassinations and suicide bombings in recent weeks and months. *International Christian Concern 8/1/2012, Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2012.*
- January 2012 - At least nine people died and 19 were injured when gunmen burst into an Evangelical church in Gombe. Boko Haram claimed responsibility, as extremists rushed from a nearby mosque. *BBC News (Online), 5/1/2012 & 7/1/2012*
- January 2012 - Kano State was rocked by multiple bombings and a shooting spree that claimed 185 lives. Boko Haram claimed responsibility. *CSW Response, Mar/Apr 2012*
- January 2012 - 'Whoever we kill, we kill because Allah says we should kill and we kill for a reason.' With these words the spiritual leader of Boko Haram urged his followers to carry out more assassinations and bombings as it fights to establish an Islamic state in the north of Nigeria. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012 p10*
- January 2012 - A fresh wave of violence against Christians in Nigeria left 27 people dead. The religiously-motivated massacres, three in three days, targeted Christians in Mubi and Gombe. *BBC News (Online) 05/01/12 and 07/01/12 & The Guardian 09/01/12*
- January 2012 - Up to 20 people died in Mubi, Adamawa State, as gunmen opened fire in a town hall where Christian traders were meeting, holding prayers. *BBC News (Online), 5/1/2012 & 7/1/2012*
- January 2012 - On New Year's Day the Militant Islamist group Boko Haram issued a three-day deadline for Christians to leave the north of Nigeria. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p2*
- In 2011 more than 500 Christians were killed in central and northern Nigeria. 400 Christian houses were burnt or destroyed and more than 4,000 Christian businesses were attacked. *Release International Issue 66, Mar/Apr 2012*
- December 2011 - President Goodluck Jonathan declared a State of Emergency in four states in the north east of the country, following attacks by Boko Haram. *ACN - Christians and the Struggle for Religious Freedom, 2012*
- December 2011 - 44 people were killed and 81 injured when Boko Haram targeted Mass-goers at St. Theresa's Church in Madalla, near Abuja, on Christmas Day. Most of the dead were very young, including Emmanuel Dilke (4) killed alongside his father, brother and sister, and Chiemerie Nwachukwu, (eight months old) killed with his mother. *BBC News (Online) 1/1/2012 www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-16373531& & ACN 'Night of Witness, 2012*
- November 2011 - Four Christians were killed in an attack on the Barkin Ladi Church. *Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2012*
- November 2011 - 150 people were killed in a bomb attack in Yobe state. Islamic extremists also attacked Geidam in Yobe State, destroying five of its eight churches. Only two of the original eight pastors in the town remain. *Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2012*
- November 2011 - 35 Christians were killed in Kwok village. Thousands of Christians have fled the area. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2012*
- November 2011 - Gunmen killed two young Christian mothers attending a church service in Zonkwa, Kaduna State: 11 others were wounded. *International Christian Concern 7 & 20/11/2011 & BBC - News Africa, 4/11/2011*
- November 2011 - Over 150 people, mostly Christians, killed in Damaturu in Yobe State by the Islamic sect Boko Haram, who blocked off roads, killed all police on duty, robbed banks and destroyed at least 10 Christian churches. Hundreds more people remain missing. *International Christian Concern 7 & 20/11/2011*
- September 2011 - Many Christians, including entire families, shot or hacked to death in Christian villages in Plateau State. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2011*
- September 2011 - Boko Haram militants marched into Christian-owned shops in Madalla and ordered those inside to recite verses from the Quran - five unable to do so were shot. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p120*
- September 2011 - The Islamist extremist group, Boko Haram, have been attacking churches in Borno state in an attempt to extend the Sharia law in the North. *Release International Issue 63, Sep/Oct 2011*
- September 2011 - The Living Faith Church and the Wisdom Chapel were burned down by Islamic fundamentalists. *International Christian Concern, 9/9/2011*
- August 2011 - Scores of Christians were killed by Muslim extremists in Jos North, Riyom and Barkin-Ladi areas, including many women and children, during the month of August. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- August 2011 - A pregnant woman in labour was among 14 members of an extended Christian family killed by Muslims in Plateau State. The death tally in August was over 100. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 21/9/2011*
- July 2011 - Two churches in Sulela, Niger State, were attacked with bombs. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- July 2011 - Some clergy in Maiduguri bold enough to re-open their churches changed the times of services to out-manoeuvre militants working on the basis that most Sunday services start at 10 am. *CDN, 13/7/2011*
- July 2011 - Christians were reported to be 'streaming out' of Maiduguri, scene of some of the worst-hit churches. Churches are shutting down after many of the faithful have been killed. Most church buildings in this area are 'shuttered' and guarded by State security. *CDN, 13/7/2011*
- June 2011 - At least 20 churches and many Christian homes and shops have been destroyed in riots by militant Muslims following the re-election of the Christian President, Goodluck Jonathan. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 176, Jun 2011 & Release International Issue 62, Jul/Aug 2011*
- May 2011 - 12 Christians were killed including a pastor's wife and three of her children, at Kurum village, Bogoro, Bauchi State. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 175, May 2011*
- April 2011 - Violence left more than 800 people dead and about 350 churches razed following disputes by CPC Party supporters regarding the re-election of PDP candidate Goodluck Jonathan as national President. *Human Rights Watch www.hrw.org/news/2011/05/16/nigeria-post-election-violence-killed800*
- April 2011 - In and around Jos there have been over 200 Christians killed by Muslim extremists in the first four months of this year. A woman and two grandchildren were murdered during an attack on Shekan village in February. *Release International Issue 61, May/Jun 2011 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011*
- March 2011 - A large Islamist mob went on the rampage in Tafawa Balewa area of Bauchi. Homes were set on fire and a bomb was placed in a church. *Release International Issue 61, May/June 2011 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011*
- February 2011 - 18 people were killed by shooting and hacking as attackers went from house to house in the night in the Christian Bere Village, Jos, half a mile from a manned military checkpoint. Sarah Isuwa was killed shielding her one-year-old child. *CSW Appeal Letter, Mar 2011*
- February 2011 - Thousands of Christian women dressed in black brought the city of Jos to a standstill as they marched in protest against the ongoing violence and attacks on Christian villages. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p4*
- February 2011 - A mother and her children were shot in a pre-dawn attack by young Muslims in the predominantly Christian village of Dabwak, near Jos. Several more were wounded. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p4*
- January 2011 - Muslim assailants killed 14 Christians in the predominantly Christian area of Barkin Ladi. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, March 2011*
- January 2011 - Muslim youths stabbed two students at Jos University on the assumption that they were Christians. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Mar 2011*
- January 2011 - Muslim extremists in Bauchi State allegedly used an incident over a billiards table as a pretext for unleashing attacks with a stockpile of weapons hidden in mosques. Estimates of fatalities range from 25 to 96 people. *Open Doors Magazine, Apr 2011*
- January 2011 - Muslims attacked Christians in the villages of Kuru Station and Fagawon, killing 15 Christians. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 1/2/2011*
- January 2011 - Muslim militants attacked the village of Kwata Zawan in Jos and killed three Christians. This means 540 Christians have been killed in Jos in one year. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
- January 2011 - Six villages near Jos were attacked overnight by a group of militants, killing five people. Police took two hours to arrive, but 29 men - heavily armed with automatic weapons, axes and machetes - were arrested by the State security. Security also allegedly found 25 automatic weapons in a nearby mosque. *ACN 'Christians & the Struggle for Religious Freedom' 2012 & CSW 28/01/2012*
- January 2011 - Grace Apostolic Church in Dogon Karfe area of Jos demolished. This was followed by violent clashes at the University which left at least four people dead and 20 injured. *Open Doors Magazine, Apr 2011*
- In 2010, extremist Islamic groups increased their activities, and over the year more than 2,000 Christians were killed in religious violence in the northern states. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- December 2010 - On 24 December seven explosions killed 32 people and severely injured 74 in two areas of Jos, Plateau State. An Islamist website published a statement by Boko Haram claiming responsibility. This set off tit-for-tat violence that killed more than 200 people. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 1/2/2011 Christianophobia: Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012; Open Doors Magazine, Apr 2011*

Evidence (59)

- December 2010 - Two churches in Maiduguri were attacked and five people killed by Muslim mobs. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 1/2/2011*
- November 2010 - Muslim militant group Boko Haram broke into a prison in Bauchi and released 700 prisoners who were predominantly Muslim extremists. *Release International Issue 58, Nov/Dec 2010 & Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- September 2010 - Christians face severe pressure in the north of the country, where 12 states have adopted Sharia law. *Release International Issue 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- July 2010 - Muslims attacked the Christian village of Mazzah. Eight people were killed and seven houses and a church burnt down. *Maranatha – Willfred Wong Aug 2010*
- July 2010 - Muslims attacked the Ganawauri Community near Jos, killing three Christians. *Maranatha – Willfred Wong, Aug 2010*
- July 2010 - Five Christians, including a primary school teacher and a mother of six children, were killed by Muslims in the village of Kizachi, Kaduna State. Five Christian homes were burnt down. *Maranatha – Willfred Wong, Aug 2010*
- June 2010 - Two Evangelical Churches, a Baptist church, and a pastor's house have been demolished by a group of Muslim youths in Kwasam, Kano State. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 164, Jun 2010 & Stuart Windsor – CSW, 20/5/2010*
- April 2010 - Two Christian journalists, Nathan Dabak and Sunday Gyang Bwede, were stabbed to death in a Muslim suburb of Jos. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- March 2010 - Muslims armed with machetes killed at least 12 in the village of Bei, 20 miles from Jos. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 162, Apr 2010*
- March 2010 - Muslim extremists attacked three Christian villages near Jos. Up to 500 people were methodically slaughtered, including many women and children. *Release International Issue 56, July/August 2010, CSW Prayer Diary, May/Jun 2010 & News of Ireland Outreach International, May/Jun 2010*
- March 2010 - Muslim militants attacked Christians in Zos, Dogo Nahauwa and Rastate in the State of Jos. After three days of rioting, around 500 Christians were massacred and at least 18,000 were displaced. Many houses and churches were destroyed. *Release International Issue 54, Mar/Apr 2010, Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010 & Trumpet Call, 12/3/2010*
- January 2010 - When the family home in Jos was razed during religious violence, Helen Ani lost her husband and all three sons. *Open Doors Letter Guide 18, Apr 2011*
- 2009 - Children from Christian families in Christian-majority areas in Kano face 'severe and deliberate marginalisation' at both school and higher education levels. Cases where children did receive placements have resulted in unproven allegations of desecrating the Quran, leading to violence and expulsion. Similar restrictions have been reported in Jigawa State. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide: 'Nigeria: Dec 2009 Visit Report'*
- 2009 - Christian Religious Knowledge classes are not allowed in Kano State - a ban which breaches Nigeria's undertakings in international law. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide: 'Nigeria: Dec 2009 Visit Report'*
- 2009 - Many Christian children adopt Muslim names in Kano State simply to gain school admission, but can still suffer adverse consequences (such as the withholding of exam results - which stops them proceeding through the system) if they are found out. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide: 'Nigeria: December 2009 Visit Report'*
- 2009 - Land in Jigawa State can be purchased only by individuals and not by a church as a body. And when buildings are erected for worship, congregations are told 'You cannot build a church on Muslim land' and the building must be pulled down. *Christian Solidarity Worldwide: 'Nigeria: Dec 2009 Visit Report'*
- September 2009 - Grace Ushang, a member of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) was raped and then killed by Islamic fundamentalists because she was wearing trousers - part of her official uniform. *Relay CSW weekly newsletter, 29/9/2009*
- July 2009 - In co-ordinated attacks in Maiduguri and the states of Borno, Yobe, Bauchi and Kano, Muslim extremists burned down 12 churches, killing 12 Christians and five police officers. Many more were injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 155, Sep 2009*
- July 2009 - Pastor George Orijh from Maiduguri was beheaded by an Islamic group after refusing all efforts to convert him forcibly to Islam. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2009*
- May 2009 - In Bauchi at least nine Christians were killed by Muslims, and 13 churches and 200 houses set on fire. Around 100 people were injured and at least 3,000 people displaced from their homes. *Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2009*
- May 2009 - Four Christian brothers, Danazumi and Umbaru Ado, Aminu Barau and Talatu Bala, were arrested and tried by a Sharia Court for constructing a church in Kogo village, Kano State, without permission. *Open Doors Letter Guide 18, Apr 2011*
- May 2009 - Muslim mobs attacked Christians and set fire to two church buildings in the cities of Gwada and Mina in Niger State, injuring 30 Christians. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 151, May 2009 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- May 2009 - Muslims targeted an Easter procession in Gwada, Niger State. They injured at least 30 Christians, set fire to two churches and a number of vehicles. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update, Issue 152*
- March 2009 - Hannatu Musa, from Yauri in Kebbi State, had been a Christian for six years when her parents converted to Islam and were instructed to convert their immediate family. The children refused, and their father was ordered to arrange marriages for his daughters with Muslim men. Hannatu informed her Pastor, Manu Makeri, she could not cope, and would either kill herself or run away. Makeri advised her to speak to her parents, and tried to speak to them himself: when they ignored Hannatu she ran away. When she was found, Pastor Makeri was brought before the Sharia Court - even though this cannot be done legally without written consent - and sentenced to 12 lashes plus fines or jail. Hannatu was forcibly converted, and forcibly married to a Muslim man: she fled a second time, and the pastor was now brought before the Upper Sharia Court where he was charged with abduction. *CSW, Nigeria: Dec 2009 Visit Report*
- March 2009 - During the Maiduguri riots, the three sons of Hanatu Joseph were burnt alive. At the same time the Chapel of Pastor Augustine was burnt down. *Release International Prayer Shield, Mar/Apr 2009*
- February 2009 - New attacks on Christians in Bauchi State have resulted in at least 11 Christians being killed and 1,500 people displaced; 14 churches and around 150 homes and businesses have also been destroyed. *CSW Weekly e newsletter, 26/2/2009*
- January 2009 - In Yelwa, Bauchi State, two churches were destroyed by Muslims within two days. *Release Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009*
- January 2009 - In Gwoza, Borno State, a 50-year-old church was forced to build an alternative entrance so that it would not overlook a new Mosque. *Release Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009*
- November 2008 - In Maiduguri, violent attacks led to 57 churches being burned and 65 Christians murdered. *Release International Prayer Shield, Nov/Dec 2008*
- November 2008 - Muslims destroyed two churches in Sabon Kaura, Bauchi State. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 146, Dec 2008*
- November 2008 - It is estimated that 30,000 Christians have been displaced by the violence from Muslim attacks and 26,000 displaced persons are living in 20 make-shift camps. Christian businesses, churches and homes have been attacked in Jos. At least 30 churches were razed to the ground and the final death toll was estimated at 1,000. *CSW Amy Greenfield, 4/12/2008 & Elim International Issue 14, Jan/Mar 2009*
- August 2008 - Muslims burned down the Christ Apostolic Church in Ilorin, Kwara State. *Release International Issue 46, Nov 2008*
- August 2008 - Six churches were burnt down and many Christian shops and homes were looted and destroyed. At least 13 Christian girls in Ningi have been kidnapped in recent years. *Sword – Jul/Aug 2008*
- June 2008 - State police helped demolish a Roman Catholic Church in Naibawa, near Kano City. *CSW Response Issue 154, Sep/Oct 2008*
- May 2008 - Islamic fundamentalists attacked the Christian community in the town of Ningi, Bauchi State, burning down six churches and looting and destroying Christian shops and houses. The attack was triggered by the rescue of two Christian girls Mary Chikwodi Okoyo (15) and Uche Edward (14) who had been kidnapped by Muslims. *VOM USA, 28/5/2008 & Barnabas Fund 30/5/2008. Also Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- February 2008 - One Christian was killed and 60 others injured when churches were set on fire in the latest attack by Muslims in Bauchi State. *VOM USA, 22/2/2008*
- January 2008 - Papers deemed defamatory to Muslims or Islam discovered at Sumaila Secondary School in Kano were blamed on a Christian student. When armed Muslim students and townfolk hunted down Christian students one policeman was killed, the police station was set on fire, and a student almost beheaded. A similar incident occurred at another Secondary School in January 2009. *Nigeria: Dec 2009 Visit Report, Christian Solidarity Worldwide*
- December 2007 - Muslims killed at least 10 Christians and burned down three churches, as well as Christian homes and shops. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- October 2007 - Two Christian men were murdered in the city of Kaduna by a Muslim mob fired up by extremists. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Apr/May 2008*
- September 2007 - Muslims set fire to Christian homes, businesses and churches in Tudun Wada, Kano State. Ten Christians were killed, more than 50 injured and more than 500 members of the minority Christian population were made homeless. *VOM USA, 20/10/2007; Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Apr/May 2008*

Evidence (60)

- 2007 - Of the 25 converts from Islam to Christianity who formed a church in the north-eastern state of Borno two years ago, only three remain, the rest have been killed or forced to move away. *VOM USA, 10/10/2007*
- 2007 - Since 1999 there have been many outbreaks of violence on Christians in northern states. Over 50,000 people have been killed, most of them Christians. *Release International, 28/9/2007*
- July 2007 - There is fear that the new Muslim President of Nigeria, Umaru Musa Yar'adua, will impose Sharia law – as he did when he was the Governor of Katsina State. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2007*
- May 2007 - In Kano State the Governor has announced that the Islamic dress code, which is compulsory in Government schools, is to be extended to Christian schools as well. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update, 31/5/2007*
- March 2007 - Christian schoolteacher Oluwatoyin Olusase murdered in Gombe State. Muslim students said she had desecrated a copy of the Quran. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2007*
- January 2007 - Two converts from Islam, Idris Aligu and Mohammed Sarujo, have been forced to flee, both having been issued with death threats for their conversion. *VOM - USA, 24/1/2007*
- October 2006 - In the north, Muslim mobs burned 11 churches and many Christian homes. Many Christians were injured during the attacks. *Face2Face Vol:1 Issue 5, Oct 2006*
- October 2006 - Kano State Governor gave 13 Christian congregations meeting in rented accommodation notice to quit. They now have to meet in the open air. *The Right to Justice - Campaign Update, 4/10/2006*
- September 2006 - Muslim rioters destroyed at least 18 churches, 20 Christian homes and 40 Christian shops in Dutse, Jigawa State. Nearly 5,000 Christians were displaced and six were seriously injured. *VOM USA, 3/11/2006*
- April 2006 - A teacher at a Christian school in Bauchi confiscated a Quran that one of his pupils was reading surreptitiously during an English lesson. Mayhem ensued, during which two dozen people died. *Marshall, Religious Freedom in the World, p312*
- 2006 - Clerical murder victims during the year included Fr James Iyere, fatally attacked in Kaduna, and Fr Michael Gajere – set on fire at the door of his church in Maiduguri. *Christianophobia: Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p111*
- June 2005 - Christian professor, Dean of the Law Faculty in Zaria, disappeared after receiving a death threat from militant Muslims who claimed he had blasphemed against the Prophet Mohammed. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06 p55*
- May 2005 - When full Sharia Law was introduced in 12 northern States, the Christian minorities were assured that they would not be affected. The Governor of Kano State has now announced that *"All Christians in Kano are henceforth prohibited from dressing the way they like. Their dressing must reflect the culture and religion of Islam"*. *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- February 2005 - At least 36 people were killed and about 3,000 forced to flee as violence swept Demsa village in Adamawa State. Christian survivors took refuge in Taraba State, whose Governor called on the National Government to control Islamic militants. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06 p55*
- 2005 - In the aftermath of international protests against the Danish cartoons of Muhammad, 50 Christians were killed in Borno State, 57 churches razed, and 250 Christian-owned businesses attacked. *Christianophobia: Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p112*
- January 2005 - Christian leaders in northern Nigeria challenged Government statistics about the number of Christians killed by Muslim militants during 2004: Kano State Government claimed there were 84 victims, but Church leaders put the number at more than 3,000. Similarly, Government claimed the Islamic extremists destroyed Churches and property worth US\$70 million, whereas the Christian Assoc of Nigeria valued the total as US\$1.5 billion. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06 p55*
- January 2005 - Government intelligence sources revealed that Islamic militants had secret plans for more attacks on Christians and Churches. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06 p55*
- January 2005 - In Bauchi State, eight young women were given ten strokes of the lash for remaining unmarried. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06 p55*
- 2004 - A peace and reconciliation meeting in Wase, near Jos, between Rev Justin Welby – later Archbishop of Canterbury - and the local Emir was brought to an untimely end when Welby's Muslim driver overheard three men with AK47s discussing whether to kill their English visitor. On another reconciliation venture in Nembe in the Niger Delta, a young militia leader told his accomplices to take Welby outside and shoot him: his life was redeemed only when a local elder pleaded on his behalf. And on yet another occasion Welby was given subtle death threats by an oil contractor. *The Road to Canterbury, Andrew Atherstone, Darton Longman and Todd Ltd, 2013 p78/79*
- December 2004 - Christian community leader Davou Bulle was killed and his wife and son critically injured in an attack in the village of Gana-Ropp in Plateau State. The attack came soon after the Federal Government lifted the State of Emergency instigated in May. Police arrested eight suspects, all Muslims. *Compass, 13/1/2005*
- December 2004 - In three years of religious violence in Plateau State from September 2001, 10,000 people have died, mostly Christians. *Compass, 13/1/2005*
- December 2004 - Christian architectural student in the northern city of Bauchi murdered. Earlier, university representatives expelled four students for distributing a Christian leaflet. *Compass, 20/12/2004*
- November 2004 - Missionary team in Dutse, Jigawa, attacked by 10 heavily armed extremists. *Compass, 30/11/2004*
- October 2004 - Christian nurses of the Federal Medical Centre in Keffi threatened with death unless they stop conducting Christian worship services. *CSW, 22/10/2004*
- September 2004 - Dozens of Christians killed in raid by Islamic militant group, Al Sunna Wal Jamma, in Bama and Gwoza. *CSW, 28/9/2004*
- August 2004 - Police stopped a five-day programme of meetings in Ilorin by German evangelist Reinhard Bonnke after the second day, claiming that if the meetings were to continue, Muslim militants would attack Christians at the meeting grounds, and that the Government's action stemmed from the need to prevent a bloody religious crisis. *Compass, 31/8/2004*
- August 2004 - Zamfara Governor Alhaji Ahmed Sani, who first introduced Sharia in Nigeria four years ago, is being accused by Zamfara's Christians of religious persecution. The State Government recently said it would demolish all churches it marked as illegal, close all Christian businesses during Muslim prayers, and enforce a new law against clothing that is not compliant with Islamic law. *Compass, 11/8/2004*
- August 2004 - Zamfara State Government has decreed payment of school tuition fees of \$50 to \$250 per term for Christian children while Muslim students do not pay. *Compass, 11/8/2004*
- June 2004 - Riots in Numan have killed nine people on the anniversary of the murder of a Christian preacher in the town by a Muslim. *Compass, 14/6/04*
- May 2004 - At least 600 Christians killed in Kano during two day rampage. 10,000 fled from their homes. *CSW, 13/5/2004*
- May 2004 - A Kano State Police Commissioner told journalists yesterday that Muslim mobs were trapping Christians in their homes and setting the houses on fire. He said police were under a 'shoot-on-sight order' issued to save innocent lives. *Compass, 13/5/2004*
- May 2004 - Hundreds of Christians died and 12 churches burned in a week in Kano in retaliation for Muslim deaths hundreds of miles away in Yelwa. *Barnabas Fund: 14/5/2004*
- May 2004 - Associated Press reports a bitter land dispute between a Christian ethnic group and Muslim herdsmen which apparently began with an attack by Muslim militants on a church in Yelwa when Pastor Bukar and 48 members of the church were killed. Plateau State Governor Joshua Dariye said he believes the attacks on Christians are motivated by Muslim militants with an agenda to carry out jihad (religious war). *Compass, 13/5/2004*
- May 2004 - The National Broadcasting Commission has banned television and radio broadcasts of Christian programmes portraying healings and other miracles. *Compass, 11/5/2004*
- May 2004 - Christian leaders in Kaduna have withdrawn from the Government-established Peace and Reconciliation Committee in protest against continuing attacks on Christians. *"We can no longer trust a Government that does not lead by example,"* said Dr. Sam Kujiyat. *"The violence against Christians has not ceased and our churches have remained targets of Muslim militants."* *Compass, 11/5/2004*
- April 2004 - Christian leaders have condemned Muslim fundamentalists for killing Christians and destroying churches in northern Nigeria, warning that the National Government's inability to address the violence could turn the country into a theatre for religious war. Conflict has been reported in Plateau, Jigawa, Nasarawa and Bauchi States. The Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) said, *"How can anyone explain invading a church where women, children and men were worshipping, asking them to surrender and lie face down and then machete and axe them to death in their house of worship?"* The CAN statement asserted Christians in Nigeria have never initiated violence against Muslims, and claimed Officials demonstrate lukewarm attitudes toward the plight of Christians. Jigawa Deputy Governor Alhaji Ibrahim Hassan, a Muslim, decried the violence as *"unfortunate and shameful - a mob action by miscreants to destabilise the State."* *Compass, 5/4/2004*
- April 2004 - Nine Christian Churches in Makarfi, Kaduna, burned down by Muslims. Kaduna State, where Christians comprise 40% of the population, has experienced religious turmoil for 15 years. *Barnabas Fund, 5/4/2004 Compass, 11/5/2004*

Evidence (6 I)

- April 2004 - Muslim fanatics burned down 10 Christian churches in Makarfi, Kaduna, after a mentally retarded Christian teenager reportedly desecrated a copy of the Quran. Eyewitnesses saw trucks piled with bodies of dead Christians from Makarfi being taken away for burial by police, although the police deny any casualties. *Compass, 8/4/04*
- April 2004 - 1,000 Christians dead and 63 churches burned this year. *Barnabas Fund, 21/4/2004*
- April 2004 - Eight pastors and 1,500 Christians have been killed and 173 churches destroyed in Plateau State. Muslim-Christian violence has broken out in Nasarawa State, claiming the lives of 15 Christians. *Compass, 2/4/2004*
- March 2004 - In a March 2nd TV and radio broadcast, Plateau Governor Joshua Dariye said that Muslim mercenaries from Chad and Niger participated in the attacks in which 200 people were killed in an outbreak of religious violence. *Compass, 8/3/2004*
- February 2004 - 20 youths missing after attack by Muslims in village of Hamale. *CSW, 8/3/2004*
- February 2004 - Pastor Samson Bukar of the Church of Christ in Yelwa and 48 members of his church were among up to 300 Christians who were killed in an outbreak of religious violence in Plateau State. The pastor and other victims had taken refuge in the church from Muslim gangs crying "Allahu Akhbar - let us go for jihad!" The church was set on fire, and people who tried to escape were killed. *Compass, 8/3/2004; Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, pp114/5*
- February 2004 - Attackers in 13 vehicles threatened to burn down a church in Tudun Wada. Thwarted by police intervention. *CSW, 8/3/2004*
- January 2004 - "Where do I go to?" asked Peter Bulus, living in a refugee camp in central Nigeria. "They (militant Muslims) have vowed to wipe us out because we refuse to be forced into Islam." Bulus decried the indifferent attitude of Government officials toward the displaced, saying nothing has been done to alleviate their suffering. *Compass, 29/1/2004*
- January 2004 - Police and military units in Yobe State ended a violent attempt by Muslim militants, allegedly affiliated with the Afghanistan Taliban, to carve out an Islamic republic. However, the extremists gained minimal support among the local population, with Yobe Governor Alhaji Ibrahim, a Muslim, describing the militants as "anarchists and trouble makers." *Compass, 6/1/2004*
- January 2004 - Muslim students at Nigeria's Federal College of Education in Yola burned down the home of the school's Provost, Dr. Yusufu, a Christian, in an apparent attempt to kill him. Muslim assailants then turned on Christian students and staff, and several victims were hospitalised. Federal College has experienced religious conflict for three years. A Christian staff member said "We no longer have confidence to carry on teaching and learning activities here." Officials dismissed classes, and appointed an investigative panel, but without including any Christians. *Compass, 23/2/2004*
- January 2004 - The Government of Plateau State has banned an Islamic group believed to be financing aggression against Christians. In a radio/TV broadcast, Plateau Governor Joshua Dariye charged the Council of Ulama with conducting activities inimical to the peaceful co-existence of Muslims and Christians. Dariye said his Government will not allow fundamentalist Muslim leaders to give tacit support to religious terrorism. *Compass, 9/1/2004*
- January 2004 - 23 Christian women have been arraigned in Islamic courts over charges ranging from non-compliance with the Muslim dress code to prostitution. The Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) said that the accusations of prostitution are false. "A woman not married, irrespective of her religious background, is seen by Sharia enforcers as a prostitute," said Rev. Linus Awuhe, CAN chairman in Zamfara State. Dr. Peter Jatau, Roman Catholic Archbishop, said strict enforcement of Sharia could lead to "the incarceration of innocent Christian victims whose 'sin' is that they are Christians." "If that were to happen, Jatau warned, "there would be increased tension, which would no doubt result in more religious conflict." *Compass, 26/1/2004*
- January 2004 - For three years, 15-year-old Helen James has lived in a refugee camp in central Nigeria, following the death of her parents and siblings in religious violence that engulfed Christians in Bauchi in June 2001. "I narrowly escaped death," Miss James sobbed. "Our house was burned down and now I have no place to go to." Over 10,000 people forced to flee during three weeks of bloodshed still languish in camps, numbers decimated daily by disease, hunger and poverty, but not wanting to return for fear of being attacked again by Muslim militants. *Compass, 29/1/2004*
- November 2003 - University of Maiduguri attacked by Muslims. Three Christian students killed and at least 20 injured. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - Muslim extremists burned down 10 churches and over 100 church-owned properties in November during unprovoked attacks in Kazaure, Jigawa State. According to Rev. Umaru Dutse of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), an undetermined number of Christians also died, and a Catholic priest has not been seen since. Dutse said Muslim fanatics justified the attacks with claims that a local Christian blasphemed the prophet Mohammed, but CAN believes the blasphemy charge was merely a pretext. "The attack is (part of) premeditated and continuous persecution of the Christian community here," Dutse said. "Unless the Nigerian Government makes decisive strides towards curtailing the religious violence perpetrated by Muslim fundamentalists, this Country might be heading for the precipice." *Compass, 15/12/2003 & 9/1/2004; Barnabas Fund, 21/11/2003; CSW, 7/4/2004*
- October 2003 - Five Christian women sentenced to two years in jail for 'prostitution'. Five Christians held by police for the consumption and sale of alcohol. *Compass, 10/10/2003*
- October 2003 - Authorities of Kumbotso local Government Council in Kano State have banned Christian Worship, a decision that has heightened tensions between Muslims and Christians in the area. "This directive for Christians not to conduct Sunday Worship Services has raised a lot of concern," said Rev. A.U. Uba, State Secretary of CAN. *Compass, 10/10/2003*
- October 2003 - Kano Government has seized lands belonging to Christian schools to construct shops. Kano Governor Shekarau said he was prepared to step on toes in his bid to implement Islamic law, and plans to ban women from commuting in the same vehicles as men. He said Sharia would apply to all citizens, irrespective of religious affiliation, and, if necessary, he would strengthen vigilante groups to support its implementation. *Compass, 10/10/2003*
- September 2003 - 12 nurses dismissed for refusing to replace their white uniforms with the hijab. *Persecuted Church News, 17/9/2003*
- September 2003 - Female Christian student at Ahmedu Bello University, Kaduna, attacked and seriously injured. *CSW, 7/4/2004*
- September 2003 - Two Roman Catholic priests assassinated in south-eastern Nigeria. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- September 2003 - A Muslim convert to Christianity narrowly escaped death when he was attacked by a Muslim fanatic in Jos, central Nigeria. "I decided to pack up my store" said Mr. Lucky Kadri "because it was already getting late. As I bent down, I felt a blow on my head and fell down. My assailant was tearing at my stomach with a sharp object. Before I knew it, I saw my intestines spilling out." Police arrested Kadri's assailant. "I have not seen him before, but I have been told he confessed he was sent to kill me because I left Islam to become a Christian". A Christian since 1984, Kadri said Muslim leaders regularly visited his shop to persuade him to renounce Christianity and return to Islam. He believes his refusal provoked the attack. *Compass, 11/11/2003*
- September 2003 - Three Christian students were killed in violent clashes at the Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic School, Zaria. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- July 2003 - Foursquare Gospel Pastor Matthew Omodion's four young children killed by being thrown into burning building by members of the law. *Compass, 14/7/2003*
- July 2003 - Christian communities Galadum and Wahim in Plateau State attacked by Muslim militia. One dead and several injured. *Compass, 14/7/2003*
- June 2003 - 200 Muslim terrorists invaded the Christian villages of Shirur and Dadinkowa in Plateau State, raping women, setting houses ablaze and leaving four people dead. *Compass, 16/6/2003*
- April 2003 - Christian preacher and six family members killed in a house fire in Kano. *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- April 2003 - Armed Muslims attacked Fobur village, Langtang, killing one woman and destroying several houses; the next day Zambwar village, where 30 homes were set on fire on; then Wereng village. *CSW, 11/4/2003*
- March 2003 - 22 killed, 16 injured, 28 missing following attack on Kadarko, Wase, by 2,000 armed Hausa Fulani Muslims. Weaponry was so sophisticated the local police were outgunned. An armored vehicle assigned to protect the area joined in the attack, and turned its guns on police and soldiers. Two attackers killed had ID cards identifying them as soldiers. *CSW, 11/4/2003*
- February 2003 - Christian school in Ibadan attacked by extremists from the National Council of Muslim Youth organisation, injuring teachers and students. *International Christian Concern, 19/2/2003*
- February 2003 - Emmanuel Ijewere, President of Nigerian Red Cross, reported 110 Christians dead and 500 injured after group of Muslims attacked community in Dumme. *Project Open Book, 14/3/2003*
- January 2003 - Bus returning from prayer vigil fired on by police for refusing to pay a bribe; four Catholic Christians killed, eight others injured. *Compass, 13/1/2003*
- 2003 - All girls in Bauchi State above the age of 16 were given 90 days to marry or face arrest on charges of prostitution. Eight women were subsequently arrested, fined, and given 10 lashes for being unmarried. *Marshall, Religious Freedom in the World, p311*

Evidence (62)

- December 2002 - Muslim militants armed with guns, clubs, machetes and bows and arrows attacked Christian residential areas in the city of Bauchi on 26 December as Christmas celebrations were concluding. Attackers chanted "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) as they set fire to the Celestial Church of Christ and scores of private residences. Hundreds of Christians took refuge in police and army barracks or fled for fear of more violence. *Compass, 13/1/2003*
- December 2002 - The plan to stage the 'Miss World' contest in Nigeria sparked serious violence which killed at least 200. About 11,000 people were made homeless and 20 churches were destroyed. *IDEASPECTRUM, 4/12/2002*
- December 2002 - 91 Christians jailed by Niger State for alleged violations of Sharia. Alhaji Mohammed Bida, Chairman of the State Islamic Enforcement Board, stated 182 police operations resulted in fines totalling 300,000 naira (\$3,000). 51 cases still pending. Most offences related to alleged consumption of alcohol and sexual promiscuity. Bida expressed delight that the arrests led to entrenchment of Islam in the State. In contrast, Governor Abdullahi Adamu of Nasarawa has ruled out introducing Sharia, explaining that Nasarawa has more diverse ethnic, cultural and religious affiliations than most neighbouring States. "For now, I don't see how we will start dissipating our energy on Sharia. We already have enough problems to tackle," Adamu said. *Compass, 14/12/2002*
- November 2002 - State officials in Borno have demolished churches in the capital city of Maiduguri and plan to demolish more, claiming that the buildings infringe city development ordinances. Christian leaders said the demolitions seemed part of a phased plan to prevent churches from acquiring land and erecting buildings. *Compass, 15/11/2002*
- November 2002 - Muslim officials in Zamfara State forcefully assumed control of a convent belonging to the Nigerian Catholic Church in Gusau. The officials erected structures on the land and refused to vacate it. Police arrested church leaders staging a protest march, but quickly released them - apparently for fear of sparking a violent Muslim/Christian confrontation. Sister Franca Igweilo, head of the seized convent, said that since the introduction of Sharia, Zamfara Govt has trampled on the rights of Christians. *Compass, 15/11/2002*
- November 2002 - Muslim protestors killed 200 Christians in Kaduna City and burned down 20 churches. *Barnabas Fund, 22/11/2002*
- September 2002 - Church of Christ in Laranto suburb of Jos bombed. *CSW, 17/9/2002*
- August 2002 - The Muslim Governor of Zamfara, Ahmed Sani Yarima, has announced the enforced use of the Arabic language by all residents of the State, including Christians. Sani, who introduced Sharia in 1999, said he would enforce the teaching and usage of Arabic to enhance Islam, regardless of people's religious persuasion. The Governor thanked Islamic clerics and guests from the Saudi Arabian Embassy for their support of his administration since the imposition of Sharia, noting that God had entrusted Saudi Arabia with ensuring the progress of Islam around the globe. *Compass, 9/8/2002*
- August 2002 - Approximately 500 people were killed in clashes between Christians and Muslims in Wase, Northern Nigeria. More than 10 Christian villages were destroyed and 10,000 people fled. *Offene Grenzen, 23/8/2002*
- August 2002 - One state government has demolished more than 20 church buildings since the implementation of Sharia law three years ago. *Compass, 13/9/2002*
- May - June 2002 - In Niger State, 75 Christians were arrested for opposing the State's Islamic law. Eight unmarried Christian girls were arrested for not being married having passed the marriageable age of 13 years prescribed by Islamic law. *Compass, 21/6/2002*
- May 2002 - In Jos, Plateau State, 100 persons were feared dead when Muslims and Christians clashed during elections. *Compass, 21/6/02*
- May 2002 - Two Christian converts in Mada village, Zamfara State, arrested by an Islamic monitoring group, insisting they must be sentenced to death. *Compass, 13/5/2002*
- April 2002 - The Government of Katsina State has cancelled the teaching of Christian Religious Knowledge from the curriculum of all public primary and secondary schools, while making the teaching of Islamic Religious Knowledge compulsory. An Official Statement read, "The Government's decision is in line with its policy of tailoring programmes to be in tune with the Islamic system we envisaged." *Compass, 13/5/2002*
- April 2002 - At least seven churches in the state of Kano were destroyed by the Government. *International Christian Concern, 8/4/2002 & 22/4/2002.*
- April 2002 - Muslim leaders aim to eradicate Christianity in northern Nigeria, said Nigeria's Defence Minister, General Theophilus Yakubu Danjuma to a gathering of the Northern (Nigeria) Christian Elders Forum. "Our religion is under assault in our Country. If Christians are not careful, there will be a time that the propagation of the teaching of Jesus Christ will become an offence," he said. *Compass, 13/5/2002*
- March 2002 - Lagos State has outlawed the use of residential buildings as house churches, and new church-building projects must secure Governmental approval; the measures were adopted 'to create a peaceful environment.' *Compass, 19/4/2002*
- February 2002 - A Christian University student in Adamawa State, Esther Bulus, was kidnapped and brutally murdered by four Muslim assassins, who were allegedly assigned to kill her by a Muslim politician in Gombi. *Compass, 15/3/2002 & International Christian Concern, 24/2/2002*
- March 2002 - Suspected Government agents stormed a crusade ground in Enugu city in an alleged attempt to kill a Catholic priest who has been critical of Government policies. Attackers released unknown gas at an all-night rally organised by local Catholic Church. In the resulting stampede, 14 worshippers were crushed to death and hundreds hospitalised. *Compass, 19/4/2002*
- March 2002 - Thousands of persons have been killed and property worth billions of dollars has been destroyed as a result of Sharia-induced conflicts during the past two years in Northern Nigeria. *Compass, 15/3/2002.*
- March 2002 - Armed Muslims attacked Christian prayer meeting in Enugu killing at least 12 Christians. *International Christian Concern, 7/13/2002*
- February 2002 - The leader of the Eastern Christians Summit has said that Christians in northern Nigeria have become an 'endangered species,' citing incessant killings, attacks and destruction of their property. "Christians in northern Nigeria have suffered untold hardship as a result of the implementation of Sharia in 12 (northern) States," said Margaret Elioku, who appealed for respect for the religious rights of all persons. *Compass, 15/3/2002.*
- 2002 - 120 Christian schools closed in Kano State. *International Christian Concern, Apr 2002*
- February 2002 - Muslims demanding imposition of Sharia in Ilorin attacked a Christian celebration, killing three Christians. *International Christian Concern, 27/2/2002*
- January 2002 - The Government of Zamfara State has said there are too many churches, and some must be demolished. Two already closed, and fourteen more are marked for demolition. Despite an attempt by Christians to dialogue, Government held to its decision. *Compass, 15/2/2002*
- January 2002 - 20 people were killed when 50 heavily armed Hausa-Fulani men attacked the Christian village of Dagwom Turu in Plateau State. *Barnabas Fund, 2/1/2002*
- November 2001 - 1,000 Muslims rampaged for five hours in Osogbo. Two Christians killed and nine churches vandalised. *CSW, 4/12/2001*
- October 2001 - Muslim protestors demonstrating against U.S. bombardment of Afghanistan, attacked and killed about 200 Christians in Kano City. Five churches and property burned, and hundreds of Christians' houses and shops worth \$US millions destroyed. Dusk-to-dawn curfew imposed, and Nigerian military and anti-riot police posted throughout the city. *Compass, 10/11/2001*
- October 2001 - Police arrested eight Muslims suspected of burning down a church in Mubi in northern Nigeria's Adamawa State. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- October 2001 - A mob burned three churches in Kaduna city, having padlocked several Christians inside one of them. Police confirmed they had received reports of plans by Muslim fanatics to burn churches in the city. Posters of Osama bin Laden were pasted on the gutted remains of the church. Police immediately put the State under a security alert, and State Governor visited the scene. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- October 2001 - The Government has declared all churches located in Shagari Quarters of Kano city as 'illegal structures', despite the high concentration of Christians in the area. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
- September 2001 - Government of Bauchi State accused of using Muslim mercenaries from Chad to attack Christians in Tafawa Balewa and Bogoro. 200 Christians killed and properties worth millions of naira destroyed. *Compass, 21/9/2001 & 19/10/2001*
- September 2001 - Christian leaders in Kano State said the State Government demolished seven churches, set ablaze six, and forced several others to close. They said the September 7-17 religious riots in Jos (central Nigeria) led to the attacks. "Many private homes, shops and cars, belonging to Christians, were burnt down or destroyed," said one leader. The State has served demolition notices on 54 churches. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
- August 2001 - Christian convert killed by suspected Muslim fundamentalists in Abuja. *Compass, 24/8/2001*
- May 2001 - Five Nigerian Christians in Kano State, including two Anglican priests, charged with abduction and facing trial for assisting two Christian girls who escaped from arranged marriages (which would force them to change their faith to Islam). The teenage girls were to be forcibly married to Muslims by their father, a convert to Islam. *Compass, 15/6/2001*

Evidence (63)

- March 2001 - Dozens of Nigerian Christian families have fled to Cameroon, following implementation of Sharia by Borno State Government. Chairman of the Baptist Conference said: "It is said that Sharia is for Muslims only, but we have received reports of pulling down of churches and molestation of Christians across the State. It means the claim that Sharia will not affect Christians is not true." *Compass*, 23/3/2001
- February 2001 - "There is intimidation of Christians and pastors within Sokoto in different ways, such as ejection from houses with little or no notice, harassment and increased cases of rape, especially on Christian ladies," Pastor Momo James said. Church buildings have been demolished by Government agents, and the threat of more church demolitions has brought fear to the Christian community. *Compass*, 16/2/2001
- December 2000 - Two Christians in Kano City were publicly given 80 lashes with a cane: Muslim extremists said they were enforcing Sharia. Boniface Nkantiom was flogged because the 'fanatics' claimed he ran a hotel, and only left 'when they thought we were dead.' Livinus Obi said about 50 Muslim 'fanatics' came to his house at night, ransacked it, and accused him of helping his wife sell alcohol. Police failed to prosecute two men charged in the attack when Obi declined to press charges because of death threats if the alleged attackers were convicted. *Compass*, 16/2/2001
- December 2000 - A group of Muslim leaders warned German evangelist to 'be prepared to die' if he comes to northern Nigeria. *Compass*, 15/12/2000
- November 2000 - Governors of some Northern States are reported to have brought in amputation machines to be installed in hospitals. *Compass*, 17/11/2000
- November 2000 - The Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) and the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) have promised to assist victims of Sharia. The NMA has banned all of its doctors from carrying out amputations on persons convicted under the Islamic legal code, and the NBA has promised to defend any person arraigned before a Sharia court. "It is inhuman, unfair, and unjust to chop off the hand of any person," the NMA President told doctors. *Compass*, 17/11/2000
- October 2000 - Thousands of Christians affected by religious conflicts in Kaduna languish in refugee camps without any Government help. Many in the camps have died from disease, lack of medical attention and insufficient aid. Some would have left the camps, but their houses and property were destroyed during the clashes in February and May, and Kaduna State Government will not compensate for these losses. *Compass*, 20/10/2000
- July 2000 - Two Christian soldiers shot dead by a Muslim soldier. *Compass*, 21/7/2000
- July 2000 - Thirty Christians were arrested on charges of drinking alcohol, in violation of Sharia. *Compass*, 21/7/2000
- June 2000 - Kano State Governor Kwankwaso said the time had come for Muslims in Nigeria to assert themselves in the religious life of the country and become the proponents of Islam. He indicated Christians would not be spared. *Compass*, 21/7/2000
- June 2000 - Muslim extremists are enforcing Sharia tenets, reportedly going from street to street attacking Christian women or girls seen with their husbands or parents, claiming Islam forbids women being seen in public in the company of men. Nigeria now has four states - Kano, Sokoto, Zamfara and Niger - that have begun full implementation of Sharia. *Compass*, 21/7/2000
- May 2000 - Christian widow Mrs. Laraba John (35) has become the first victim of Sharia in Niger State following her conviction for brewing Burukutu, a local alcoholic beverage. Her trial contradicts claims by Islamic leaders that Sharia only applies to Muslims. A Minna Islamic Magistrate Court imprisoned Mrs. John for three months for violating the new anti-liquor Sharia Law. She is responsible for the care of her seven children, and despite claiming ignorance of the new law, pleas for leniency were denied. *Compass*, 23/6/2000
- May 2000 - Fr. Clement Ozi Bello, son of Muslim parents in Kogi State, was dragged from his home and killed. He had been ordained only 10 months. *Christianophobia*, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing p111
- April 2000 - 15 Christians dead, four churches burned and eight Christian-owned houses and shops looted in the Christian-Muslim disturbances in Damboa. *Compass*, 21/4/2000
- January 2000 - 20 Christians are scheduled to be tried in Zamfara State under Sharia Law, as the new legal system takes effect. Some Christian families have moved out of Gusau, the capital of Zamfara: others have chosen to stay and face the uncertain consequences of being a Christian in an Islamic State. Leaders worry Christian families adversely affected economically may convert to Islam to survive. *Compass*, 21/1/2000
- December 1999 - More than 2000 Muslims attacked 18 churches in central Nigeria, destroying property worth \$40 million. *Compass*, 21/1/2000

North Korea

North Korea is vehemently opposed to religion of any kind, and Christians are classified as hostile: they face arrest, detention, torture – even public execution. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

In March 2013, the UN made a historic decision: to launch an official investigation into the widespread human rights violations in North Korea. The independent inquiry will be led by international experts who will interview escapees from North Korea to get first hand information, and will review reports from human rights organisations: this information will be used to hold North Korea to account for its human rights violations. *CSW Prayer Diary Spring/Summer 2013*

Six labour camps in North Korea operate holding as many as 200,000 people, including up to 70,000 Christians. The average sentence is 15 years, but life expectancy in the camps is only seven years. If someone is placed in a labour camp, their children and grandchildren must pay the penalty too. The United Kingdom's House of Lords is calling on the UN to investigate crimes against humanity committed by the totalitarian Government. *International Christian Concern*, 29/6/2012 & 25/1/2013; *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2013*

The labour camps are in the mountains, and torture, slave labour and public executions are daily realities. (Prisoners) have virtually no chance of release. *Amnesty International UK, appeal leaflet*

Leading human rights observers said "(North Korea) remains one of the world's most repressive regimes, with a deplorable human rights and religious freedom record". *US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012 Annual Report*

Christian parents can't even share their beliefs with their children until they are old enough to understand the dangers. Owning a Bible could get you killed or sent to a labour camp. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*

North Korea is a Communist State based on the *Juche* (self-reliance) ideology which stresses that the people are self-reliant agents who will realise the Communist revolution, and can fulfil their role only with the guidance of the Communist Party and the *Suryong* (Great Leader) Kim il-Sung and his successors. *KINU. White Paper on Human Rights in North Korea 2000 p2-5*

- December 2013 - Hea Woo fled to China where she became a Christian. After she was caught, she was returned and sent to a North Korean labour camp. She said "Every day in the camp was torture. People were dying and their corpses burnt: the guards scattered their ashes over the road. We walked that road every day, and each time I thought "one day the other prisoners will walk over me". *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2014 p10*
- December 2013 - Eun Hee was one of many North Koreans who risked escaping into China to get money and food to take back into North Korea. After becoming a Christian, she continued her journeys, taking back clothes, food and medicines to give away. When police searched her house they found a Bible: she was taken away and later died in prison. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2014 p11*
- November 2013 - South Korean newspaper Joong Ang Ilbo reported co-ordinated public executions by machine guns of up to 80 people in seven cities. In one city, 10,000 people, including children, were conscripted to attend. Their offences included possession of a Bible. *The Telegraph 11/11/2013*
- November 2012 - Tens of thousands of Christians suffer unspeakable cruelties in the country's notorious prison/labour camps. Many prisoners are worked to death while enduring severe physical and psychological torture. The succession in 2011 of a new leader, Kim Jong-Un, has brought no improvement. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- 2012 - It is thought that at least 25% of the country's Christians are interned in prison/labour camps. *Open Doors US, 2012 World Watch List*
- 2012 - Asylum seekers repatriated from China continue to be mistreated and imprisoned, particularly those with religious affiliations or carrying religious literature. *US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012 Annual Report*
- April 2012 - Secret Police train people to disguise themselves as Christians in order to trap Christians. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, April 2012*
- January 2012 - It was reported that Christian churches faced increased persecution following the death of Kim Jong-il, possibly caused by a desire for a smooth transition after his death. *ASSIST, 14/1/2012*
- January 2012 - Spies set up fake 'secret' prayer meetings to trap Christians. *Open Doors Magazine, Jan 2012*
- December 2011 - Seven underground churches were exposed, leading to many arrests and deaths. *International Christian Concern, 20/12/2012*
- October 2011 - A Harvard International Review highlights the acts of genocide and religious persecution occurring here. It is regarded as the worst violator of religious freedom in the world. Subject to public execution and imprisonment in concentration camps, Christians continue to face genocide, which sometimes reaches into the third generation of persecuted individuals. *International Christian Concern (Harvard International Review), 7/10/2011*
- September 2011 - Christians currently in labour camps are suffering grievously. The Government engages in discrimination and harassment of all religious activity, including the arrest, torture and possible execution of Christians. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*
- August 2011 - A South Korean pastor who smuggled runaways to safety was poisoned by needles. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*

Evidence (64)

- June 2011 – 61-year-old Jun Young-Su, a naturalised citizen of the USA living in North Korea, was released, having been imprisoned on charges of proselytising. *Mission News Network 01/06/2011*
 - January 2011 - North Korea is perhaps the hardest country in which to practise the Christian faith. All Christian meetings, literature and Bibles are banned, forcing believers to meet secretly. Whole families are imprisoned if just one member is found to be a Christian. Many Christians are sent to death camps as political prisoners. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
 - September 2010 - The Government has declared the policy of 'eliminating the seed of class enemies to three generations'. They have murdered Christians by crushing them with steam rollers *CSW: Voice for the Voiceless, 24/9/2010*
 - June 2010 - Prisoners inside the 'gulag' prisons are subjected to some of the worst forms of torture and deprivation on earth. *CSW Relay Newsletter 11/6/2010 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
 - May 2010 - Three church leaders in South Pyongan Province, Kuwoldong, were executed and 20 Christians were sent to a prison labour camp in Yodok for belonging to an underground church. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 167, Sep 2010: US State Department, 'International Religious Freedom Report, 2010 (North Korea)' www.state.gov*
 - March 2010 - Being caught in possession of a Bible leads to the imprisonment of the person's mother, father, sisters, brothers, children and even grandchildren in labour camps where conditions are appalling and Christians are often given the worst treatment. It is thought that a quarter of all Christians are held in concentration camps. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
 - January 2010 - Many Christians are in brutal labour camps on starvation rations, expecting to die. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
 - December 2009 - Three young Christians who had fled to China were caught and returned to North Korea. They were executed because they had 'betrayed the regime'. *Prayer @ Maranatha 7/12/2009*
 - 2009 - Investigations by Human Rights Watch and the UN found that people caught praying – especially if it involved foreign organisations – were likely to be executed. Prisoners are subject to torture, murder, rape, medical experimentation, forced labour, forced abortion and execution. Religious detainees routinely receive harsher treatment. *Christians and the Struggle for Religious Freedom, ACN Report, 2012*
 - September 2009 - Christians suffer some of the worst persecution on earth. If Christians are discovered they lose their jobs and are likely, with their family, to be sent to prison or labour camp. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2009*
 - September 2009 - Li Mingshun from Heilongjiang Province was jailed recently for helping to smuggle Christians out of the country. *Release International – Issue 51, Sep 2009*
 - June 2009 - Ri Hyon Ok was publicly executed in Ryongchon, near the Chinese border, for distributing Bibles. *US State Department, 'International Religious Freedom Report, 2010 (North Korea)' www.state.gov*
 - January 2009 - Yoo Sang-joon was jailed for helping refugees flee North Korea, and Choi Yong-hun, a South Korean, was jailed for four years for helping refugees. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009*
 - 2009 - Ownership of a Bible is illegal. It is believed that one in five Christians is in a prison camp, and 400 Christians are executed every year. *Barnabas Fund - Praying for Persecuted Christians, 2009*
 - September 2008 - Security officials are trained to infiltrate Christian groups. Christians found to be spreading their faith are given life sentences whilst many new Christians are sent to 'kwanliso', political prison camps. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
 - July 2008 - Ten college students at Ham Kyung Book Do Chung were recently arrested and tortured for having Bibles and Christian videos and CDs *VOM USA, 2/4/2008 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
 - March 2008 - The National Security Service describes Christian men and women as 'native citizens working for a foreign intelligence service'. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
 - November 2007 - Lee Sung Ae, having fled to China with her children after her husband had died of malnutrition, returned to North Korea as a missionary. After police arrested her, they first pulled out her nails one by one, and then her teeth. She was then sentenced, without trial, to four years in a prison camp. During this time her height reduced from 170cm to 150cm. *CSW 'Cry Freedom: Mrs Lee's Long Escape from North Korea', Mar 2012*
 - August 2007 - Son Jong Nam (49) an ex-army officer, is charged with being a 'national traitor' and for 'receiving Christianity'. He is threatened with public execution and is held in the basement death row of Pyongyang jail. His family has been killed, and many of his fellow prisoners are Christians, imprisoned and tortured for their faith. *International Release – Prisoners of Faith, Aug 2007*
 - June 2007 - 'From birth to adulthood all worship Kim Il-Sung. There is no other faith – so we can't compare it to anything. It was all we knew. We worshipped because if we didn't bow down we would be killed'. *North Korea – a Case to Answer, CSW June 2007, p20. North Korean escapee*
 - 2006 - The National Human Rights Commission of Korea found that 92% of a large sample group had witnessed or know about public executions, and 94% knew about or had heard of the existence of political prison camps. *CSW – North Korea: A Case to Answer – A Call To Act*
 - September 2005 - To suppress any potential threat to the North Korean state, very harsh penalties are now being imposed for being a Christian, including execution or imprisonment in one of the brutal prison camps. *CSW, 14/9/2005*
 - 2005 - North Korean refugees continue to report horrible abuse of Christian prisoners, including being killed by molten steel being poured on them. Prisoners are denied clothes, and treated like animals. *International Christian Concern, Apr 2005*
 - February 2005 - A 28-year-old North Korean refugee gave evidence on human rights violations in North Korea at an international conference. She said that forced infanticide and abortion remained common practice in the detention camps, with greater brutality reserved for Christians and other religious adherents. *Life Site News & Aid to the Church in Need – Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p59*
 - 2003 - Christians in prison camps suffer extreme human rights violations. 25% die due to poor living conditions, starvation, and inhumane working at the hands of guards. "They are held for the duration of their faith and suffer the most extreme human rights violations." Lord Alton reported. *CSW, 2003, 'Brutality and viciousness of the North Korean regime highlighted in the House of Lords Debate' 13/3/2003*
 - 2002 - Despite North Korea's constitutional commitment to 'freedom of religious belief', in 2002, according to official statistics, there remained fewer than 13,000 Christians out of more than 350,000 in 1950. *North Korea: A Case to Answer, A Call to Act, CSW June 2007 p65*
 - September 2000 - The US Department of State's 2000 Annual Report on International Religious Freedom said there were unconfirmed reports of 23 Christians executed between October 1999 and April 2000. Although there are 'show' churches in North Korea, religious belief is not tolerated within this state of 20 million people. *Compass, 22/9/2000*
 - April 2000 - Reports tell of seven Christian men, 15 aged to 58 years, who were executed for their faith. North Korea, despite having 'show' churches, is a fanatically Communist State, and continues to hound all religious believers. *Compass, 22/9/2000*
 - February 2000 - A South Korean aid worker in China, who works among North Korean refugees, maintained, "We hear stories all the time from refugees of how dangerous it is to be a Christian, and that it still lands you in a labour camp if you are discovered praying or organizing a meeting." *Compass, 18/2/2000*
 - January 2000 - A Report of the US Congressional Advisory Group in January declared North Korea to be "the only place on earth where a hungry child wandering away from home is imprisoned." The Report also claimed there were 10 to 12 concentration camps holding up to 200,000 political prisoners. If true, this would represent 1% of the population. It is not known how many are imprisoned on religious grounds. *Compass, 18/2/2000*
 - April 1999 - Witnesses before US Congress told how religious prisoners were treated far worse than other prisoners. *Compass, 22/9/2000*
 - It is estimated that 400 Christians were executed in 1999 alone. *International Christian Concern*
- ## Norway
- Muslim asylum seekers attacked a Christian convert with acid and boiling water. *International Christian Concern, 3/9/2011*
- ## Oman
- Islam is the State religion, and Christians face restrictions when their activities are considered a threat to the ruling power. All religious organisations must register, and Christian meetings are monitored for political messages and nationals attending. Foreign Christians are allowed to worship in private homes or work compounds. Although apostasy is not a criminal offence, Christian converts from a Muslim background face legal restrictions, and can lose their family, house or job – or even be killed. Deportation of foreign workers involved in Christian activities continues. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p23*
- 2010 - Muslim-background Christians risk persecution from family and society, and the Government may act if the family asks it to do so. In such cases, these believers are often treated as psychiatric patients. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*

Evidence (65)

Pakistan

On 4 December 2013, Pakistan's Federal Sharia Court made an order to make the death penalty the only lawful punishment for blasphemy, removing the possibility of imprisonment as an alternative. Many fear that such a reform would serve to increase the persecution of Christians and other minority groups. *Extract from letter dated 24 January 2014 to Pakistani High Commission from the Methodist Church in Britain, signed by the President & Vice-President of the Methodist Conference*

Pakistan's blasphemy law has been under scrutiny since Asia Bibi, a Christian mother of five, was sentenced to hang in November 2010 for allegedly blaspheming Islam's Prophet Muhammad. She denies the charge. No one convicted under the Blasphemy Law has ever been executed, but in many cases it's not necessary: over 30 people accused of blasphemy have been killed by lynch mobs. *Open Doors Magazine, Apr 2011*

US State Dept's Religious Freedom Report for Pakistan stated '*societal intolerance and violence against minorities and Muslims promoting intolerance (has) increased over the past year, adding 'The Government rarely investigate or prosecute the perpetrators of increased attacks on minorities'.* *September 2011*

- December 2013 - The Federal Sharia Court of Pakistan has ordered the Pakistani Government to remove the option of life imprisonment for blasphemy. This means that the sole punishment will be the death sentence. The Court has the power to determine whether any law is un-Islamic. *The Christian Post 22/12/2013*
- October 2013 - A blasphemy case has been registered against three Christian brothers – Tariq, Waris and Munawar Masih – who made fireworks in Thatha Faqir Ullah, Gujranwala. Some fireworks they made for a wedding ceremony failed to explode, and pages of the Quran were found inside when they were opened. The brothers apologised, and said they did not know about the contents. The wedding family accepted the apology, but a local cleric, Hafiz Muhammad Raza Shiraz insisted a criminal case be lodged. *Open Doors magazine, Jan 2014 p5*
- September 2013 - Two suicide bombers blew themselves up outside All Saints' Church in Peshawar as worshippers greeted each other after worship. At least 85 people were killed and over 130 wounded. Taliban claimed responsibility, saying '*(The Christians) are the enemies of Islam, therefore we target them. We will continue our attacks on non-Muslims on Pakistani land'.* *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014*
- June 2013 - Adian Masih (18) who was seemingly innocent of any crime, died in police custody of a broken neck, after being beaten with an iron rod and cut with a knife. He had been detained in connection with the disappearance of a Muslim woman who had left her husband. Telephone records proved he had had no contact with the woman, but three Muslim men allegedly bribed their release. Three police charged. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Jul 2013*
- April 2013 - A third mob attack on a Christian community in less than 50 days took place in Eassa Pur village in Punjab. Following a dispute between a Muslim farmer and a Christian farmer over a rent, a group of 50-60 armed Muslims beat Christian residents and attacked and threatened to burn their houses before opening fire on them. Two Christians and one Muslim injured – five Christians charged by police. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p14*
- March 2013 - Following a minor dispute between Muslim and Christian youths in Francis Colony, a Christian neighbourhood of Gujranwala, Muslims from a nearby village attacked the neighbourhood with firearms and clubs in response to calls over mosque loudspeakers to '*teach the Christians a lesson'.* At least five Christians were injured, a church building ransacked, and dozens of vehicles and shops damaged. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p14*
- March 2013 - A 3000-strong Muslim mob torched 178 Christian homes, shops and a church in the Badami Bagh area of Lahore after hearing calls from mosque loudspeakers to '*kill the blasphemers'.* The violence erupted over a false accusation of blasphemy by a local Muslim against Christian Savan Masih. The provincial government has since compensated the Christians. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p2*
- March 2013 - The message from loudspeakers of the mosque in Sangla Hill, Punjab Province was '*Pastor Karma Patras is blasphemer and infidel liable to be killed'.* Pastor Patros had been attending a prayer meeting at a Christian family's home when he was asked about the Muslim festival of Eid-al-Adha: he explained it was a strictly Muslim practice and not for Christians, but some Muslims overheard him and took offence. Hundreds of Muslims destroyed the Pastor's home and beat him severely. Police arrested the Pastor. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2013 p2*
- February 2013 - Younas Masih was shot dead on his way home in Baluchistan. The attack followed a heated discussion with his Muslim co-workers, who had threatened him after he resisted several attempts to convert to Islam. Police refused to launch any investigation. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p2*
- January 2013 - Barkat Masih acquitted on a false charge of blasphemy. Barkat works as a sweeper, and had refused to hand over the keys of a site where he was working to two Muslim men who were apparently trying to occupy the land illegally. They threatened him with '*dire consequences' and accused him to the police of insulting Muhammad.* *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p11*
- 2012 - Many Christians are uneducated manual workers who suffer unfair treatment from employers. Muslim men continue to sexually assault underage Christian girls. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- November 2012 - Asia Bibi has now been in prison for three years awaiting her appeal against a death sentence for blasphemy. *Release International Issue 70, Nov 2012*
- October 2012 - Ryan Stanten is a 16-year-old Christian who was accused of sending a text message containing material deemed to be offensive to Islam. Next day an angry Muslim mob, led by Islamic clerics, ransacked the family home and burned many items, and he was charged with blasphemy. No trace of the text was found on his phone. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- September 2012 - Pastor Babar Bhatti was outside his home in Faisalabad with a member of the church youth group when he was shot in the leg by Muslim extremists. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- September 2012 - A mob destroyed the church in Mardan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Province. The Christian School and Library, and the homes of two pastors and the headmaster, were looted and torched. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012 & Open Doors Magazine, Nov 2012*
- August 2012 - Young Christian girl, Rimsha Masih, accused of blasphemy by desecrating the Quran. She is 14, but medical reports confirm her mental age is much younger. The case attracted worldwide attention, with evidence so weak that even senior Muslim clerics spoke up to defend her. Notwithstanding this, around 600 local Christian families were forced to flee by a hostile Muslim backlash. Note: Pakistan's Supreme Court dismissed the case in January 2013; three of the four witnesses withdrew their evidence, and a Muslim cleric was later arrested for attempting to frame her. *CSW Prayer Diary, Spring 2013; Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- August 2012 - Recent reports confirm the continued abduction and forced conversion of young Pakistani girls – many of whom are minors and not able to legally marry their kidnappers. Authorities, in many cases, refuse to investigate these crimes – even though the abductors are known. *International Christian Concern, 17/08/2012 & 10/08/2012*
- August 2012 - A young Christian boy, Samuel Yaqoob, was tortured and killed in Faisalabad. *International Christian Concern, 04/9/2012*
- August 2012 - Eight Christian nurses were allegedly poisoned at the civil hospital in Karachi. *International Christian Concern, 03/8/2012*
- May 2012 - Many Christians are working as virtual slaves in brick kilns, where the wages are so low that they are forced to take loans and inevitably fall into debt to their Muslim landlords. They can seldom afford to send their children to school. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*
- March 2012 - Most non-Muslim children are forced to take Islamic studies because of the lack of a suitable alternative. *UCAN, 16/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Research has shown that up to 76% of Christian and Hindu women face sexual harassment. 1,000 women in Sindh and Punjab Provinces were interviewed by the Catholic Bishops National Council for Justice and Peace. Babies born to Christians and Hindus have a particularly high mortality rate of over 10%. *UCAN, 16/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Haroon Arif, a Christian, was told he had missed a place at state medical school by 0.0255 of a mark despite getting all the required A Grades. The system awards an extra 20 marks to Muslims who have memorised the Quran, but Haroon was told memorising the Bible was not an equivalent. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p12*
- February 2012 - After some of her relatives converted to Islam, they tried to persuade Shamim Bibi, a young Christian mother, to follow them. When she refused, her sister-in-law told local Muslims that she had insulted Muhammad and she was arrested on a charge of blasphemy. Her family believe she was framed – at least one of the 'witnesses' was not even present at the scene of the alleged offence. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p12*
- February 2012 - Seema Bibi was dragged through the streets of Kot Meerath village for her alleged 'anti-Islam' views. Her head was shaved by members of the Muslim mob, and she and her family were forced to flee the village. *International Christian Concern, 12/3/2012*
- January 2012 - The Punjab Government was accused of 'brutal injustice' for sending bulldozers into a church-run welfare centre in Lahore and demolishing homes for the poor, elderly and homeless, as well as a school and church. Bishop Shah said the church had proof of ownership dating from 1887. *ACN News 12/01/2012; Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*

Evidence (66)

- January 2012 - 12-year-old Christian girl, Amber, was abducted, raped, and forcibly married to one of her Muslim assailants. Over the next eight months she was subjected to daily sexual and physical assaults by her 'husband' and another man. Police have refused to register a case, and told Amber's parents to hand her over to her 'husband'. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012 p12*
- November 2011 - Preacher and evangelist Jameel Sawan was shot dead by Muslim extremists in Karachi. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 183, Jan 2012*
- November 2011 - Christian evangelist Zahid Jameel was murdered by an unidentified gunman. *International Christian Concern, 20/11/2011*
- November 2011 - On 14 November 2011 the Pakistan Telecommunications Authority (PTA) banned the words 'Jesus Christ' from use in text messages, among a list of terms deemed 'false, fabricated, indecent or obscene. This was explained as being 'in the interest of the glory of Islam'. The blocking was greeted with widespread derision, and may be withdrawn. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012 p13*
- November 2011 - 41 Christians remain homeless months after being expelled from Gurn Chack village, Punjab. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- November 2011 - Nadia Naira was just 15 when she was abducted at gunpoint, forcibly converted from Christianity to Islam, and married to her Muslim abductor. (See February 2001). She bore her drug-addicted 'husband' five children, but he was violent towards her and she was held captive on pain of death until she managed to escape after 10 years. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p31 & Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p10*
- October 2011 - A Christian woman, Ruqqiya Bibi, was sentenced to 25 years in prison for 'defiling the Quran' by touching it with unwashed hands. *International Christian Concern, 30/10/2011*
- October 2011 - Saqib Masih (22) a Christian was shot dead as Muslims took over land allocated to the Christian Punjabi village of Mian Chiannu by the Government. 37 people including children were seriously injured by an armed mob of Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- September 2011 - A young Christian man, Asiam Masih, falsely accused of blasphemy, has died in jail from dengue fever, having been denied proper medical care. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 23/9/2011*
- September 2011 - A Christian girl accidentally misspelled a word in class, which was interpreted by her teacher as a deliberate insult to the Prophet Muhammad. Enraged Muslims demanded her expulsion from school, and the family were forced to move to another area because of the threats. *Barnabas Fund Lent Prayers, 2012*
- September 2011 - Estimates are that 700 Christian girls are kidnapped each year and forcibly married to Muslim captors. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 21/9/2011*
- August 2011 - Two Christian men, Ishfaq Munawar and Naeem Masih, were attacked and beaten by a Muslim mob in Karachi because they refused to recite the Kalma (the Islamic Conversion Creed). *International Christian Concern, 03/9/2011*
- July 2011 - Christian Younis Masih, imprisoned for six years, is under sentence of death for blasphemy. *Release International Issue 62, Jul/Aug 2011*
- July 2011 - Extremists in Abbottabad attacked a group of Christians as they watched a film about Jesus Christ, and smashed the film projector. *The Christian Post, 16/08/11*
- June 2011 - The Constitution states that proselytising among Muslims is banned, and various Muslim clerics have described the Bible as 'pornographic', claiming that 'blasphemous' portions had been added to offend Muslims. *Release International Issue 63, Sep/Oct 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Focus, 29/6/2011*
- May 2011 - Christian lady, Farah Hatim (24), from Yar Khan, was abducted by Zeehan Ilyas and his brothers Umran and Gulfam and forced to convert and marry one of her kidnappers. Supreme Court ruled she had to stay – against her wishes – with her new family. *Asia News, 25/07/2011*
- May 2011 - Christian father of four Abbas Masih (36) was stabbed to death as he was cleaning the streets in Lahore. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 178, Aug 2011*
- May 2011 - Joseph Francis, National Director of the Centre for Legal Aid, Assistance and Settlement in Pakistan, has received death threats for speaking out on behalf of persecuted Christians. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p3*
- May 2011 - A new film has been released about an Islamist assassin who achieves hero status through murder. The story-line is said to resemble the killing of Punjab Governor Salman Taseer, who was gunned down by one of his own bodyguards because of his opposition to Pakistan's 'Blasphemy Law'. The film's tag-line 'Punishment for Blasphemers: Decapitation' echoes the statement of Taseer's murderer, 'Salman Taseer is a blasphemer, and this is the punishment for a blasphemer'. The film's expected commercial appeal points to the growing acceptance of murder in the name of Islam. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p10*
- April 2011 - Sarfraz Ashraf, the son of a pastor, was shot in the face in a drive-by shooting. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- April 2011 - A Muslim mob attacked Christians in Aziz and Gulzar Colonies, Gujranwala. 3,000 Christians were forced to flee their homes and much property was destroyed. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- April 2011 - Christian woman Sehar Naz (24) abducted and raped by a man claiming to be a police officer. The assaults took place in Lahore and Faisalabad over four days, after which Sehar was left at Faisalabad Railway Station. *Asia News, 28/4/2011*
- April 2011 - Islamist group Tahreek-e-Ghazi Vbin Shaheed ambushed a Protestant clergyman and his family. The family were driving in Hamza town near Lahore when two men on motorbikes started firing at the vehicle, injuring his 24-year-old son. Rev Ashraf Paul had earlier received threats and had refused demands for money. *Asia News, 28/4/2011*
- March 2011 - On 2 March Christian Shahbaz Bhatti, the Minorities Minister who fought for religious freedom, was shot dead by Islamist group Tehrik-i-Taliban because of his opposition to Pakistan's Blasphemy Law. (Christian mother of five, Asia Bibi, is still in prison facing execution for alleged blasphemy.) *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011; Open Doors Letter Guide 18, Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Two Christian women, a mother and daughter, were falsely accused of insulting Muhammad and beaten unconscious. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Qamar David, a Christian businessman in his 50s who owned a paint business in Karachi, found dead in his prison cell. Sentenced to life imprisonment for blasphemy in 2010, his indictment centred on claims by business rivals that he had sent text messages making insulting remarks about the Prophet: his Muslim co-defendant was acquitted of all charges on the same evidence. An anonymous phone caller a week before his death told his wife he would die. Prison warders, who had regularly beaten him, claimed death was due to heart failure – despite no history of heart problems. *CSW Pakistan Report: 'Religious Freedom in the Shadow of Extremism', p22-23*
- February 2011 - Christian Imran Masih was found hanged in his employer's cattle shed, but wounds on his body suggested he had been severely beaten prior to his death. Police investigated only after local Christians protested. *CDN, 16/02/2011*
- January 2011 - Salman Taseer, Governor of the Punjab, was assassinated for opposing the so-called (Blasphemy) 'Black Law' – and defending Asia Bibi – a Christian accused of blasphemy who is on death row. *CSW Weekly Newsletter 06/01/2011; Open Doors letter, Feb 2011, & Barnabas, Mar/Apr 2011*
- January 2011 - An 18-year-old Christian man, Waqas Gill, was abducted and murdered by local police in Karachi. At least six other Christian youths in this area have been killed in a similar manner. Police have threatened to kill Waqas's father. *Voice of the Martyrs, Canada, 28/1/2011*
- 2010 - 29 Christians were killed and four sentenced for blasphemy. At least 58 were kidnapped and 100 physically harmed. *Open Doors Handbook, 2011*
- November 2010 - Asia Bibi, a Christian wife and mother, was arrested in June 2009 for blasphemy, and convicted by a local Muslim cleric. The Federal Minister for Minority Affairs, Shahbaz Bhatti, has reported 'It was a personal dispute and she did not commit blasphemy'. However, Asia Bibi remains on death row. The blasphemy law is regularly cited by Muslims against Christians in what really are personal disputes. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 170, Dec 2010*
- November 2010 - A Christian family, Yousaf Masih, his wife, son-in-law Zahid and two other men have been charged with blasphemy in what is really a personal dispute. *Barnabas Prayer Forum 169, Nov 2010*
- September 2010 - Parvez Choudry, Chairman of a Christian Lawyers group, was harassed by armed men outside his home. *CSW Relay e-newsletter 4/10/2010*
- September 2010 - A bomb exploded outside a church in Marden severely injured two people. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 169, Oct 2010*
- August 2010 - Christians experienced discrimination in the distribution of aid during the floods. *Open Doors Handbook, 2011*
- July 2010 - Christian nurse, Magdalene Ashraf, raped by several Muslim men at the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre, Karachi. After her ordeal she was thrown out of a fourth-floor window. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- July 2010 - A teenage Christian housemaid from Kasur, Lahore, was raped by her employer's son - police have not pressed charges. *Release International Issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010*
- July 2010 - Two Christian brothers, Revd Rashid (30) and Sajid (27) Emmanuel, shot dead whilst in police custody outside court in Faisalabad. Accused of blasphemy, based on written insults about the Prophet, handwriting experts dismissed any connection between them and the written words. Many Christians were injured when a Muslim mob rioted after the shootings. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 166, Aug 2010*
- May 2010 - The Christian colony of Pahar Ganj, Karachi was recently attacked by Muslims. Two churches were damaged and Christian homes burned down. *Release International - Issue 55, May/Jun 2010*

Evidence (67)

- May 2010 – On 20 May, the European Parliament passed a resolution concerning Pakistan's controversial 'Blasphemy Laws' – which are often misused by Muslims – and the country's lack of religious freedom. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 165, Jul 2010*
- April 2010 - Seven Christians, including two women, were killed when armed gunmen attacked the offices of World Vision in North West Frontier Province. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Updated 162, Apr 2010*
- March 2010 - Rasheed Masih, a Christian father of five, was beaten to death by four Muslims. Police at first refused to register a case against the four Muslims believed to be responsible. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- March 2010 - Imran Masih and Kushi Masih were both shot in the chest at a wedding in Punjab. *Release International Issue 54, Mar/Apr 2010*
- March 2010 - Nadia Iftikhar, aged 11, was beaten unconscious by her Muslim teacher in Dharema, Punjab, when she said she was both a Pakistani and a Christian. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- February 2010 – The Taliban fired rockets at a church in Kohat, North-West Frontier Province. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2010*
- 2009 - Sameera is a girl in her teens who converted to Christianity. When her parents discovered this, they punished her by pouring petrol over her and setting her alight, causing 40% burns to her knees and neck. She was advised not to go to the police as that would alert too many people to her conversion. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p80*
- December 2009 - Over 80 people were killed and thousands displaced by terrorist attacks. *CSW Response Issue 160, Mar/Apr 2010*
- December 2009 - Muslims attacked Christians in the village of Sargodha; many were severely injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 160, Feb 2010*
- November 2009 - A large Christian girls' school in Murree was burnt to the ground. Thankfully all the children were rescued. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2010*
- August 2009 - Muslim militants destroyed 120 Christian houses in Gojra in the Pakistani Punjab, injured 80 people, and burnt seven Christians and a child alive in their homes. (*Sword Vol 4 No 5, Sep/Oct 2009*)... and two other men were shot dead by the rioters (*Daily Mail 03/08/2009*). A false rumour suggested that at a Christian wedding in nearby Korian, guests had not thrown paper money (as is customary) but pieces of the Quran cut into banknote size. The main targets and witnesses of the violence have been forced into hiding. www.archbishopofcanterbury.org
- August 2009 - In Islamabad, 2,000 Christians have been forced to live in tents in the street. Several people died from dehydration, infection and the cumulative effects of poverty. *BF E-mail news, 21/08/2009*
- July 2009 - 50 Christian homes burnt by a Muslim mob in the village of Korian, Faisalabad District. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009 & Release International Issue 52, Nov 2009.*
- July 2009 - Mr. Joseph Francis, National Director of the Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS), and two other Christians were arrested and jailed. *Barnabas Prayer Update 154, Aug 2009*
- May 2009 - Christian Ishtiaq Masih was stoned to death by Muslims in the village of Machharkan in the Punjab. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 153, Jul 2009*
- May 2009 - Three people killed, many seriously injured, and 15 Christian houses destroyed by fire in the village of Jhole, Sanghar District, Sindh. (Nearly 2 million people have been displaced by fighting between the Taliban and the Pakistani military in Swat, North-West Frontier Province: Christians have suffered most.) *Barnabas Prayer Focus 152, June 2009 & Release International Prayer Shield, Jul/Aug 2009*
- May 2009 - Sandal Gulsher (20), Hector Aleem, a Christian rights activist, Walayat Masih and Mushtaq Masih are all in prison on trumped-up charges of blasphemy against Islam. *Release International Prayer Shield, May/Jun 2009*
- March 2009 - One Christian woman killed and several Christians severely injured when a gang of Muslim extremists attacked the Christian village of Sangowali, Punjab Province. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009 & Focus Update 151*
- February 2009 - Five Islamic extremists abducted a 13-year-old Christian girl in the Sangla Hill region of Punjab Province and gang-raped her at gun-point. *Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2009 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 150, Mar 2009*
- January 2009 - A group of 70 Muslims damaged Christian homes in the village of Kut Lakha Singh, Punjab. They injured eight Christians and damaged the small church building. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 149, Feb 2009*
- January 2009 - A church-run girls' school in Swat, North-West Frontier Province, recently bombed by the local Taliban. *Release International, Jan/Feb 2009*
- November 2008 - Two Christian sisters, Parvisha (18) and Snam (14) were abducted, raped repeatedly and forced to convert to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- October 2008 - A mob in Faisalabad attacked Christians Gulshare Masih (40) and his daughter, Sandal (19). Police arrived as the mob was about to burn down Christian houses in the area. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 146, Dec 2008*
- September 2008 - Nine church leaders in the Christian village of Shantinagar, Punjab, received anonymous letters urging them to convert to Islam or leave the area. Fifteen days earlier, several Christian families living just outside the village had been attacked in the middle of the night. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 144, Oct 2008 Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
- July 2008 - Christian doctor Robin Sardar has been falsely accused of 'humiliating the Prophet Muhammad', which carries a mandatory death sentence. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
- June 2008 - Sabas Junas (13) and her sister Anila (10) were kidnapped from Chowk Munda village, Punjab. Even at those young ages they were forced to marry two Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 142, Aug 2008*
- June 2008 - 16 Christian men were abducted in Academy Town, Peshawar, as they met to pray. *VOM USA, 02/07/2008*
- May 2008 - The Government has introduced a scheme to offer five basic foods to 6.8 million of Pakistan's poorest families. However, Christian families are excluded from joining the scheme. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- May 2008 - Christian communities in the North-West Frontier Province have received threats from Islamic extremists that they must convert to Islam or face suicide attacks. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- April 2008 - Christians Anwar Masih and his wife Bushra were kidnapped and beaten by Muslims. Anwar had earlier been acquitted of blasphemy charges, although he had been held in prison for over a year. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 139, Apr/May 2008*
- February 2008 - Muslims attacked a Christian church in Sialkot district in the Punjab. Much damage was done to the church and one Christian, John Masih, had his eye gouged out by a dagger. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 137, Mar 2008*
- January 2008 - Sajid William was shot dead by Muslim extremists in Peshawar. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 136, Feb 2008*
- January 2008 - An Assemblies of God pastor was shot and killed in Peshawar. *VOM USA, 25/1/2008*
- October 2007 - Muslims ransacked and demolished homes belonging to three Christian families. *VOM USA, 31/10/2007*
- October 2007 - Muslims bombed a Christian Girls' School in Bannu, North-West Frontier Province. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 132, Oct 2007*
- July 2007 - A Muslim mob attacked a Salvation Army church in the village of Bismillahpur Kanantha Chak. Up to seven Christians were seriously injured. *Face2Face Vol.2, Issue 2, Jul 2007*
- June 2007 - A Muslim mob attacked a church in a remote village in Faisalabad district. Dozens of Christians, including women and children, were injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 129, Jul 2007*
- May 2007 - Christian girl Sumaira Rafiq Masih (14) raped as she worked in the fields near Patoki. She named her rapists as three influential Muslim landowners. Police have not taken any action. *Barnabas Fund, Sep/Oct 2007*
- May 2007 - Pastor William Fazal of the Gospel Assemblies Church in Bashirabad, Nawan Killi, was kidnapped and beaten by Muslim extremists. *CLAAS Testimony Issue 16*
- May 2007 - Anonymous letters were delivered to churches and Christian homes in the towns of Charsadda and Mardan demanding that they close their churches and convert to Islam within 10 days. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update, 31/05/2007*
- April 2007 - Five Muslim men kidnapped a 12-year-old Christian girl, Cheenah Masih, held her captive for two days and repeatedly raped her. Police have been very slow to prosecute the men. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2007*
- April 2007 - In Toba Tek Singh, five Christians have been charged with blasphemy, arising from an argument over an 11-year-old boy. The charges are false but the punishment, if the accused are found guilty by an Islamic court, is severe. *Voice of the Martyrs, 16/04/2007*
- March 2007 - In Sialkot, Lahore, a Christian mother, Nasreen Pervez, and her 13-year-old daughter were tortured by their employer for refusing to convert to Islam. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2007*
- January 2007 - The Taliban attacked and killed one evangelist and severely injured two others in North Pakistan. In this area, police favour the Taliban so there is little hope of justice. *VOM USA, 24/01/2007*
- November 2006 - Two Christians, Boota and James Masih, were sentenced to 15 years in prison for 'blasphemy'. There is great evidence to indicate that they are innocent. *VOM USA, 12/12/2006*
- October 2006 - Christians falsely accused of blasphemy include Younas Masih, Mehdi Hassan, Haji Abdul Latif, Haji Mohammed Latif and Hafiz Afzalul Rehman. *CSW Prayer, Oct/Nov 2006*
- June 2006 - Shortly after being confirmed as a Christian, Javed Anjum (19) was lured to an Islamic school in Toba, Faisalabad, where it is alleged he was severely beaten for refusing to convert to Islam. He identified to police the Rector of the school as his attacker just before he died, but police have not yet acted. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p65*

Evidence (68)

- March 2006 - Christian convert and comparative religion scholar Yasaar Hameed (36) has been forced to appeal for asylum in Holland following police torture and attacks by Muslim extremists for his religious views. *Compass Direct News, 30/6/2006*
- February 2006 - Media cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed sparked Islamist aggression against Christians across Pakistan. 100,000 people protested in Lahore and threatened to storm the Cathedral as Mass was being celebrated. *Aid to the Church in Need Report 'Crisis and Faith in Pakistan' Spring 2006*
- February 2006 - The media cartoons also enraged Muslims in Sukker in Sindh Province, where 2,000 militants attacked St Saviour's Anglican and St Mary's Catholic Churches. Chalices, vestments and other sacred items were looted and burned. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p64*
- February 2006 - A nun in Peshawar feared for her life as she sheltered in an upstairs room as Muslim radicals broke into the school run by her convent. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p64*
- 2006 - A Christian missionary who was involved in rescuing 20 kidnapped Christian boys is now in grave personal danger. *Barnabas Fund Prayer Focus Update 117, 2006*
- November 2005 - Following a dispute over a game of cards with Christian buffalo trader Yusuf Said (46), the loser, a known robber, accused him of burning pages of the Quran and demanded local Imams call for revenge against the whole Christian community. Around 3,000 people rampaged through the Christian quarter of Sangla Hill in the Punjab, burning two churches and their schools, the priest's house, hostels and a convent. Fearing for the safety of his wife and children, Yusuf handed himself in to the police and asked they bring his accuser so both could speak. However, the police bound him, hung him upside down and beat him. The court's guilty verdict was overturned on appeal after three months, but he has to remain in hiding. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p67*
- July 2005 - A Christian baby died in Abbottabad, Kashmir, and the family was forced to travel south to bury her because the Islamic leadership in her home region refused a local burial. En route, the family's lorry careered off the road due to a landslip, killing six family members. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p63*
- May 2005 - Babar Samsoun, an Evangelical pastor who did not shrink from preaching to Muslims despite numerous death threats, was kidnapped and then found dead alongside his driver in Peshawar. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p74*
- March 2005 - On Easter Sunday, as the congregation filed out of church in Khahamba village, Lahore, they were shot at by four Islamic gunmen. Irshad Masih was killed and seven others seriously wounded. Two police who should have been guarding the church were absent from their posts. There are 200 families in the village, 50 of whom are Christian. *CSW, Jul 2005*
- February 2005 - Following a dispute over a plot of land which the Church claimed was theirs but which was allegedly seized by local Muslim Mohammed Iqbal, 20 people attacked the Catholic Church in Kawanlit, Sialkot, smashing windows and desecrating the altar and sacred books. They also broke the legs of a 70-year-old woman and gravely injured 50 people. The group told the Church that if they reported the incident, they would suffer further attacks. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p62*
- February 2005 - Bashir Masih (30) a Christian jailed for seven years for allegedly damaging a Quran, claiming his 'confession' had been forced. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2005/06' p62*
- November 2004 - Shahbaz Masih (22) a Christian shopkeeper in Punjab, had his arm chopped off by a Muslim customer after refusing to rent him a TV set from his shop in Talwandi. The customer, 26-year-old butcher Ahmed Ali, became furious, fetched an axe and attacked Shahbaz. As Ali left, he threatened Masih and his widowed mother with even more 'dire consequences' for the alleged insult. Masih and his mother were forced into hiding. Ali was arrested, but local sources say police are under heavy pressure to establish his innocence. *Compass, 21/1/2005*
- September 2004 - Two children snatched from their Christian mother by Muslim father. *Compass, 16/9/2004*
- September 2004 - A mentally handicapped Christian received a life sentence for blasphemy after pressure from Muslim clergy, despite Pakistan penal code prohibiting conviction of one who suffers 'unsoundness of mind.' *Compass, 27/9/2004*
- September 2004 - Pastor Yousaf Masih (33) was abducted in Sindh Province while walking home from a worship service. His Muslim captors told him they were taking revenge for the United States' military presence in the country, and ordered him 'to stop praying for Muslims' in his Baptist church in Jacobabad. They held him hostage for two days, drugged and severely beat him, then dumped him nearly 600 miles away. He is the second Protestant pastor subjected to kidnapping and torture at the hands of Islamist extremists in Pakistan within the past four months. *Compass, 28/9/2004*
- September 2004 - Two years after seven Christians were gunned down in an execution-style massacre at the Karachi headquarters of the Christian Institute of Peace and Justice (IPJ), local police investigators have failed to identify a single suspect. Two Christians survived the attack: Robin Sharif (26) remains partially paralysed from a gunshot wound to the head, and Robin Piranditta has been in hiding and separated from his family since his release from police custody. The IPJ watchman was subjected to 27 days of severe torture while undergoing interrogation. Three separate sources believe 'mounting evidence' implicates members of Pakistan's secret police in the murders. *Compass, 24/9/2004*
- August 2004 - Christian, Nasir Masih, died four days after severe beatings and torture by police officers. *Barnabas Fund, 08/09/2004*
- July 2004 - Pastor Wilson Fazal abducted, tortured, severely beaten, given electric shocks and stabbed through tongue. *'Frontline', Open Doors, Aug 2004*
- May 2004 - Muslim Police Constable Faryad Ali entered the Lahore hospital ward where a Christian, Samuel Masih, was being treated for advanced tuberculosis, and struck him on the head with a hammer, declaring he 'wanted to earn a place in paradise.' Masih died on May 28. *Compass, 01/6/2004 & 'Frontline', Open Doors, Aug 2004*
- 29 May 2004 - A *Daily Times* (of Pakistan) editorial commented, 'This (Samuel Masih's murder) is a case that brings out, like nothing else, the myriad contradictions these [Blasphemy] Laws have infused in this State and society. The fact is that it is a bad law both in its conception and its implementation.' *Compass, 01/06/2004*
- May 2004 - Pastor Wilson Fazal (41) disappeared en route to Sunday services at the Pakistan Gospel Assembly in Quetta's Bashirabad suburb. A letter delivered to his house several days later said 'Christians of Quetta, you are displeasing God ... Accept the faith of jihad. ... Get ready, ready, ready, or else.' Six other Pentecostal church leaders are also missing, but may have gone into hiding. Unconfirmed reports say a local pastor has received a letter from Fazal's kidnappers declaring they will not release him until local churches comply with their demands to close. *Compass, 17/5/2004*
- May 2004 - Christian Javed Anjum, from Toba Tek Singh District, died after five days of torture by extremists from local 'Madrasa' (Islamic school). *CSW, 05/5/2004*
- March 2004 - A group of Christian women assembled for prayer at their church in Islamabad's Miskeen Musharaf Colony were harangued and then severely beaten by a 100-strong Muslim mob, which then vandalised the church building, claiming it was built too close to a mosque. *Marshall, Religious Freedom in the World, p323*
- December 2003 - Christian boy (15) from the province of Punjab kidnapped, beaten and forced to convert to Islam. *Barnabas Fund, 16/12/2003*
- November 2003 - In an apparent attempt to settle an old grudge, a Pakistani man who converted to Islam several months ago has accused a Christian acquaintance of blasphemy. Anwer Masih (30) has been arrested in Shadhra, Lahore: his former neighbour, who changed his name to Naseer Ahmad on becoming a Muslim, has, since his conversion, lived in a madrassah linked with the banned Lashkar-e-Tayyabba militant group. Ahmad's grudge against Masih stemmed from an incident two years ago, when Ahmad was indicted for severely beating a Christian neighbour who went into a coma and remains paralysed, Masih having encouraged the victim's family to register a case against him. *Compass, 27/1/2004*
- September 2003 - Christian woman, Violet Cheema, abducted and raped by a group of Muslim men. *Christian Monitor Newsletter, 19/9/2003*
- September 2003 - Christian employee of a hotel in Hyderabad burned alive. *Christian Monitor Newsletter, 19/9/2003*
- July 2003 - Rev Fr George Ibrahim (38) brutally gunned down by five armed assailants at his home in Renala Khurd. *CSW, 16/7/2003*
- July 2003 - The trial of Christian High School Principal Pervaiz Masih, arrested in April 2001 for alleged blasphemy and refused bail, has now begun. Teenage boys reportedly claimed he made slanderous remarks against Mohammed while tutoring them, but according to a fact-finding report, Masih's blasphemy accusations were based on 'professional biases and rivalry, including religious hatred.' For security, Masih is daily escorted by three or four policemen in a separate vehicle from his cell to the Daska Court hearings. *Compass, 15/8/2003*
- July 2003 - Six gunmen shot and killed a Roman Catholic priest in his home near Okara, 180 miles south of Islamabad. *Compass, 14/07/2003*
- June 2003 - Aslam Masih acquitted after serving four years of a life sentence for blasphemy. *FIDES, 17/6/2003*
- June 2003 - Christian Salamat Mish's home attacked by intruders in Kasur and his children terrorised. *Catholic Online, 11/8/2003*
- May 2003 - A Pakistani Christian in his 50s has been sentenced to life in prison for allegedly committing blasphemy by damaging a Muslim signboard during a bishop's funeral procession five years ago. He has been jailed without bail since his arrest nearly five years ago. *Compass, 19/5/2003*

Evidence (69)

- April 2003 - Christian convert Sandeeq beaten and his family threatened if they did not renounce their faith. *VOM 16/04/2003*
- January 2003 - Children's Christmas programme at a small Presbyterian chapel in remote Chianwali attacked by Islamic militants with grenades. Three girls dead, 13 more children and parents injured. *Compass, 13/1/2003*
- December 2002 - Mohammed Afzal, leader of a mosque in Chianwala, called for Muslims 'not to eat until you see the corpses of Christians.' *CSW, 26/8/2003*
- September 2002 - Four Christian nurses killed and 20 other staff wounded after grenade attack on the Taxila Christian Hospital. *Compass, 13/9/2002*
- September 2002 - The Christian Mission Hospital in Bannu and a small interdenominational Christian Prayer Hall in Baluchistan sustained bombing attacks last week. No personal injuries were reported. *Compass, 11/10/2002*
- September 2002 - Robin Peranditta (27) is being held by Pakistan's Criminal Investigation Agency in 'protective custody', pending investigations into execution-style murders at the Institute for Peace & Justice. Two gunmen escaped after tying staff to chairs before shooting eight of them in the head: seven were killed and an eighth critically injured. Karachi attorney Noor Naz Agha met privately with Peranditta, and says the Christian office worker is 'very afraid' to tell police what he knows about the attack 'because if I tell them, I might be killed.' His lawyer said he saw cigarette burns 'on his chest, knees and arms.' *Compass, 11/10/2002 & Barnabas Fund, 25/9/2002*
- August 2002 - Six people, four Muslims and two Christians, died when Islamic militants burst into the Murree Christian School for missionary children, and randomly fired into classrooms and dormitories. Two weeks later, the School Board announced the School would remain closed for the next year, citing security concerns. *Compass, 12/09/2002; VOM 07/8/2002*
- July 2002 - A Christian, who had been forced to renounce Christianity then quickly reverted to his Christian faith, was interrogated by a group of Muslims who claimed that he insulted Mohammed. He was fined \$1,200 for the offence of blasphemy. *VOM, 03/7/2002*
- July 2002 - A Christian High School principal remanded 15 months ago for alleged blasphemy against Islam has been attacked while asleep in his cell. Pervaiz Masih (34) was struck twice on the head by another inmate before he could wrestle with his attacker and call the guards. Masih was well-respected in the Daska prison, where the Jail Superintendent allowed him some freedom of movement. 'Everyone there knows the allegations against Pervaiz are false,' a visitor to the jail said. Masih has been refused bail since his arrest in April 2001, when he was accused of slandering the Prophet Mohammed to three teenage Muslim boys he had been tutoring. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- June 2002 - Augustine Ashiq 'Kingri' Masih (25) has been convicted by the Faisalabad District Court on charges of slandering the Prophet Mohammed, and faces death. He was accused in May 2000 when Muslim acquaintances were questioning him about changing his religious faith. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- June 2002 - Church leaders are worried about Christian Ayub Masih, and all other prisoners accused on false blasphemy charges, following the assassination in jail of Yousaf Ali. 'All they have to do is take him out of his cell, and he could be killed too,' said one leader. *Compass, 21/06/2002 & VOM, 19/6/2002*
- June 2002 - A Pakistani Muslim convicted of religious blasphemy was shot dead by a fellow prisoner in Lahore's Kot Lakhpat Central Jail. Yousaf Ali was reportedly being transferred from his death-row cell when he was killed by a convicted murderer. 'It was not a routine transfer,' a journalist told *Compass*. 'The fact that the murderer was standing there already, brandishing a gun as he waited for the other prisoner, points toward complicity' 'This is the new tactic of the extremist Muslim lobby' said a church leader. *Compass, 21/6/2002*
- June 2002 - Ayub Masih (35) arrested in Arifwala near Sahiwal in October 1996, has been sentenced to death. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- June 2002 - Two lawyers received death threats and attempts on their lives for their work defending Christians accused of blasphemy. *CSW, 20/6/2002*
- June 2002 - 15-year-old boy, Yaqoob Masih, a resident of Christian Kachi Abadi, Shardoor, died from torture inflicted by police, after witnessing corruption at Customs Department. *Christian League of Pakistan, 01/7/2002*
- May 2002 - An elderly Christian, Aslam Masih, was convicted of blasphemy and is appealing a double life sentence in prison. He was accused in 1998 of preparing a charm with verses from the Quran to hang around a dog's neck. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- April 2002 - A Pentecostal Church near the border with Kashmir was attacked by seven Muslims aged 14 to 25. *CSW, 26/4/2002*
- April 2002 - People attending the Presbyterian Church in Satrah were harassed by Muslim youths firing automatic weapons into the air. *International Christian Concern, Apr 2002.*
- March 2002 - Unidentified terrorists hurled grenades into a worship service in the Diplomatic quarter of Islamabad, killing five and wounding 40. The dead included an American mother and daughter, a Pakistani woman and an Afghan man. The International Protestant Church was severely damaged in the second deadly attack against worshipping Christians since the September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States. Calling the attack 'an act of sabotage against Pakistan's national interests,' President Pervez Musharraf told the nation his Government would fight terrorism in all its forms, vowing the culprits would be tracked down and brought to justice. *Barnabas Fund, 18/3/2002; Compass, 19/4/2002 & Voice of the Martyrs, 17/3/2002*
- February 2002 - Catholic priest and 16 other religious rights activists jailed in Karachi. *Compass, 16/2/2002*
- February 2002 - Shakeela Siddique, a Christian woman from Fatewala village, Gujranwala district, raped by influential local Muslim landlord. *CSW, 4/7/2002*
- January 2002 - A bomb exploded in Islamabad destroying a church. *Voice of the Martyrs, 16/1/2002.*
- December 2001 - Al-Qaeda has demanded the death of two Christians in retaliation for every Muslim killed in the U.S. military strikes in Afghanistan. *Compass, 14/12/2001*
- December 2001 - Five weeks after Islamic extremists gunned down 15 Pakistani Christians in a Sunday morning worship service, church leaders across Pakistan admitted that their congregations remain 'tense and fearful' as Christmas approaches. *Compass, 14/12/2001*
- November 2001 - Only nine days after the Bahawalpur massacre, Benjamin Bashir, 25, another member of the city's Christian community, was shot and killed at his job by suspected Islamist militants. Two days later, another Catholic Christian was shot to death in Peshawar. *Compass, 14/12/2001*
- October 2001 - A Protestant pastor, 14 members of his congregation and a Muslim policeman were gunned down by Muslim extremists during Sunday morning worship in Bahawalpur. An unknown group calling itself 'Lashkar-e-Omar' (Army of Omar) claimed responsibility, calling it revenge for 'the American crusade' in Afghanistan. 'Whenever anything takes place on planet earth which concerns Muslims,' Bishop Andrew Francis commented, 'the Christian community here gets the backlash.' *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- August 2001 - The Multan High Court rejected the death sentence appeal of a Christian prisoner for alleged blasphemy against Mohammed. Refused bail for five years, his 'guilty' verdict in 1998 rests solely on the verbal accusation of his Muslim neighbour. *Compass, 24/8/2001*
- June 2001 - The home in Pasrur, Lahore, of the elder of two Pakistani Christian brothers jailed since 1999 on blasphemy charges for allegedly making 'bad remarks' against the prophet Mohammed was robbed of all his valuables, and his wife raped. Police detained one Muslim suspect from the village, but the suspect's relatives had him brought to court and then released. Since then, the Saddar Police have been reluctant to pursue the case. *Compass, 20/7/2001*
- April 2001 - Police in Punjab jailed a respected Christian High School Principal, Pervaiz Masih (33), for slander against Mohammed. He allegedly spoke to three teenage schoolboys he was tutoring privately. Masih is liable for a mandatory death sentence if convicted. His family is not allowed to visit him, and remains 'very worried about his safety.' *Compass, 21/4/2001*
- March 2001 - Amjad and Asif Masih (29 and 28) were arrested in Jhang near Faisalabad in February 1999 for allegedly selling drugs. They were later accused of burning some pages from the Quran in their cell. They were convicted and sentenced to 25 years in prison. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- February 2001 - Nadia Naira, a 15-year-old Christian girl, kidnapped at gunpoint and forcibly married to her Muslim abductor, a drug addict who already had a wife and ten children. (See also February 2011) *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2012 p10*
- January 2001 - Khalid Masih and Nasir Masih arrested for distributing Christian literature and the *Jesus* film. *CSW, 26/1/2001*
- May 2000 - Rasheed and Saleem Masih (35 and 31), arrested in Pasrur near Sialkot in 1999, and sentenced to 35 years in jail for blasphemy. Their alleged blasphemies took place after an ice cream vendor refused to serve the two Christians in the same bowls as used by Muslims. The vendor later filed a complaint with police, claiming the angry brothers had made 'bad remarks' against Islam and Mohammed. *Compass, 23/6/2000*

Evidence (70)

Peru

Violent conflict between 1980 and 2000 saw 70,000 people killed and 15,000 forcibly 'disappeared'. Until the end of the conflict, Christians in Peru continued to be targeted by both the Shining Path and Government forces. Those who spoke out publicly and exposed the responsibility of both sides in cases of human rights violations often found themselves the targets of campaigns of intimidation, including death threats, and defamation in the media. *CSW 'In the line of Fire' 1/6/2009*

- July 2011 - During the violent conflict, an estimated 500 Protestant leaders from Quechua communities were killed by guerrilla groups and security forces. In Putis, 123 Christian men and women and children were slaughtered by the military - no one has yet been held to account. *CSW Response Issue 168, Jul/Aug 2011*
- February 2010 - Many Christians are unfairly and unjustly imprisoned. *CSW Prayer Diary, Feb 2010*
- January 2010 - Dr. Christina Olazabal, a human rights lawyer, has been arrested by the State. *CSW Relay Newsletter, 14/1/2010*
- July 2009 - Christians face violence and intimidation from drug cartels and organised crime. *CSW weekly e-newsletter, 23/7/2009*
- November 2008 - Those affected by the massacre at Callqui Presbyterian Church, when six boys and young men were pulled out of a prayer service and executed, are still waiting for those responsible to be brought to justice. *CSW Prayer Diary, Nov/Dec 2008*
- September 2008 - The country has a terrible record on human rights and the signs are that human rights atrocities are on the increase. *CSW 2/9/2008 & CSW Prayer Diary Issue 154, Sep/Oct 2008*
- September 2007 - RC Priest Father Arana has suffered harassment and death threats for over a year as he campaigns against the contamination of water supplies caused by gold-mining activities to the town of Cajamarca. *CSW Response Issue 148, Sep/Oct 2007*
- December 2004 - A court in Lima has upheld the conviction of an evangelical Christian whose sentence on terrorism charges 12 years ago was overturned in 2003. The court found former textile worker Walter Cubas, 41, guilty of 'illicit terrorist association' and sentenced him to 16 years in prison for allegedly painting 'Yankees, go home from the Middle East' on a wall. His defence attorney believed the Judges ruled against Cubas because they did not want to be perceived as being 'soft' on terrorists. "I continue to believe that Walter is innocent," he said. *Compass, 30/12/2004*
- December 2003 - Colonel David de Vinatea, a decorated officer in the Peruvian army and an evangelical Christian, regained his freedom after serving eight years of a 16 years sentence for alleged drug trafficking. Observers became convinced of his innocence, and that high-ranking Government officials falsely accused him to cover their own illicit activities. Christian organisations lobbied the Government, and President Toledo commuted de Vinatea's sentence. He said, "I used to tell the brothers in the church in there that we enjoyed a real luxury - of knowing that, 24 hours a day, Christians in different continents and countries and time zones were praying for us." *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- May 2003 - Police believe that a bomb attack on the home of Quechua evangelist Joshua Saúne could signal a resurgence of the 'Shining Path' Maoist guerrilla army. "The intelligence people are telling us 'Because our ministry is being successful with the Quechua people, they want to take you out,'" Saúne said. *Compass, 16/6/2003*
- September 2002 - Ten years after the virtual demise of the Maoist-inspired Shining Path movement, Quechua church leaders in the Ayacucho area warn that Shining Path guerrillas may be mobilising again. Security for the annual Andean Pastors Conference has been tightened - 30,000 Peruvians died during the 15 years Shining Path terrorised the country. First celebrated in 1996, the gathering commemorates the 1992 martyrdom of well-known Quechua church leader Rómulo Saúne and three male relatives at the hands of Shining Path terrorists. Other observers warn that operatives from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) are spilling into Peru, quietly making inroads into the jungle that borders Ayacucho and laying groundwork for an expanded guerrilla network. *Compass, 13/9/2002*
- March 2000 - The mayor of Ramal de Aspuzana, an evangelical Peruvian village leader, executed by Shining Path Marxist guerrillas. *Compass, 21/4/2000; New York Times, 23/3/2000*
- November 2012 - The Government has made an agreement with a Muslim separatist group that has been waging a violent campaign for independence to create an autonomous area in Mindanao to be governed by aspects of Sharia law. Although the agreement states that Sharia will not apply to them, Christians are concerned that this will lead to an Islamic 'sub-state'. When Mindanao Christians objected to a similar agreement in 2008, the Islamist group responded by killing 400 Christians and displacing 750,000. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013 & Barnabas Persecution, Updated 17/11/2012*
- November 2011 - Clariot de la Cruz was tortured and murdered in Mindanao. His church had been subject to many threats from local Muslims. *Release International Issue 64, Nov/Dec 2011*
- December 2010 - Eleven people were wounded when a bomb exploded during Christmas Day Mass at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart in Jolo. Islamist groups are the main suspects, though many Muslim leaders condemned the attack. *AsiaNews, 27/12/2010*
- October 2010 - Fr. Fausto Tentorio, Columban Roman Catholic Priest, was gunned down in Mindanao following death threats. *Vocation for Justice, Spring 2012*
- June 2010 - Three Christian men were beheaded by members of Abu Sayyaf as they were felling timber on Basilan Island. *Christian Post, 13/6/2010*
- April 2010 - Santa Isabel Cathedral in Basilan Island hit by a bomb. Less than a third of the structure left standing. Abu Sayyaf widely reported to be responsible. *CAN News 10/5/2010*
- October 2009 - A grenade damaged the Cathedral of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Jolo, Sulu Province. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p106*
- October 2009 - Fr Michael Sinnott, an Irish Columbian missionary, kidnapped from his home in Zamboanga, Mindanao Island. To avoid the Philippine Army, the kidnapers forced Fr Sinnott to walk through the jungle for over a month. He was eventually released after prayer vigils by both Christians and Muslims in an operation involving the Army. The Christian community experienced attacks and kidnappings throughout 2009. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p106*
- September 2009 - A group of 30 armed men killed Fr Cecilio Lucero, Chairman of Catarman Human Rights Desk, following threats by the military to desist investigating suspicious deaths and defending human rights. At this point, at least 18 people had been killed in similar circumstances. *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, Aid to the Church in Need p106*
- July 2009 - A bomb was exploded outside the Cathedral in Cotabato City in July, killing five and badly injuring at least 30 Christians. The Islamic Liberation Front was the culprit. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- July 2008 - Muslim rebels attacked Christian villages in the south of the Country by burning their houses, destroying farms, killing many people and causing tens of thousands to flee their homes. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- April 2008 - Muslim extremists shot Pastor Vicera, his wife Beth, and Pastor Noli Saturnino at their home in Mindanao. *VOM USA, 29/4/2008*
- May 2007 - Seven Christian workers were kidnapped and beheaded by Abu Sayyaf Muslim extremists from the town of Parang. *VOM USA 10/5/2007*
- February 2007 - Muslim extremists murdered six Christians, including a nine-year-old girl on Sulu Island. *The Universe, 12/2/2007*
- November 2004 - Christian man (24) shot in Zamboanga City by Muslim activists. *Compass, 3/12/2004*
- March 2003 - A bomb in a crowded waiting area at Davao International Airport killed 21 people, including an American missionary, and injured 148. Half an hour later a second bomb exploded in Tagum, an hour's drive north. One person died and at least three were injured. Local officials are blaming the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) for the attacks. *Compass, 14/3/2003*
- February 2003 - 50 Islamic militants entered the Christian village of Kalawit on the Zamboanga peninsula and threw grenades into houses before rounding up the villagers and opening fire. Fourteen people, including three children, were killed. Another three children were reported missing. *Barnabas Fund, 3/3/2003; Compass, 14/3/2003*
- March 2003 - Rebels stopped and shot Christian lorry-driver and his helper. *Barnabas Fund: 9/4/2003 & Open Book Project, 9/4/2003*
- March 2003 - Five Christians killed by Islamic rebels in M'Lang. *Barnabas Fund: 9/4/2003*
- December 2002 - At least 10 Christian villagers were murdered when their village in the south was attacked by Muslim fundamentalists. *CWNews, 31/12/2002*
- October 2002 - A bomb exploded near a Catholic shrine to the Virgin Mary, killing at least seven and wounding more than 140. *KNA, 23/10/2002*
- August 2002 - Abu Sayyaf Islamic extremists beheaded two hostages on the island of Jolo and left note by their bodies reading: "Those who do not believe in Allah will suffer the same fate." *Barnabas Fund: 28/8/2002*

Philippines

- July 2013 - Two Christian villages in Midsayap, Cotabato, Mindanao raided by 70 Bangsamoro Islamic Fighters who have been fighting a bloody war to establish an independent Islamic State. Village leader killed, homes pillaged and food, clothing and farm animals stolen. *Barnabas Fund, 3/9/2012*
- November 2012 - Jum Acidre was shot dead in his home in Jolo by Islamic fundamentalists. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Nov 2012*

Evidence (71)

- June 2002 - Islamic Abu Sayyaf guerrillas raided the Philippines resort of Dos Palmas in May 2001, kidnapping Gracia and Martin Burnham and 15 other hostages. Over the next year, the terrorists released some hostages and beheaded others. The Burnhams, members of the Florida-based New Tribes Mission, endured 17 firefights between Abu Sayyaf and the Philippines armed forces before the final one in June 2002 in which Martin was killed and Gracia wounded. *Compass*, 16/6/2003
- December 2001 - Ten Christians from Naga village, Mindanao, brutally shot and killed in raid by Islamic militants. *Barnabas Fund*, 4/1/2002
- August 2001 - 35 Christians dragged from their homes by Islamic militant group, Abu Sayyaf in Lamitan. 25 were rescued, but 10 were found beheaded. *Barnabas Fund*, 7/8/2001

Poland

- June 2012 - 10 MPs of the Palikot Movement seek the removal of the Cross in the Polish Parliament buildings. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012*, p50
- January 2012 - Human rights activists joined Christians in expressing concerns that Polish National Broadcasting Council (NBC) excluded a major Christian TV Channel from their distribution of crucial digital terrestrial TV licences, but included several rather unknown commercial networks. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012*, p37

Qatar

Qatar prohibits the public practice of any religion except the strict Wahhabi interpretation of Islam. However, the Government has for several years quietly allowed the Christian communities of Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and other Protestant denominations to meet informally for private church worship services, hinged on prior notification to local authorities. *The Gulf Times* reported on 30 December 2000 that "The way is now clear for establishing the first Christian church in Qatar". It is expected that a plot of land will be allotted to be divided by common agreement among the various Christian communities. *Compass* 21/1/2000

There are now two designated complexes for Christian worship, but many expatriate labourers are denied access as they live too far away or are prevented by their employers. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

- December 2013 - Some converts to Christianity from an Islamic background have been physically harmed for their faith by family or peers, who view their conversion as damaging the honour of the family. *Open Doors World Watch List 2014* p13
- May 2012 - Expatriates are allowed to practise their faith but evangelism is forbidden. Conversion from Islam officially carries the death penalty. Qatar has exerted a strong influence over the Arab uprisings in the Middle East. *Barnabas Prayer*, May/June 2012
- November 2008 - Conversion to Christianity from Islam carries the death sentence. *Barnabas Prayer*, Nov/Dec 2008
- May 2003 - Pastor Nemencio Bonton of the Qatar International Christian Ministry was deported with no explanation. *Voice of the Martyrs*, 28/5/2003
- February 2003 - Indian Christian hospital technician who pastored a small congregation of Tamil-speaking Christians in Doha, was deported after 22 years employment. *Compass*, 11/2/2003

Russia

- December 2013 - Seven churches torched in Tatarstan this year, two in November. Wahhabi extremist groups suspected. *Barnabas Fund* 10/12/2013
- September 2012 - Police and officials tore down the Holy Trinity Pentecostal Church overnight. An official said "Everything was done at the decision of the Court". *Forum* 18, 7/9/2012
- September 2012 - Pastor Ilya Yaroslavkin and his wife Lubov have won awards and been praised for their exceptional care of their 14 adopted children, but local authorities have removed the children from school, accusing their parents of worshipping 'the wrong god' and following 'unintelligible church traditions'. *Barnabas Prayer*, Jan/Feb 2013
- July 2012 - State sponsored moves against Jehovah's Witnesses have now taken place in 80% of Russia's 83 Regions. In 2011 alone, Jehovah's Witnesses reported 266 detentions, police raids and new administrative cases, and since late 2011, access to their websites has been blocked by courts in various republics, krajs and regions. *Forum* 18 News Service
- April 2012 - Muslim lawyer Dagir Khasavov said in a TV interview that Russia's courts were 'alien' to Muslims. Calling for the introduction of Sharia courts, he said "We will set the rules, the rules which suit us, whether you want it or not. Any attempts to change it will end in blood. We will flood the city with blood" *Barnabas Prayer* Jul/Aug 2012 p7

- March 2012 - "Why is the public demonstration of one's belonging to the gay community considered as normal when wearing a small cross isn't? Just try to fire someone who openly claims his sexual orientation; he will cry scandal, and probably obtain damages. How are Christian symbols dangerous? Who do they offend?" Vladimir Legolda, Orthodox Patriarchate of Moscow, Church and Society Council, March 2012
- February 2012 - Five members of punk band *Pussy Riot*, wearing coloured masks, invaded the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour in Moscow. Church officials called their actions - on the altar - blasphemy, sacrilege, and insulting to religious feelings. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012*, p41
- February 2012 - There is increasing pressure on evangelical Christian groups throughout Russia and other former Soviet Union nations. *International Christian Concern*, 10/2/2012
- October 2011 - Protestants without their own permanent buildings are being fined for organising meetings for worship in buildings that have not been specifically approved by local authorities. *Forum* 18, 28/10/2011; *Barnabas Prayer* Jan/Feb 2012
- October 2011 - When the authorities refused to restore to the Catholic Church its Cathedral, and there being no other Catholic church in Pskov, in 2000 parishioners obtained a building permit to build a new church and parish complex. The complex is finished, and has been in operation for some time, serving meals to poor and handicapped children and families and working with street children, regardless of religious affiliation. The building permit has now expired, but the authorities have refused to renew it so that the church can be completed. *ZENIT* 7/10/2011; *AsiaNews*.it 10/10/2011
- September 2011 - Three churches were torched in a single night. *Barnabas Prayer*, Sep/Oct 2011
- July 2011 - The Supreme Court has started to prosecute various religious bodies for 'extremism'. *Forum* 18, 22/7/2011
- November 2010 - Three churches in Karachajevo-Charkessia, in the Caucasus Republic were burnt down by Muslim fanatics. *Barnabas Prayer Focus* 170, Dec 2010
- 2010 - Ten Christians were arrested and three church leaders killed for being 'too active' in working with converted Muslims. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- July 2010 - Christian leader Artur Suleimanov (49) was shot dead at his church in Dagestan (which is a strongly Islamic Republic of the Russian Federation). *Barnabas Prayer Focus* 166, Aug 2010, & *Release International Issue* 57, Sep/Oct 2010
- June 2010 - Authorities reneged on a five-year agreement for members of the Hosana Pentecostal Church in Dagestan to visit prisons. Pastor Suleimanov blamed it on government officials opposed to the church. *Forum* 18, 11/6/2010
- February 2010 - Sunday morning service at St George's Lutheran Church in Kaluga raided by police with dogs and automatic weapons searching for 'extremist literature'. Officers blocked doors for an hour, and prevented an ordination by the Archbishop. There have been negative articles in local newspapers in recent weeks. *Forum* 18, 23/3/2010
- 2009 - Some local authorities harass and discriminate against Protestant Christians, not least by impeding access to land and permits for church buildings. Some arbitrary detentions for religious activities, and acts of violence against people and property. In Muslim-majority areas, churches composed of converts sometimes suffer persecution. *Barnabas Fund - Praying for the Persecuted Church*, Advent 2009 p16
- December 2009 - The Orthodox Archpriest in Podolsk shot dead when he admonished hooligans for defecating in the church hallway. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians*, Shadow Report 2005-10 p34
- November 2009 - Russian Orthodox priest Daniil Sysoyev (35), murdered in his church. He would routinely visit construction sites, where many immigrants were employed. Before his death he had received 14 death threats from Muslims because of his evangelisation of their community. *ASSIST News Service* 15/12/2009
- October 2009 - Two Baptist preachers in Kaliningrad fined after their community 'sang psalms and spoke about Christ' in the street, which, according to police, required permission. The church argued that they were holding a service, not a demonstration, so did not require permission. *Forum* 18, 2/10/2009
- July 2009 - Most of the evangelical churches have been closed down with just a few house churches remaining in the city of Petropavlovsk in Kamkshatka, at the eastern extremity of the USSR. *Slavic Gospel Association*, Jul/Sep 2009
- May 2009 - The Justice Ministry has reconstituted an 'Expert Council' for examining the faith of charismatic protestant Christians *Forum* 18 News, 29/5/2009

Evidence (72)

- March 2009 - The Governor of Kaluga Region ordered that the land legally owned by the Word of Life Pentecostal Church be seized by 'any means possible'. However, he was unaware the meeting was being broadcast live via his administration's website. The Church has complained of harassment ever since being told its land was required for a shopping centre. *Forum 18, 26/2/2009*
- November 2008 - Baptists in Lipetsk, south east of Moscow, are under severe harassment from local authorities. *Forum 18, 28/11/2008*
- October 2008 - The Russian Ministry of Justice listed 35 Protestant organisations it plans to shut down, plus 21 other religious organisations. A small church in the city of Norilsk, Krasnoyarsk Region, was closed because meetings were held in a domestic apartment. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
- Summer 2008 - Several Christian summer camps for children closed down under various pretexts by local authorities. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- July 2008 - Two members of a congregation in Yurgamysh, Kurgan Region, were questioned for four hours by the Federal Security Bureau. Regional State TV later broadcast a programme on the church entitled *Criminal News* which included unsubstantiated allegations that church members live off illegal business. *Christian Telegraph; Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 144, Oct 2008*
- July 2008 - At Bolkhov, Oryol Region, four Christians were detained for proselytising in the market square. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 144, Oct 2008*
- October 2008 - Two Jesuit Priests, Fr Otto Messmer (47) and Fr Victor Betancourt (42) of the Church of St Louis de France, Moscow, brutally murdered in their apartment. *Catholic News Service, 29/10/2008*
- April 2008 - The Living Word Pentecostal Church service in Kuznetsk was stormed, the pastor beaten, and parishioners threatened with pistols held to their heads. Four young men shouting "Allah is God" and "Sectarians are everywhere - You must be destroyed" warned Pastor Shugurov 'not to go to the police or your family will suffer'. In a second attack three weeks later, seven young men threatened the pastor with 'murder in a dark alley' and the burning down of the church. A similar attack took place in Serdobsk where Pastor Vera Gavnilina was also given death threats. *Forum 18 News Service, 9/12/2008*
- March 2008 - A United Methodist Church in Smolensk was dissolved by a Regional Court because the church was "conducting educational activity in a Sunday School without a corresponding licence" *VOM USA, 9/4/2008*
- February 2008 - Ukrainian pastor Aleksandyr Dzyuba was barred from entering Russia at Moscow airport for religious reasons. *Forum 18, 15/2/2008*
- October 2007 - In the city of Khabarovsk, the Orthodox Hospital Church is being forced out of its building, which it has occupied since before 1917. *Forum 18 News Service, 26/10/2007*
- March 2007 - The Moscow authorities have 'de-registered' the Salvation Army on the grounds that it is a 'paramilitary organisation'. *Forum 18 News Service, 30/3/2007*
- February 2007 - The Glorification Pentecostal Church in Abakan, Siberia, is threatened with demolition on trumped up charges of 'fire safety'. *Forum 18, 9/2/2007*
- February 2007 - The Word of God House Church in Argayash, Chelyabinsk Region, was raided by police and officials, and Pastor Sergei Bortsov was forced to resign. *Forum 18, 23/2/2007*
- December 2006 - Fr Andrei Nikolaev, his wife and three children died after their house in Pryamukhino, Tver Region, was set on fire, having been doused with petrol. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p34*
- November 2006 - The Justice Ministry has proposed a law aimed at 'Counteracting Illegal Ministry Activity', which proposes wide-ranging restrictions on all 'missionary activity'. *Forum 18 News Service, 15/11/2006*
- October 2006 - A proposed new law will prevent ordinary Christians from preaching without authorisation. Restrictions will apply to Bibles and hymn books. *Right to Justice - Campaign Update 4, Oct 2006*
- July 2004 - Several Regions have drawn up anti-missionary laws modelled on the 2001 law adopted in Belgorod. The latest Regions are Kursk and Madagan. The law makes it extremely difficult for foreign missionaries to enter the Country. *Forum 18 News Service, 12/7/2004*
- January 2004 - Two people injured when a powerful bomb exploded at a Protestant Church in Tula, following a series of threatening letters. *VOM, 28/1/2004*
- March 2003 - Primorsky Krai Regional Court has closed a charismatic Bible college for "conducting educational activity without a licence". *Forum 18 News Service, 21/4/2003*
- January 2003 - A Government document outlining recommendations for countering "religious extremism" has listed the Catholic Church and Protestant Churches as the No.1 and No.2 threats to national security. *Compass, 13/1/2003*
- January 2003 - An exhibition in Moscow included a pornographic photo of a crucified woman between whose legs was placed an icon of the Virgin Mary; a *Coca-Cola* logo with a depiction of Jesus Christ and an inscription 'This is my Blood'; a cross garlanded with sausages; and an imitation of an icon of Christ with openings for people to place their face and hands to be photographed. *Russian Information Agency Novosti : orthodoxeurope.org/page/9/3.aspx*

Rwanda

- July 2009 - A ministry supporting converts from Islam faces persecution from the authorities. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*

Saudi Arabia

There is no provision for religious freedom in the Saudi Constitution; all citizens must adhere to Islam, and conversion to another religion is punishable by death. Public Christian worship is forbidden, and worshippers risk imprisonment, lashing, deportation and torture. Evangelising Muslims and distributing non-Muslim materials is illegal, and Muslims who convert to Christianity risk honour killings. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

Some school textbooks label Jews and Christians 'enemies of the believers', and some Muslim clerics allegedly preach sermons justifying violence against Jews and Christians, even praying for their death. In some schoolbooks (2007/08) Jews are labelled 'apes' and Christians 'swine ... the infidels of the communion of Jesus.' *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church - Lent 2012' & Center for Religious Freedom of the Hudson Institute, Saudi Arabia's Curriculum of Intolerance 2008 update*

- February 2013 - The Mutawaah (Religious Police) arrested 53 Ethiopian Christians - mostly women - in a raid on a worship service in a private home in Damman, and accused three church leaders of trying to convert Muslims to Christianity. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p13*
- November 2012 - Following the case of a woman who converted to Christianity and fled the country, the Government has introduced a tracking system to check cross-border travel of female citizens. *Barnabas Persecution Update, 30/11/2012*
- November 2012 - A new centre for 'inter-religious dialogue and tolerance' has opened in Europe which is being funded by Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia is a country where conversion from Islam to Christianity is punishable by death. *Barnabas Persecution Update 6/12/2012*
- November 2012 - Converts from Islam are in deadly peril. Wahhabism, an extreme and puritanical version of Islam, is strictly enforced. Two men, one Saudi and one Lebanese, are awaiting trial for allegedly helping a Saudi woman convert to Christianity and flee the country. Their case has been repeatedly deferred. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012 & Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2012 - Saudi authorities have blocked several Christian websites, reflecting the utter shame a conversion represents to the Wahhabist Kingdom. *Open Doors website, 20/2/2014*
- August 2012 - 35 Ethiopian Christians, who had been detained since December 2011 for holding a private prayer service, were released and deported. *International Christian Concern, 10/8/2012*
- August 2012 - Saudi girl Maryam, who had been raised in the Muslim faith, was forced to flee to Lebanon when she became a Christian. *International Christian Concern, 3/8/2012*
- May 2012 - 'Every day I got up early to pray, and every time they saw me they began to insult and mock me because of my Christian faith.' The experience of Norma, a maid from the Philippines, harassed by her colleagues and employers in Saudi Arabia. *Aid to the Church in Need, 'Night of Witness' 17/5/2012 p7*
- March 2012 - The Wahhabi Grand Mufti called for the destruction of all Christian churches in the Arabian Peninsula, and announced that, in his opinion, girls should be forced to marry as young as 10 or 12. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 & International Christian Concern, 28/5/2012*
- December 2011 - Mutawaah (Religious Police) officials strip-searched and sexually abused 29 Ethiopian Christian women and assaulted six Christian men after arresting them for holding a prayer meeting at a private home in Jeddah. They were charged with 'illicit mingling' of unmarried people of the opposite sex (despite there being no law that defines this offence). They were held in Briman prison for six months, and eventually deported. *International Christian Concern, 27/1/2012; Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012 p3*
- November 2011 - Iran's Supreme Leader called on the 2.5 million Hajj pilgrims to Jeddah to form an 'international Islamic power block' against Western powers. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2012*
- January 2011 - Two Indian Christian men, Yohan Nese and Vasantha Sekhar Vara, arrested when Mutawaah raided a private home where they were attending a prayer meeting. After physical abuse, a court sentenced them to 45 days in prison, but they were held for six months before release. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church - Lent 2012'*

Evidence (73)

- October 2010 - 12 Filipino Christians arrested while attending a Service in Riyadh. Although since released, it is uncertain whether they will be convicted and punished, or allowed to leave the country. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011; Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- September 2010 - A Filipino nurse working at Kharja Hospital died after being raped and left for dead in the desert. *AsiaNews 7/10/2010*
- August 2010 - Saeed al Shihri, purporting to be an Al-Qaeda leader, called for arms to be taken up against Israel, and *'you who work as guards for tyrants, princes, ministers or complexes where Christians live...seek help from Allah to kill them.'* *Bloomberg News 11/8/2010*
- July 2010 - Although there are more than one million expatriate Christians living and working here, all forms of non-Muslim public worship are forbidden. Even meeting for prayer in private can result in arrest and perhaps torture. Converts to Christianity from Islam are potentially liable to execution under Saudi law. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- March 2010 - Four Mutawaah officers (Religious Police) and a police officer raided an Indian Christian Prayer Service held in a private home. They took photographs and videos, confiscated Bibles, and arrested the pastor and two worshippers, detaining them for five days. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p35*
- December 2009 - Returning home to the Philippines after seven months of a 12 month contract as a maid in Saudi Arabia, Norma Caldera said her colleagues and employers constantly harassed her because of her faith. When her employers found she was a Christian they reduced her salary, forbade her to leave her place of work, and forced her to sleep on the kitchen floor or in a tent. *AsiaNews 31/12/2009*
- September 2009 - When it was discovered that Joshua, the son of an Imam, had become a Christian, he was given 20 minutes to flee leaving behind all his possessions and family. *Barnabas Aid, Set/Oct 2009*
- January 2009 - Eritrean Pastor Yemane Gebriel obliged to leave the country after receiving numerous threats from the Religious Police after leading an underground church with 300 believers for ten years. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 p11*
- January 2009 - Hamoud Bin Saleh (28) arrested for announcing on the Internet that he had converted from Islam to Christianity. He was released, then re-arrested this year. Sharia law prescribes the death sentence for apostates from Islam. *Barnabas Fund - Prayer Focus Update Issue 150, Mar 2009*
- August 2008 - A man cut out the tongue of his own daughter, Fatima Al-Mutairi, and burned her to death when he found she had converted from Islam to Christianity. The father worked for the Mutawa, the Saudi Religious Police. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 144 October 2008 & Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2008*
- Easter 2006 - Fr. George Joshua, sent to Saudi Arabia to help with Easter preparations for the many Indian Catholics working there, arrested after Mass and jailed for four days before being deported. *AsiaNews 3/10/2009*
- 2005 - Non-Muslims and even moderate Muslims are persecuted by the Religious Police. A chemistry teacher received a 14 month prison sentence and 750 lashes to the hands for 'deriding Islam'. The man, who is a Muslim, had allegedly discussed the Bible in class and spoken well of the Jews. *Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p71*
- November 2005 - For the second year running, the US State Department accused the Saudi regime of suffocating religious minorities. *7th Annual Report on Religious Liberty in the World, presented to the US Congress*
- October 2005 - As Ramadan got underway, authorities threatened to expel Christians caught failing to observe fasting regulations. *Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p72*
- September 2005 - US Secretary of State called on the Saudi government to improve rights for religious minorities. The Saudi government neither proposed nor applied any such improvements. *Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p72*
- May 2005 - Eight Christians of Indian origin arrested after allegations they were meeting to pray and study the Bible. Within a month seven released on bail on condition no further prayer meetings take place. *Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p72*
- April 2005 - 40 Pakistani Christians, including children, arrested for taking part in a religious service at a private house in Riyadh, and praying for healing for a paralysed woman. Weeks later the Saudi authorities had neither released the detainees nor taken any further action. *Rapporto 2006; Asia News 17/5/2005 & 8 Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p71*
- April 2005 - Five leaders of an Ethiopian / Eritrean Christian community arrested and tied up by Mutawaah officers. Bibles were confiscated. They were released after a month. *Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p72; Compass Direct 4/5/2005*
- March 2005 - A Christian of Indian origin arrested for having a Bible on his person. *Aid to the Church in Need - Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/6 p71*
- November 2004 - Indian national Brian O'Connor deported seven months after his arrest and torture on charges of 'spreading Christianity'. *Compass, 2/11/2004*
- June 2004 - Indian national Brian Savio O'Connor (36), a cargo agent for Saudi Airlines for six years, abducted and tortured by Saudi Arabia's Religious Police for "spreading Christianity", remains in jail without trial 10 weeks after detention. He was accosted in March by agents of the Mutawa (religious police): after seeing his Saudi Identity Card listing him as a Christian, they chained his legs and hung him upside down for seven hours, intermittently beating him on the chest and ribs and whipping the soles of his feet with electrical wires. O'Connor declared he did preach the Bible, but denied converting Muslims to Christianity. He was then arrested on charges of preaching Christianity, selling liquor and peddling drugs. *Compass, 9/6/2004*
- December 2003 - Two jailed Egyptian Coptic Christians, charged with establishing an expatriate house church in Riyadh, were released after 17 days. Dr. Sabry Awad Gayed and Eskander Guirguis Eskander (both 38) were released 'with the approval of their sponsors' - the charges against them were not dropped nor the case closed: they were released by specific orders of Prince Sultan, who had been asked to review the case. The two Christians were not physically abused, and were given "respectful" treatment whilst in custody. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - An al-Muhaya residence bombed. Statements from Al-Qaeda say the target was Christians not Muslims. *Barnabas Fund, 28/11/2003*
- May 2003 - Michael Young, Vice-President of US Commission on International Freedom, recommended the addition of Saudi Arabia to the list of Countries of 'particular concern' due to the treatment of Christians. *Aid to the Church in Need * Violence against Christians in 2003**
- May 2003 - Residence Permits of two African men jailed in Saudi Arabia's port of Jeddah for "Christian activities" revoked, and deportation ordered. *Compass, 19/5/2003*
- March 2003 - Prince Sultan told journalists *"Christian churches may not be built in this Country - in the past, present or future"*. *Voice of the Martyrs, 12/3/2003*
- January 2002 - Six of 14 foreign Christians selected for deportation have been released during the past 10 days for return to their home countries. But another eight prisoners and their families remain entangled in a process that could take weeks to resolve. Although all had legal residence and work permits in Saudi Arabia, the foreign nationals (from Eritrea, India, the Philippines, Ethiopia and Nigeria) were jailed between July and September last year without any reason. *Compass, 21/1/2002*
- January 2002 - Two Christians held in the Bremen Detention Centre subjected to serious abuse, including 80 lashes with a metal rod. *International Christian Concern, 28/1/2002*
- December 2001 - Thirteen foreign Christians spent Christmas in prison accused of 'spreading propaganda for Christianity'. *FIDES, 3/1/2002*
- January 2000 - At the start of the Muslim celebration following Ramadan, Religious Police, acting on a tip from a Filipino Muslim informant, raided and arrested 15 Christians including small children at a private worship Service. *Compass, 21/1/2000*

Senegal

- June 2011 - In Dakar, Christians were attacked and eight churches looted and torched by Muslim extremists. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 178, Aug 2011*
- August 2009 - Three churches in Nord Foire, Dakar were closed down by the authorities. *Barnabas prayer Focus 157, Nov 2009*
- May 2009 - Christians are being targeted for harassment by the President, Abdoulaye Wade, who is strongly Islamist. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2009*
- January 2007 - Converts from Islam are beaten, publicly shamed and ostracised (to be cut-off from society is a terrible thing in West African culture). In one village, converts have been told that their bodies will be thrown to the dogs when they die. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2007*
- August 2003 - Assemblies of God Church in Dakar attacked three times by mob of young Muslims. *Barnabas Fund: 19/8/2003*

Serbia

- October 2012 - Under the title *Ecce Homo* the Centre for Cultural Decontamination displayed an exhibition by Swedish photographer Elisabeth Ohlson which shows Jesus Christ in various sexual orgies. It includes an image of the *Last Supper* with Jesus holding the Eucharist wearing black high heels under a white dress, and women in sexually explicit poses. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p57*

Evidence (74)

Sierra Leone

Christians and churches were targets for rebel soldiers during the civil war (1991 to 2002). Churches were vandalised and Christians violently attacked and maimed. Despite its vast mineral wealth, especially diamonds, it has become one of the poorest countries in the world.

- November 2010 - Sierra Leone, which is over 60% Muslim, is seeing an increase in religious intolerance. Several churches have been attacked and women forced to wear Islamic headscarves. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- May 2009 - The 12% of the population which is Christian is facing increased hostility from the Muslim majority. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2009*
- August 2007 - Ten gunmen burst into the Christian radio station of Believers Broadcasting Network (BBN) in Freetown around 4am, disarmed a security guard, and shot and seriously wounded presenters Mohamed Kamara and Patrick Thomas. They also stole money and computers. *International Christian Concern 9/8/2007*
- July 2000 - At least 20 churches in Freetown and an unconfirmed number in the countryside have been burned by rebel soldiers. *Compass, 21/7/2000*

Singapore

- April 2008 - Ung Kian Cheong (49) and Dorothy Chan Hien Leng (46) were charged under the Sedition Act of 'promoting feelings of ill-will and hostility between different classes of the population in Singapore'. They had been distributing a Christian publication which upset some Muslims. *VOM USA, 29/4/2008*

Slovenia

- August 2012 - The Chapel of St Anthony in Naklo was desecrated. Graffiti, including an upside-down cross, was scrawled on the frescos and floor. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p53*

Solomon Islands

- August 2003 - Six Christian missionaries dead after being kidnapped by warlord Harold Keke. *Christian Monitor, 18/8/2003*

Somalia

Terrorist groups, such as al-Shabab, target converts to Christianity, and eliminate them. The country had been without effective central Government since 1991 – effectively at Civil War - but the election of a new Parliament and President in 2012 created a framework for a more legitimate Government. However, the provisional Constitution does not allow for religious freedom. *Open Doors Handbooks 2011 & 2013 & Mission Aviation Fellowship Prayer Diary Sep/Nov 2010*

There are no non-Muslim places of worship in the country. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013' p40*

- October 2013 - Two armed men, suspected extremists of Al Shabaab, shot and killed Abdikhani Hassan as he left his pharmacy in Kharkinley; they had previously told his neighbour 'He is spreading wrong religion to our people, and we are looking for him'. *International Christian Concern 15/11/2013, quoting Morning Star News 14/11/2013*
- October 2013 - 'Rape Jihad' is being committed by some Muslim men as a way of subjugating Christians and those with beliefs different to their own, believing it to be sanctioned by Mohamed and in accordance with Islamist beliefs relating to women who are not strict adherents of Islam. *International Christian Concern 2/10/2013*
- October 2013 - Al Shabaab recruitment videos being circulated amongst the Somali community in Minnesota, USA, insinuate that killing Christians and innocents is tantamount to a religious duty and likens it to 'the real Disneyland', beckoning Muslims to 'come join in this fun'. *International Christian Concern 1/10/2013*
- October 2013 - Systematic persecution of Christians across sub-Saharan Africa is increasing rapidly. Groups perpetrating these beheadings, bombings and tortures call their violent jihad by broadcasting using the same social media teenagers use in the west – Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. *International Christian Concern 22/10/2013*
- September 2013 - Mustaf Hassan (13) kidnapped as he returned from school: he had been staying with a Muslim relative in Qoryoley, Lower Shebelle, since his parents fled a year ago when they feared for being suspected of being Christians. The boy's aunt, Fartun Omar, was shot dead in Buulodbarde in April, and his uncle, Ahmed Ali Jimale, was killed outside his house in Alanley, Kismayo, in February. *Morning Star News, Nairobi, Kenya, 9/9/2013*

- September 2013 – Islamic extremists from Al Shabaab are suspected of killing a Christian, Fatima Isak Elmi (35), in her home in Beledweyne, Hiren Province. Her husband had received a threatening note saying 'you are polluting our religion and we are coming for you' but was away at the time the killers struck. Their small son was alone with his dead mother for an hour before neighbours went to investigate. *Morning Star News, Nairobi, Kenya, 9/9/2013*
- August 2013 - Three masked men, believed to be from Al Shabaab, abducted Shamsa Enow Hussein (28) outside her home in Bulo Marer, Lower Shebelle, because she was suspected of being a secret Christian. *Morning Star News, Nairobi, Kenya, 20/8/2013*
- June 2013 - Al Shabaab militants abducted Hassan Hurshe (28), brought him to a public place in Jilib, Jamaame District, and executed him by shooting him in the head for being a secret Christian. *Morning Star News, Nairobi, Kenya, 20/6/2013*
- April 2013 - Several Christians have been killed in recent months. Fartun Omar (42) was detained at a road-block in Buulobarde and shot dead by al-Shabaab militants four months after her husband, Mursal Isse Said, was fatally shot by masked men for leaving Islam. They leave five children. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p17*
- March 2013 - Many Somali Christian refugees fled to Kenya to escape unrest and anti-Christian violence in recent years. Hassan Gulleed had been living in Kenya since 2007, and became a Christian in 2010. When he returned to Somalia to visit family in Bulo Marer, he was seized by Islamists who had been monitoring his movements, tortured and falsely imprisoned. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p17*
- February 2013 - Al-Shabaab is suspected of killing Ahmad Ali Jimale, a Christian teacher and pharmacist, who was shot dead outside his house in Kismayo. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p17*
- December 2012 - Christian Mursal Isse Siad (55) shot dead by two masked gunmen outside his home in Baleweyne, north of Mogadishu. He had moved eight months previously, having had death threats for leaving Islam in 2000. *Morning Star News, Nairobi, Kenya, 8/12/2012*
- November 2012 - Farhan Haji Mose, a Christian convert from Islam, was brutally beheaded by Islamic extremists in front of a crowd in Barawa for 'embracing the foreign religion of Christianity'. His body was dumped on the beach *Release International Issue 71, Jan/Feb 2013 & Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2013*
- July 2012 - Christians in Somalia face almost certain death if they are discovered. *Release International Issue 68, Jul/Aug 2012*
- January 2012 - Islamists arrested a Muslim father after two of his teenage sons converted to Christianity. *International Christian Concern 27/1/2012*
- December 2011 - "Stop your harmful ideologies and preaching to the Muslims. Some Somali Muslims are already affected by this cancer of Christianity ... they will be under the sword of the mujahedeen (holy warriors).", a threat sent by militant group al-Shabaab to a Somali Christian. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013'*
- December 2011 - Sofia Osman (28) a Christian convert from Islam was publicly flogged in Janale City, Lower Shabelle Region, for 'embracing a foreign religion'. *Open Doors Magazine Mar 2012 & Release International Issue 66, Mar/Apr 2012*
- September 2011 - The Islamic group 'al Shabab' killed and beheaded a Christian, Juma Nuradin Kamil. His body was found with his severed head placed on his chest. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012 p3*
- September 2011 - A Christian, Guled Jama Muktar (17) was beheaded by Islamic extremist group 'al Shabab' in his home near Deynile. His parents have had to flee the region in fear of their lives. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Mar 2012: Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2011 & International Christian Concern 24/10/2011*
- March 2011 - Many converts from Islam have been murdered by militant Islamic groups. In some parts of the country, conversion from Islam is officially forbidden. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- January 2011 - Asha Mberwa (36) murdered by militants after her Christian faith was discovered. Her husband has fled the area. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Mar 2011*
- January 2011 - The breakdown of government has led to an upsurge of Islamic fundamentalism, especially targeted at the Christian minority. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- November 2010 - Most of the Christians here are converts from Islam and face constant harassment and persecution from Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- September 2010 - Nurta Mohamed Farah (17), who converted from Islam to Christianity, was shackled to a tree by her family, severely beaten and made a prisoner in her own home in Bardher. Three months later she was shot and killed. In recent times more than 12 Christians have been murdered by Islamic militants as they try to extend Sharia law across the country. *Release International Issue 57, Sept/Oct 2010 & Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church - Lent 2013*
- July 2010 - Islamic fanatics murdered Osman Abdullah, a Christian, in front of his family in Afgo and abducted his four children for military training. *Release International Issue 58, Nov/Dec 2010*

Evidence (75)

- July 2010 - More than 12 Christians have been murdered here this year. Al Shabab militants recently killed Yusuf Ali Nur, a house church leader in Xarardheere, Mudug Region. They also murdered Christian Mu-Awiye Hilowle Ali in Afgoye. *Release International Issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010*
- July 2010 - Madobe Abdi, an underground-church Leader, has been murdered by Muslim (al-Shabab) extremists. *Release International Issue 55, May/June 2010 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- May 2010 - Mohammed Ibrahim Hassan murdered by al-Shabab recently, and his wife Amina and two-year-old son were forced to flee the country. *Release International Issue 55, May/Jun 2010 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- 2010 - A statement by al-Shabaab said 'we aim to get rid of the barbaric and non-Islamic culture (Christianity) in this country.' *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013*
- October 2009 - The British magazine *The Economist* reported that in October at least 13 Somali Christians had been murdered. They included a 69 year old man who was carrying 26 Somali-language Bibles and a 46-year-old woman who had a Swahili language Bible in her possession. The transitional Government is promoting Sharia law. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- July 2009 - Four Somali Christians working in an orphanage were kidnapped and beheaded when they refused to renounce their faith. The Muslim extremist group al-Shabab claimed responsibility – but would not return the bodies to the families as 'Somalia does not have cemeteries for infidels'. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- July 2009 - Islamic extremist rebels from Al Shabab are mounting a campaign to kill Christians and enforce Sharia law across the south of the country. *Release International Prayer Shield, Sep/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Seven Christians were beheaded in the city of Baidoa, and Mohammed Sheikh Abdraman was shot dead by al Shabab rebels. *Release International Prayer Shield, Sep/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Recently a Kenyan pastor (himself a convert from Islam) was beaten by Government officials and forced out of the country. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- April 2009 - Two boys, Hussain aged 11 and Abdi 12, were beheaded in Yonday village, near Kismayo, because their father, Musa Mahammed Yusuf – who was leader of the local underground church – would not disclose information about other Christians. *Compass Direct News, 1/7/2009 & Release International Prayer Shield, Sep/Oct 2009*
- November 2008 - In the south of the country, the militant Muslim group al-Shabab has declared an Islamic state and is causing grave harassment to Christians. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 147, Jan 2009*
- September 2008 - Mansuur Mohammed (25), who had been a Christian for two years, was beheaded by Islamic extremists. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009 & Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2009*
- September 2008 - Christian convert Ahmadey Osman Nur was murdered when he was a guest at a Muslim wedding. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 145, Nov 2008 & Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
- July 2008 - Sayid Ali Sheik Luqman Hussien (28), a Christian convert from Islam, was shot dead by Islamic extremists in the town of Afgoye. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 142, Aug 2008*
- July 2008 - Around 200 Christian converts from Islam have been killed in recent times, and others have been forced to leave their homes. *CSW Response Issue 153, Jul/Aut 2008*
- May 2008 - Members of a house church in Hargeysa, Somaliland were forced to flee to Eritrea by the Government Investigation Department. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- April 2008 - David Mohammed Ali, a Christian convert and evangelist, killed by his cousin and two members of Islamist group al-Shabaab. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008 & Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p10*
- April 2008 - Christian Aid workers from Birmingham (UK) Daud Hassan (64) and Rehana Amed (32) (both converts from Islam) and Kenyan teachers Gifford Keoch and Andrew Kibet were killed by al Shabab militant Islamists in a raid on the Hakab Private English School in Beledweyne. *CSW (Amy Greenfield) 20/5/2008: VOM USA 23/4/2008 & Barnabas Fund Email service 21/4/2008*
- December 2007 - The pastor of a church in Itargeysa was arrested and tortured to give the names of church members. Reports say that the Criminal Investigation Department has been infiltrated by Islamic Jihadists. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 137, Mar 2008*
- September 2006 - Ali Mustaf (22) was shot dead in Mogadishu: he had converted from Islam to Christianity 11 months previously and refused to chant Quranic verses when faced by his assassin. The Union of Islamic Courts in Somalia has said that all adults who leave Islam will be killed. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006 & Face2Face, Oct 2006*
- April 2004 - Pastor Shueb Maalim Madkhey murdered and his body burned. *CSW, 4/2004*

Spain

- December 2012 - Ten youths aged between 15 and 17 entered the Salesian School Maria Auxiliadora in Merida, assaulted the groundskeeper, and entered classrooms accusing teachers of fascism and demanding priests be handed over to be burnt. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p63*
- September 2012 - Christian 'Crossroads' walkers, marching in support of the right to life, confronted by Greenpeace activists who were peeved by the walkers' pro-life position, and suffered insults, threats of severe violence, and graffiti on their RV. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p54*
- April 2012 - Homosexual activists are lobbying for the prosecution of Bishop Juan Antonio Reig Pla of Alcala de Henares for preaching the Catholic church's position on homosexual acts. He was later banned from official city events. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p48/9*
- February 2012 - A photo exhibition at the Fresh Gallery in Madrid by Bruce LaBruce displays intolerance against Christian symbols, deepens negative stereotypes, and disregards feelings of believers. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p41*
- December 2009 - Pro-abortion activists have spread false claims on the internet that Archbishop Javier Martinez of Granada legitimised rape of a woman, who has had an abortion, during a sermon which actually denounced killing of the unborn and castigated irresponsible fathering behaviour. *LifeSiteNews.com, 12/1/2012*

South Africa

- May 2008 - In Kwazulu Natal a high school which has over 1,000 mainly Christian boys, has been 'taken over' by 60 motivated Muslim parents who seized control of the school governing body. The Principal of the College was dismissed because he would not stop the traditional praise and worship at morning assemblies. *Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2008*

Sri Lanka

Although religious freedom is enshrined in Sri Lanka's laws, the appearance since July 2012 of nationalistic and religious supremacist groups has increased pressure on religious minorities. 2013 saw an increase in violent attacks against Christians and churches, mainly by Buddhist extremist groups: there were over 50 attacks on churches, often by mobs of between 40 & 800 people. A pastor and his family had to flee for their lives as their names were found on a death list. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p24*

Many Christians remain homeless after more than 25 years of fighting and conflict within the country. *Barnabas Fund 22/2/2013*

Senior church leader Rajappu Joseph has highlighted the disappearance of 146,000 during the recent civil war and has called for international intervention in Sri Lanka. *Barnabas Prayer Sep/Oct 2012*

- December 2013 - A letter to the *Sri Lanka Guardian* expresses 'outrage' over the spate of attacks on Christian, Hindu and Muslim places of worship. 103 attacks on churches and pastors were recorded in 2013, whilst 227 similar attacks were recorded in nine months on temples and mosques. The letter was signed by 108 persons and organisations, and alleges the police did not even use minimal force to quell the disturbances, but simply closed the churches. *Barnabas Fund 28/1/2014*
- July 2013 - Three Catholic Churches attacked – Holy Family Church in Kayankerny badly damaged by nearby explosion; masked men set fire to a church in Pulasthigama, seeking, said Fr Eric Fernando, to cause maximum harm; and a third church was attacked in Patunagama. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06'*
- July 2013 - Intimidation and threats by Buddhists in Horana, Kalutara, caused police to order church leaders to suspend worship and close their buildings as they were 'disturbing the peace'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p75-76*
- June 2013 - Hindu extremists attacked a church worshipping congregation in Sugankemi, Batticaloa district, with clubs, knives and swords. Shouting that the church should be closed, they seriously hurt the pastor and several others, and damaged the building. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update, Aug 2013*
- March 2013 - Pastor Pradeep Kumera and his family returned to find their home, which is also used for worship services, subjected to a three-and-a-half-hour attack by Buddhist extremists who had broken in and vandalised the property. Police could not control the mob, which had attacked the Pastor's church the previous December. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p11*

Evidence (76)

- March 2013 - Ten separate anti-Christian incidents in different parts of the country this month: a church building in Batticalao was burned down, and soon afterwards a pastor from Angunakolapelessa was threatened by police and told to stop holding services. Seven other churches also harassed – mostly by Buddhist monks, sometimes with police or mob support. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p11*
- December 2012 - A large rock was thrown at the pastor in Weeraketiya in Hambanthota district as a large mob, which included numerous Buddhist monks, stormed the building. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- August 2012 - Pastor Lasanthe Jayaeth and his wife from Deniyaya district were severely injured by a Buddhist mob who threatened them with death if they continued to preach Christianity. They were returning from visiting a church member on their motorbike when they were cut up by a 4x4 vehicle. *International Christian Concern, 17/8/2012; Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013; Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013 & Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- June 2012 - Amila Tharanga Thilakarathne (14) was severely beaten by a Buddhist monk because he was the only Christian boy in his class. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- March 2012 - A church pastor in Ambalangoda, Galle district, was badly beaten by a group of 30 Buddhist monks. They threatened that if he did not leave the village, which he had served for 10 years, they would burn down his house or he would face death. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 & Barnabas News, 9/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Pressure is growing against Christians. Some churches have had their application for registration rejected. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2012*
- March 2012 - Fire bombs have been thrown at various churches. *Release International Issue 66, Mar/Apr 2012*
- Lent 2012 - Local authorities are now erecting Buddhist temples and statues in traditionally Christian areas whilst preventing the rebuilding of churches. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church – Lent 2013*
- January 2012 - Buddhist nationalists have renewed their calls for anti-conversion laws aimed against the Christian minority. *Release International Issue 65, Jan/Feb 2012*
- July 2011 - Dehiwinna Church in Badualla District attacked by Buddhist mob, who also destroyed five Christian homes. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 179, Sep 2011*
- June 2011 - A church in western Sri Lanka was smeared with human waste early one Sunday morning. After cleaning, the service began, only to be interrupted by a 200-strong mob demanding it be stopped. Police, rather than dealing with the aggressors, asked the pastor to end the service. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church – Lent 2013*
- March 2011 - The Buddhist majority are campaigning for laws to prevent conversions to Christianity. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- February 2011 - Six Buddhist monks and a mob forcibly entered the home of a Christian man who was hosting a birthday party for his daughter. The guests included the family's pastor and his son, who were assaulted. The mob then stole various items. Police then told the family that 'religions which are not recognised' were unwelcome. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p256*
- January 2011 - A mob came to the rebuilding of an Assemblies of God church in Norachcholai, Puttalam, that had been burned down three times, shouting threats and demanding construction be stopped. Despite the work having received all necessary permissions from the local authorities and the Ministry of Religious Affairs, a government official instructed the pastor to stop work. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p255 & Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p7*
- 2010 - Buddhist monks with political leanings seek to limit Christian activities by proposing policies such as a Noise Pollution Law, which would prohibit the use of a sound system. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- October 2010 - Six of the hard-line monks of Kalutara led a crowd into the Sunday worship of the Foursquare Gospel Church where they assaulted the pastor and destroyed furniture. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p255*
- August 2010 - Christians are still targeted for attack. Recently a pastor was shot dead (though his wife, Shironi, and child miraculously survived). *CSW Relay newsletter 6/8/2010*
- March 2010 - Three Buddhist monks led a mob of 150 to disrupt the services at the church in Pugoda, Grampaha district. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- March 2010 - Buddhist monks led a mob to disrupt Christian services in Kalutara. They declared that Sri Lanka was a Buddhist country and that Christians could only conduct services with official permission (which is not a legal requirement). *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010; Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p255*
- February 2010 - The Living God Prayer Centre in Thiruperunthurai was attacked by a mob. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p255*
- February 2010 - The pastor of Creator Almighty God Believers' Church at Gelawala, Anuradhapura District, was assaulted, warned to abandon his ministry, and threatened with being thrown into Kokawewa Lake. Several days later, two Buddhist monks threatened the pastor again after his church service. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p255*
- January 2010 - A Pentecostal pastor's house (also used as a church) was burned down in Matugama – south of Colombo. When he went to the police station to report the matter, the pastor found a crowd of Buddhist monks protesting against Christian worship in the area. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p255*
- 2009/2010 - Rasika, a convert from Buddhism to Christianity, was blinded with acid by Buddhist fanatics. *Barnabas Gifts, 2009/2010*
- November 2009 - There has been a marked increase in attacks on churches by Buddhist extremists recently. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- October 2009 - A mob attacked a church hall that was used for prayer and Worship in Bandarawela. Later in the month a mob stormed the Christian Community Centre in Mawathawewa. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 159, Jan 2010*
- September 2009 - All planning applications for Protestant church buildings require to be approved by the Ministry of Religious Affairs, but very few gain approval. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Christians are harassed by both the Buddhist and Hindu factions. More than 50,000 civilians, many of them Christians, are still homeless after the recent civil war. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- April 2009 - Buddhist militants attacked the home of Pastor Kumara in Weeraketiya. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update, Issue 152 2/5/2009*
- March 2009 - A pastor and church worker in North Western Province were attacked by Buddhists, using machetes. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update, Issue 152 2/5/2009*
- February 2009 - An 'anti-conversion' bill going through Parliament could be used to discriminate against the Christian minority. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 148, Feb 2009. (Note: The Anti-Conversion Bill was later 'shelved' Open Doors Handbook 2011)*
- November 2008 - The Government is now considering an 'anti-conversion' bill which will create serious obstacles to genuine Christian organisations. *Barnabas Prayer 146, Dec 2008 & CSW Amy Greenfield, 12/11/2008*
- September 2008 - 60 people, led by a Buddhist monk, set fire to the church hall of Prayer Tower Church, Mailankulama, Puttalam District. *Release International Issue 46, Nov 2008*
- August 2008 - The AOG Church in Pannaladi, Norachcholai, Puttalam District was completely destroyed by fire. *Release International Issue 46, Nov 2008*
- July 2008 - Five Buddhist monks charged into the Calvary Church, Colombo, forcing the service to stop. *VOM USA, 16/7/2008*
- July 2008 - Buddhists set fire to the house of an AOG pastor in the city of Middenifya. *VOM USA, 16/7/2008*
- June 2008 - Methodist Pastor Fernando was attacked outside his church in Ampara by members of the Gramarakshaka Niladhari (a Government-backed 'Home Guard' Buddhist organisation). *CSW Response Issue 154, Sep/Oct 2008 & Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- June 2008 - Buddhist fundamentalists held four anti-Christian meetings in Hambanthota District – local shopkeepers were told not to serve Christians. *CSW (Amy Greenfield), 20/6/2008*
- March 2008 - The Mount Zion Prayer House in Mulaitvie District was set on fire whilst the pastor, his wife and child, were inside. *CSW Response Issue 152, May/Jun 2008*
- March 2008 - A mob of 200 people forced the pastor at Udugama, Galle District, to leave the village, on pain of death. *CSW Response Issue 152, May/Jun 2008*
- March 2008 - 10 students of the Bible College in Lunuwila, Puttalam District, were attacked and beaten by a mob. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- February 2008 - Pastor Neil Edirisinghe of the House Church Foundation was shot dead and his wife severely injured outside their home in Ampara, in what appeared to be a contract killing. Two of the four men arrested were from the Gramarakshaka Niladhari (Home Guard). *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2008*
- February 2008 - In Mathugama, Kalutara District, a mob of 50 attacked the local church. *CSW (Amy Greenfield), 30/4/2008*
- March 2007 - Pastor Victor Emmanuel Yugarajan, who runs the Gospel Missionary Church in Vavuniya, his two sons Daniel and David, and also Joseph Sugandakumar, were abducted. Police have not been able to trace the presumed Buddhist abductors. *CSW Response Issue 46, May/Jun 2007*
- February 2007 - All Christian activity in Polonnaruwa, North Central Province, threatened by 150 Buddhist activists. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2007*
- November 2006 - A group of 50 people, including four Buddhist monks, blocked the road to the Christian church at Yakkala in Gampaha, and closed down the church. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 22, Dec 2006*
- November 2006 - Four members of the Prayer Tower Church in Anamaduwa were attacked and beaten as they were returning from a funeral service. *VOM USA, 4/12/2006*
- October 2006 - A family at the Vineyard Community Church in Gonawila were attacked, and the church badly damaged. *VOM USA, 14/11/2006*

Evidence (77)

- December 2005 - Joseph Parajasingham, a Christian Tamil Parliamentarian and a member of the Tamil National Alliance, was killed in Batticaloa Cathedral during Christmas Midnight Mass. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p76*
- June 2005 - A church in Ambalangoda, Galle District, was attacked by a mob of over 100 Buddhists, and badly damaged. The pastor and two church elders were severely and brutally beaten. *CSW, 13/6/2005*
- May 2005 - A crowd of 100, including a local Buddhist monk, disrupted a prayer meeting at Kithu Sevana Church, Kaluvilaporthane in Kurunegala District, North East of Colombo. Christian villagers were threatened and forced to cancel the prayer meeting. *Barnabas Fund, Sep 2005*
- May 2005 - Police in Milepost, Polonnaruwa, threatened to arrest the pastors of a local church, ordering them to stop their religious activities as 'this is considered a Buddhist area'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p75*
- May 2005 - Catholic Bishops said of the Bill on the Prohibition of Forcible Conversion that 'in characterising as proselytism the social work of the Church, such as orphanages or help for the poor, this proposed law will hit the most defenceless'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p74*
- May 2005 - United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Asma Jahangir, at a press conference after meeting Buddhist, Hindu and Christian representatives, said she had found no proof of forced conversions, which Buddhists leaders alleged were rising sharply and needed to be combated with new laws. Jahangir said 'The two anti-conversion laws will end up persecuting and not protecting religious minorities and will hinder coexistence between the various communities'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p74*
- May 2005 - In Batticaloa, a Methodist church was burned down. Eyewitnesses blamed Buddhist militants. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06' p75*
- January 2005 - Hostility, whipped up by media misinformation, has resulted in criminal expression of hatred towards Christians, who are considered second class citizens. *Release International, Jan 2005*
- January 2005 - Anti-conversion legislation that targets Christians and any organisation or church engaged in social action is currently before Parliament. *Release International, Jan 2005*
- December 2004 - Unknown assailants, using gas cylinders and rubber tyres, set fire to St. Michael's Catholic Church in Katuwana, Homagama. The fire damaged pews, organ, altar and church statues. *Compass, 20/12/2004*
- 2004 - 140 churches were forced to close due to attacks by Buddhist extremists. *Release International, Jan 2005*
- December 2004 - Mindful of the violent attacks on churches last Christmas following the funeral of Buddhist monk Ven Gangodawila Soma Thera, President Chandrika Kumaratunga ordered police guards for all vulnerable churches, saying she would hold local police officers personally responsible if a church were attacked over the Christmas season. *Compass, 20/12/2004*
- December 2004 - Buddhist monks have declared a 'fast unto death' if the Government fails to accede to three demands: a Presidential inquiry into the death of a senior monk, a ban on the sale of liquor in supermarkets, and the adoption of anti-conversion laws. The Buddhist JHU Party won nine seats in this year's Parliamentary elections, and proposed the 'Prohibition of Forcible Conversions' Bill to severely restrict religious freedom. The Supreme Court ruled two clauses 'unconstitutional', so the JHU proposed a Constitutional amendment to make Buddhism the State Religion. *Compass, 9/12/2004*
- November 2004 - Assemblies of God Church in Yakkala, north east of Colombo, attacked repeatedly. *CSW, 6/12/2004*
- September 2004 - Buddhist monks from the Jathika Hela Urumaya (JHU) Party have launched an international campaign to win support for a proposed anti-conversion Bill. However, many Buddhist laypersons oppose the legislation. *Compass, 13/9/2004*
- July 2004 - Unidentified vandals broke into the office of the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka (NCEASL) over the weekend, ransacked filing cabinets and desks, and searched files before strewing them on the floor. Staff say the focus was clearly on documents stored at the office - a video projector, camera and computer accessories were left untouched. NCEASL believe the break-in may have been to find documents relating to its public awareness campaign against the proposed anti-conversion bill. *Compass, 6/7/2004*
- June 2004 - The Sri Lankan Cabinet has given initial approval for a draft Bill designed to prevent religious conversions. The 'Act for the Protection of Religious Freedom' is now being revised before being sent back to Parliament. It is much wider in scope than one proposed by the Buddhist JHU Party, and effectively makes any form of conversion or religious proselytising a criminal offence. *Compass, 24/6/2004*
- April 2004 - 300 Buddhist villagers attacked the Christian Fellowship Church in Kalutara district on Easter Sunday. 10 people injured. *CSW, 12/5/2004*
- March 2004 - Mob of 100 people completely demolished Apostolic Church in Boraluwewa, setting fire to personal belongings. *CSW, 1/3/2004*
- February 2004 - Calvary Church in Kurundugaha Hathapma Anuruddhagama, Gethsemane Church, and the Apostolic Church in Boraluwewa, Kuliypitiya, attacked and burned by armed Buddhist militants. *CSW, 1/3/2004*
- January 2004 - In the latest in a series of at least 65 attacks on churches in the past 12 months, attackers set fire to the door of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, near the capital, Colombo, and vandalized a cross outside the building. A week earlier, Buddhist protestors set fire to another Catholic church on the outskirts of Colombo. *Compass, 22/1/2004*
- December 2003 - Death of popular Buddhist monk Ven. Soma Thera from heart failure prompted a hate campaign against Christians, wrongly blamed for his assumed murder. 20 churches attacked or torched at Christmas. *Release International, Jan 2005*
- October 2003 - The New Covenant Life Center of Athurugiriya were meeting in a reception hall when a Buddhist monk accompanied by about 50 young men arrived and demanded they vacate the building within 10 minutes. According to the Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka (EASL), a leading Buddhist monk in the area had warned the Christians they would no longer be permitted to meet in the village. *Compass, 13/11/2003*
- October 2003 - Attacks on Christians have intensified, prompting the National Peace Council to call for a Government Investigation. *Compass, 13/11/2003*
- October 2003 - Sunday worship at an Assemblies of God Church in Embilipitiya was interrupted by seven Buddhist monks and local villagers. They forced the Christians to stop the service, and said they should leave the area and practice their faith elsewhere. The EASL have had to issue guidelines encouraging pastors and Christian workers to maintain a low profile in their villages and avoid unwanted attention. *Compass, 13/11/2003*
- October 2003 - Violent attacks against churches have shaken the small Christian community in Sri Lanka. *Compass, 10/10/2003*
- September 2003 - Church in Kesbewa burned down. *Voice of the Martyrs, 25/9/2003*
- September 2003 - Unidentified motorcyclists set fire to the Assembly of God Church in Kotadeniyawa, completely gutting the structure. *Compass, 10/10/2003*
- September 2003 - Sister Ayesher and three other Christian women of the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka were erecting a fence around the church when a Buddhist monk from the nearby Erabadda Temple demanded, with foul language, that they stop work immediately or face death. That evening, 30 men dragged the women from their lodgings, beat them, and smashed the concrete fence posts they had erected. Police took the women into custody, but required them to appear in court the next morning publicly charged with prostitution. The judge ordered three of the women to undergo medical examinations to disprove the accusation. *Compass, 10/10/2003 & Release International, Jan 2005*
- August 2003 - Two church workers beaten by a mob, who attacked a church in Rathgama. *Voice of the Martyrs, 15/8/2003*
- July 2003 - Heavenly Harvest Church in Kaluvenkerni vandalised and the pastor beaten. *Compass Direct, 14/7/2003*
- March 2003 - Evangelical Pastor Sumith Gunasekera of the Margaya Church in Embilipitiya stabbed by police officers. *VOM, 26/3/2003*
- December 2002 - Christian Worship Leader Indrani Abeysinghe (49) and children assaulted by men who broke into their home. *VOM, 15/1/2003*
- April 2001 - Three Christians attacked by 50 Hindu extremists as they walked to church in Hanguranketha. *Compass Direct, 21/4/2001*
- March 2001 - New Life Church in Hingurakgoda, which had its congregation attacked by a machete-wielding mob in February, lost its worship hall to arson. *Compass Direct, Mar 2001*
- February 2001 - Eight explosions damaged newly built Roman Catholic Church in Hulandawa, in the south of the Country. *Compass Direct, 16/2/2001*

Sudan

The January Referendum showed that 99% of voters in the Christian south of the country wished to separate from the Arab/Muslim north. *CSW Relay 6/1/2011*

On 9 July 2011 South Sudan officially became a separate country from the north. Decades of civil war had left 5 million people homeless, and there has since been heavy fighting and 'ethnic cleansing' in the disputed border area. Muslim troops from the north over-ran the contested Abyei region, causing more than 110,000 people to flee to the South. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

President al-Bashir has declared his intention of making Sudan entirely Islamic, and strengthening the place of Sharia. Numerous church buildings have been destroyed, and Christian literature seized. In July 2012 he said "We want to present a Constitution that serves as a template to those around us. Our template is clear - a 100 per cent Islamic Constitution, without communism or secularism or Western (influences)". *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 & 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013'*

The Sudanese (Muslim) President, Omar-al-Bashir has been charged with war crimes in Darfur by the International Criminal Court. *Release International Prayer Shield May/Jun 2009*

Evidence (78)

On 17 April 2013, Sudan's Minister of Guidance and Endowments announced no new licences for church building will be issued on the grounds that existing ones could accommodate worshippers. At the same time, the Government has been demolishing numerous church buildings on the pretext of paperwork irregularities.

CSW Response, Spring/Summer 2013

Endowed with the potential to produce food surpluses, only 10% of Sudan's arable land is cultivated, with the result that it is a net importer of food. *Tear Fund, Apr 1999*

- December 2013 - Zawengal Abraham Mikael (41), a Christian, has appealed for help to UNHCR after being stripped of his Sudanese citizenship in May. His Eritrean family brought him to Sudan as a child, and he was granted Sudanese citizenship in 1991. Until the split with South Sudan, he worked as a deacon and administrator at the Nile Valley Christian International Academy – he lost his job when it became an Islamic school. Since he was jailed in October for being a stateless person, his Sudanese wife has been allowed only one visit. *Morning Star News, Juba, Sudan 9/12/2013*
- October 2013 - Police and security forces battered down a fence around Khartoum Bahri Evangelical Church as Muslim onlookers shouted 'Allah is Great'. They then beat and arrested several Christians and a Church leader. The Government has allegedly sold the land to a Muslim. *Barnabas Prayer Update 29/11/2013*
- September 2013 - A Christian woman (name with-held for security reasons) – a convert from Islam – repeatedly tortured and abused by her own family after they discovered her conversion. Family locked her in a dark room for six months, and arranged for an Islamic sheikh to beat her 10 times daily to make her return to Islam. After her release she went into hiding, but the family found her and again beat her before throwing her from a second floor landing and breaking her ribs. Family then took her home, and began digging a grave to bury her alive, when neighbours called the police. *Morning Star News, Sudan 24/9/2013*
- May 2013 - Two Christian-run schools in Khartoum have been ordered to close. One is a primary school that the authorities discovered was not teaching Islamic studies or separating boys and girls. The other provided English-language lessons for 500 adults; three of its staff had been arrested and accused of evangelising Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p7*
- February 2013 - 55 Christians detained without charge, falsely accused of receiving money from foreign countries. In January, three Christians of South Sudanese origin ordered to leave the country because of their involvement with churches and a Christian radio station. Dozens of expatriate Christians, particularly in the capital, Khartoum, subjected to frequent and severe harassment and deportation. *Release International issue 71 Jan/Feb 2013 & Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p7*
- February 2013 - A group of Christian workers from a University campus-based ministry arrested, interrogated for a week, and threatened with being buried alive if they did not reveal information about their activities. For the following two weeks they had to report daily for further questioning, and then on a weekly basis. Three have since been deported. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p7*
- October 2012 - As the new President proceeds to implement Sharia law, hundreds of thousands of Christians of southern origin have been stripped of their citizenship and face terrible living conditions. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2012 & Barnabas Persecution Updated, 5/10/2012*
- October 2012 - A Bible School set on fire by an Islamist mob earlier this year has re-opened, but loudspeaker messages from nearby mosque asserted that Christian institutions should not be allowed in a 'purely Islamic State'. The sheikh who instigated the arson called Christians 'infidels' and urged Muslims to have no dealings with them. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2012 - 2,300 Christians who had fled north to escape devastation caused by the Civil War 1983 – 2005 now forced back to South Sudan as life had become increasingly difficult in strongly Islamic Sudan. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- September 2012 - Government forces dropped five bombs near a crowded market place in the Christian town of Heiban in the Nuba Mountains, as part of a 'cleansing' of non-Arabs/non-Muslims. Asia Omer Kuku, mother of seven, killed, and several other Christians wounded. Aid agencies have difficulty reaching the area. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- August 2012 - Laila Ibrahim Issa Jamool (23) is currently imprisoned with her 6-month old baby for allegedly committing adultery. Her sentence of execution by stoning will be upheld unless her appeal is successful. *International Christian Concern, 10/8/2012*
- June 2012 - The Episcopal Church of St. John's in Khartoum was demolished by the Government. *Release International Issue 60, Sep/Oct 2012*
- May 2012 - More than 15 Christians were killed in the Nuba mountain region by Sudanese air raids. The Northern (Muslim) Government has stripped more than 500,000 citizens of southern Christian/ethnic origin of their citizenship, and will be forcing them to leave the country. *Open Doors Magazine, May 2012*
- April 2012 - 500 members of an Islamic fundamentalist group attacked a compound of the Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church in Khartoum, destroying property and burning Bibles, books, office equipment and personal belongings. Police merely warned students to leave as the buildings were about to be burned. The *Al-Sahafa* newspaper said the church included a school and dormitories, and Ethiopian refugees also used the church. *Associated Press 22/4/2012, International Christian Concern 27/4/2012, Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2012 & Open Doors Magazine, Jun 2012*
- 2012 - Three churches in Khartoum have been warned that their buildings will be demolished if they continue worshipping. *Open Doors Magazine, Jun 2012*
- March 2012 - The Sudanese President, Omar al-Bashir, has undertaken ethnic cleansing of black, mainly Christian people in the Nuba Mountains. An aid worker said 'The Islamic North sees Nuba Christians as infidels who need to be Islamised through Jihad. This war is religious as well as political.' *CDN, 20/3/2012 & International Christian Concern, 23/3/2012*
- February 2012 - The Samaritan's Purse Bible School in South Kordofan was bombed by the Sudanese Airforce. *International Christian Concern, 10/2/2012*
- February 2012 - Heiban Bible College in South Kordofan was bombed by the Sudanese Air Force on the first day it opened for classes. Witnesses said it took four fly-overs before the building was hit. Four churches have been destroyed by bombing in the past six months. *Voice of the Martyrs, 25/02/12*
- January 2012 - Church leader Gabro Haile Selassie arrested and refused to be evicted from his Khartoum home, which the Government transferred to a Muslim businessman in a disputed agreement. *CDN, 25/01/2012*
- January 2012 - Two church leaders were seized - one of them, James Kat of the Church of Sudan was beaten - after Sudan's Ministry of Guidance and Religious Endowments threatened to arrest pastors caught praying in public. *CDN 25/01/12 & Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2012*
- January 2012 - As (northern) Sudan becomes more deeply entrenched in Sharia, the Ministry of Guidance and Religious Endowments has threatened to arrest church leaders if they carry out evangelistic activities. *International Christian Concern, 20/1/2012*
- January 2012 - Two Catholic priests – Fr Joseph Makwey and Fr Sylvester Mogga - kidnapped by men who smashed the gates of their parish compound in Rabak and also looted the property. The church refused to pay a ransom, and eventually the priests were released with minor injuries. *International Christian Concern, 27/1/2012 & ACN News, 17/2/2012*
- December 2011 - Christian teenager Hilba Anglo, who was kidnapped in 2010, beaten, raped and threatened with death if she tried to escape, managed to escape after a year in captivity. When she went to the police to report the gang, they refused to act unless she converted to Islam. *International Christian Concern/Voice of the Martyrs, 22/12/2011*
- November 2011 - Muslim violence led to the deaths of 1,500 people in 2011. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2011*
- October 2011 - Some Christian pastors have been warned, on pain of death, to no longer hold services. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012 p3*
- August 2011 - Human rights groups reported the bombing of civilian areas in South Kordofan – despite a supposed ceasefire. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 179, Sep 2011*
- July 2011 - A UN Report showed how churches had been targeted during recent bombing raids by Government forces, causing more than 70,000 people to flee their homes. Other sources said that Christian bookshops had been torched by the Khartoum regime. *ACN News, 21/7/2011*
- June 2011 - Islamic militants slaughtered a Christian man, Adeeb Gismalla Aksam (33), whose father is an elder of the Evangelical Church in Kadugli. *CDN, 17/06/2011*
- June 2011 - Nimeri Philio Kalo, a seminarian from St. Paul's Major Seminary, Khartoum, was detained near the United Nations Mission in Sudan and shot dead in front of bystanders. Sudan Armed Forces officers who carried out the killing forced Christian witnesses 'not to cry, or else we would suffer the same fate'. *CDN 17/06/2011 & ACN 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2012*
- June 2011 - On the verge of Southern independence, there are still over 35,000 women and children who remain in bondage in the Arab north of the country. *Christian Solidarity International, 27/6/2011*
- May 2011 - In January's referendum, the mainly Christian south voted overwhelmingly in favour of independence from the Muslim north. President Omar al-Bashir said he would respond by changing the Constitution of the north to make Sharia the only law, and Arabic the only language. There will be no question of cultural or ethnic diversity. Christians in the North would suffer. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011; Open Doors Magazine, Mar 2011*
- May 2011 - A Darfuri woman accused of 'Christianising' children in a displaced persons' camp has been abducted. *Barnabas Fund, 31/5/2011*
- May 2011 - Thousands of Christians were forced to flee as Northern Arab forces burned and looted Abeyi town. *CSW Weekly Newsletter, 27/5/2011*

Evidence (79)

- December 2010 - Although most of Sudan's oil lies in the South, it is controlled by the Muslim North, which has switched payments from US \$ to local currency. This effectively starves the Christian South of the foreign currency which it needs to rebuild its infrastructure. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*
- October 2010 - Hamdan Mohamed Abdurrahman attempted to murder the Archbishop of Khartoum, Cardinal Wako, (with a dagger) as he celebrated Mass. This was not the first assassination attempt on the Cardinal. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, 2012, p261*
- February 2010 - Children were taken from the Episcopal Church in Southern Sudan and have not been returned to their families. Over 250,000 Christians have been displaced (in) recent attacks by Muslim militia. *CSW - Prayer Diary, Feb 2010*
- December 2009 - A 16 year old girl, Silva Kashif, was arrested for wearing a knee-length skirt and given 50 lashes even though the minimum age for such punishment is 18. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 158, Dec 2009*
- September 2009 - The UN estimates that hundreds of thousands of Christians have been forced to flee their homes and villages in the last 12 months. Up to 5,000 internally displaced people have been forced to flee from Ezo. *Barnabas Prayer Update 155, Sep 2009*
- August 2009 - Islamic fundamentalists attacked a church in Yambio, destroyed the building and abducted 17 teenagers. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 156, Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Church leaders are concerned because, even though there was a Peace Agreement signed in 2005 after 22 years of brutal civil war, the Islamic Northern Government is still intent on total Islamisation of the country's Christian population. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- July 2009 - Attacks on churches in northern Sudan is on the increase. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jul/Aug 2009*
- April 2009 - After Halima Bubbier saw a film about Jesus, she became a Christian. Her husband at first acquiesced, but local pressure forced him to change his mind, and he removed his belongings from their home and then burned it. Her brother beat her and threatened to stab her, at which point she was imprisoned for 'disrespecting Islam' and lost custody of two of their children. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p260/1*
- March 2009 - Two Protestant churches were destroyed in the Chat area of the Nuba Mountains, probably because the International Criminal Court in The Hague has indicted President Omar al-Bashir for war crimes. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p261*
- March 2009 - The Anglican Church in Shatt Mazarik was bombed *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p261*
- March 2009 - The Catholic Church in Shatt Damman was bombed - local authorities apparently made no effort to investigate. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt 2012, p261*
- February 2009 - In the southern region of Mundri, Islamic extremists attacked a Christian village, murdered two men and abducted their 10 year old sons. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 149, Feb 2009*
- January 2009 - In the North, churches have been closed or destroyed, and Sharia Law is applied to Christians. *Release International Prayer Shield, Jan/Feb 2009*
- December 2008 - In the South, there has been an upsurge of violence by the LRA (Lord's Resistance Army) rebels. On Christmas Day, at least 418 Christians were killed, 67 children abducted and 1,023 houses burnt down. The next day, 150 people were murdered at a concert organised by the church in Farajde City. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 148, Feb 2009*
- July 2008 - Civil war between the Muslim North and Christian South has left 2.3 million Southerners dead and 4 million displaced. *CSW Response Issue 153, Jul/Aug 2008*
- July 2008 - Following recent attacks in Abyei, 20,000 people have been displaced. *CSW Prayer Diary, Jul/Aug 2008*
- July 2008 - Over 300,000 people, mainly Christians, have been killed in the recent troubles in Darfur. *House of Lords Report by Lord Alton, 15/7/2008*
- May 2008 - Many Christian women are in prison because they fail to conform to the demands of Sharia. Many are war-widows after 22 years of civil war, and in prison because of debts they incurred to feed their children. *Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2008*
- April 2008 - Legislation makes explicit mention of the death penalty for apostasy. *CSW Amy Greenfield, 30/4/2008*
- September 2007 - A Muslim suicide bomber killed five and injured many more at a church service in Khorfullus. *VOM USA, 17/10/2007*
- July 2007 - Christians in Darfur and southern Sudan continue to be persecuted and murdered for their faith. Numerous cease-fire agreements have been broken by the Islamic Government forces. The US Congress has passed a resolution calling the Sudanese Government's war on black Africans in Darfur 'genocide'. *Face2Face Vol.2 Issue 2, Jul 2007*
- May 2007 - The civil war between the Muslim North and the mainly Christian South began more than 25 years ago. In recent years, over 200,000 mainly Christian people have been killed and at least 2 million made homeless. The United Nations has called Darfur 'the world's worst humanitarian disaster', with over 4 million people at serious risk. *Tear Fund, May 2007*
- March 2007 - An estimated 35,000 women and children are still enslaved, 20,000 of whom are thought to have been born into slavery following the rape of southern black women by their Arab captors. *CSW - Response Issue 145, Mar/Apr 2007*
- January 2007 - Christians in Khartoum are forced to live under Sharia law, even though they are supposed to be exempt from its requirements. In Darfur and the Nuba mountains, many thousands are still homeless and without food and medicines. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2007*
- December 2006 - Police attacked the New Year's Eve Service at Khartoum's Anglican Cathedral. 800 were present, and several members of the congregation were injured. *Faith News 5/2/2007 & VOM-USA, 24/1/2007*
- 2006 - In recent years, Sudanese Government sponsored 'Janjaweed' have made 2 million black people, mainly Christians, homeless, and killed at least 200,000. Reports indicate African Union peacekeepers are 'a laughing stock' because of their impotence. *The Times - World News, 18/10/2006 & The Week, 25/3/2006*
- June 2005 - According to the Coalition for International Justice, up to 400,000 people, many Christian, have died in Darfur in the latest troubles. The Islamic fundamentalist 'Janjaweed' militia is responsible for most of these deaths, yet operate with impunity. Musa Hilal, leader of the Janjaweed militia has said "Nobody will be able to try me or bring me to justice in any way". In contrast, Paul Foreman, head of Medecins Sans Frontieres in Khartoum, was arrested after exposing the systematic rape of countless women, the burning of villages and the laying waste of vast areas of Darfur. *Lord Alton - UK House of Lords Debate, 8/6/2005*
- April 2005 - The Khartoum Government is brutally targeting the southern Christian population. Former US Secretary of State Colin Powell has declared the situation to be genocide. An estimated 300,000, mainly Christian, have died in Darfur. Nearly 2.5 million need urgent humanitarian assistance. *UK Parliamentary Select Committee Report, Apr 2005*
- March 2005 - Episcopal Church of Sudan HQ illegally re-occupied by company despite court injunction, after confiscation at gunpoint in May 2004. *Compass, 24/3/2005*
- September 2004 - 10,000 killed in September, mainly Christians *Jubilee Campaign, 12/10/2004*
- May 2004 - Khartoum Police forcibly evicted the Episcopal Church in Sudan (ECS) from its Provincial Headquarters in Khartoum, declaring the property sold to a new owner. The building had served since 1993 as a meeting place for Christians of all denominations, and housed church visitors from abroad. According to a court order, the property was sold by Gabriel Roric, who represented himself as the ECS Archbishop. Roric, a former Cabinet Minister, was dismissed from the Bishopric of Rumbek in May 2003 for failure to obey church rules. Bishop of Khartoum Ezekiel Kondo declared, "We suspect the Government might be behind Roric, to put the ECS in a difficult position." Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion, ECS is the largest church in Sudan with 5 million members. *Compass, 24/5/2004*
- April 2004 - Christian woman lashed and fined for failing to wear a headscarf in public. *Barnabas Fund, 15/6/2004*
- March 2004 - Security forces in southern Sudan disrupted the construction of an Anglican church school in Renk, and arrested the Diocesan Building Supervisor. The existing school enjoyed full Government permission but would have to be demolished to make way for a new highway. Government compensation to rebuild the school before destroying the present structure promised, but nothing yet received. *Compass, 18/3/2004*
- December 2003 - 10 Christian churches and a church-run vocational training centre at the Wad el Bashir camp in West Omdurman demolished. *Compass, 29/12/2003*
- September 2003 - After local church leaders in Juba refused to back the Government's position on peace and presented a letter to the Sudanese Government listing the church's 'points of concern' for peace negotiations with Kenya, Government responded with a terse memo ordering the church to tackle religious issues without involving themselves in 'political or security issues,' embrace 'tolerance towards all religions,' and abstain from inciting public opinion against the Government and its officials. Juba's church leaders labeled the resolution 'an official threat and intimidation to our mission.' *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- June 2003 - Pastor burned to death. 59 civilians murdered. *WorldNetDaily, 4/6/2003*
- May 2003 - A Sudanese court jailed an Episcopal priest 'indefinitely' for refusing to demolish a church he had built himself 11 years ago on the outskirts of Khartoum. *Compass, 19/5/2003*

Evidence (80)

- January 2003 - Sudanese Christian's right hand amputated for alleged theft, indicating the Islamist regime has begun enacting Muslim punishments against both Christians and Muslims. Anthony Wani was jailed in May 2000 for allegedly stealing spare car parts. Wani had no legal representation, and there was not enough evidence to convict him. Neither Wani nor his family had warning the sentence was going to be carried out. *Compass, 15/3/2003*
- March 2002 - Christian woman Abok Alfa Akok, accused of adultery, has had her death sentence amended to 75 lashes. *Barnabas Fund, 4/3/2002*
- March 2002 - Security Police have initiated a manhunt for a Muslim who had converted to Christianity 11 years ago. He could be sentenced to death for the conversion. *Offene Grenzen, 1/3/2002*
- February 2002 - A Sudanese convert to Christianity had his right hand broken, was severely beaten and tortured, and eventually fled into hiding after converting to Christianity 11 years ago. *Compass, 7/2/2002*
- October 2001 - A Sudanese student convert from Islam to Christianity was severely beaten and tortured by security police in Khartoum, apparently at his family's instigation to stop him meeting with other Christians. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
- September 2001 - Christian convert Mohamed Saeed's fingernails were pulled out and he was forced to sit on broken glass in a session of torture by local police. *Barnabas Fund, 22/10/2001*
- June 2001 - Sudan's Islamic extremist Government has renewed calls for a Jihad (holy war) against the mainly Christian peoples of the South. *Barnabas Fund, 22/6/2001*
- June 2001 - More than two months after a hundred Christians were beaten, whipped, tear-gassed and arrested by police in Khartoum at Easter, Christians are still living with the repercussions. Two young Christian men were tortured and forced into rigorous military training for more than a month: when released, they were threatened by security forces, forcing them into hiding. *Barnabas Fund, 22/6/2001*
- June 2001 - In a TV programme in the State-controlled media, Dr Abdel Hai Yusuf, a lecturer from Khartoum University, attacks Christians almost daily, calling them 'blasphemers', 'liars' and 'witches' and instructing Muslims not to have anything to do with them. *Barnabas Fund 22.6.2001*
- May 2001 - Two Southern students flogged every morning and night for six weeks after their Easter arrest near All Saints' Cathedral. Finally, their case was dismissed for 'lack of evidence' and they were released. *Compass, 20/7/2001 Barnabas Fund, 22/6/2001*
- April 2001 - Every Friday, the Muslim holy day, a few special house groups meet in Khartoum and neighbouring Omdurman, comprising Muslims who have become Christians. "It is hard for a Muslim to become a Christian here," said a group leader. "Leaving Islam is like betraying your family and God, and is blasphemy. All blasphemy in Islam is punishable by death." If a Christian convert from Islam wishes to make his new faith public, he will face persecution and rejection. Islam though is aggressively attempting to win converts, and often promises good promotion prospects, education and help with business or farming in return for conversion. *Compass, 21/4/2001*
- April 2001 - "In reality, it is very difficult and dangerous to preach the gospel or distribute Christian literature and Scriptures in Sudan, especially outside the church buildings," said a church leader. "Permissions to build new schools or churches are refused. We are not even allowed to help orphans, although Muslims receive permissions with no problem," said another church leader. *Compass, 21/4/2001*
- April 2001 - Three days before the opening ceremony, the Government suddenly withdrew long-standing permission for five days of Easter open-air meetings to be led by German evangelist Rev Reinhard Bonnke in Khartoum's Green Square and All Saints' Cathedral, a repeat of last year's celebrations which drew more than 200,000. Many Christians only learned of the cancellation as they arrived for the first meeting. The large police force showered teargas on the 12,000 crowd, and in the resulting confusion some Christians were injured and an unknown number arrested. *Compass, 20/7/2001*
- April 2001 - Christian man arrested and his hands burned for preaching in a public place. *Compass, 21/4/2001*
- April 2001 - "The Government is continuing to persecute the Nuba people, especially the intellectuals, many of whom are Christians," stated a Khartoum church leader. More than 10 Nuban teachers have disappeared from Kadugli since 1993. An elder of the Church of Christ in Kadugli, arrested in 1998 for distributing Bibles, was beaten by the police so brutally he almost died. *Compass, 21/4/2001*

Sweden

- November 2012 - Head teachers have been told they can take pupils to Christmas Services in church – but Jesus cannot be mentioned. Advent Services for children are part of the curriculum, but religious content has been ruled out by education officials, who went on to say that 'prayer, blessings or declarations of faith' are all banned. *Christian Institute, 28/11/2012*

- December 2002 - A new law makes Biblical references to homosexuality in a topical context illegal. 'Critical comments' about homosexuality or homosexuals liable to up to four years' imprisonment, even when one's viewpoint is supported by a quote from the Bible. *www.christophobia.eu & laiglesforum.com/europe-a-dictatorship*

Switzerland

- August 2013 - Despite two-thirds of Swiss people identifying themselves as belonging to a church in the 2010 census – and only 20% saying they had no religion – a competition is to be held in 2014 to rewrite the national anthem because it currently focuses on God. *Christian Institute, 8/8/2013*
- October 2012 - Vandals apparently used fire extinguishers filled with red paint to draw slogans and deface the façade and stained glass windows of the Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Geneva, seemingly in support of punk band *Pussy Riot*. This follows recent similar assaults of Russian Orthodox churches in Russia and Ukraine. *The Moscow Times, 17/10/2012*

Syria

Before the civil war, although meetings were monitored, Christians were respected in society, but this is rapidly changing. Many Christians have been abducted, physically harmed or killed, churches destroyed, and tens of thousands of Christians have fled the country. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

For centuries, Syria's Christian families have lived in peace with Muslim neighbours. Now, amidst the bloody struggle between Muslim factions, violent extremist militia groups have seized the opportunity to purge their neighbourhoods of Christian families. Stories of pounding fists on front doors with shouts to leave are a familiar experience. *Open Doors appeal letter, May 2012*

When Islamists seize an area, they take control of bakeries and distribution of essential resources such as flour and fuel as they impose Sharia law.

Until early 2011, Syria's churches comprised about 10% of the national population. Since hostilities between government and opposition forces broke out, tens of thousands of Christians have been displaced by threats and violence. Some Christians have even asked kidnappers to kill their loved ones outright rather than have them hideously tortured. Syrian Christian leaders are concerned that the Church in their country may be wiped out altogether, despite its long history (from Biblical times). *Barnabas website News 4/11/2013*

- December 2013 - In recent months, dozens of Christians have been kidnapped for ransom in Damascus. A 20-year-old Christian student was kidnapped in broad daylight in front of his university, and his father got a call demanding a huge ransom in US dollars. The student's uncle, Hagop, a university professor, who would give only his first name, said 'They think all Christians are rich'. *Global Post 25/12/2013*
- December 2013 - Thirteen nuns and three lay workers taken prisoner by al-Nusra Front when al-Qaeda recaptured the Christian village of Maaloula. The release of 1,000 Syrian women held by the regime demanded as an exchange. Two archbishops seized in Aleppo earlier in the year still held in captivity. *Barnabas Fund 10/12/2013*
- November 2013 - Rebel fighters have been targeting Christian areas of Damascus. Residents of Qassa say that it is hit with at least 15 mortar rounds every Sunday. *Barnabas Fund 21/11/2013*
- November 2013 - UNICEF called the shelling of two Christian schools and a school bus in Damascus 'barbaric' adding that 'the sanctity of children's lives should be respected'. *Barnabas Fund 21/11/2013*
- October/November 2013 - Dozens of people killed when Islamist rebels besieged the Christian towns of Saddad and Haffar. Churches were vandalised, looted and graffitied with insults against Christianity, and homes and schools destroyed as 2,500 families fled, while 3,000 people, including children, were held as a human shield for a week. Six Christians were thrown down a well after being murdered. *Barnabas Fund 'Greatest Massacre of Christians in Syria' 4/11/2013*
- September 2013 - 'Either you convert to Islam or you will be beheaded' was the message by al-Qaeda-linked rebels to Christians in Maalula when they captured the historic centre of Christianity. At least seven Christians were killed and 15 kidnapped. The Islamists entered every Christian home and broke Christian symbols: churches were attacked, and crosses on buildings destroyed. Most of the 3,000 residents fled. *Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2013*
- August 2013 - At least 15 Christians were killed when armed militants attacked the mainly Christian area of Wadi-al-Nasara, where many Christians had gone to seek refuge. *Barnabas Prayer Nov/Dec 2013*
- August 2013 - Human Rights Watch reports that at least 190 civilians were killed by rebels linked to al-Qaeda in villages in the coastal province of Latakia. *Daily Mail 12/10/2013*
- August 2013 - Mariam, a 15-year-old Christian girl from al-Qusair, abducted by militants of the al-Nusra Front. She was then 'married' to one of them who raped her and then repudiated the 'marriage'. Fourteen others did the same, then they killed her. *Barnabas Prayer Update 6/8/2013*

Evidence (81)

- August 2013 - Fears are growing for the safety of Fr Paulo Dall'Oglio who went to negotiate with leaders of militant Islamic group ISIS in Raqqa a week ago. *Middle East Concern 6/8/2013*
- July 2013 - In rebel-held areas, Christian women are afraid to go out in case they are raped. An Islamic cleric has issued a fatwa saying it is 'legitimate' for Muslim fighters who are trying to establish an Islamic state to 'capture and have sex with' non-Sunni and non-Muslim women. He described non-Muslim women as 'melk al-yamin' a Quranic term for non-Muslim sex slaves. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p3 & 17*
- July 2013 - A new practice of 'takbir' enables Muslim rebels to gain ownership of anything by touching it and saying three times 'Allahu Akbar [Allah is great]'. Islamist fighters believe this includes their claim over Christian women, and their right to rape them. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p3 & 17*
- July 2013 - In Homs, 75 Christians, many of them elderly, are held by the rebels as human shields: hardship and deprivation are killing them one by one. Rebel forces have seized the Christians' homes and stolen their possessions – then they sell the looted furniture back to the displaced Christians, who need to furnish their places of refuge. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p3*
- July 2013 - Christians from Hassake and Qamishli are fleeing across the border to Turkey. Those who can afford are paying up to US \$30,000 for a visa to the West. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p3*
- June 2013 - When the Islamists came to the Franciscan Monastery in Gassanieh, Aleppo, Fr Mourad met them with open arms. They shot him dead. They then destroyed everything they could not carry away. *Aid to the Church in Need, 'Mirror' Oct 2013 p3*
- June 2013 - 'Marcus' has fled al-Qamishli to Lebanon with his family, fearful they may be kidnapped. There was no electricity, no water and no phones in the town, and when he took his youngest daughter to school, he would wait outside until she finished for fear for her safety. *Open Doors 7/6/2013*
- June 2013 - Kidnappings have become very common in al-Qamishli, and 90% of them are of Christians. One man was held for 40 days and only released after payment of £50,000. Still no news of the two bishops kidnapped in April. *Open Doors 7/6/2013*
- May 2013 - Almost 40 people – including women and children – were tortured and killed in the Christian village of Dwier, Homs, by rebel fighters. Independent UN investigators warned that only a minority of opposition forces want a democratic state for all Syrians. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Jul 2013*
- April 2013 - Archbishops Yohanna Ibrahim and Boutros Yazgi kidnapped while returning to Aleppo from a humanitarian mission to try to rescue two pastors who were similarly seized some months ago. Their driver was shot dead. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p17*
- April 2013 - When rebel group 'Islamic State of Iran and Syria' (ISIS) took over northern city of Raqqa it closed all churches and forced Christians to flee for their lives. *Global Post, 25/12/2013*
- April 2013 - Kidnappings and rape have greatly increased the horror and fears of Christians. Islamists already control the flow of vital supplies such as flour and fuel in territory they have taken, and have implemented Sharia law in at least one area. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p17*
- April 2013 - Both government and rebel forces are suspected of using chemical weapons. 77 people were killed in the coastal village of Baniyas and the next day 72 were killed in the village of al-Bayda. *Mail on Sunday 5/5/2013*
- March 2013 - Seminarian Benjamin Camil killed instantly by a bomb in Damascus as he was returning from distributing food to destitute people. *Aid to the Church in Need, Appeal letter May 2013 p2*
- March 2013 - More than 350 Christian families forced to flee their homes in Sheikh-Maqsoud, Aleppo, when their area was invaded by rebel fighters. *Barnabas Aid Jul/Aug 2013 p17*
- February 2013 - Fr Kayal, Fr Mahfoud and Fr Tabara abducted. No news of them since. *Aid to the Church in Need, Appeal letter, May 2013 p2*
- February 2013 - 'We are not thinking of martyrdom – we try to find solutions for the most urgent needs.' Fr Frans van der Lugt, explaining that for weeks, nobody has been able to leave Homs: 89 Christians shelter in an old monastery where there is rarely any bread, and food and medicines are in short supply. The heating no longer functions. They do not wish to be registered by the international aid agencies, fearing their data will find its way to the Islamists and lead to attacks. *Aid to the Church in Need, 'Mirror' Feb/Mar 2013 p2*
- February 2013 - Christian men are favourite targets for kidnappings. On the roads around Aleppo they are a particular target, and many Christians have been brutally tortured and killed. Two church leaders were kidnapped while travelling to Mashta Al Helou. Church buildings are also attacked and desecrated. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2013 p5 & Barnabas Aid July/Aug 2013 p3*
- January 2013 - Human Rights Watch [HRW] reported that rebel forces had 'deliberately destroyed religious sites' in the Christian villages of Jdeideh and Ghasaniyeh in Latakia Governorate after the areas had fallen into their control. HRW condemned these attacks as 'war crimes'. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2013 p5*
- 2012 - Almost all of the 60,000 Christians who used to live in Homs have fled the anti-Christian violence, but 86 were kept by opposition forces as human shields in the Christian neighbourhood of Hamadiya. With no medical care and almost no food, 10 have already died. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- December 2012 - At least 16 churches were deliberately destroyed or damaged this year, including three in Aleppo and 12 in Homs. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- November 2012 - 12,000 people in the predominantly Christian town of Rableh were under blockade for two weeks. Tens of thousands of Christians have been driven out of their cities. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2012*
- October 2012 - Two Christian areas of Aleppo were invaded by armed opposition forces. In the districts of al-Syriaan al-Jadide and al-Syriaan al-Qadime, a Christian school was taken over, three churches were destroyed and many Christians killed. Christians are often targeted by opposition forces, who generally view them as Government supporters. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- October 2012 - Although world leaders have condemned the atrocities committed by Government troops, no one has spoken about the plight of the Christian minorities (on both sides of the conflict). *Barnabas Persecution Updated, 5/10/2012*
- October 2012 - 10 people were killed and 41 injured when Islamists carried out a car bomb attack in Jaramana, a Christian and Druze suburb of Damascus. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2013*
- August 2012 - A car bomb targeted at a Christian funeral procession in Jaramana killed at least 12 and around 50 were injured. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2012*
- July 2012 - Most of the 10,000 Christian residents of Qusayr have been forced to flee the City following an ultimatum from the Muslim leaders. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 189, Jul 2012*
- May 2012 - A group of rebels seized control of Qastal-al-Burg village, took over the Christians' homes, and turned the village church into a command post. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012*
- May 2012 - Many Christians have been killed in the fighting between Government troops and the Free Syrian Army. 60,000 Christians forced to leave their homes in Homs are now homeless and jobless. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2012; Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2012*
- March 2012 - A violent explosion rocked the Christian quarter of Aleppo, killing three people: Christians there believe they are being deliberately targeted. Another bomb was detonated in the Christian area of Damascus. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p3*
- March 2012 - There are reports of Christians in Homs being used as 'human shields'. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p3*
- March 2012 - Around 70 homes belonging to Christians in Homs were invaded and pillaged. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p3*
- March 2012 - Christian exodus from Homs – second largest Christian population in Syria – prompted by attacks reportedly aimed specifically at Christians. *ACN News 26/3/2012*
- March 2012 - In a six-week period, 50,000 Christians were forced to leave their homes by al Qaeda Islamists. *International Christian Concern, 29/3/2012*
- March 2012 - Many Christians from Homs, with churches and surrounding villages bomb-blasted, have been deliberately driven out of their homes and have fled after reports of 'ethnic cleansing' by militants. *ACN News, 26/3/2012*
- March 2012 - 'Don't celebrate Easter or you will be killed like your Christ' was the message to Christians as extremists entered Damascus. *Aid to the Church in Need, 'Hope in the Darkness' Feb 2013 p4*
- February 2012 - Damascus priest Fr Fadi Haddad kidnapped and killed: his body, dumped at the roadside, was so mutilated it was almost unrecognisable. *Aid to the Church in Need, 'Hope in the Darkness' Feb 2013 p4*
- February 2012 - When the Syrian Constitution was revised, effective 27 February 2012, it still provided that only a Muslim may be President. *Global Post 25/12/2013*
- January 2012 - Basilios Nassar, a Syrian church leader, was shot dead by anti-government forces as he rushed to the aid of a Christian wounded in heavy fighting in Hama. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p3*
- January 2012 - Rebels are demanding large ransoms for the return of captives; however, in a least two cases the ransom was paid but the victims were killed anyway. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p3*
- January 2012 - The Christian community was hit by a series of kidnappings and brutal murders immediately after Christmas. Four Christian men kidnapped, with threats to kill them. The number of Christians killed runs to several hundreds. *Barnabas News, 18/1/2012 & Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012*
- January 2012 - Two Christian men, (28) and (37), kidnapped by rebels in separate incidents, later found dead. The younger had been hanged, the elder cut into pieces and thrown in a river. *Barnabas News, 18/1/2012*
- September 2011 - Hundreds of people have died and thousands have been injured as violent unrest continues. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011*

Evidence (82)

- July 2011 - Christian refugees from Iraq are living in detention-camp conditions. In a village near Derana, Christian homes came under fire from Muslim protestors. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- March 2008 - Many Christians have fled from Iraq and Iran into Syria, and have great difficulty in finding work and accommodation in this Muslim country. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*

Tajikistan

The Government exerts high levels of control over society. All religious groups must register, but no church has been able to register for the last ten years. Churches which do exist are monitored, meetings interrupted, and believers interrogated. Tajiks are also prohibited from teaching or preaching religious doctrines, and establishing ties with foreign religious organisations. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p24*

Pressure on new Christians comes from relatives and the extended family, as Tajik identity is associated with being Muslim. Changing religion brings great shame on the family, and Christians active in outreach risk harassment, beatings and, occasionally, arrest. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*

Organised corruption is rampant, and the authorities seek to exploit Christians. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

- September 2013 - A Christian in Dushanbe was fined by the NSC Secret Police after three church members received religious magazines in the post from Belarus. There have been at least five recent similar incidents, and members of the Islamic Renaissance Party also complained when copies of their free booklet explaining the meaning and values of the Muslim festival Eid al-Adha were seized. Religious communities described 'expert analysis' fees for reviewing every piece of religious literature as 'unaffordable'. *International Christian Concern 18/11/2013*
- June 2013 - Nadia is a recent convert to Christianity. When her mother found out she beat her daughter, burned her Bible, and tore her clothes. Then her brothers shaved her, subjected her to a public beating, and locked her in the family house. She escaped but was recaptured, beaten again for many hours, and forced to say the Muslim statement of faith. *International Christian Concern 26/6/2013*
- September 2012 - Under current rules, no child under the age of seven can receive a religious education. *International Christian Concern 3/9/2012*
- March 2012 - New religious laws stipulate that anyone wanting to go abroad for religious education must first get a degree in religion in Tajikistan. However, there is no Christian education available here. *Open Doors Prayer Diary Mar 2012*
- July 2011 - Religious activity has been banned to people under the age of 18, targeting both children and parents. *Forum 18, 22/7/2011*
- March 2011 - The Government may forbid the children of Christian parents going to church. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2011*
- January 2011 - The Government is introducing a new law which will make it much more difficult to produce, distribute, import or export Christian literature. *Forum 18, 14/1/2011*
- March 2010 - The new Religion Law forbids Christians broadcasting their faith. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- January 2010 - Churches are forced to re-register under the new Religion Law. Churches which do not register or fail to gain re-registration will become illegal. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 159, Jan 2010*
- December 2009 - Baptists in the capital, Dushanbe, have been banned because they meet for worship in a private house. *Forum 18, 4/12/2009*
- November 2009 - Muslims are increasing pressure on the Christian minority. Anti-Christian brochures were sent to all churches this summer. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- April 2009 - A church in Dushanbe given 10 days to vacate their building. The Government is poised to introduce an oppressive Religion Law which will violate human rights norms. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- February 2009 - The new Religion Law will impose State censorship on religious literature and restrictions and control on religious education. Without registration, a church is considered illegal, but with registration a church comes under Government control. House churches will be badly affected. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 152, 2/5/2009 & Forum 18, 12/6/2009*
- July 2008 - Much stricter 'registration' laws are about to be enacted. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
- May 2008 - Two protestant organisations, Ehyo Church and Abundant Life Christian Centre, have been 'temporarily' suspended since October 2007. *Forum 18, 23/5/2008*
- March 2008 - Although the Government professes to be secular, Islam is very strong in rural areas and Tajik Christians from a Muslim background suffer much persecution. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*

- July 2003 - After he refused to give written assurance not to repeat his preaching, Andrei Reimer from Khudzhand, Sogdi, was fined five times the minimum wage for conducting religious meetings in a courtyard and 'talking to passers-by about God'. Tajik law does not forbid street meetings and meetings in private homes. *Voice of the Martyrs, 30/7/2003*
- January 2004 - Pastor and missionary shot dead while praying in chapel in Isfara. *Barnabus Fund; 16/1/2004*
- January 2002 - A bomb planted in a church by militant Muslims blinded a Christian. *Voice of the Martyrs, 9/1/2002*
- February 2001 - A bomb concealed in a basket of chocolates was sent to a church near Dushanbe on New Year's Eve. The basket was taken outside where it exploded and no one was injured. *Compass, 16/2/2001*
- December 2000 - Two bombings in Dushanbe damaged empty church buildings. *Compass, 16/2/2001*
- October 2000 - A powerful double explosion at Sonmin Grace Church during Sunday worship killed at least 10 Christians and hospitalised 39 more, seven critically. The blasts left the three-story church complex in a shambles. Tajik authorities detained 12 church leaders overnight for questioning - three still held 10 days later. The church had recently received threats, including a letter threatening to kill the pastor and disturb church services. *Compass, 20/10/2000*

Tanzania

Although there was a drop in levels of violence against Christians in 2013, political Islam has become more prominent, initially in the Zanzibar islands, but increasingly among Muslims on the mainland. A constitutional review process is underway, which includes the position of Islam in Tanzania. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p34*

- October 2013 - al-Shabaab recruitment DVDs are being shown in some mosques. One features prominent Islamic leaders urging Muslims to kill leaders of the kaffirs (infidels). *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 29/12/2013*
- October 2013 - Christian youth leader Eliya Meshak hacked to death with a machete whilst leading an overnight prayer session in Ilemela, Mwanza. Attackers suspected to be from Islamist Group Uamsho (The Awakening), who had been issuing death threats for six months - which had been reported to the police who had apparently taken no action. Two other Christians injured. *Barnabas Prayer Focus, 29/12/2013*
- July 2013 - Radical camps have been set up to teach young Muslims that Christians must either be killed or live as second-class citizens. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p12*
- May 2013 - At least five people were killed and around 60 wounded in an attack at the inaugural service of a church in Arusha. Since late 2011 at least 13 churches have been attacked or destroyed. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p16*
- April 2013 - Muslims are denying Christians the right to sell their meat because it is not *halal*. Christians in Tunduma came under attack from Muslims, two being killed and more than 60 arrested: when pastors visited the prison they were beaten, some so severely they required hospital treatment. Dozens of Christians were arrested elsewhere in the country. It is not illegal for Christians to slaughter meat for public consumption, so police have charged some Christians with other crimes such as breaking the peace, and others are held illegally. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p16*
- March 2013 - When Lukia Khalid became a Christian she was seven months' pregnant. Her husband threatened to kill her if she did not return to Islam, obliging her to escape from the family home in Ujiji with her three children by night. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p13*
- February 2013 - Two church leaders were shot in late 2012 and early 2013, one fatally. *Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p16*
- February 2013 - Pastor Mathayo Kachla was beheaded during an outbreak of violence over *halal* slaughtering at a butcher's shop in Buseresere. Three Christians were arrested in connection with the incident, but no arrests have been made for the Pastor's murder. Some Muslims have protested about Christians owning butcheries, and Christians have been banned from rearing pigs in some areas which have a significant Muslim presence. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p10 & Barnabas Aid, Jul/Aug 2013 p16*
- February 2013 - Pastor Evarist Mushi shot dead as he arrived to take a Service at his Church in Mtoni in the Urban West region of Zanzibar. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p10*
- 2012 - Islamic militants bent on wiping out Christianity from the Islands have burnt and looted churches, and threatened Christians with death. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- October 2012 - At least four churches were destroyed and others attacked during two nights of riots by Muslims in Dar es Salaam. Police arrested 122 members of the Islamic separatist group UAMSHO (Association for Islamic Mobilisation and Propagation). Groups blamed the rioting on 'police laxity' in dealing with an incident of alleged blasphemy involving a 14 year old Christian boy. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*

Evidence (83)

- September 2012 - An Islamic fundamentalist organisation set fire to a number of churches and other Christian property in protest against the arrest of some of its senior members. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- August 2012 - 17 year old Eva Abdullah, who converted to Christianity three years ago, has been disowned by her parents and falsely accused of desecrating the Quran - sentenced to two years imprisonment. *International Christian Concern, 24/8/2012*
- May 2012 - A Muslim mob demolished three churches in Zanzibar. *International Christian Concern, 8/6/2012*
- 2010 - Registration of churches remains difficult in the Zanzibar Islands, and Christians still struggle to gain access to jobs and education. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- December 2009 - Pastor Adriano's church in Zanzibar City was demolished after a land dispute with a Government official. *Open Doors Letter Writing 18, Apr 2011*
- March 2009 - Christians in Zanzibar are being targeted by extremist Islamic groups. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- August 2008 - Muslim violence against Christians erupted in Nguruka. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- October 2004 - Two Catholic churches were destroyed and a small Protestant church set ablaze on the predominately Muslim island of Zanzibar. The local Guardian newspaper reported that the Zanzibar Mufti, Sheikh Harith bin Khelif, condemned the attacks, and called on Muslims in Zanzibar to respect freedom of worship. *Compass, 29/10/2004*
- October 2004 - Early this year, tensions increased when an Islamist group held an illegal rally. Zanzibar is a generally peaceful, semi-autonomous territory of Tanzania governed by secular political parties. *Compass, 29/10/2004*
- March 2004 - Roman Catholic church set on fire by suspected Islamic Group UAMSHO. *Compass, 5/4/2004*
- November 2001 - "We have to hide new converts - either that or they must remain secret believers," said the Rev. F*, referring to Muslim converts to Christianity. Such converts can suffer rejection by family and friends and the loss of possessions - sometimes even the clothes they wear - to force them to re-convert. They may also be threatened with injury and death. The church also receives threats and sometimes damage because of the converts worshipping there. "We feel a real burden for our Muslim brothers and sisters," said the church leader. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- November 2001 - Government schools teach children Islam from a very early age: there is no equivalent teaching of other religions, including Christianity. Christian students are not considered for higher education, and cannot get work unless they lie about their name or change it to incorporate a Muslim name. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- November 2001 - The Rev. Z often ministers in a Muslim area near Arusha, where there is no Christian church and the people will not allow a church to be established. "It is hard to witness where I come from," he said. "People put their hands up in front of their faces when you try to speak to them. They know you are a Christian, and they have been warned that listening to you is a sin against Islam." When he returned there recently, a group of Muslims came to tell him that he would not be allowed to preach. "We are all Muslims here," they said. "We don't need a Christian gospel!" *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- November 2001 - "It is as if Tanzania is two different worlds," said a church leader who was once a fundamentalist Muslim. "On the mainland, churches are free to worship and Christians are allowed to share their faith. Here, they want to eradicate Christianity and create an Islamic state within Tanzania. Christians here live in constant fear of reprisal and persecution." The island of Zanzibar is the centre of Islam not only for Tanzania, but also for the whole of east and southern Africa. It is virtually impossible to hold a Christian evangelistic rally in Zanzibar. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
- October 2001 - According to the authorities, people in Zanzibar are free to follow their faith without restriction. Yet five church leaders from different denominations recently painted a picture of ongoing harassment, bureaucratic roadblocks, religious opposition and violence against the growing church in Zanzibar, where it is estimated that 98% of the people are former Muslims. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
- October 2001 - Church leaders said that every church built in the last 10 years in Zanzibar was built without official permission. "What can you do?" they asked. "They will not give us permission to build - so we just have to go ahead regardless. Local Muslim people fear Christianity." *Compass, 19/10/2001*
- July 2001 - 28-year-old radical Muslim preacher, Khamis Dibagula, was jailed for using defamatory language against Christianity in Morogoro. Police were posted in many of the city-centre churches in response to threats by Muslim extremists. Ally Mkumba, deputy managing editor of the Daily News, said the troubles were far from over and the demonstrations in Dar es Salaam were symptomatic of a nationwide unrest; he foresees sporadic trouble around the country in the months ahead. *Compass, 16/11/2001*

Togo

Christians in the small, West African country of Togo face a subtle but growing threat from Islam. "I am convinced that there are many Christians who are unable to openly declare themselves Christian for fear of persecution," said the Rev. Mitre Djakouti, President of the Assemblies of God in Togo. "This especially applies to Sokodé and the areas of mid- and northern Togo. I know of four men and four women who keep their Bibles hidden and read them only when no one else is around," he said. *Compass, 20/7/2001*

Tunisia

The revolution of 2011, which sparked the Arab Spring, turned out to be a disappointment for liberals and Christians, who face persecution both from the moderately Islamic government and from aggressive Salafist groups, who operate with impunity. While expat Christians experience relative freedom, Muslim-background believers face growing pressure from family and the authorities. *Open Doors 'World Watch List 2014' p24*

Self-appointed Religious Police have been given legal status, and the new Draft Constitution initially identified Sharia as 'the principal source of legislation'. *Barnabas Fund, Praying for the Persecuted Church, 2013*

Christians face increasing persecution from the moderately Islamic Government and aggressive Salafist groups. Local believers face pressure from society, and may be questioned and beaten once their conversion is known. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

- August 2012 - The Islamist party, Ennahda, introduced a Bill which warrants imprisonment for insulting Islam, thereby potentially threatening religious freedom and free speech. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012 & International Christian Concern, 17/8/2012*
- August 2012 - A young believer, Rahman, was expelled from his home after his father found his Bible. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Aug 23 2012*
- July 2012 - Graphic video footage of a convert from Islam to Christianity being beheaded with a knife by Muslims for his apostasy was shown on TV. *International Christian Concern, 8/6/2012 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 189, Jul 2012*
- May 2012 - The new Government has made Sharia Law the principal source of legislation. The 'Central Association for Awareness and Reform in Tunisia' has declared "women without a veil deserve to burn in hell". *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2012*
- March 2012 - The draft Constitution would make Islam and Sharia law 'the principal source of legislation'. This would mean, for example, that non-Muslims do not have equal rights with Muslims, and women would suffer severe discrimination. Converts from Islam would be liable to a death sentence. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p4*
- September 2011 - A group of Muslims in Kef attempted to turn a church into a mosque. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church - Lent 2012*
- July 2011 - Some Christians have been forced to flee the country after receiving threats from Islamists. After the revolution, there (have been) signs of an increased influence of radical Islam. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 177, Jul 2011*
- May 2011 - After the revolution in January, the Government has become much more fundamentally Islamic in its dealings with the people. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2011*
- Lent 2011 - Although indigenous churches are not forbidden by law, they are not allowed to own property or have bank accounts. *Barnabas Fund, Praying for the Persecuted Church, Lent 2011*
- 2011 - Islamic religious education is a compulsory subject in schools, but Christian evangelism is not allowed. *Open Doors Handbook 2011 p37*

Turkey

Christians in Turkey face continuing restrictions on freedom to practise their faith. A ruling from the European Court of Human Rights repeats that Turkey flouts its human rights obligations with regard to Christian and other non-Islamic religions; and in March 2012 Turkey was newly named as one of the world's worst violators of religious freedom in the US Commission on International Religious Freedom's Annual Report. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012 & 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013'*

Newly professed Christians are required to make a public statement. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p92*

Church leaders are unable to train in Turkey, forcing them to go abroad for training. It's virtually impossible for churches to register officially, so Christians have to meet in house churches. But because these churches aren't official, they can be closed by the authorities at any time. *CSW Prayer Diary Spring/Summer 2013*

Leaving Islam for Christianity is seen as a disgrace, and Christians are negatively portrayed in the media. *Open Doors Handbook 2011 & Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013'*

Evidence (84)

- December 2013 - Flyers stating 'We are crying out that New Year and Christmas celebrations held in our country are wrong and constitute a blow dealt to our Muslim identity' were distributed by the Anatolian Youth Association (AYA), the youth branch of the pro-Islamic Felicity Party. Other flyers stated 'The adoption and practice of Christmas by Muslims should be regarded as religious and cultural degeneration.' *Barnabas Fund 21/1/2014*
- December 2013 - The AYA held a Boxing Day demonstration at Beyazit Square, Istanbul, where they stabbed an inflatable Santa Claus whilst chanting against Christmas and New Year celebrations. Bishop Masalyan expressed concerns that this was 'like a rehearsal for attacks on real people'. *Barnabas Fund 21/1/2014*
- January 2013 - Police arrested 14 suspects who planned to assassinate Pastor Emre Karaali of the Izmir Protestant Church. Two of the suspects had infiltrated the congregation and become very close to the Pastor and his wife. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p12*
- December 2012 - 85 year old Armenian Christian Marissa Kucuk stabbed to death and a cross carved on her body. This was one of five similar attacks on elderly Armenians, a particularly vulnerable group in Turkey. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013*
- 2012 - The position of Bishop Bartholomew I as Greek Orthodox 'Ecumenical' Patriarch - a position dating back to the 5th Century when the Bishop of Constantinople was chosen to be 'first among equals' in the East - is still exercised by the Patriarch but the 'Ecumenical' (i.e. 'worldwide') aspect is rejected by the Turkish Government. Use of the full title is seen by the Government as a threat to national unity. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p95*
- 2012 - A recent legislative change has enabled non-traditional Christian congregations to be regulated as 'associations', but still not as churches. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p94*
- 2012 - The small number of secondary schools for minorities pupils must all have a Muslim as Deputy Principal. Many Foundations have lost significant numbers of properties due to restrictive legislation. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p95-96*
- Easter 2012 - Pastor Semiyh Sertek (58) was beaten by a group of Muslims at his church in Bahcelievier, Istanbul. They threatened to kill him if he did not recite the Islamic Confession of Faith as a conversion to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2012 & 'Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013'*
- March 2012 - Hussein, a 12 year-old boy, witnessed his Christian faith by wearing a silver cross necklace to school. Muslim classmates taunted and spat at him, and when he threatened to report one of the bullies, the bully's father threatened to "kill him". He also received a beating from his religion teacher. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p45*
- March 2012 - Iranian Christian convert Yousef Fallah Ranjbar sought asylum in Turkey. When he gained employment, his employer took exception to his Christianity and repeatedly denied him his pay, on one occasion enlisting other workers to beat him and attack him with scalding water. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2012 p13*
- February 2012 - Three buildings, including a church, that were being restored at an Armenian cemetery in Malatya were demolished by the authorities after complaints by local residents - even though the restoration had been given official consent by both the Mayor and the Municipal authority. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012 p10*
- September 2011 - An American church group has reported that the Government's 'Plan' to return confiscated Christian property is a smokescreen. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 21/9/2011*
- August 2011 - A congregation in Van Province, after a long battle with authorities, finally received its licence as a place of worship. However, the church continues to experience much hostility from the authorities. *Barnabas 'Praying for the Persecuted Church - Lent 2012'*
- May 2011 - This country is said to be the worst violator of all the signatories of the European Convention. The climate in Turkey is becoming much more anti-Christian. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2011*
- March 2011 - A series of videotapes recorded during the questioning of one of the men accused of the murders of Tilman Geske, Pastor Aydin and Ugar Yuksel in April 2007, which allegedly included a full confession and the planning behind the attack, has been lost. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p100*
- February 2011 - Religious communities are denied legal documents essential for them and their followers to securely exercise freedom of religion or belief and carry out normal religious activities *Forum 18, 11/2/2011*
- 2010 - The Ministry of Forestry, the State Treasury, and Kurdish residents of local villages have launched five separate court cases in various attempted land-grabs from the Syrian Orthodox Monastery at Mor Gabriel in the Tur Abdin region. The Monastery was founded in the fourth century. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p93-94*
- August 2010 - An ancient 1,700 year old church in Nusaybin was recently defaced with anti-Christian and pro-Islamic graffiti. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 166, Aug 2010*
- 3rd June 2010 - Roman Catholic Bishop Luigi Padovese was savagely murdered at his home by his driver, Murat Altun, who repeatedly stabbed the Bishop and then beheaded him with cries of 'I killed the great Satan, Allahu Akbar'. Local Government and NTV Turkey stated the killing was merely the act of a deranged individual who had converted to Catholicism, whereas Altun was and remained a Muslim. *John Eibner, 'Turkey's Christians under siege', Middle East Quarterly, Spring 2011, p41-52*
- May 2010 - The State requires citizens to specify their religion on their national identity cards - contrary to the direction of the European Court of Human Rights. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2010*
- January 2010 - A Christian man, Murat, was 'kidnapped' from a church by a Muslim extremist. Another man who converted from Islam to Christianity has been subjected to death threats by his family and has had to go into hiding. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- September 2009 - Human rights campaigners highlight the venomous character of teaching materials. A textbook for eighth-grade pupils says "(Christian) Missionary activity is not ordinary propagation of religion. It is a systematic and organised movement that forces people to change their religion. Missionaries have political, cultural and economic aims in addition to their religious aims. (They) abuse financial difficulties that people experience. They translate texts related to their religion into various languages and distribute them free and use written and visual media for their propaganda. They constitute a threat to our nation's national unity and wholeness." *Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Turkey: Religious Freedom Profile; Sep 2009 p9 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 150, Mar 2009*
- August 2009 - Ismail Aydin, a young Turkish Christian, was taken hostage in broad daylight in one of the busiest areas of Istanbul. The attacker held Mr Aydin at knife-point, wrapping a Turkish flag over his head and shouting "Godless people, they are doing missionary work" *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p90*
- July 2009 - German entrepreneur murdered in Istanbul. *CNN-Turk and Agence France Press* quote the murderer to have stated in an interrogation that he had aimed at 'killing Christians'. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p35*
- March 2009 - In the Christian stronghold of Tur Abdin, Muslims are attempting to take possession of Christian land holdings. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2009*
- February 2009 - Following various threats, in two separate attacks a youth vandalised a Christian bookshop in Adana. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p89*
- February 2009 - Two Christians, Turan Topal and Hakan Tastan, charged with 'insulting Turkishness' at a court in Silivri. Their 'crime' was to talk about their Christian faith. They could be imprisoned for up to nine years. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008; Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, April 2009 & VOM USA, 27/7/2007*
- January 2009 - Ziya, a Turkish Christian, was disowned by his parents after he converted from Islam. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2009*
- December 2008 - Death threats, signed by the Turkish Islam Brigade, emailed to the website of the Taksim Turkish Protestant Church in Istanbul. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p89*
- November 2008 - A church in Ankara is fighting a legal battle against closure. The army follows and reports on the movements of many Christian missionaries and churches. Some missionaries are being forced to leave the country. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- July 2008 - In isolated areas of the country, Christians are at great risk of violence from Muslims *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
- May 2008 - An armed assault by three men wearing surgical gloves was launched against Ankara Kurtulus Protestant Church. After threatening the congregation with guns, the men ran away when they learned the pastor was not present. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p89*
- December 2007 - Catholic Priest Fr Adriano Francini was stabbed in Izmir. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p89*
- December 2007 - Police in Antalya prevented an attempt on the life of Pastor Ramazan Arkan, a Christian with a Muslim background. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p89*
- November 2007 - The Chapel of the Transfiguration at Halki was almost totally destroyed by Turkey's Forestry Authority. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p95*
- April 2007 - Civilian police officers were seen recording the faces of every attendee at the funeral of Pastor Necatia Aydin. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p99*

Evidence (85)

- April 2007 - 10 Islamic fundamentalists murdered German national Tilman Geske (46) and ex-Muslims Pastor Aydin (35) and Ugur Yuksel in the Malatya Evangelical Church offices. The men worked at Zirve Publications, printers of Bibles and other Christian literature. Geske and Aydin were found tied to chairs with their throats cut, whilst Ugur Yuksel died in hospital with multiple stab wounds. Despite 38 court hearings, no verdict recorded against the accused. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 127, May 2007 & BarnabasAid, Sep/Oct 2012; & CSW Response 147, Jul/Aug 2007*
- January 2007 - Hrant Dink, an Armenian Orthodox journalist, who had campaigned against official denials of the 1915 Armenian genocide, convicted of 'insulting Turkishness': he was murdered later in the month, for which Ogun Samast (17) was given 23 years in jail. In 2010 the European Court of Human Rights concurred that the police knew in advance about the planned murder: Yasim Hayal was given life, and two others given 12 years jail each. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p106; Time Life, 18/1/2012*
- January 2007 - The church in Samsun was broken into and damaged – the Minister was issued with death threats. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2007*
- June 2006 - Bishop Luigi of Anatolia spoke of a media-led campaign to undermine Pope Benedict's visit, planned for November. He said 'The newspapers are trying to aggravate, to show Christians as enemies of Turkish people'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06 p86*
- February 2006 - The murder of Fr Andrea Santoro, an Italian priest, in Trabzon was allegedly initiated by Ergenekon, a branch of the AK Party. As his killer approached him, the killer shouted 'Allahu Akbar' *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p106*
- January 2006 - Pastor Kamil Kiroglu was beaten unconscious by five men who threatened murder if he did not convert to Islam. They entered his church in Adana by pretending to be newly converted Christians from Turkmenistan. Shouting 'we don't want Christians in this village' they put a knife to his throat crying 'renounce Jesus or we will kill you'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06 p86*
- August 2005 - A Muslim mob of 100 vandalised the Christian Orthodox quarter of Altinozu chanting "There is no room for infidels here". They shouted "Get out of here, this land is ours". *Compass Direct, Sep 2005*
- August 2005 - Former US Ambassador to Turkey Eric Edelman made formal inquiries with Ankara officials regarding ten incidents of violence against Christians in Turkey. Two young men helping a Christian pastor were kicked, hit and handcuffed. Although the young men were finally released, the police told them that they could not be both Turks and Christians. *Compass Direct, Aug 2005*
- June 2005 - In the village of Midyat, South East Turkey, a 200-year-old Christian church has been taken over by Kurdish Muslim families for use as a mosque. *The Economist, 25/6/2005*
- March 2005 - Minister for Religious Affairs Mehmet Aydin told Parliament that Christian missionaries were threatening the unity of the nation, claiming their 'propaganda is conducted with political motives'; and that his Ministry should 'enlighten Turkish people, eradicate the ignorance, and defend the moral principles and beliefs of Islam'. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten? 2005/06 p84-5*
- In 2003/04, a church, a mosque and a synagogue were built in the tourist area of Antalya, to show a tolerant Turkey; meanwhile, 30 to 40 Christian congregations without worship spaces were told their 'unofficial' gatherings are illegal. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p97*
- June 2004 - Request for the Diyarbakir Evangelical Church to be legally recognised as a place of worship denied, days after members being acquitted of building an illegal church. *Compass, 14/6/2004*
- April 2004 - The producer and host of a Turkish TV news show has been sentenced to nearly two years in jail for airing false provocations against Turkish Protestant Christians. Judges ruled that Kerim Akbas' programmes on Baskent TV had incited violent attacks last year against Christian citizens and their places of worship in Ankara. In video clips from Akbas' *Haber Dosyası* (News File), he accuses local Protestant groups of creating 'ethnic, radical division to disturb the peace,' claiming that Protestants maintain secret links with foreign intelligence organisations, and pay Muslim young people to become Christians. Ten days after Akbas' first 'expose,' a local church was attacked and another received bomb threats. Despite Turkey's secular identity, Muslims who convert to Christianity have been repeatedly slandered with impunity by the Turkish media. *Compass, 16/4/2004*
- April 2004 - A court in southeast Turkey has again charged Pastor Ahmet Guvener of Diyarbakir Evangelical Church with 'using a building registered as a home to open a Protestant Church, and conducting religious worship together with music for the people attending.' Plans for the building were approved in February 2001 by both the municipality and the Ministry of Culture, and the church has functioned openly in Lalebey for a year, with 50 to 60 worshippers each Sunday. "The real purpose of this case is to shut our church," said Guvener, stating the case will set a precedent for all other "existing and newly opened" Protestant churches in Turkey. *Compass, 8/4/2004*
- March 2004 - The court in north-western Turkey trying members of the Nationalist Movement Party who allegedly attacked Christian Yakup Cindilli of Orhangazi for doing 'missionary propaganda' has postponed trial hearings for 15 months to determine whether Cindilli will fully recover from his injuries. *Compass, 26/3/2004*
- March 2004 - Pastor Kulackioglu of the Bursa Protestant Church stated that other members of his church had suffered "similar attacks, threats and insults" to Yakup Cindilli. *Compass, 26/3/2004*
- January 2004 - Yakup Cindilli (32) has emerged from a two-month coma after being attacked and beaten by two young right-wing nationalists, Ibrahim Sekman and Huseyin Bektas, for distributing New Testaments and 'doing missionary work.' Cindilli's sister told the court her brother had just begun to walk "like a baby" again, and "If you ask him questions, he would not be able to answer them." The assailants are linked with the Nationalist Movement Party (a far-right political party accused of 'neo-fascist' activities linked to an Islamic-tinged version of nationalism). *Compass, 15/1/2004*
- December 2003 - Seven months after the newly constructed Diyarbakir Evangelical Church opened in southeast Turkey the Ministry of Culture and Tourism protested that the building's use for any purpose except as a home was illegal. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - Two months after Deniz Kasan and Turgay Papanaci were married at the Istanbul Presbyterian Church, the bride's application to change her religious identity was refused. Her local Population Bureau told her she could not change her religious identity from Muslim to Christian - as her new husband had done two years earlier - because her church was "not recognised as an official House of Worship." Begun nine years ago, the Istanbul Presbyterian Church congregation has met in the All Saints' Anglican Church in Istanbul since 1997. Another new Christian in the church, Beyza Gun, received an identical refusal. Rev. Turgay Ucal responded, "Any Turkish citizen over the age of 18 has the legal right to change his religious affiliation by signing a simple statement to that effect." *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- September 2003 - Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Istanbul is petitioning the Turkish Government to reopen the Halki Theological School. Founded in 1844 as the principal Centre of Religious Instruction for the worldwide Greek Orthodox Church, it has been locked since 1971 and Turkey's Christian communities have been forbidden to provide higher education for their clergy. The Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church's Holy Cross School is similarly closed. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- January 2003 - Italian preacher's visa revoked after baptizing a 26-year-old man. *Katholiek Nieuwsblad, 17/1/2003*
- July 2002 - Pastor Yusuf Yasmin, (71), told by Turkish security police to close his church after seven years, as it had 'no legal basis'. *Compass, 18/7/2002*
- May 2002 - House church Pastor Ihsan Ozbek sums up his experience as a Christian "There is a price to be paid for being a Christian in Turkey. And they make you pay it. You're taken in by the police, you get slapped around, you are maligned within society, you can't hold a Government job, and your security checks come up negative. Just because you're a Christian, the police come and bother you and your neighbours." Cited by Turker Alkan in his column in the 'Radikal' newspaper, 17/5/2002 (www.radikal.com.tr)
- April 2002 - 100 nationalist supporters disrupted Sunday morning worship at the Agape Protestant Church in the Kocamustafapasa district of Istanbul, shouting "We don't want a church in our neighbourhood!", "No to missionaries!" and "Every missionary is a spy!" 19 Istanbul congregations have filed legal protests over accusations of them violating municipal zoning or construction laws, stating that their worship sites were legally established under provisions of the Turkish Constitution and laws. *Compass, 13/5/2002*
- February 2002 - Former Muslim Kemal Timur (33) converted to Christianity five years ago. Accused of insulting Islam while distributing New Testaments two years ago, his trial has, for the sixth time, been postponed when police officers failed to appear at Court. Witness Statements appear to be contradictory and his lawyer declared he was facing unfounded charges simply because of his personal religious beliefs. *Compass, 22/2/2002*
- February 2002 - Turkish Interior Ministry launched judicial proceedings questioning the legality of Protestant-designated places of worship. However, Head of Turkey's Religious Affairs Directorate admitted 81% of mosques under construction had obtained no licence, and 55% had not drawn up an architectural plan. *Compass, 15/2/2002*
- February 2002 - The local authorities have initiated proceedings to close 40 small Protestant churches. *Voice of the Martyrs, 6/2/2002*
- May 2001 - Turkish Christian and Gaziantep resident Yashar Tugral (30) jailed for six days over Easter weekend on an alleged complaint that he was using money to attract converts to Christianity, was arrested again the following week while distributing Bible portions with a friend in the neighbouring city of Sanliurfa. *Compass, 18/5/2001*

Evidence (86)

- May 2001 - An Iranian Christian family, twice refused United Nations refugee status in Turkey, now informed their case 'does not merit reopening for a third review'. Together with his wife – who has advanced multiple sclerosis – and three daughters, Mahmoud Erfani fled from Iran after being subjected to a series of terrifying abductions by Iranian Secret Police in 1998, and then being evicted from their home. Unsurprisingly, the Iranian police did not give them written documentation to prove their persecution claims. *Compass, 18/5/2001*
- April 2001 - Turkish Security Police ordered a church to stop meeting for worship in their purchased facilities, declaring the group was violating national laws governing city zoning and public meetings. 16 months previously, the Love Fellowship of Jesus Christ had notified local authorities in Gaziantep they were forming an independent church. Police declared the church did not comply with religious worship laws, and the group moved their Sunday worship to a rented apartment. *"Doesn't there have to be some place in Gaziantep the authorities will allow us to use for Christian worship," an American member observed, "since that's a constitutional right for both citizens of Turkey and expatriates living here?"* *Compass, 21/4/2001*
- March 2001 - Christian and former Muslim Kemal Timur accused of slandering Islam while distributing Christian literature in Diyarbakir. Timur denied the charges, and at his second Court hearing two of three prosecution witnesses gave opposing statements, and a third failed to appear. The judge recorded the conflicting statements, and set a third hearing, ordering the absent witness to be subpoenaed to appear. If convicted, Timur could be sentenced to 6-12 months in prison. *Compass, 21/4/2001; CSW, 21/12/2001*
- December 2000 - A Syrian Orthodox Parish Priest in eastern Turkey publicly rejected charges that he had 'provoked hatred and religious enmity' by telling local reporters that his Christian-minority community had been the victims of genocide by Turks 85 years previously. Put on trial, Fr. Yusuf Akbulut declared under oath that he had refused to be interviewed by the journalists, agreeing only to chat with them 'off the record.' The priest could be jailed for up to three years. *Compass, 19/1/2001*
- November 2000 - Since 1998, 40 Christians have been murdered in southeast Turkey by Kurdish Islamic extremists. *Barnabas Fund, 28/11/2000*
- October 2000 - The Ankara-based Christian publishing company Cucak, founded in 1995 for children's publications, is suing the right-wing nationalist *Turkiye* daily newspaper for misrepresenting the Company and its activities in its front-page story linking it with Kurdish separatists. The Company declared the article to be an attempt to smear and expose them 'as a target for religious terrorism.' Its publications include a Children's Bible, a set of children's praise-music cassettes, and a bi-monthly children's magazine. *Compass, 20/10/2000*
- August 2000 - Ozzur Yalcin (31) was dismissed from the Turkish armed forces in July 1997. The letter cited vague reasons, but to his knowledge there was no record of disciplinary action or complaint against him. *"So the only reason could be my Christian faith,"* he said. He had converted to Christianity four years into his military career and was quietly baptized in 1996. His case now goes before the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). He has been interrogated, beaten, tortured, and ridiculed for his Christian faith to 'encourage' him to withdraw his case. *Compass, 22/9/2000*
- June 2000 - Turkish police raided a Bible study group meeting in a registered place of worship in Istanbul, arresting six Turks and roughing up one of two foreign citizens. The eight men, including Australian Ian McLure and American Garth Konkright, were, after initial questioning, kept overnight in a locked bare room where they slept on the floor. They were accused of violating a Penal Code on public meetings, but State Prosecutor Hamit Atansay threw out the complaint 'within less than five minutes' and ordered the men free. McLure reported that the Police Chief had struck him in the face and abdomen while cursing and shouting at him. *Compass, 23/6/2000*
- April 2000 - Two Turkish Christians, Ercan Sengul (38) and Necati Aydin (28), from near Izmir, imprisoned and refused bail for a month on concocted charges of insulting Islam, now released after prosecution witnesses admitted local officials had pressured them to sign prepared complaints. Judge Akcali found no evidence of any crime: as employees of Kaya Publishing Company, the men had Ministry of Culture permission to sell and distribute religious materials. They are both baptized Turkish converts who have formally changed their religious affiliation on their identity cards. *Compass, 21/4/2000*
- February 2000 - Turkish officials seized the property of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church in Kirikhan, Hatay Province, effectively confiscating all ownership documents and land registry papers of the church, its bank book and church seal. The Notice declared that no members of the Kirikhan Armenian community still resided in the district, nor did the congregation actually function. However, four Armenian families do still live in Kirikhan, and the Armenian Patriarchate confirmed a priest conducted worship there at least twice a year. *Compass, 18/2/2000*

Turkmenistan

According to a former Turkmen Foreign Minister, 'every believer is controlled'. The President tolerates no dissent, and controls the country through the National Security Committee and the KNB (formerly the KGB). He believes that religion is something bad that has to be controlled. Turkmenistan has the most repressive policy towards religion of all the former Soviet Republics. *30-days Prayer Network website, 9/3/2014*

All unregistered religious activity is illegal, and the Government uses the 'Council of Religious Affairs' Police and secret services to keep the church under surveillance.

The frequency of raids, even on registered churches, has increased, and obtaining registration is nearly impossible. Formal Christian education is almost totally banned, as are all religious publications. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

The internet is strictly monitored and emails searched for coded words; emails considered suspicious and most international Christian websites are blocked. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church – Lent 2012*

- November 2012 - 11 Baptists of the Path of Faith Church in the city of Dashoguz were fined the equivalent of two months' wages after their Sunday service was raided. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- September 2012 - Pastor Begdjan-aga (75), his wife and son assaulted, and the entire congregation arrested for holding a house church service. The church has been trying to obtain registration since 2006. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- August 2012 - Five Protestants in the Lebap region were given large fines for 'religious activity without state approval', and threatened with seizure of family property if the fines were not paid. One Christian had his business seized. *Forum 18, 7/9/2012 & Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church 2013*
- February 2012 - A Protestant in Dashoguz, Begiam Shirmedov (77) was taken into police custody and questioned for six hours when he tried to publish a small book of his own religious poetry. The book was confiscated. *Forum 18, 10/2/2012*
- February 2012 - After a police officer in Ashgabad raided a local Christian's home and found Bibles in the possessions of three guests, all four were detained and fined. *Forum 18, 27/3/2012*
- January 2012 - After a 'secret trial' in Ashgabad, deeply devout Jehovah's Witness Vladimir Nuryllayev was sentenced to four years detention for 'spreading pornography'. Fellow witnesses claimed the charges were trumped up because of Nuryllayev's faith. *Forum 18, 25/1/2012*
- January 2011 - 17 Christians in Turkmenabad each fined up to six weeks' wages for 'participating in unregistered religious activity'. *Forum 18, 28/1/2011*
- April 2011 - There are 10 religious prisoners of conscience at the Seydi labour camp in the East. *Forum 18 News Weekly, 29/4/2011*
- Lent 2011 - Very few churches have been able to register with the Government, as required by the Religion Law, and some officials who did approve applications have been dismissed from their jobs. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p45*
- 2010 - Although the Constitution provides for religious freedom, police officers reportedly told Christians they would do everything to ensure there are no Christians left in the country. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- October 2010 - Nine known religious prisoners of conscience have not been released in the latest prisoner amnesty. *Forum 18, 22/12/2010*
- September 2010 - Only the Russian Orthodox Church is allowed to send students abroad for their studies, and the possibilities for all other formal and informal religious education are severely restricted. *Forum 18, 24/9/2010*
- August 2010 - Pastor Ilmurad Nurliev (45) leader of the Light of the World Church in Mary, has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment with 'forcible medical treatment' on charges which his parishioners say are false. He is being held with 46 other prisoners in a cell designed for 12. Early in 2011 his wife Maya was dismissed from her job without explanation. *Forum 18, 3 & 10 Sep 2010; Barnabas Prayer Focus Updates 168 & 169, Oct & Nov 2010 & Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church – Lent 2012*
- May 2010 - Authorities continue to harass Protestant churches. They are told it is illegal to meet for worship without State registration, yet their applications for registration are not successful. *Barnabas Prayer, May/June 2010*
- January 2010 - Officials, led by Chief Mufti Rovshen Allaberdiev, raided a house in Dashoguz, confiscated Bibles and Christian literature, and questioned 22 Christians present. They were pressured to sign statements saying they would not attend church in the future. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 161, Mar 2010*
- January 2010 - Security forces raided a private birthday party and accused Pastor Yuri Rosmetov of violating the law by praying there. *Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church in Lent 2011 p45*

Evidence (87)

- March 2009 - The Government subjects Christians to fines, loss of employment and housing, and imprisonment. Converts from Islam face additional pressures. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr2009*
 - November 2008 - Daughter of Pastor Yevgeni Potolov, deported to Russia in 2007, has herself now been obliged to leave the country despite being married to a Turkman citizen. *Forum 18, 19/11/2008*
 - November 2008 - Bilbil Kulyyeva was threatened with incarceration in a psychiatric hospital if she did not stop complaining about punishments imposed for following her faith as a Jehovah's Witness. Officials threatened to put her two small children in a Home and deport the other two. *Forum 18, 25/11/2008*
 - August 2008 - Unregistered Christian organisations continue to be under attack from the State – even though the State promises 'freedom of thought, conscience and belief to peaceful Turkmen citizens'. *Forum 18, 8/8/2008*
 - June 2008 - Police threatened a female Jehovah's Witness prisoner of conscience with rape. She was held overnight and freed the next day only after cleaning the police station. *Forum 18, 25/11/2008*
 - May 2008 - Four Jehovah's Witnesses beaten and fined after refusing police and MSS Secret Police pressure to declare 'I am a Muslim'. *Forum 18, 25/11/2008*
 - July 2007 - Baptist minister Yevgeni Potolov has been deported to Russia after being arrested by secret police for 'religious activity'. This separated him from his wife and seven children. *Forum 18, 20/7/2007*
 - May 2007 - Prominent Baptist preacher Vyacheslav Kalataevskiy was jailed for three years for illegally crossing the border in 2001. The Government continues to clamp down on Christian evangelist activities. In July he was moved to a harsher prison camp. *Forum 18, 30/3/2007 & 6/7/2007; VOM USA, 17/5/2007*
 - January 2007 - Christians, who comprise just 2.7% of the mainly Muslim population, have to suffer many forms of harassment and repression. They are not allowed to have churches in residential areas. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 123, Jan 2007*
 - July 2005 - Police raided the flat of Asiya Zasedatelevaya – who cannot hear or speak - and took away her Christian literature. They brutally beat her to try and find where she had obtained her Bible and the names of other members of her prayer group, and even threatened to hang her. Her four-year-old daughter witnessed her mother's ill-treatment. *VOM USA News, 10/8/2005*
 - January 2005 - President-for-Life Niyazov has built his own cult of personality, making citizens read his own so-called 'holy book' (the Ruhnama) and overseeing one of the most repressive regimes in the former Soviet Union. *Release International, Jan 2005*
 - October 2004 - Gulsherin Babakulieva, a female Jehovah's Witness prisoner of conscience, assaulted and threatened with rape by two public prosecutors, who said she would then be dressed as a suicide bomber to frame her as a terrorist. At least one male Jehovah's Witness prisoner of conscience has been homosexually raped. *Forum 18, 15/10/2004*
 - October 2004 - President Niyazov's proclaimed amnesty only applies to prisoners who agree to swear an oath on the Koran in a Mosque. There are fears for several Christians, and also a former Chief Mufti (serving a 22 year sentence for undisclosed offences) who are prisoners of conscience, as at least two Christians have been forcibly injected with psychotropic (mind-altering) drugs. *Forum 18, 15/10/2004*
 - May 2003 --After two Baptist Churches were raided, the congregations were taken to the police station and assaulted. *Voice of the Martyrs, 28/5/2003*
 - March 2003 - Worship service at Baptist Community of Balkanabat interrupted by eight officers of the National Security Committee, claiming the church to be unregistered. *Forum 18 News Service, 11/4/2003*
 - May 2002 - Five Christians in Deinau forced by police to renounce their faith. Three banished from their village for refusing. *Voice of the Martyrs, 22/5/2002*
 - April 2002 - Baptist minister released after four years, and after refusing the early release condition to leave the country. *Christian Solidarity, 26/4/2002*
 - February 2002 - Six Christians arrested and each fined \$150 by police for holding an 'illegal meeting'. *Voice of the Martyrs, 20/2/2002*
 - June 2001 - Four Christian families fled Ashgabad after arrest, torture and eviction from their homes. Now resettled in an undisclosed location, they still react to a loud knock at the door, or panic over reports from home that they are still 'wanted' by the police. Several of the men broke down and wept as they shared their experiences. *Compass, 15/6/2001*
 - June 2001 - Baptist Shageldy Atakov (38) imprisoned and severely beaten, his Bible confiscated and burnt. His health is failing, and his wife and children are under house arrest in Kaakhka village. *CSW, 4/4/2001; Compass*
 - April 2001 - Evgeniy Samsonov (26) a Russian Christian living in Turkmenabad, arrested and subjected to torture by officers of the Committee on National Security (KNB), allegedly because he never obtained an entry visa to the country. Police broke into his apartment through a neighbour's balcony. *Compass, 21/4/2001*
 - February 2001 - Jailed Christian Shageldy Atakov (38) reportedly bruised and battered; kidneys and liver hurt, suffering from jaundice, could barely walk, and frequently lost consciousness when his wife visited him at the Seydi Prison Labour Camp. Atakov has been offered his freedom under President Niyazov's Amnesty provided he recites the Muslim creed over the Koran in a mosque. He has served half of a four-year jail sentence on alleged swindling charges, but the accusations, according to his Baptist congregation in Turkmenbashi, were trumped up in an attempt to stop his church activities. *Compass, 16/2/2001*
 - January 2001 - Four Turkmen Christians implicated in the discovery of "contraband" Christian videos in the Turkmen language found in their wrecked car. All in their 20s, they were subjected to physical torture by secret police – including repeated beatings, electric shocks, and partial suffocation - and threats during three days of interrogation, followed by ongoing intimidation of them and their families. Their house church near Ashgabad cannot obtain legal registration. A judge excused prison terms in exchange for 'voluntary' donations of everything they owned as 'gifts to the President of Turkmenistan', and they have now been forcibly evicted and their homes confiscated by the Government. *Compass, 15/12/2000 & 19/1/2001*
 - January 2000 - Baptist Pastor Vladimir Chernov and wife Olga, legal residents, and Aleksandr Yefremov and wife, deported without explanation. *Compass, 21/1/2000*
- ## Uganda
- After 22 years of civil war, 2 million people have been made homeless and many thousands killed. More than 20,000 children have been kidnapped for use as porters, soldiers or sex slaves in the rebel Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). The effect of HIV/AIDS has left 3.4 million orphans. *Tearfund Prayer Diary, Summer 2008*
- The displaced persons camp at Gulu shelters up to 7,000 children who are without means of support. *Tearfund Prayer Diary Summer 2008*
- Local authorities bar Christians from public office. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- December 2011 - Pastor Umar Mulinde of the Pentecostal Gospel Life Church, a former Sheikh and convert from Islam, had acid thrown in his face outside his church in Kampala on Christmas Eve. He is the key opponent of Muslim plans to introduce Sharia (Kadhi) courts in Uganda. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Mar 2002 & Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2012 and Barnabas News and Appeals 3/1/2012*
 - September 2011 - The 12% Muslim minority are attempting to introduce Sharia into the country. Christians would face increased persecution as the proposed legislation would give Sharia rulings the force of law. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2011; Barnabas News & Appeals, 7/6/2011*
 - July 2010 - Various facets of Islamic culture are imposed on the Christian majority by the small Muslim minority. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
 - May 2010 - Christians in the north-west are under great pressure from Muslim missionaries which sometimes sparks into violence. *Barnabas Aid, May/Jun 2010*
 - January 2010 - Muslim boys are given rewards for making Christian girls pregnant. Boys in Kabale are offered education and scholarships if they convert to Islam. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
 - September 2009 - Even though the nation is 87% Christian, many Christian schools have Muslim headmasters and board members. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2009*
 - January 2009 - If a Muslim man in Uganda marries a Christian woman he is paid a 'special allowance'. This allowance is doubled if he marries a pastor's daughter. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
 - July 2007 - Shamimu Muteteri Hassan (16) was murdered by her father because she had become a Christian. Police were bribed by wealthy Muslims to set the father free. *Barnabas Fund, Sep/Oct 2007; Tear Fund – TearTimes, Spring 2007 & Mission Aviation Fellowship Prayer Diary, Apr/May 2007*
 - November 2006 - There have been a spate of attacks on Christians from a Muslim background, including being beaten, shot at, forcibly divorced, kidnapped or evicted from their homes. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
 - June 2003 - Roman Catholic Priest killed and several nuns injured in attack in northern Uganda. *Aid to the Church in Need, Violence Against Christians in the year 2003*
 - June 2003 - Rebels in the LRA declare they will kill all Christian clergy. *Voice of the Martyrs, 18/6/2003*
 - May 2003 - 44 seminarians from the Archdiocese of Gulu abducted by the LRA. *ZENIT News Agency, 14/5/2003*
 - April 2003 - Catholic mission in Kampala attacked by LRA. One priest injured. *Catholic World News, 28/4/2003*
- ## Ukraine
- January 2010 - Farid, a Tatar church leader in the Crimea, had his water supply stopped by his Muslim neighbours. Farid and his family converted from Islam 10 years ago. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2010*

Evidence (88)

- November 2008 - Over the past decade, 50,000 children have been taken from the Crimea region - which has a rich Christian heritage - to Turkey to receive an Islamic education. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- December 2003 - Stanislav Kasprov, director of a Christian book-publishing house, brutally beaten outside his office in Cherkassy. *Compass, 9/12/2004*
- February 2000 - Baptist church in Sumy suffered several arson attacks over New Year. *Compass, 18/2/2000*

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

The Constitution provides for some religious liberty, but the law denies Muslims the freedom to change religion. All citizens are defined as Muslims, and Muslim-background believers may be pressured to return to Islam, hide their faith, or leave the country. Non-Muslim groups can worship freely in dedicated buildings or private homes, but the Government restricts the development of worship facilities for foreign Christians. Open evangelism is prohibited. *Open Doors Handbook 2011 & 2013*

- April 2009 - Some delegates at the International Fiqh Academy Conference called for a review of the Islamic apostasy law, which states that Muslims who convert to Christianity or any other faith, should face the death penalty. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- May 2003 - A pastor, previously arrested for teaching a Bible course, convicted of 'abusing Islam'. *www.charismanews.com*
- December 2002 - Filipino Baptist Pastor Fernando Alconga arrested for presenting Christian material to an Arab. Jailed for a month, he was deported in July 2003. *Middle East Concern, 24/12/2002 & Compass, 18/8/2003*

United Kingdom

- October 2013 - Former teacher Bill Edwards (73) was ordered by a female police officer to stop preaching outside Banbury Magistrates' Court as some people found his preaching 'offensive'. When he refused, the police woman told him he would be arrested, and he followed her to a police station where six officers took him to the ground. (Note: when the case came to court the judge told Bill he had no case to answer, and that he doubted the officer had acted in the execution of her duties.) *Christian Concern 12/2/2014*
- December 2012 - Muslims protested in front of St Paul's Cathedral, London, as Christians lined up to enter for services, causing distress and inconvenience because of the verbal outpouring of hatred and abuse. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p64*
- October 2012 - The National Secular Society threatened legal action if the Highlands Council did not cease the traditional prayer prior to its meetings. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p59*
- September 2012 - Two Christian women took a test case referring to the wearing of a cross in their workplaces to the European Court of Human Rights. Nadia Eweida, a British Airways check-in clerk, and Shirley Chaplin, a nurse, were both barred from wearing a cross openly on the grounds that it breached company uniform policy - although BA allowed the Muslim 'hijab' and Sikh turbans and bangles to be worn. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
Note: The Court disagreed with British Airways. Barnabas Prayer Focus 196, Feb 2013
- July 2012 - Christian owners of a B&B in Cookham, Berkshire, Susanne and Mike Wilkinson, have lost their appeal at Reading County Court, and received countless hate-filled messages, for refusing to give a homosexual couple a double room in March 2010. The B&B is located in their own home, where they live with their children. *The Guardian newspaper, 9/7/2012*
- July 2012 - Brighton Green Party Councillor Christina Summers, who is a Christian, has been expelled from the party for disagreeing with its support for redefining marriage. *The Huffington Post, 11/9/2012*
- June 2012 - Dr. Richard Scott has been disciplined by the General Medical Council after suggesting Christian spiritual remedies to combat depression to a patient in 2010. Two years later the patient filed a complaint to the GMC, who ruled that Dr. Scott 'did not meet standards of a doctor'. The patient's evidence was in private and Dr Scott was not given any opportunity to cross-examine him. *International Christian Concern, 22/6/2012*
- May 2012 - The Government opposes a case brought by two Christian women at the European Court of Human Rights to establish their right to wear a cross openly in the workplace. Ministers argue that, because wearing a cross is not a 'requirement' of the Christian faith, employers can ban employees from doing so. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2012*
- May 2012 - "No one is forced to be a Christian. But no one should be forced to live according to the new secular religion as if it alone were definitive and obligatory for all humankind... The propaganda of secularism and its high priests wants us to believe that religion is dangerous for our health. It suits them to have no opposition to their vision of a brave new world, the world which they see as somehow governed only by people like themselves." *Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, former Archbishop of Westminster, UK, May 2012. Observatory on Intolerance & Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012, p38*
- April 2012 - Lord Carey, former Archbishop of Canterbury, said in a submission to the European Courts of Human Rights that Christians are being 'vilified' by the State and face termination of their jobs for their faith. *International Christian Concern, 29/4/2012*
- March 2012 - Adrian Smith was demoted and had his salary cut by 40% after he expressed his disapproval of gay marriages being performed in churches. A judge ruled that human rights rules do not apply in his case. This reinforces the widely held perception that Christians are not afforded the same human rights as others. *International Christian Concern, 23/3/2012*
Note: The High Court later overturned the judgement, but for technical legal reasons Mr Smith received less than £100 damages for all distress caused. Christian Institute Newsletter, Winter 2012
- March 2012 - Clinical Director at Walsall Manor Hospital, Birmingham, Dr David Drew, lost his claim for unfair dismissal after a tribunal judge ruled that there is no place for religious references at work. Stephen Evans, campaigns manager for the National Secular Society, then chose the ruling to attack Prime Minister David Cameron for suggesting Christianity in the UK is being marginalised. *The Daily Telegraph 3/5/2012*
- February 2012 - Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York, received racist and threatening messages days after he voiced support for traditional marriage, sparking a police hate-crime investigation. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p40*
- February 2012 - David Burrows, Conservative MP for Enfield Southgate, received death threats and hate mail after speaking out in support of traditional marriage. A campaign against him has been set up by his local Conservative Association Treasurer. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p40*
- February 2012 - "Christians are often portrayed negatively by some parts of the mainstream media compared to other groups... The media needs to be more responsible and fair in its representation of Christianity. Christian characters are often ridiculed in fictional TV programming, whereas other religious groups, such as Muslims, are treated sensitively, and homosexuals portrayed positively." *Kemi Caroline Bamgbose, Premier Christian Media Trust, 29/2/2012*
- February 2012 - In an interview at Oxford University, Head of BBC, Mark Thompson, admitted that the broadcaster would never mock Mohammad as it mocks Jesus. He justified this religious bias by suggesting that mocking Mohammad might have the 'emotional force' of 'grotesque child pornography'. But Jesus is 'fair game', he said, as 'Christians have broad shoulders and fewer ties to ethnicity'. Thompson said the BBC would never have broadcast 'Jerry Springer the Opera' - a controversial musical that mocked Jesus - if its target had been Mohammad. Former BBC news anchorman Peter Sissons says, in his memoirs, that staff damage their careers if they don't follow the BBC mindset. *Christian Institute, 25/1/2011*
- February 2012 - Former barrister Rev John Suddards (59) spoke in a sermon of his 'Christian duty' to open his door to all vulnerable strangers, and offer shelter and support. Shortly afterwards his murdered body was found in his own vicarage in Thornbury, Gloucestershire. *Daily Telegraph 17/2/2012*
- 2012 - A church-going former mayor in Warwickshire, who declined to take part in a Halloween event, has been found in breach of equality rules for upsetting pagans. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe 2012, p37*
- October 2011 - Ann Widdecombe accused Government ministers of double standards by threatening to withdraw aid from countries that persecuted homosexuals while continuing to give aid to those foreign Governments that persecute Christians. "There wasn't a peep out of the Government when 25 Coptic Christians were killed in Egypt last week", she said; and "Not a word when Iran threatened to hang a Christian who refused to renounce his faith." *Daily Mail 22/10/2011 and most UK media*
- October 2011 - The Scottish Government has come under fire for failing to mention Christmas in its 'Winter Festivals' programme. St Andrew's Day (11 times), Hogmanay (5) and Burns Night are all mentioned, but Christmas not at all. Bashir Maan, a prominent figure in Glasgow's Muslim community, criticised the omissions as 'political correctness gone mad'. *Christian Institute, 25/10/2011*
- October 2011 - The daughter of 'Thomas the Tank Engine's' creator criticised as 'political correctness against Christian belief' the substitution with trains rushing to deliver presents to children for the 'winter holidays' instead of Christmas. *Christian Institute, 25/10/2011*
- September 2011 - Police in Blackpool, Lancashire, told Jamie Murray, the owner of Salt and Light Christian Café, that displaying Bible verses on the wall of his café was illegal (a breach of the Public Order Act). They didn't consider they needed to review the material, and warned Mr Murray they would be watching him. *Christian Institute Appeal Letter 27/9/2011*
- August 2011 - The Church of St. Peter & St. Paul's, Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire, was ransacked by vandals recently. *Barnabas Fund 19/8/2011*

Evidence (89)

- July 2011 - The Equality and Human Rights Commission warned that British courts had failed to safeguard the rights of Christians who wanted to wear a cross at work. The watchdog, chaired by Trevor Phillips, first said it would support the principle and later withdrew its support in the face of criticism from secular campaigners and gay rights groups. *Tim Ross, Religious Affairs Editor, 18/8/2011*
- May 2011 - A family doctor fears losing his job after he was reprimanded by the General Medical Council for talking to a patient about God. *Barnabas Fund, 31/5/2011*
- May 2011 - A 31-year-old Asian woman who works in a pharmacy in Tower Hamlets, London has received death threats for refusing to wear a veil. *Barnabas Fund, 31/5/2011*
- April 2011 - Two schools in Staffordshire have been accused of trying to 'silence Christianity' by banning the Gideons from offering children free Bibles. *The Christian Institute, 8/4/2011*
- April 2011 - Former soldier Colin Atkinson has been summonsed to a disciplinary hearing for gross misconduct by Wakefield & District Housing Association, where he has an unblemished employment record for 15 years, because he has refused to remove a small palm cross from the dashboard of his company van. A single anonymous complaint had been made, and the Association (which claims to strongly promote 'inclusive' policies) argues that the cross could cause offence or indicate it is a Christian organisation. After a national outcry, the Association agreed that Atkinson could continue to display the cross, but then re-assigned the van to another depot and transferred him to a site 16 miles away, without replacement transport. *Mail Online 17/4/2011 and 2/8/2011*
- March 2011 - A Parliamentary Group is concerned that 15 leading universities have hosted extremist preachers including supporters of terrorist groups. *Barnabas News, 28/3/2011 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- December 2010 - Police in Birmingham were adjudged to have committed assault and battery on street preacher Anthony Rollins when he was unnecessarily handcuffed prior to being detained for three hours. His Bible was also confiscated following a complaint from a member of the public that his reading from the Bible - that God made man and woman - was 'homophobic'. *Christian Institute Annual Review 2011, p16*
- October 2010 - A Noise Abatement Notice was served on Immanuel House of Worship Church in Wallhamstow after just one Muslim neighbour had complained. An Environmental Health Enforcement Officer told the church pastor that the church had to keep the noise down so as not to offend Muslims living in the area. He said "This is a Muslim borough, you have to tread carefully". *Barnabas Prayer Focus 160, Feb 2010*
- September 2010 - Lambeth Council served a Noise Abatement Notice on All Nations Church in Kennington, following protests from two local residents. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2010*
- July 2010 - Oxford University Lecturer Dr Tali Argov was overlooked for promotion, stripped of her privileges and ill-treated after converting from Judaism to Christianity. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10, p20*
- July 2010 - Guide Dogs for the Blind has reported complaints from members that Muslim drivers have forced them out of taxis and buses on the grounds that their guide dogs are 'unclean'. Sometimes objections have come from Muslim passengers. *Barnabas Fund Operation Nehemiah' p6 & The Daily Express 19/8/2010*
- January 2010 - Muslims are targeting black Christian boys in South London - offering them money to convert to Islam. Some Christian parents of African descent are now sending their children back to their home countries to be educated, because they are so worried. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- June 2009 - Police in Chorlton, Manchester, investigated a claim by a gay rights campaigner that a Christian leaflet inviting people to an Easter Service was offensive. *Sword Vol 4, No.5, Sep/Oct 2009*
- May 2009 - British-born Asians who have converted from other faiths to Christianity are often treated as traitors by their community, friends and relatives. The Rev. Noble Samuel, a URC minister in West London, was attacked by three Muslim men as he was on his way to the TV studio where he presents an hour-long live Asian Gospel show. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update Issue 151 and Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2009*
- May 2009 - A British Christian who fosters children has been struck off the approved list because a Muslim girl (in her late teens) chose to convert to Christianity. The local council involved placed the girl with relatives and told her not to go to church for six months. The carer has lost her livelihood. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2009*
- April 2009 - Earlier this year, Somerset nurse, Caroline Petrie (45) was suspended - although later reinstated - for offering to pray for an elderly patient. Christian Duke Amachree (53) was suspended by Wandsworth Council for offering to pray for a terminally ill woman in his care. *The Daily Mail (and other media) 30/4/2009*
- April 2009 - The Bishop of Rochester, Nazir Ali (59), has received death threats for saying that Islamic extremists were creating 'no go' areas for non-Muslims in Britain. *The Daily Mail (and other media) 30/4/2009*
- April 2009 - Popular TV soap *Coronation Street* featured a series of outspoken attacks on the Christian faith. Numerous TV series and broadcasts present Christianity as ridiculous and absurd. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10, p24*
- March 2009 - Nissair Hussein, a hospital nurse in Bradford, converted from Islam to Christianity in 1996. Since then, his house has been attacked, his car rammed and torched, bricks thrown through a window, and he has received death threats. Police told him 'to stop being a crusader and move to another place'. *Barnabas Aid, March Apr 2009; The Times 28/4/2008*
- 2009 - Former Radio 2 Presenter Don Maclean claimed the BBC is keen on programmes that attack churches, and that there is a wider secularist campaign to 'get rid of Christianity'. Also in 2009, the Bishop of Manchester accused the Corporation of treating people of faith like 'an increasingly rare species'. And Jeremy Vine, another of the Corporation's radio Presenters, said it had become 'almost socially unacceptable to say you believe in God'. *Christian Institute, 25/1/2011*
- January 2009 - Three Christian Arab children living in the UK have been taken into care and placed with a foster family of practising Muslims. This contrasts with a white British couple who had to convert to Islam to adopt a Moroccan baby. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
- January 2009 - Hannah, the daughter of a British Imam, became a Christian aged 16. She was taken into police protection in 2007 after she received death threats from her brother. She has had to move house 45 times to escape detection by her family. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2009*
- August 2008 - A study by the Centre for Social Cohesion at 12 British universities found that nearly one third of Muslim University students and 60% of students belonging to Islamic societies believe it can be justifiable to kill in the name of religion. *Prayer Digest, 4/8/2008*
- June 2008 - Two Christian preachers, Arthur Cunningham (48) and Joseph Abraham (65), were stopped from handing out Bible tracts in the Alum Rock area of Birmingham by a Muslim police community support officer. Other policemen told the two men not to return to the area. *The Daily Mail 2/6/2008*
- May 2008 - Rev. Kevin Scully was attacked by three Asian youths in his churchyard in Tower Hamlets, East London. This was the second attack by Asian youths on a church minister in this district in less than two months. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2008*
- March 2008 - National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has urged Bideford Town Council to cease saying Christian prayers before meetings - practiced for 400 years - to 'eliminate any risk' of a challenge in the courts. It cited Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, apparently not realising that this Article upholds the right of 'Everyone...to manifest his religion or belief in...practice and observance'. *Daily Telegraph 11/3/2008*
- March 2008 - Canon Michael Ainsworth of St George-in-the-East, Stepney, was hospitalised by three Asian youths who, after taunting him about his Christian faith, hit him in the face and body. Shortly before this, a gang had smashed the church windows shouting "This should not be a church, this should be a mosque". *Sunday Telegraph 16/3/2008*
- January 2008 - Mrs Sally Friday went to Marks & Spencer's to buy a book *First Bible Stories* for her children. When paying, the assistant dealt with other purchases but asked Mrs Friday to put the Bible stories book into the shopping bag herself, saying something about it being 'unclean'. *Daily Telegraph 16/1/2008*
- January 2008 - The Baltic Gallery in Gateshead included a model of Christ with an erect penis. *Sunderland Echo 16/1/2008*
- January 2008 - The Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, Dr Barham Salih, said that some mosques in Britain are spreading a dangerous brand of extremism that would be illegal in Iraq. After visiting mosques in Lancashire, he said "I am not surprised you British are facing so many problems with extremists after what I saw in the mosques in Blackburn." *Daily Express 23/1/2008*
- 2007 - A study has found that 36% of British Muslims aged between 16-24 believe that those who convert from Islam to another religion should be punished by death. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2008*
- December 2007 - Sofia Allam of Dagenham converted from Islam to Christianity and was threatened with death by her parents. Maryam Namazi of the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain said "Intimidation [of Muslim converts to Christianity in Britain] is very widespread...I get threatened all the time...this afternoon there was a death threat on my answer phone". *Daily Telegraph 12/12/2007*
- November 2007 - Police have arrested a man who posted an 'obituary' of Christian Councillor Alan Craig, including his wife and daughter, on YouTube website. The video, now removed, had links to Islamic website Tablighi Jamaat. Councillor Craig had raised objections to the scale and other aspects of the proposed 'mega-mosque' in East London. *Christian Today 17/11/2007*

Evidence (90)

- October 2007 - Paul Bennett, vicar of St Fagan's Church, Trecynon, near Aberdare, was the fifth cleric to be killed in 10 years. Research has shown that half the attacks on clergy take place on the street or in church when the priest is on his own, and clergy in some places have been recommended to abandon their traditional dog-collars to reduce risk. *Daily Telegraph 8/10/2007*
- October 2007 - Fr John Hayes (71) of St Mary's Church, Hornchurch, was visited by police 'on suspicion of inciting racial hatred' for commenting in his parish newsletter on the case of a Muslim girl who went to court over her wish to wear a full veil in her school class. *Daily Mail 15/10/2007*
- September 2007 - TV Channel 4 *Dispatches* series showed that converts from Islam to Christianity are harassed and persecuted by local Muslims. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 132, 5/10/2007*
- September 2007 - Senior British Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali warned that a sustained campaign by Muslim extremists to intimidate and attack converts to Christianity could end in murder. He said persecution of Christian converts from Islam is so widespread it is only a matter of time before there is an 'honour killing' by relatives. *TimesOnline 16/9/2007*
- August 2007 - The BBC Editorial and Ethical Standards Dept has blocked an episode of *Casualty* because it featured Muslim terrorists, in case it offended Muslims. This contrasts sharply with the same BBC's decisions to broadcast an episode of the MI5 series *Spooks* featuring a so-called fundamentalist Christian sect determined to kill Muslims, and *Jerry Springer the Opera* which ridicules Christ - in spite of protests from 47,000 Christians. *Daily Mail 21/8/2007*
- August 2007 - Street Preacher Rev. Roland Parsons was stopped by Gloucester Police and told if he continued to preach and distribute free Bibles he would be prosecuted under the 1972 Local Government Act. Police later confirmed the byelaw cited applied only to 'for-profit' leaflets, and he should not have been threatened. *Weekend Citizen 7/7/2007*
- June 2007 - Lydia Playfoot, a pupil at Millias School in Horsham, was forbidden by the school to wear a small silver ring inscribed with a scriptural quotation, although Muslims at the school are allowed to express their faith by wearing the headscarf and Sikh girls are allowed to wear a bangle signifying their faith. Her efforts to challenge this in the Courts have failed. *BBC News Online 22/6/2007*
- April 2007 - The Times *Educational Supplement* web forum has revealed widespread anti-Christian intolerance amongst teachers, who belittle Christian parents and describe Sunday School as child abuse. One contributor described Christianity as 'wanton mental abuse'. Two contributors made the point that no one would dare to publicly rant against Islam or Mohammed as they do about Christianity and Jesus Christ. *Times Educational Supplement website: The Reformer, Jul/Aug 2007, p14*
- March 2007 - A Poll by the BBC *Heaven and Earth Show* found that 1 in 4 British Christians feels discriminated against at work, and one in five claims to suffer bias in the community. One in three feels media reporting is biased against Christianity. *Daily Telegraph 19/3/2007*
- February 2007 - A British Muslim school, funded by Saudi Arabia, has text books that describe Jews as 'repugnant apes' and Christians as 'pigs'. Former English teacher Colin Cook told an employment tribunal that some of the 1,250 pupils at King Fahad School in Acton were heard idolising Osama bin Laden, and saying 'they want to kill Americans'. He claimed that 5-year-old pupils were told that other faiths are worthless, and textbooks state that Jews are cursed. *The Sun 6/2/2007*
- February 2007 - Muslims disrupted a mass in St. Albert's Catholic Primary school in Glasgow. *The Universe, 12/2/2007 & Catholic Times, 12/2/2007*
- February 2007 - A Christian Union group was banned from student facilities at a university and has been forced to take legal action under the Human Rights Act. *Faith News, 5/2/2007*
- December 2006 - When pensioners Joe and Helen Roberts of Fleetwood, complained to their local council about its promotion of homosexuality, it led to their being interrogated by the police for 80 minutes. *Christian Institute, 7/12/2006 and the national press*
- November 2006 - In a Muslim-majority area of Blackburn, a church leader has had to install high fences around the church to protect it after a number of attacks from Muslim youths. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- October 2006 - At a meeting of key BBC executives chaired by Sue Lawley, senior figures admitted the BBC is guilty of promoting an anti-Christian sentiment, and is more careful to avoid offending Muslims than Christians. Executives admitted they would happily broadcast the image of a Bible being thrown away, but would not do the same for the Koran. *The Mail on Sunday 22/10/2006*
- October 2006 - A Christian employee of British Airways was banned from wearing a tiny cross, which the airline deemed to be offensive, even though Muslim women were allowed to wear the hijab and Sikhs allowed to wear turbans and traditional bangles. Home Secretary Jack Straw described the situation as 'wholly inexplicable'. (After a public outcry the ban was reversed in January 2007). *BBC News Online 23/11/2006, 19/1/2007*
- September 2006 - A mob of Muslim extremists, some wearing camouflage gear and others with covered faces, gathered outside Westminster Cathedral on Sunday morning, chanting and waving placards as worshippers left after mass. A group called 'Muslims of the UK' were reported to have called for the Pope to be executed. *Daily Telegraph 19/9/2006*
- August 2006 - The Gay Police Association placed an advertisement in a supplement to *The Independent* newspaper depicting a Bible beside a pool of blood with the words 'In the Name of the Father', and claiming there to have been a 74% increase in religiously motivated 'homophobic crime'. Scotland Yard rejected the unsupported 74% figure, and the Advertising Standards Authority upheld complaints on the grounds of decency, truthfulness and substantiation. *The Times 21/8/2006 & ASA website accessed 11/3/2008*
- July 2006 - A USA Christian rehabilitation programme called 'Interchange' led to reoffending dropping from 55% to 8% for prison inmates who participated. Introduced at Dartmoor in 2005 it worked equally well. However, official accreditation was then blocked on 'equality' grounds. The Prison Service suspects such restrictions are applied to Christianity but not other religions. *Daily Telegraph 8/7/2006*
- May 2006 - Rev Roger Smith of St James' in Haslingden has had to build a 10-foot security fence around his vicarage after he and his elderly sister had been terrorised by a decade of vandalism. Ecclesiastical Insurance paid out over £4 million last year for 3,500 claims for arson, theft and malicious damage to churches. *Daily Telegraph 31/5/2006*
- February 2006 - 450 Muslims, marching through London with police protection, carried banners proclaiming 'Behead those who insult Islam'; 'Butcher those who mock Islam'; and 'Europe you will pay, your 9/11 is on its way'. *National press, radio and TV 3-4/2/2006*
- February 2006 - Three police officers surrounded a woman who was facing Parliament and reciting the Lord's Prayer, and prevented her continuing. When she told the police she understood everyone had the freedom to preach the Gospel in Britain, one policeman responded "Times are changing, madam". *British Church Newspaper 17/2/2006*
- February 2006 - The Home Office granted £15,000 for a week of events marking Muslim and Hindu festivals, but nothing for 'any specific Christian event'. The Highways Agency sent staff to a Diwali event in Birmingham, but for Christmas simply alerted staff to the annual Whitehall carol service. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office hosted VIP receptions to mark Muslim and Chinese events but has no plans to mark Easter. *The Times 10/2/2006 & Daily Express 11/2/2006*
- February 2006 - BMI airline has told staff flying to Saudi Arabia to leave crucifixes and St Christopher medallions in their lockers to avoid causing offence there. Peter Kearney, spokesman for the Scottish Bishops' Conference, said this was an insult to all Muslims: "It implies Muslims have no respect for other faiths". *The Universe 5/2/2006*
- January 2006 - Patrick Harvie, a member of the Scottish Parliament, has asked Strathclyde Police to investigate remarks made by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow. The Archbishop had defended the institution of marriage in a church service. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p31*
- January 2006 - Some politicians and the Humanist Society have demanded that Scotland's national flag be ditched because of its 'Christian symbolism'. A motion before the Scottish Parliament called for it to be replaced by a 'rainbow flag' supposedly to better reflect the country's cultural and ethnic diversity. Islamic groups and politicians from other parties described the idea as 'insane'. *Catholic Times 29/1/2006*
- December 2005 - A Harrow school cancelled its traditional Nativity play in favour of a 'Seasonal Celebration' which included the Jewish Hanukkah, Muslim Eid-ul-Fitr and Hindu Diwali. Rabbi Michael Hilton said Jewish parents would not object to a Nativity play: "If a school is predominantly Christian it should be celebrating Christmas". *Daily Telegraph 10/12/2005*
- December 2005 - Sam Morris (16) was sent home from Sinfin Community School in Derby for refusing to take off a crucifix necklace which she has worn for three years. Sikh pupils are allowed to wear a steel bracelet - known as a kara - for religious reasons. Education officials argued that Sikhs are required by their religion to wear the kara, but for Christians a crucifix is optional. *Daily Telegraph 6/12/2005*
- November 2005 - The Home Office threatened to stop funding a carol service for the victims of crime because it would be 'too Christian'. (After public protest, they reversed their decision.) *Daily Mail 8/11/2005 & Hansard 9/11/2005 col 655*
- October 2005 - John Banda (70) threatened with arrest in London under the 1986 Public Order Act for displaying an A3 size poster quoting two verses from scripture: 'Jesus is Lord' and 'Repent and be converted so your sins will be forgiven'. *Mr Banda and British Transport Police Complaints Enquiry Team*
- May 2005 - Norfolk County Council warned a Christian-run shelter for the homeless that it would not receive its £150,000 funding unless it stopped saying grace at meal times and providing Bibles for use by guests. *Daily Telegraph 3/5/2005*

Evidence (91)

- March 2005 - Some 3,000 Christians in the UK are in danger because they have chosen to convert from Islam. Some are being actively harassed and persecuted by Muslims in their own communities and have to flee. *Barnabas Fund, 10/3/2005 & The Times, 5/2/2005*
- 2004 - The touring *Queer Story-Telling Festival*, funded by the Arts Council, depicted Jesus Christ in a sexual position with a naked devil. *BBC website accessed 17/6/2008*
- October 2004 - A new video designed to foster religious tolerance has been produced for 3 to 6-year-old children. Entitled *A Child's Eye View of Festivals* it focuses on Divali, Hanukkah, Eid-ul-Fitr and the Chinese New Year, but does not mention Christian festivals of Christmas and Easter. *Manchester Metro News 15/10/2004*
- May 2004 - A photographic exhibition called *The Stations of the Cross* depicted Christ in a deliberately offensive and sacrilegious manner. *Daily Telegraph 1/5/2004*
- December 2003 - Lord Dobbs, Chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Commission (BSC), has admitted that comedians and dramatists delight in 'pouring scorn' on Christianity, but are 'timid' about disparaging Muslims. He acknowledged Islam is accorded far more respect on TV than other religions, and "Christianity is ... a more acceptable target". The BSC subsequently imposed one of its stiffest penalties on Channel 4 for re-broadcasting a reference to 'Jesus f***ing Christ'; Channel 4 claimed they believed their audience would not be offended. *Daily Telegraph 29/12/2003*
- December 2003 - Buckinghamshire County Council banned the display of posters in the local library about the Parish Church Christmas services because the service contained Christian prayers. Councillor Margaret Dewar, who is responsible for the library, claimed she was "appalled" at the attitude of "these so-called Christians making such a fuss", and agreed with the ban because it pertained to a "religious preference group". However, she supported a party in the library to celebrate a Muslim festival a few days earlier because it resulted from "a policy which aims to be inclusive and respect the religious diversity of Buckinghamshire". *Daily Telegraph 12/12/2003 & Sunday Telegraph 14/12/2003*
- October 2003 - Southampton Crown Court heard how two men and a woman - who called themselves Goths - subjected Rev Chris Rowberry, the Vicar of St Mary's Church, Ealing, to extreme and obscene harassment. *Daily Telegraph 18/10/2003*
- September 2003 - Muslim Abdalla Yones stabbed his 16-year-old daughter 11 times and slit her throat because he disapproved of her Christian boyfriend and western way of life. Police have identified 12 murders last year which they classify as 'honour killings'. *Daily Telegraph 30/9/2003*
- Easter 2003 - Various local authorities have banned hot cross buns in schools for fear of offending non-Christians. Tower Hamlets Council said "We are moving away from a religious theme for Easter". The Muslim Council of Great Britain called the ban "very very bizarre" and went on to say "We are quite capable of articulating our own concerns ... British Muslims have been happily eating hot cross buns for many years". *Daily Telegraph 15/3/2003*
- March 2003 - The Archbishop of York said that attacks on clergy in the North of England have increased such that some parishes have become 'no-go' areas. Violence against clergy has increased by a third over the past four years, and one priest ended up in hospital. Break-ins and thefts are such that one in 10 churches expects a loss this year. Nuns have been grabbed by the hair and threatened with knives. *The Times 11/3/2003*
- February 2003 - Stephen Copesey was sacked by WBB Devon Clays after refusing to work on Sundays on religious grounds. *Daily Telegraph, 10/2/2004*
- January 2003 - Christopher Coulthard raided 517 places of worship during a nine-month campaign of theft. *Daily Telegraph 4/1/2003*
- December 2002 - Norah Ellis and Dawn Jackson, with almost 50 years of social work experience between them, specialising in adoption and fostering, were threatened with dismissal by Sefton Council for refusing to take part in adoptions by gay parents as, apart from sound professional judgement, it would not be compatible with their Christian concept of family. *Daily Mail 12/5/2003*
- November 2002 - British band *Delirious?* has sold more albums in America than Robbie Williams, but, because they are Christians, BBC Radio One will not broadcast their music. *Telegraph Magazine, 30/11/2002*
- July 2002 - Argos's new contract can oblige employees in Scotland to work on Sundays. The press and journal reports that nine Argos workers in Aberdeen have been given notice for refusing to work on Sundays. *Church Times 5/7/2002*
- November 2001 - When Janet Curnow, Manageress of Trago Mills Superstore in Liskeard, Cornwall, rang her local Job Centre for a Father Christmas the Head of Employment Direct in Exeter said that advertising for a Father Christmas was not allowed as it would be 'discriminatory'. *Sunday Telegraph 18/11/2001*
- November 2001 - Work at three UK prisons funded by Kainos Community is to be terminated. Kainos is a charity specialising in rehabilitation based on Christian principles and praised by an independent study for 'promoting standards of decency, humanity and order in prison'. Prison chiefs told governors "It would not be appropriate to provide public money to support religiously based intervention"; and ordered them not to talk to the press about the issue. Barry Wilson, a Prison Officers' Association Chairman, believes the closure political, fearing offending Muslim leaders. *Daily Telegraph 15/11/2001*
- October 2001 - Harry Hammond, an elderly street preacher in Bournemouth, displayed a sign saying 'Jesus Gives Peace, Stop Immorality, Stop Homosexuality, Jesus is Lord'. An angry mob of about 40 people forced him to the ground and threw dirt and water on him. Police arrested him, and he was fined under the Public Order Act. Even Peter Tatchell of Stonewall offered to speak in his defence. None of the assailants was arrested. Mr Hammond died shortly afterwards. *English Churchman 14/12/2001 and national press*
- September 2001 - An independent academic research study of more than 2,000 Anglican clergy showed that, in the past two years, 7 out of 10 clergy surveyed had experienced some kind of violence; 7 out of 10 had been verbally abused; 2 out of 10 had been threatened with harm; 1 in 8 had been physically assaulted; and 4 in 10 were afraid of becoming a victim whilst at work. 'A Book of Personal Safety for Clergy' by Nick Tolson, 2006. (See also 'Clergy Safe' by Nick Tolson, NOOK Book, Lulu.com, 2011)
- January 2001 - Rev Tony Tooby, an Anglican vicar in Bradford, was racially abused and pelted with stones when he disturbed up to 60 Asian youths who were attempting to burn down his church. While phoning the police the gang surrounded him chanting 'Get the white bastard'. *Daily Telegraph 6/11/2001*
- December 2000 - Hackney Council, in East London, has described Christmas as 'potentially offensive' to non-Christians, and asked its employees to tone down celebrations and keep decorations to a bare minimum. *Daily Mail 16/12/2000*
- December 1999 - Cliff Richard's musical version of the Lord's Prayer to celebrate the Millennium was blocked by all major radio stations until finally they were obliged by public demand to broadcast it. It became a best seller. *BBC 3/12/1999*

United States of America

- September 2013 - Christians Aaron and Melissa Klein operate 'Sweet Cakes by Melissa', a small bakery in Oregon. Early in 2013 they explained to a lesbian couple that, because of their Biblical beliefs about marriage, they did not wish to take an order for their wedding cake. The couple filed an official complaint, and the resulting publicity and furore among gay rights activists forced Sweet Cakes shop to close and the business to be operated from the Klein's home. Amongst other disruption, the company truck, parked at their home, has been broken into and messed up. *The Blaze, 20/1/2014*
- August 2012 - The Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) convinced officials in Steubenville, Ohio to remove the Cross from their city logo. Local residents and churches have disagreed, arguing that an out-of-town organisation should not be able to dictate how the city chooses to represent itself. *International Christian Concern, 19/8/2012*
- July 2012 - Entertainer Madonna's new tour includes a song/video *Nobody Knows Me* which defames Christians and creates anti-Christian stereotypes. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p51*
- April 2012 - Under a 'non-discrimination policy' by Vanderbilt University, Christian faith groups could be forced to accept non-Christian leadership. *International Christian Concern, 20/4/2012*
- March 2012 - A full-page advertisement in the *New York Times*, placed by the 'Freedom From Religion Foundation' asks 'Cafeteria' Catholics "Why are you propping up the pillars of a tyrannical and autocratic woman-hating, sex-perverting, antediluvian Old Boys Club?" Annie Laurie Gaylor, co-leader of FFRF, is author of *Abortion is a Blessing*. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p45*
- March 2012 - David Coppedge, a high-level computer systems administrator, was fired after expressing his beliefs on intelligent design to his co-workers. His employers said he was "pushing religion" by loaning interested co-workers DVDs supporting intelligent design. *International Christian Concern, 16/3/2012*
- October /November 2011 - An exhibition tour of Chinese Bibles showing them being printed and distributed in China was denounced as 'political propaganda' to cover the Chinese Government's persecution of 'house church' Chinese Christians imprisoned for doing exactly the same thing. *Barnabas Prayer Jan/Feb 2012 p15*

Evidence (92)

- October 2011 - An Iraqi convert from Islam to Christianity, Alaa Alsagh, was violently attacked in St. Louis, Missouri because of a poem he had written *Tears at the Heart of the Holocaust*, which expressed sorrow at the loss of six million Jews at the hands of the Nazis. Two men, thought to be Somali Muslims, carved a Star of David on his back and told him not to publish any more poems. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012 p6*
- September 2011 - The School Board of Sumner County, Tennessee, forbade teachers from bowing their heads and praying silently as they gathered with students before the national flag of the USA. *International Christian Concern, 7/10/2011*
- September 2011 - Three Christian crosses that had stood on State property in California for 100 years were removed following complaints about their 'legality'. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 9/9/2011*
- August 2011 - 18 church websites were hacked and their regular content replaced with an appeal for Christians to convert to Islam. *Barnabas News & Appeals 11/8/2011*
- July 2011 - A group of atheists in New York have filed a lawsuit to prevent a Cross from being displayed at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. *Barnabas News & Appeals 29/7/2011*
- July 2011 - A high school graduate was forbidden by his school from delivering nearly half his graduation speech, in which he explained how Jesus had changed his life. *Barnabas News & Appeals, 1/7/2011*
- May 2011 - Earlier this year a radical cleric based in the UK was planning a rally in Washington calling for Muslims to rise up and establish the Islamic State of America. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2011*
- April 2011 - A church's advert telling people about an Easter Service was banned from cinemas and branded 'too controversial' because it mentioned the name of Jesus. *The Christian Institute, 8/4/2011*
- May 2010 - The Board of Trustees at Trinity University, Texas, has voted to retain the words "in the year of our Lord" as part of the date on University diplomas. A graduating student, a convert to Islam, had complained, but the independent Board declared that the University was founded by Presbyterians and still maintains its link to that denomination. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 163 May 2010*
- March 2010 - A Court in Columbus, Ohio, has allowed 17-year-old Rifqa Bary to remain in a foster home. She converted from Islam to Christianity and was afraid her father would kill her for this. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 160, Feb 2010 & Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
- November 2009 - FBI statistics on hate crimes show a 9% increase in crimes against religious groups in 2008, and an almost 25% increase in hate crimes against Catholics. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Shadow Report 2005-10 p35*

Uzbekistan

The Russian Orthodox Church has some freedom, but no religious activities outside State-controlled institutions are allowed. Churches live in fear of raids, termination of Services, confiscation of literature, and the imposition of heavy fines – which are frequent and increasing. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*

The Government has continued its aggressive media campaign, broadcasting programmes portraying Christians as betrayers of their fathers' faith and established national traditions, and cursing Christians as bad people. In a recent broadcast, a mullah denounced Christians, stating 'Christians have no share in our Country and they have to be kicked out by any means'. Such public utterances have historically signalled a new wave of persecution. *Open Doors USA website, 13/02/2014*

- December 2013 - The NSS Secret Police, together with police from the anti-terrorist dept, raided the home in Tashkent of Natalya Gaiyer, and confiscated hundreds of legally-held Christian books and materials. She was later fined, without explanation, three times the minimum monthly salary. *Forum 18 news-weekly, 6/2/2014*
- December 2013 - Police searching the home of Tolkyun Yuzbayev and his mother Bibidona for 'illegal (Christian) materials' found only one scrap of paper with scripture passages, but that was enough to arrest both Bibidona and Tolkyun and his sister. The next day the police required Tolkyun to return to the police station where, whilst cursing him and his family, they stripped and beat him such that they broke a rib and he lost vision in one eye. They then forced him to write a false confession. *Open Doors USA, 13/2/2014*
- December 2013 - Two Protestant Christians in Astana were fined nearly four weeks' wages for possessing Christian texts which the court ruled 'extremist'. One of the books in question was not banned until one month after it was seized. Court hearings to rule whether materials are 'extremist' take place unannounced, and no list of what is banned appears to exist. *Forum 18 News Service 22/1/2014*
- December 2013 - Three Bibles and 12 icons seized from Aleksandr Surkov, a commercial bookseller in Oral, Uralsk, in October, have still not been returned on the basis, according to Saktagan Sadvokasov of the Government Agency

of Religious Affairs, that 'the Kazakh State must defend its citizens from harmful materials'. *Forum 18 News Service 8/1/2014*

- November 2013 - Oliyahon Haydarova, Mavzhudahon Azamova and Latifahon Zhurayeva – three Christian women from Kamilyulchi village, Fergana, fined after prosecution by NSS Secret Police for 'talking to each other about their faith' and 'illegally teaching the Christian faith to each other'. *Forum 18 News Service 24/1/2014*
- April 2013 - Sharofat Allamova sentenced to one-and-a-half years 'corrective labour' for handing out copies of the New Testament and DVDs of the *Jesus* film. *Open Doors' World Watch List 2014' p11*
- January 2013 - After two raids on her home in Urgench and 11 hours of questioning, evangelical Christian Sharofat Allamova is facing criminal prosecution for illegally storing religious literature. The criminal charges carry a fine of up to 100 times the minimum monthly wage, or a prison sentence of up to three years. *Release International Issue 72 Mar/Apr 2013*
- January 2013 - Government Decree 92 is aimed at closing down house churches. Churches will need to be registered (house churches are not) and churches will be required to have operated for 20 years without violating any laws – so it would take well over 20 years to gain legal registration. In addition, religious ceremonies must not 'contradict fine national traditions and customs': which could mean that churches be required to perform actions incompatible with Christianity, such as worshipping national heroes and the ancestors. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 197, Mar 2013*
- October 2012 - Masked police searched Presbyterian Grace Baptist Church in Astana, and seized computers, valuables and religious books they insisted were 'extremist' (though they could not explain what was meant by 'extremist' or who had declared them so). *Forum 18 News Service 22/1/2014*
- August 2012 - Six police broke into the flat of Natalya Pleshakova (26) – who walks with the aid of crutches - and her mother Valentina (53), beating them severely, confiscating Bibles and other Christian literature, before arresting them and attempting to convert them to Islam. They were then beaten again, and convicted at Court for 'illegal distribution of religious materials'. *Barnabas Aid, Jan/Feb 2013*
- August 2012 - Bailiffs came to the flat of Artur and Irina Alpayev in Navoi to seize essential household items in payment of a fine imposed in June of 90 times monthly minimum wage for keeping Christian books and a Bible in their home. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- August 2012 – Another Navoi couple, Nikolai and Larissa Serin, have also been fined and threatened with confiscation of their property after Christian books and a Bible were found in their home. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2013*
- May 2012 – Sharofat Allamova has again been arraigned before the Court for possessing religious literature, and fined 10 times the minimum monthly wage. She was given a six month suspended sentence in 2007 for a similar offence. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2013*
- April 2012 - Natalya Kim was fined 60 times the minimum monthly salary for arranging "an unauthorised gathering in her home and leading a religious meeting". Her home in Yukori-Chirchik had been raided by the secret police in February on the pretext of searching for a bomb. They confiscated Christian books, a laptop and notebooks on living as a Christian. *Barnabas Prayer Jul/Aug 2012*
- April 2012 - The authorities confiscate religious literature, Bibles etc. at border crossing points, and continue to impose entry and exit bans on people exercising their freedom of religion or belief. *Forum 18, 13/4/2012*
- March 2012 - Uzbekistan has the worst record of human rights abuses against Christians of all the nations of Central Asia. Churches are restricted from printing, storing and distributing Christian literature. *Barnabas Prayer, March/April 2012*
- March 2012 - 'Esther' (16), the schoolgirl daughter of a pastor, had her head repeatedly smashed against a wall until she lost consciousness. She had tried to prevent a police officer planting drugs in the family car as a pretext for arresting her father. Despite severe brain damage, two state hospitals turned her away after visits by police and hearing she is a Christian. *Barnabas Prayer May/June 2012 p14-15*
- October 2011 - Police raided a church service and threatened young people with exclusion from school if they continued attending the church. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, March 2012*
- October 2011 - In the City of Samarkand, police raided and fined Baptists conducting worship. *Forum 18, 7/10/2011*
- September 2011 - The Post Office Customs Division confiscated a shipment of Christian books sent to an unregistered church in Tashkent. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2012*
- April 2011 - A senior police officer in Tashkent told Anvar Rajapov, a convert to Christianity, 'I have prepared an axe for you, which will be flying after you, observing you, and if need be – get you' after the latter challenged a hefty fine for his Christian activities of between 60 and 80 times the monthly wage. *Forum 18, 12/5/2011 & Barnabas Praying for the Persecuted Church – Lent 2012'*
- March 2011 - Six Baptists who led Sunday worship at an old peoples' home in Tashkent have been arrested. *Forum 18, 25/3/2011*

Evidence (93)

- February 2011 - Police raided an unregistered Baptist Church in the Syrdarya Region and confiscated religious literature. *Forum 18, 11/2/2011*
- February 2011 - Three Christians in Tashkent sentenced to 15 days in prison for holding an 'illegal religious meeting'. Ten other church members fined 50 times the minimum monthly wage. Even registered Churches are not immune from arrest and conviction. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p9*
- January 2011 - Natalya Pitirimova, the accountant for the Bible Society of Uzbekistan, was fined for importing two shipments of Bibles and children's Bibles. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 173, Mar 2011*
- January 2011 - After Pastor Dmitri Shestakov of Andijan was released from prison after serving a four-year term for his Christian activities he was placed under 'administrative supervision', which severely restricts his freedom. Local Christians believe this is to crush him and his church. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p9*
- January 2011 - Three Christians, two of them women, were arrested for handing out Christian literature in Mubarek. The Court has ordered the destruction of much Christian literature. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2011*
- January 2011 - Pastor Salavat spent six months in prison for leading an unregistered church. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
- 2010 - Pressure on Uzbek Christians increased in 2010: raids on churches increased, and short term prison sentences were given out more frequently for religious activities. Fines were up to 100 times minimum monthly wage. Many churches lost their registration, and some their buildings. Christians experienced job loss, beatings and expulsion from the family home. *Open Doors Handbook, 2011*
- October 2010 - Murat Jalalove was given a massive fine for owning a Christian film. *Forum 18, 29/10/2010*
- July 2010 - In a six-week period in the city of Karakalpakstan, 15 cases have been lodged against Christians – mainly pastors and recent converts from Islam - for having Bibles and Christian literature in their homes. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 165, Jul 2010 & Forum 18, 20/8/2010*
- June 2010 - In the city of Samarkand, seven Christian churches had their registration revoked. *Forum 18, 18/6/2010*
- May 2010 - The Church of Christ in Tashkent was raided by Government agencies. Christian literature was seized and confiscated and the church was officially closed. *Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2010*
- April 2010 - A Christian Youth Conference in Tashkent was raided by police. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
- April 2010 - Police raided the Eternal Life Protestant Church in Tashkent because the church was feeding homeless people. Officials said the church was operating outside its registered charter. *Forum 18, 23/4/2010*
- March 2010 - Tohar Haydarov (27) was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment after being falsely accused of possessing and manufacturing drugs. A Muslim-background believer and member of an unregistered Baptist Church, his relatives asked local police to help them force Tohar to return to Islam, but he refused. In January he was arrested after drugs were 'found in his pocket and apartment'. In Court, Church members were not permitted to testify, and his lawyer was not allowed entry. *Open Doors Letter Guide 18, Apr 2011*
- March 2010 - A birthday party in a private home was raided under the pretext of an anti-terror raid. Ten women from a registered church were given heavy fines for 'violating the procedure for arranging and holding gatherings'. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 163, May 2010*
- February 2010 - Andrei Tsepurkin, a Protestant, was deported recently for his religious activity. *Forum 18 News Service, 10/2/2010*
- January 2010 - A local church leader, Midet, and two women were arrested and beaten by State Police to force confessions of Christian activity. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 161, Mar 2010*
- January 2010 - The Bible Society of Uzbekistan fined for attempting to import Bibles, and told 'There is no need to import Bibles since there is an electronic version available'. No Bible Society representative was present at the hearing. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2011 p9-10*
- 2009/2010 - Churches need at least 100 members before they are allowed to officially register. *Barnabas Gifts, 2009/2010*
- November 2009 - Five Christian women, all of them wives of pastors or church leaders, gathered for a meeting in a private apartment. Police arrested them, and confiscated a Bible and some worship CD's. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
- October 2009 - Pavel Peichov, head of Uzbekistan's Baptist Union in Tashkent, and two colleagues, were each fined 260 times the monthly minimum wage. Their charge was "educating children without their parents' consent" – even though the parents said that they were aware that their children were being educated in the Christian/Baptist faith. *Forum 18, 30/10/2009*
- August 2009 - The nation continues its ban, with severe fines and imprisonment, for religious activity without State permission. *Forum 18 News, 7/8/2009*
- June 2009 - Police arrested Aimurat (24) a convert from Islam to Christianity, and charged him with teaching religion without official approval. In prison he was severely beaten in an attempt to make him give up his Christian faith. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2009*
- May 2009 - In Karakalpakstan, the National Security Service has seized and confiscated a collection of Bibles and Christian films. *Forum 18, 22/5/2009*
- April/May 2009 - 33 people are known to have each been fined up to 100 times the minimum monthly salary for exercising their freedom of religion or belief. *Forum 18, 12/6/2009*
- April 2009 - 15 believers arrested in Samarkand in April. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Issue 152, May 2009*
- March 2009 - Pavel Nenko, the Deacon of an officially registered Baptist Church in Tashkent, was jailed for 15 days for providing a meal for children of poor families. The charge was 'teaching Baptist beliefs to children'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
- March 2009 - Christians are not allowed to meet in public and are forced to go into the desert to pray and worship together. *Release International Issue 48, March 2009*
- March 2009 - A Christian in Tashkent, Marat Kitvinchuk, had 67 Christian books and 223 CDs of Christian sermons confiscated. He was also forced out of his job. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 150, May 2009*
- March 2009 - Four Protestants in Andijan were imprisoned for 15 days for holding a Christian service in a private house. *Forum 18, 20/3/2009*
- November 2008 - Almurat Khayburahmanov, a pastor's assistant, has been charged with teaching religion without official approval and 'establishing or participating in a religious extremist organisation'. These charges carry a penalty of 5 to 15 years' imprisonment. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- October 2008 - Seven Christians in Tashkent were imprisoned for 15 days for 'attending an unregistered house group meeting'. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 145, Nov 2008*
- August 2008 - Non-state-registered religious activity is a criminal offence, as is the sharing of beliefs and religious meetings in private homes. *Forum 18, 15/8/2008*
- July 2008 - A shipment of 11,000 Bibles for the Uzbekistan Bible Society was refused entry into the country by the Religious Affairs Committee. *CSW, 13/8/2008*
- June 2008 - After the Government showed a powerful anti-Christian film on TV which was full of false allegations, several churches were attacked and many Christians arrested on trumped-up charges. *Forum 18, 13/6/2008 & Barnabas Prayer Focus 141, Jul 2008*
- June 2008 - The home of Pastor Jandos Kuandikov was raided and several Christians arrested. *VOM USA, 9/7/2008*
- May/June 2008 - On 17th May & 9th June, immediately before the live coverage of European Football Championship matches, the state ran a TV programme attacking Protestant Christianity. Evangelical Christians were compared to Satanists. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 140 & Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2008*
- April 2008 - Pastor Bobur Aslamov in Samarkand was beaten and jailed, following a police raid on his house church. *VOM USA, 23/4/2008*
- March 2008 - In Tashkent, a large church with about 1,000 converts was raided, the pastor and his wife were beaten, and their daughter kidnapped. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2008*
- March 2008 - In Fergana, Edward Kim, a Baptist house church leader was fined the equivalent of nine months' wages after State officials raided the Sunday service. *Forum 18, 14/3/2008*
- 2007 - Pastor Makset Djabbarbergenov forced to flee to Kazakhstan following a prolonged campaign of harassment against him by the Secret Police. He had been charged with offences relating to teaching of religion and distribution of religious literature. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb & Mar/Apr 2013*
- October 2007 - Severe censorship of Christian literature continues. *Forum 18, 26/10/07*
- September 2007 - Pastor Dmitri Shesakov was arrested and found guilty of 'incitement to religious hatred' and sentenced to four years in a harsh labour camp. *Barnabas Aid, Sep/Oct 2007*
- August 2007 - 15 police raided a church in the town of Nukus and arrested the pastor and several members. Bibles and other materials were seized. *Barnabas Aid, Nov/Dec 2007*
- July 2007 - Nikolai Zulfikarov was arrested for 'illegally organising a religious community'. He is a Baptist minister and now faces a sentence of up to five years in prison. *Forum 18, 24/8/2007*
- June 2007 - A Tajik Pentecostal, Sayora (surname withheld) who had lived in the country for 10 years, arrested and deported. *Forum 18, 29/6/2007*
- April 2007 - 18 Protestant Christians were detained in Nukus. Salauat Serkbayev faces a three-year jail sentence for 'teaching religion illegally'. *Forum 18, 20/4/2007*

Evidence (94)

- March 2007 - Dmitri Shestakov, Full Gospel Church Pastor in Andijan, sentenced to four years' in a prison colony (450 miles from his home) for running an 'illegal religious organisation' (his Church) and 'incitement to religious hatred' following a smear campaign' and false information. *VOM USA, 15/3/2007 and 21/6/2007; Barnabas Fund Prayer Focus Updates 117 & 126, Apr 2007 & Jul 2006*
- March 2007 - Uzbek television recently broadcast programmes which accused Christians of corrupting young people; this has prompted a backlash against Christians. *Barnabas Aid, Mar/Apr 2007*
- November 2006 - Police interrupted a church service in Tashkent and arrested the minister and several leaders. A fortnight later, the church was raided again. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2007*
- October 2006 - The Baptist Church in Karshi was raided by police, and two visiting Baptists were given fines equal to 45 times the country's average salary. Bibles and hymnals were confiscated and burnt. *Forum 18 & VOM -USA, 4/12/2006*
- August 2006 - A group of Christians in Termez were arrested and imprisoned for eight days without charge - men and women were beaten and sexually abused. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2006*
- October 2005 - "Our whole population here (Janbaskhala) is Muslim, so you'd better go to Kazakhstan or Russia if you want to be Christians" said wealthy village 'strongman' Tokhtabay Sadikov after he ordered water supplies to be cut off to Christian families. Over half the Christian families of the village have fled, and only 20 of the remaining 100 church members dare to meet. *BosNewsLife, 21/10/2005*
- October 2004 - Police raided Bethany Baptist Church in Tashkent during Sunday worship, declaring the Service an 'illegal religious meeting' and demanding the Pastor promise to stop all the church's activities, which Pastor Nikolai Shevchenko declined so to do. After confiscating samples of literature, the Officers left, telling the pastor and eight members that they would be called to answer in Court. The Church has been seeking official registration for eight years. *Compass, 27/2/2004*
- July 2004 - Two Baptist Christians interrogated and beaten by Uzbek secret police in Urgench, Khorezm. *Barnabas Fund: 14/7/2004*
- March 2003 - Kuralbai Asanbayev and Rashid Keulimjayev of the Pentecostal Church in Muinak had their homes raided. In December 2002 both had been arrested and tortured by the police. *Voice of the Martyrs, 19/3/2003*
- August 2002 - 13 Christians arrested as a 'non-registered religious group' and the house in Khodzahali where they were meeting destroyed. *Voice of the Martyrs, 28/8/2002*
- June 2002 - A senior religious affairs official in Uzbekistan has demanded that churches stop preaching in Uzbek, the Country's first language. In another incident, 18 Christians were detained after an investigation into the sources of Christian literature in Central Asian languages. *Barnabas Fund, 10/6/2002*
- July 2000 - Nukus Police closed down a church youth camp in western Uzbekistan and accused Christian leader Nikolai Rudinsky of illegal drug possession. Officials claimed the local church had "no right to operate a religious camp" - although the camp was sponsored by a registered church and was legally funded. Security Police told Rudinsky he could be imprisoned "for the rest of his life" if he did not cooperate with their investigation. "Nikolai was beaten many times," said one of his friends. "He is very sick and needs medical help." When the police searched him, "they claimed to have found 0.2 grams of opium in his pocket." Lawyers have been unable to confirm if official charges have been filed. *Compass, 22/9/2000*
- March 2000 - Pastor Stanislav Kim of the Chirchik Christian Church, jailed since February 1999 on contrived fraud charges, is reportedly being severely beaten for witnessing to his cellmates. *Compass, 17/3/2000*

Vatican Website

- November 2012 - Dutch artist Jeff van Weereld's piece 'The Holy Truth' on display in Inverness, Scotland, depicts the Pope aroused, wearing a swastika-shaped cross and with his hands on two young boys. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p61*
- September 2012 - In an augmented reality app 'Junaio' images of the Vatican and several of the world's cathedrals have been used without permission and appear to be decorated with false banners saying 'Abortion Pills, a Gift from God' with instructions on how to use misoprostol for DIY abortions. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p55*
- March 2012 - Hackers have taken down the Vatican website, and displayed 'Anonymous decided today to besiege your site in response to the doctrine, liturgies, and absurd and anachronistic concepts that your for-profit organisation spreads around the world. *Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Report 2012 p 43*

Venezuela

- July 2010 - On national television, President Chavez described his country's Catholic bishops as 'a bunch of cavemen' and Cardinal Urosa 'a Neanderthal'. *Catholic News Service 16/7/2010*
- May 2010 - Pictures of weapons of war were daubed on images of Jesus Christ and another religious icon in Caracas, an act described as 'a way of sowing hatred and death'. *Aid to the Church in Need Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, p129*
- November 2009 - When a local government leader announced plans to confiscate various church-run schools, there was 'fear that this may be the first step in a general confiscation programme (of) church properties throughout the country'. *Aid to the Church in Need Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, p129*
- September 2009 - A Caracas daily carried an article headlined 'The Cardinal's Administrative Error' which alleged that Cardinal Urosa had circulated an email endorsing class divisions in schools. Urosa strenuously denied doing so. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p248*
- August 2009 - Archbishop of Caracas, Cardinal Jorge Urosa Savino, alleged that recent legislation 'takes religion from our schools' even though religious education is 'a right which is in the Constitution'. *Catholic News Service 18/8/2009*
- January 2009 - Members of 'La Piedrita' launched tear gas at the house of the Catholic Apostolic Nuncio, the sixth attack in two years. The attackers left pamphlets denouncing priests who had criticised the Government. *Aid to the Church in Need Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011 edition, p128*
- Between 2007 and 2009 - Members of self-styled 'People's Revolutionary Collective' La Piedrita launched six tear-gas attacks on the home of the Apostolic Nuncio. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012, p248*
- July 2001 - A pipe bomb exploded in the Church of San Francisco in Caracas. More pipe bombs found by police at the Cathedral of Caracas and the Church of Santa Capilla. *Compass, 24/8/2001*

Vietnam

Christians are perceived as Western agents and the State, with the help of tribal leaders, watches the Church closely. Converts from Buddhism come under pressure from family and community, and authorities in tribal areas often hire gangsters to harass pastors and new believers. The Government has begun placing more restrictions on Christians in the wake of the Arab Spring. *Open Doors Handbook 2103*

The Government continues to crack down on churches, especially house churches, regarding them as 'conducting propaganda activities to harm the security of the State'. A Christian lawyer, Nguyen Van Dai, was arrested in March 2007 under this premise. *Release International (Prisoners of Faith), Apr 2007*

Christians are barred from professions such as medicine, teaching and the Police Force. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, 2012 p206*

The United Nations World Food Programme confirms that there are 16 million people virtually starving to death in this country. *North Korea & Beyond Issue 19, Jul/Sep 2012*

- December 2013 - Volunteers from the Catholic Church in Ayun, Kontum Province, who were delivering donated blankets and Christmas gifts to an orphanage were turned back by local communist officials. The leader of the group, Kpuih Bop Plei Chep, was arrested and beaten so severely that he required hospitalisation for multiple internal injuries. Any Christian activity or even talk is forbidden in this area. *Asia News, 30/12/2013*
- December 2013 - Christian lawyer and campaigner for religious freedom Le Quoc Quan jailed for two and a half years and fined £37,000 for tax evasion - a charge denounced by international human rights campaigners as politically motivated. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2014*
- November 2013 - A policeman ordered the closure of a new house church in southern Vietnam. Also, recent meetings at a church in northern Vietnam have been interrupted, members beaten, and the church forced to close. *Open Doors magazine, Jan 2014 p6*
- May 2013 - Plain clothes police officers stopped and searched Christians attending a Church Service in Ngh Phunong, south of Hanoi. Nguyen Van Hai (43) and Ngo Van Khoi (53) were arrested the following month, although the reason is unclear: this led to protests by Church members, when 40 were injured and 15 arrested. In October the two initially arrested were sentenced to six and seven months for 'disturbing public order'. *Open Doors magazine, Jan 2014 p6*
- March 2013 - In what is thought to be a pretext for targeting local Christians who stand up against abuses of power, Ngai and his wife were arrested whilst clearing brush on a charge of 'destroying the forest'. His brother, also arrested, was held in an adjacent cell. Next day the brother heard violent beating coming from Ngai's cell, then saw him being taken out 'limp, as if dead'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2013 p6*

Evidence (95)

- February 2013 – Five families who become Christians in 2012 became targets of a campaign of successive waves of violence on their property that culminated in physical assaults. One family fled into the jungle after receiving death threats. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p6*
- January 2013 – 14 Christians in Nghe An sentenced to three to 13 years in prison on charges of subversion. Some had been detained at church, some at random, and their lawyers complained they had been tortured and coerced into confessing crimes they had not committed. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013 p7*
- January 2013 – On 1st January a new decree relating to freedom of religion or belief came into force, which includes a wide range of limitations on religious practice. Decree 92 is drafted so loosely that it could be used to control religion extremely tightly. Prayer meetings will now need official permission, and strict conditions will apply to foreigners organising religious events. It has become almost impossible for unregistered groups such as house churches to obtain registration: even if all conditions are met, the minimum wait for recognition is 23 years. A Government official hailed this as a 'breakthrough' in 'limiting the unusually rapid development of the Protestant Religion.' *CSW Prayer Diary, Spring 2013; CSW Response, Spring 2013; Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2013*
- December 2012 - 12 Hmong Christians jailed for three to seven years in connection with religious gatherings considered to be 'acts that were a threat against national security' – a pretext often used for suppressing unregistered religious activity. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- December 2012 - Two Christians, aged 24 and 33, arrested and charged with 'anti-State activity'. They had been helping children and the disabled. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2013*
- 2012 - Christians from ethnic minorities – such as the Hmong – face pressure to return to traditional beliefs. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- November 2012 - The Christian Church is at the forefront of caring for the 18,000 people with leprosy in Vietnam. The 160 residents and staff of a Christian-run village for leprosy patients in Gia Kai Province now face particular difficulties as the church in the village was partly destroyed by officials. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2012*
- November 2012 - Pastor Cong continues to spread the Gospel despite having been arrested three times and having his home destroyed by local officials. Hmong evangelist, Ly A Pao has been jailed several times in the last year and was severely beaten in prison. *Release International Issue 70, Nov/Dec 2012*
- October 2012 - House church leader Puih H'Bat has still not been seen since she was seized by security police in Gia Lai in April 2008. *Release 'Prisoners of Faith', Oct 2012*
- July 2012 - Many Christians were injured and one woman suffered a fractured skull when Government-sponsored thugs attacked a Christian congregation in Nghe An Province. *International Christian Concern, 6/7/2012 & Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2012*
- July 2012 - When more than 10,000 Christians took part in protest marches for religious freedom, the authorities tried to intimidate them with tanks, threats and violent thugs. *Barnabas Persecution Updated, 19/7/2012*
- June 2012 - Catholic priests and church members in Quy Chau district of Nghe An Province have been attacked by officials attempting to confiscate more church land. *International Christian Concern, 22/6/2012*
- May 2012 - Four Catholic students face jail sentences of three to 20 years for distributing 'anti-government' literature. *International Christian Concern, 25/5/2012*
- 2012 - The Government requires Permits for larger gatherings, and issues them at the last minute – if at all – to deter people from attending. *Open Doors Handbook 2013*
- April 2012 - A Christian orphanage in Hanoi, the Agape Family Centre, has been destroyed. When police arrived, rather than protecting the children, they helped the mob destroy the centre. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 187, May 2012*
- March 2012 - Pastor Nguyen Cong Chinh, who has not been allowed a single visit by his wife since his arrest in April 2011 (in breach of the Vietnamese Prosecution Code), sentenced to 11 years in prison for "Acts of sabotage on National Unity". His lawyer was not allowed to attend his trial. As a Mennonite/Lutheran Christian, he is deemed not to comply with the State system of nationalised religion, and therefore be guilty of "criminal activities hiding behind the religious façade". *Vietnam Human Rights Committee, 26/3/2012*
- November 2011 - A gang attacked Pastor Nguyen Duy Duong, of the Baptist house church near Hanoi. They beat him unconscious and threatened to kill him if he continued to run the church. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, March 2012*
- November 2011 - More than 12 Christian men and women and teenagers were brutally beaten and their property destroyed at a house church near Hanoi. *Release International Issue 65, Jan/Feb 2012 & Open Doors Magazine Jan 2012*
- July 2011 - Three Mennonite Christians face lengthy prison sentences or even the death penalty for evangelising. They have been held in prison since August 2010 without access to lawyers or their families. *Release International Issue 62, Jul/Aug 2011*
- July 2011 - The Government has stepped up pressure on Christians by closing down churches and forcing members to renounce their faith publicly. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- July 2011 - Pastor Ksor Y Yu was jailed for six years after an unlawful trial. His wife has been offered – 'renounce your faith and your husband will be released'. *CSW Weekly Newsletter, 1/7/2011*
- May 2011 - The Montagnards, a mainly Christian ethnic minority, face continuous persecution and harassment. At least 350 Montagnards have recently been imprisoned. *Release International Issue 61, May/June 2011 & Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
- May 2011 - 130 Christians from the Hmong ethnic group were recently arrested. *CSW Weekly Newsletter, 13/5/2011*
- March 2011 - Interviewee A is pastor of eight unrecognised house churches in Ha Giang Province. 23 out of 26 families in his village are Christian. He has been told by the village policeman that he is not allowed to evangelise non-Christians, nor travel to preach or evangelise in other villages. If Christians from elsewhere visit his church, the church will be fined (£2 to £10) per person. *CSW 'Vietnam Visit Report' May 2011*
- March 2011 – Interviewee F, pastor of nine unregistered churches in Lai Chau Province, told by police that Church leaders from the various churches may not meet together to discuss plans, or they will be fined. Pastor A was told similarly. *CSW 'Vietnam Visit Report' May 2011*
- March 2011 - Christians are regarded as enemies of the State because they obey God, a higher authority. *CSW Prayer Diary, Mar/Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - Interviewee D, pastor of two unregistered churches in his home village in Ha Giang Province, told by police the two churches must not meet together for worship "because there are already enough of you. If you do not obey, we will fine you (£5 - £18) for every person who attends the wrong (sic) place." *CSW 'Vietnam Visit Report' May 2011*
- March 2011 - Interviewee G is pastor of six officially recognised churches in Dien Bien Province. The church in his home village meets at his home, but they would like to build a chapel: however, they feel this would be too difficult at present because of lack of support from the village People's Committee. *CSW 'Vietnam Visit Report' May 2011*
- March 2011 – Interviewee M is part of a small unrecognised Mennonite Church near Ho Chi Minh City. As he left home for Church he was asked by police not to go, but set off on his motorbike. En route, a police car hit him from behind, and he was taken to the Police Station. He was told his posts on the internet were disrespectful to the Communist Party, and, if he did not stop, the police 'could not guarantee his safety'. Later his phones and internet were disconnected for a spell. *CSW 'Vietnam Visit Report' May 2011*
- February 2011 - Interviewee A (above) wanted to invite 16 leaders from the eight churches he oversees to his house for a meeting. Those who came from other locations were prevented from entering by the local policeman, so the meeting did not take place. *Christianophobia, Rupert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p215*
- January 2011 - Six Christians were jailed for 12 months for protesting against security police who attacked mourners at a funeral in Con Dau parish, Da Nang. One mourner died from police-inflicted injuries. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011 & Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 172, Feb 2011*
- December 2010 - Pastor Nguyen Hong Quang was beaten unconscious by police and his Bible school demolished by bulldozers. He and five members of his congregation were arrested. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 172, Feb 2011*
- December 2010 - Degar Christians in the Central Highlands were again forcibly prevented from celebrating Christmas, which authorities deemed a 'threat to national security'. Police confined people to their homes, destroyed nativity scenes, and threatened to arrest anyone engaging in Christian worship. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011 & Degar Foundation Inc, 19/1/2011*
- December 2010 - Montagnard Christian, Siu Wong, was tortured to death by security police because he refused to give up his Christmas celebrations. *Release International Issue 59, Jan/Feb 2011*
- December 2010 - Interviewee A (above) spoke to other villagers about Christianity, and two Nung families converted and destroyed their traditional home altars. When police found out, the families were compelled to rebuild the altars, but one family refused and had to leave the village. *CSW 'Vietnam Visit Report' May 2011*
- November 2010 - Interviewees A, D & E (above) and their congregations were not allowed to write 'Protestant' in the 'Religion' category on their ID cards; the official took the form from A and wrote 'None' on his behalf. *CSW 'Vietnam Visit Report' May 2011*
- November 2010 - Two Christian evangelists were sentenced to six years and four years in prison for 'undermining national unity'. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- November 2010 - Police attacked a group of 100 Christians in Ploi Kret Kror, Gia Lou Province, seriously injuring 22. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 171, Jan 2011*
- August 2010 - Hundreds of soldiers, riot police and security forces, carried out a large scale operation against 32 Degar Christian villages. The villages were surrounded and many Degar Christians beaten because they wouldn't accept the State religion. *Barnabas prayer Focus Update 168, Oct 2010 & Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2010*

Evidence (96)

- August 2010 - Le Thi Cong Nhan and her colleague Nguyen Van Dai, both prominent human rights lawyers, were imprisoned for four years for their 'crimes'. Having served their sentence they have now been placed under house arrest. *CSW Relay e-newsletter, 26/8/2010*
- July 2010 - An organised mob attacked a house church in Xi Thoai village in Phu Yen Province. Much damage was done and several Christians injured. *Release International 57, Sep/Oct 2010*
- May 2010 - Three Degar Christians arrested in Plei De Alao village, Gia Lai Province, were questioned, beaten unconscious and still remain in prison. Later in May, 10 more Degar Christians from a nearby village were arrested and are still in prison. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2010*
- May 2010 - Police intervened to prevent the burial of Mary Tan (82) alongside her husband and family in the cemetery in Con Dau village, Da Nang Diocese, as she wished. Local authorities had decided to close the cemetery and demolish the 135 year-old largely-Christian village - without fair compensation - to make way for a tourist centre. Many injured and tear-gassed. Authorities took the body, and cremated it. *AsiaNews.it 7/6/2010*
- May 2010 - In Phu Yen Province, police arrested Pastor Y Du (55) and dragged him behind a motorbike, beating him when he fell to the ground. The pastor is now in Phu Lam prison but no formal charges have been brought against him. *Sword Vol. 5 No. 3, May/Jun 2010*
- May 2010 - Pastor Truong was repeatedly and forcibly drugged in a mental hospital as punishment for sharing his faith and evangelising. *CSW - Relay 2/4/2010 & CSW Response May/Jun 2010*
- Easter 2010 - When Sung Cua Po became a Christian and argued with his father over the validity of making religious offerings to ancestors, he received 70 blows to his head and back from local officials and police. The family was forced into hiding after his house was demolished and the authorities of Dien Bien Dong district confiscated 40 sacks of rice - the family's annual supply. *Sword Vol. 5 No. 3, May/Jun 2010; Compass Direct News, 1/4/2010*
- March 2010 - Montagnard Christian K'pa Lot died in prison in Pleiku city, Phu Yen Province, due to internal bleeding resulting from daily beatings. He had been arrested in May 2007 for 'publicly supporting religious freedom'. Security officials insisted he be buried immediately, and not taken to his home village, 'because of his sins'. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010 & Release International issue 56, Jul/Aug 2010*
- 2009 - Hanoi rejected 45 of the recommendations to improve its human rights record made at the UN periodic review, including cessation of its longstanding use of arbitrary detention. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p211*
- September 2009 - The Government destroyed a church constructed by Degar Christians, and arrested 12 Christians who were praying at the site. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2009*
- September 2009 - Pastor Nguyen Cong Chinh, who oversees Mennonite Churches in the Central Highlands, has been severely harassed by police for several months. *Release International Prayer Shield, Set/Oct 2009*
- July 2009 - Tam Toa Church in Vinh Diocese, south of Hanoi, was bombed during the war leaving only the façade and tower standing. Parishioners were too poor to rebuild, but continued to worship there. During protests against plans to demolish the façade to create a tourist resort, police and party activists attacked worshippers, beating men, women and children. Two priests ended up in hospital, one with head wounds and broken ribs, the other in a coma. General Tu denied any violence, and arrested seven worshippers for 'disorderly conduct.' *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' p130; Release International Prayer Shield, Sep/Oct 2009*
- Summer 2009 - Bulldozers destroyed the Convent of the Brothers of the Sacred Family of Banam in Long Xuyen, An Giang Province. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p212*
- June 2009 - An order of nuns in Thu Thiem, a suburb of Ho Chi Minh City, was ordered to vacate premises they had occupied for 170 years, which, apart from a church, included a school, care facility, clinic, farm, and kindergarten for 400 children. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2011, p132*
- June 2009 - Police invaded the Sunday Service of the Agape Baptist Church in Hung Yen Province and beat the worshippers, including women, and arrested an elder. *Sword Vol. 4 No. 4, Jul/Aug 2009 & Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- June 2009 - Pastor Duong Van Tuan of the house church in Hamletz, Ong Dinh Commune, Khoai Chan District, was arrested and badly beaten. *Sword Vol. 4 No. 4, Jul/Aug 2009 & Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2009*
- June 2009 - Land owned by the church in Hanoi since 1928 was seized by the Communist Government. *Note: On 25th April, after a prayer vigil attended by 1,000 Christians, the authorities returned the land. Barnabas Prayer Focus Issue 153, Jun 2009*
- May 2009 - Authorities in Son La Province, in a bid to eradicate Christianity, began promoting ancient indigenous cults by withdrawing welfare benefits from Christian families resisting the move. *Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p212*
- May 2009 - Montagnard Christian Sin Krot was killed by security forces so that they could take over his farmlands. *Release International Prayer Shield, May/Jun 2009*
- May 2009 - The Vietnamese Government has ruled that no property confiscated from the Catholic Church before 1991 will be returned. This applies to at least 2,250 properties. Anyone protesting against this would be deemed guilty of 'social disorder'. *Release International Prayer Shield, May/Jun 2009; & The Tablet, 3/3/2012*
- April 2009 - After two Redemptorist clergy joined a campaign opposing the development of bauxite deposits (which might cause irrevocable environmental damage and prove harmful to local residents), State media accused them of trying to overthrow the regime - a capital offence. *Aid to the Church in Need 'Persecuted and Forgotten?' 2011 edition, p132*
- March 2009 - 100 Christians, including children, were jailed for their faith. Eight Christians at the Parish Church of Hanoi were arrested during a prayer vigil for 'disorderly conduct'. *Release International Prayer Shield, Mar/Apr 2009*
- January 2009 - Hmong Christians in Lao Cai Province are being put under great pressure by the authorities to renounce their faith. *Release International, Jan/Feb 2009*
- January 2009 - Christians in the village of Plei Kon Hdrom, Kon Tum Province, were assaulted by police and security agents who raided their prayer meeting. Four of the 200 Christians present were seriously injured. *Release International, Jan/Feb 2009*
- 2009 - Christians, especially Protestants, suffer imprisonment, beatings, starvation and torture for their faith. *Barnabas Fund - Praying for the Persecuted Church 2009*
- September 2008 - Christians regularly face harsh restrictions and discrimination. Father Thaddeus Nguyen Van Ly, Nguyen Van Dai, Le Thi Cong Nhan and the Hmong Deacon, Lau Va Mua remain in jail as prisoners of conscience. Fr Thaddeus was gagged in Court to stop him speaking and denouncing human rights abuses. *CSW Prayer Diary, Sep/Oct 2008; Christianophobia, Robert Shortt, Ebury Publishing 2012 p209*
- August 2008 - Mup, a Degar Vietnamese Christian preacher, was beaten to death outside his village of Ploi Rong Khong in the Province of Gia Lai. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2009*
- April 2008 - Puih H'Bat was arrested by police for using her house for unregistered prayer meetings. It is thought she has been seriously injured or even killed whilst in custody. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008 & Release International Prayer Shield, May/Jun 2009*
- June 2008 - A Protestant church in Kontum Province was closed down by police, and secured to prevent Christian gatherings. *CSW -(Amy Greenfield), 2/6/2008*
- February 2008 - 60 Hmong Christians who had been living in Sai Jarven village in Bokeo Province in North West Laos were deported back to Vietnam. All of the deportees under age of 50 have been imprisoned. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, Apr/May 2008*
- January 2008 - Security forces raided a prayer meeting of 50 Christians and detained four people - a Then (43), a Tuik, a Khoe and a Beng, all aged 12. The boys were whipped with bamboo rods, and the man was beaten unconscious and is still unable to walk. *Barnabas Prayer Focus 137, Mar 2008*
- September 2007 - Than Van Truong has been imprisoned twice, and since been held under house arrest, because of his faith and stand for human rights. *CSW Response Issue 148, Sep/Oct 2007*
- July 2007 - A young Hroi ethnic minority man, who refused to renounce his Christian faith, died from injuries sustained during an 'official interrogation'. *Face2Face Vol 2 Issue, Jul 2007*
- March 2007 - Nguyen Cong Chinh, a church leader, and his wife were arrested and badly beaten. *Barnabas Prayer, May/Jun 2007*
- January 2007 - A Government training manual instructs local officials to force new Protestant believers in the north to surrender their faith. *CSW - Response Issue 144, Jan/Feb 2007*
- January 2007 - Police raided Rev. Hong Quang's church and arrested 17 people, who were badly beaten whilst in custody. *VOM USA, 24/1/2007*
- January 2007 - A leaked internal Government document details a plan to 'resolutely subdue the abnormally rapid and spontaneous development' of Christianity among ethnic minorities. *Barnabas Prayer Focus Update 123, Jan 2007*
- May 2006 - 60 people (including police and officials) attacked a church in Ho Chi Minh City. Many Christians were beaten with electric prods and some were arrested. *Barnabas - Prayer Focus Update 117, Jul 2006*
- July 2005 - A Vietnamese Mennonite church in Ho Chi Minh City District 2 and the home of its leader Pastor Nguyen Hong Quang were destroyed by Government workmen. Pastor Quang is now serving a three-year sentence for allegedly 'resisting an officer doing his duty'. His wife, Le Thi Phu Dung, was at home with their children, but her mobile phone was jammed to prevent her calling for help. *CSW, 21/7/2005*

Evidence (97)

- February 2005 - Tuan Rla Yang (32) from Buon Dak Ndrung village, Dak Nong Province died 26th February from injuries sustained from torture whilst in police custody. *International Christian Concern (ICC), 18/04/2005*
- February 2005 – Ksor Phuok (31) from Plei Ring Village in Gia Lai Province, died from severe internal injuries sustained whilst in prison 10 months previously. *International Christian Concern, 18/04/2005*
- January 2005 -. Rev. Nguyen Hong Quang and evangelist Pham Ngoc Thach received three-year and two-year sentences in November 2004 for 'resisting persons doing official duty.' Co-defendants Nguyen Thanh Nhan and Nguyen Hieu Nghia, released in early December, have written accounts outlining the non-stop beatings, deprivation and humiliation suffered during imprisonment because of their Christian faith. The torture and abuse suffered by Miss Le Thi Hong Lien (21) has led to her complete mental and physical breakdown, sources say. *Compass, 13/11/2005*
- January 2005 - Fr Chan Tin (83) denounced the Government's 'regressive policy towards religion' by pointing out that oppression came as a result of a combination of laws which, by themselves, did not necessarily present a problem. Thus, one law states that worship is only permissible in authorised buildings, whereas another states that before new religious buildings can be erected, State permission is required. Hence, Government can refuse buildings and thereby stop authorised worship. *Persécutions antichrétiennes dans le monde, Thomas Grimoux, Aide à l'Eglise en Détresse*
- December 2004 - Officials filmed all Degar Christians attending Christmas services, to prove religious tolerance to the world: then the security forces arrested the attendees on Boxing Day. These prisoners have been tortured to renounce their faith. *International Christian Concern, 18/04/2005*
- November 2004 - Rev Nguyen Hong Quang, General Secretary of Vietnam Mennonite Church arrested in June, sentenced to three years imprisonment. *Release International, March 2005*
- September 2004 - The Vietnam Evangelical Fellowship (VEF) has released a Statement on Vietnam's new 'Ordinance on Religion', due to take effect in November. The VEF represents many hundreds of house churches. The Statement reads: "This Ordinance will create many problems and disadvantages for the church, especially for our gatherings for worship. It is likely to permanently outlaw our house church organisations, none of which have been recognized since 1975. Many articles ... will provide a legal basis for local authorities to hinder and persecute the church." *Compass, 1/9/2004*
- August 2004 - Rev Tran Mai, house church leader, arrested. *Compass, 7/9/2004*
- August 2004 - 16 Christian men from Dak Lak and Gia Lai Province arrested and severely beaten. *Compass, 16/8/2004*
- 2004 - Since his arrest in June, Rev. Nguyen Hong Quang has become the victim of a propaganda campaign by Vietnamese authorities spreading misinformation through diplomats, newspaper reports and a Government website. Arrested for allegedly 'inciting people to resist an Officer doing his official duty,' Quang is being accused in the media of crudity, sexual immorality, and 'hooligan behaviour.' A Mennonite, he has consistently documented abuses and exposed authorities who violate Vietnam's laws regarding religious freedom and human rights. A colleague believes that "[The authorities] are going to make a test-case" of him. His whereabouts are unknown, raising serious concerns for his well-being. *Compass, 8/7/2004*
- June 2004 – Le Thi Hong Lien, children's worker in Mennonite Church, arrested, abused and traumatised to extent of failing to recognise her own father. *Release International 'Witness', Mar 2005*
- May 2004 - During Easter weekend, the Montagnard ethnic minority in Vietnam's Central Highlands sought to draw attention to harsh injustices they suffer at the hands of communist authorities and ethnic Vietnamese settlers. However, security forces attacked the demonstrators, causing many deaths, injuries, arrests, and the flight of many more to unknown locations. One church leader reported, "They [State officials] have promised to deliver to us great hardship and pain. They specifically promise us fear and revenge. Day by day the animosity between the races grows. It is virtually impossible to see how this can now be resolved". *Compass, 21/5/2004*
- May 2004 - Catholic priest Father Nguyen Van Ly sentenced to 15 years for campaigning for religious freedom. *Jubilee Campaign Prayer Diary, 26/5/04*
- April 2004 - An estimated 400 Degar tribal Christians of the Central Highlands murdered after police brutally repressed peaceful demonstrations calling for land rights and religious liberty. *Jubilee Campaign, Jun 2004*
- March 2004 - Security police surrounded the Quoc Thanh Theatre in central Ho Chi Minh City and ordered the electricity cut in an attempt to stop a celebration by about 1,000 worshippers organised by evangelical house churches. Another 500 were prevented by police from entering. Air conditioning was then shut down, plunging participants into total darkness and oppressive heat. Christians began their worship, using the glow of mobile phones and camera flashes to provide light. "By continuing such shameful actions against peaceful people, our country will continue to lose the respect of both its own citizens and the world community," said one house church leader. *Compass, 12/3/2004*
- March 2004 - Evangelists Pham Ngoc Thach, Nguyen Van Phoung and Nguyen Thanh Nhan arrested trying to visit Nguyen Hieu Nghia. Thach and Nhan were beaten unconscious, then all three were charged with resisting police officers. *Release International 'Witness', Mar 2005*
- March 2004 - Mennonite Church Elder Nguyen Hieu Nghia arrested after confronting undercover police officers who were harassing and physically abusing church members outside the church offices. *Release International 'Witness', Mar 2005*
- January 2004 - 20 members of a house church in Kunming imprisoned. *Release International, Jan 2004*
- January 2004 - Twelve church leaders in Gu La Town arrested and sentenced to three years in labour camps. *Release International, Jan 2004*
- December 2003 - Police in Ho Chi Minh City allegedly attempted to assassinate the Rev. Nguyen Hong Quang by staging a motorcycle "accident," according to the Vietnamese Mennonite Church. Rev. Quang is a national leader of the Mennonite house churches, and a bold activist for religious freedom and human rights. He was not seriously injured, but immediately after the "accident," a number of police armed with rifles, handguns and electric cattle prods attacked him and a colleague. Quang escaped, but his colleague and at least 15 other Christians were arrested. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- December 2003 - 18 Christians detained by security police, and several others missing over the distribution of Christian tracts and literature. *Compass, 12/12/2003*
- December 2003 - Christian leader Ma Van Bay escaped police custody after severe beatings, but was later recaptured. *Compass, 15/12/2003*
- November 2003 - The request from a Christian family of the Hre minority asking for residence papers was returned, signed by Dinh Tran Ben, vice-chairman of Son Thuong Commune and bearing an official seal over the words: "The People's Committee of the Commune recommends that only when the applicant signs an affidavit recanting his religion will we consider granting official residence." Since becoming Christians six years ago, the Hoang family's experiences include beatings, forced residence moves, imprisonment without trial, and official orders to burn down the family's home — twice (though Vietnam continues to deny well-documented incidents of religious persecution.) *Compass, 14/11/2003*
- October 2003 - Pastor A En of the Chu Pa Evangelical Church was beaten and forced to stand 'like Christ was hung on the cross' for three hours by local police. *Charisma News, 4/11/2003*
- September 2003 - Church sources in Vietnam report that persecution against Montagnard (tribal) Christians in the Central Highlands is so severe that several hundred have fled to neighbouring Cambodia, despite increased vigilance by military authorities to prevent escapes. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- August 2003 - Pastor Bui Van Ba, General Secretary of the Full Gospel House Church, attacked by local public security. Pastor Nguyen Nhu Hanh and other Christians beaten and arrested with Ba's wife. *Catholic World News, 18/8/2003*
- August 2003 - Montagnard Christians robbed and their Bibles confiscated by Major Nguyen Vinh Chinh and 10 soldiers. *Forum 18 News Service, 18/8/2003*
- July 2003 - Hmong Christian Vang Seo Giao beaten to death by police. *Freedom House, 1/10/2003*
- July 2003 - Construction of church building halted and materials seized by authorities in Thu Thiem district of Ho Chi Minh City. *Open Doors, 16/7/2003 & Compass 14/7/2003*
- July 2003 - Several dozen Montagnards, primarily Christians of the Ede minority, fled into forested border areas of Cambodia and communicated to the outside world that they are suffering from malaria, have no medicine, and are desperately trying to survive on wild tubers and bamboo shoots, and are seeking protection from UNHCR. Vietnam refuses to acknowledge people still flee its borders because of fear of persecution. In collusion with poorly paid Cambodian police, Vietnamese officials are reportedly paying bounties of up to one million dong (\$66) for each Montagnard captured. *Compass, 12/9/2003*
- May 2003 - Ksor To from Buon Gha arrested and imprisoned for spreading the Gospel. *Montagnard Foundation, May 2003*
- April 2003 - Y-Tlut Kbour from Buon Wing arrested and severely tortured for helping other Christians. www.montagnard-foundation.org/SPR_03-0522.htm
- April 2003-February 2003 - Monsignor Diem stabbed several times in the Trung Giang Hotel. *Catholic World News, 7/2/2003*
- March 2003 - In a letter smuggled out of Vietnam, a 55-year-old leader of the Mngong Church in Dak Lak Province alerted the international Christian community to "the sorts of hardships that we believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are facing." The church, which numbers more than 45,000, has long been a victim of oppression, especially during the past year. A Human Rights Watch Report in April details and confirms much of the oppression identified in the letter. The Report documents, for the first time, the death by suicide of a leader who had been forced to recant his faith. *Compass, 16/6/2003*

Evidence (98)

- March 2003 - Y-Bling Nie and Y-He Eban arrested and imprisoned in Buonmathuot for running a church in the village of Buon Kdun. www.montagnard-foundation.org/MRelease-03-0313.htm
- January 2003 - On 21st January the Central Committee of Vietnam's Communist Party passed a resolution to control religion, following protests concerning confiscation of church lands and lack of religious freedom. Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International accused the Party of serious human rights violations. Authorities had disbanded over 400 churches in Dak Lak Province in 2002, falsely accusing virtually all of the Montagnard Christians of involvement in a political plot to overthrow the regime. The Religion Resolution seeks to establish Communist Party cells within the country's six approved religious organisations. Protestant Christian leaders expressed alarm, reasoning that if "legal" religious organisations are subject to state management, then pressure will increase on the majority of Protestants whom the Government considers illegal. *Compass*, 11/2/2003
- January 2003 - 40 churches closed in the last year. *Voice of the Martyrs*, 29/1/2003
- December 2002 - Seven Montagnard Christians have been sentenced to eight years' imprisonment. *Voice of the Martyrs*, 31/12/2002
- September 2002 - Church leaders informed that all religious activity, prayer meetings, Bible teaching and worship, weddings, funerals and baptisms are now illegal. *Compass*, 14/12/2002
- July 2002 - Pastor Nguyen Dang Chi of Phy Ly arrested, held without water, and refused bathroom requests for 24 hours. *Compass*, 9/8/2002
- March 2002 - Vietnamese Police raided a house where a house group meeting was taking place. Names and addresses of the Christians present were taken, and all their belongings seized. The house where the meeting was taking place was destroyed. *Report from International Christian Concern*, Mar 2002
- March 2002 - Cambodian authorities forcibly repatriated 63 predominantly Christian Montagnards who were seeking asylum. 61 refugees from a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) camp who reportedly had "volunteered" to return were also repatriated. But Cambodian and Vietnamese authorities refused any participating UNHCR role, in violation of a 21 January agreement, leading to fears that the remaining 1,000 Montagnard refugees will all be forced to return. *Compass*, 15/3/2002
- March 2002 - Over the past five years 14,000 Hmong Christians have fled their homes and migrated to the Central Highlands. *Report from International Christian Concern*, Mar 2002
- August 2001 - Pastor Quang of Bin Thanh's 26th Ward, Ho Chi Minh City severely beaten, and three colleagues arrested. *CSW*, 2/10/2001
- May 2001 - Following protest demonstrations over religious rights and loss of tribal lands by lowland farmers, there has been a marked increase in harassment and persecution of minority Christians in the Western Highlands. churches have largely had to operate underground since the communist takeover in 1975. The crackdown has been widespread and, at times, brutal. *Compass Direct*, 18/5/2001
- March 2001 - Authorities tore down a Protestant church in Gai Lai Province. *Assoc. Press* 26/3/2001
- February 2001 - "We will severely punish Christian believers in the Western Highlands so that they will not be able to raise their head." - Y Luyen, Dac Lac Province Communist Party Secretary. The next day even weddings and Baptisms were cancelled, as Christians were abducted, tortured, and prevented from worshipping together by security police. *Compass Direct* 16/4/2001
- December 2000 - House church leader Rev. Nguyen Ngoc (Henry) Hien's identification card taken during house raid. House church members threatened and Bibles confiscated. *Compass*, 15/12/2000
- September 2000 - Christian radio broadcasts are being jammed to curb the rapid spread of Christianity among the Hmong minority, and confidential Government documents declare it illegal to listen to the radio broadcasts - local citizens are required to report those who listen. Recent reports say at least 16 Hmong Christian leaders are currently in prison because of their evangelistic activities. *Compass*, 22/9/2000
- July 2000 - City officials demolished a crude church structure in a slum area of Ho Chi Minh City. The 'church' had been erected only hours before by Christians who were led to believe they had permission to build. The Pastor and his congregation had been meeting since 1991. Sunday worship the next day was harassed by militia videotaping the proceedings. 'Freedom of religion' is guaranteed in the Constitution, but there are at least 3,500 house churches, all considered illegal, many of which have been seeking legal recognition for years. 40 Christian leaders are in prison for their beliefs and activities. *Compass*, 18/8/2000

Yemen

Islam is the state religion and Sharia is the source of all legislation. Evangelism is prohibited, and conversion is forbidden. *Open Doors Handbooks 2012 & 2013*

Minority faith groups are allowed to practice their religion and wear religious symbols and clothing. Registration of religious groups is not required, but permission to build

places of worship must be obtained. Members of minority faiths can vote at elections, but not become elected officials. *Evangelical Fellowship of Canada*

There are reportedly four churches in Aden - three Catholic and one Anglican - where Christians can worship in relative freedom. *US State Dept International Religious Freedom Report 2010*

- January 2013 - Former diplomat Abdul - wahab Zabeda (55) lost a last-minute appeal to avoid deportation from Canada back to Yemen where he will be in extreme danger and risks being killed for converting to Christianity. *Report by Yemeni Journalist Nasser Arrabyee, based in Sanaa, 27/1/2013*
- August 2012 - Over the last 18 months many Christians have been killed in the political unrest. *Open Doors Prayer Diary, Aug 2012*
- March 2012 - Islamic militants linked to al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for killing American teacher Joel Shrum (29). A radical website claimed "It was God's gift for the Mujahedeen to kill Joel Shrum, who was proselytising under cover of teaching in Taiz". *International Christian Concern*, 23/3/2012 & *CAN Persecuted and Forgotten? 2011-2013 p173*
- 2011 - Four of the nine foreign Christians kidnapped in June 2009 remain missing. *Open Doors Handbook 2011*
- March 2011 - Apostasy is regarded as a crime punishable by death. Anybody caught promoting Christianity and distributing the Bible is arrested. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar./Apr 2011*
- March 2011 - On 18th March, in the capital, Sana'a, a gunman loyal to the President, Ali Abdullah Saleh, opened fire on protesters, killing at least 41 and injuring many more. *Daily Telegraph* 19/3/2011
- February 2010 - Yemen Al Qaeda deputy leader Saeed al Shehri called to Muslims "You have no option ... other than to wage jihad (holy war) [against Christians and Jews]. Prepare and carry your weapons to defend our religion and yourselves." *Reuters* 8/2/2010
- July 2009 - Yemeni authorities in Sana'a, the capital, are refusing permission to bury Christians unless the deceased's name is changed to include a Muslim name - for which a fee is charged. *Orato* 13/7/2009
- June 2009 - Two German Bible School students, Anita Gruenwald and Rita Stump, on a short-term internship as nurses at Al Jumhuri Hospital in Saada shot dead. They were part of a group of nine kidnapped whilst on a day trip outside the capital, and were allegedly accused of trying to convert Muslims. *Christian Post* 18/5/2010 & *(UK) Sunday Times* 21/7/2010
- August 2008 - Between May & August, nine recent converts from Islam to Christianity were detained by the police. Nothing has since been heard of them, and such conversion can, in principle, be punished by death. *Barnabas Prayer, Nov/Dec 2008*
- July 2008 - Seven Christians were arrested recently by security forces in the Province of Hodeidah. One man, Hani Hussein Dahani, from Al Zaidia district, was arrested for 'embracing Christianity and leaving the Islamic religion'. *VOM USA*, 16/7/2008
- September 2005 - German national living in Hadramawt, Head of Social Cooperation Association for the Middle East, had his house set on fire and car bombed. A note accusing him of 'promoting Christianity' warned 'Today your house and car, tomorrow you and your children will be killed if you do not leave Mukallah'. *VOM USA*, 5/10/2005
- May 2003 - Following the trial of Abed Kamel (*below*) for the murder of three Christians at Jibla hospital, a bomb exploded in the Court where the trial was held, injuring a Judge and several others. *Fox News*, 14/5/20003
- December 2002 - Abed Abdul Razak Kamel (30) is the self-confessed killer of three American missionaries: Dr. Martha Myers, hospital administrator William Koehn and purchasing agent Kathleen Gariety. The families and Christian colleagues at the Jibla Baptist Hospital have sent word to the assassin that they forgive him. Kamel said to Government interrogators that by murdering the Christians, whom he accused of converting "dozens of Muslims" to Christianity, he had ensured his entry into heaven. *Compass*, 13/1/ 2003; *BBC News*, 30/12/2002
- July 2000 - Somali refugee Mohammed Omer Haji (21), a convert to Christianity who has changed his name from Mohammed to George, has been given nightly beatings in Mansooro Jail for several weeks - now given seven days to return to Islam or face the death penalty for committing apostasy. *Compass*, 21/7/2000 & *Christianity Today* 7/7/2000 (Note: Haji was released in August 2000 and accepted - with his family - by New Zealand as a refugee).

Zimbabwe

- January 2012 - Reports of 'the beginnings of a real persecution of the church' were received from a number of sources within Zimbabwe. One report quoted an unnamed Bishop saying 'The church, because it opposes the politics of violence, has become herself a victim of that political violence'. *Catholic Herald*, 20/1/2012

Evidence (99)

- January 2012 - Sisters at a church-run hospital were told they would be beaten if they refused to hand it over immediately to a group of shouting men who ran around frightening patients. *Catholic Herald, 20/1/2012*
 - January 2012 - Police stopped a retreat of 80 clergy at Peterhouse private school, claiming the event had not received police clearance. The clergy, which included two bishops, denied wrongdoing. *Associated Press, 03/01/2012*
 - October 2011 - "In Harare, police have disrupted church services and have been using tear gas and baton sticks to drive people out of church buildings. As a consequence, most churches are empty each Sunday. Parishioners are not only denied access to their churches, but increasingly are threatened with punishment if they worship at all or attempt to carry out their ministry in the community." – Archbishop of Canterbury's report, delivered in person to President Robert Mugabe. The Archbishop told reporters afterwards that the President had told him he was unfamiliar with the scale of intimidation Anglicans in Zimbabwe are reporting. *International Christian Concern, 11/10/2011*
 - April 2011 - Father Marko Mabutho Mkandla arrested and charged with public order offences after holding a church service in Lupane during which he prayed for victims of an outbreak of violence in the 1980s. *ACN 'Christians and the Struggle for Religious Freedom' 2012; All Africa.com – SW Radio Africa (London) 15/4/2011*
 - April 2011 - Armed riot police attacked 600 people attending an ecumenical church service in Harare. A number were injured and 14 arrested and charged with public order offences; they were released after two days. Simon Lovell of the United Reformed Church said "Even places of worship can no longer be considered as sacred or safe places – (raising) serious concerns about fundamental human rights of freedom of thought, conscience and belief in Zimbabwe". *Christian Today, 23/4/2011*
 - April 2011 - Christians in Glen Novah, Harare, were violently attacked by police as they met to pray for peace. Teargas was used and two pastors and several other worshippers were arrested by the police. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2011*
 - July 2010 - A church community that gave its excess food to the starving was interrogated by secret police, who then confiscated the food. *Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2010*
 - February 2010 - Christians in Zimbabwe have been very hard hit by food shortages and police/Government harassment. *Christian Voice, Feb 2010*
 - January 2010 - Muslim missionaries try to entice Christians to convert to Islam by offering financial rewards. *Barnabas Prayer, Jan/Feb 2010*
 - December 2009 - On 25th December, police burst into a Communion Service in the Cathedral in Harare, beat up the worshippers and forced them out of the building. At least three other Churches were raided by police on the same day. *Barnabas Prayer, Mar/Apr 2010*
 - September 2009 - A rural church was forcibly closed down and used by the Government militia as a torture facility. *Barnabas Prayer, Sep/Oct 2009*
 - July 2009 - Many thousands of Christians are starving. *Tearfund Prayer Diary Spring 2009, Barnabas Prayer, Jul/Aug 2009*
 - June 2008 - The Government is increasing its attacks on churches. *CSW (Amy Greenfield), 16/6/2008*
 - May 2008 - Police are exerting extreme pressure on Christians and all people who are anti-Mugabe. *New York Times, 16/5/2008*
 - March 2008 - Many in the country, which suffers the lowest life expectancy in the world (37 years for men, 34 years for women), are starving to death. Church leaders are under constant surveillance from the Government. *Barnabas Prayer Mar/Apr 2008 & Barnabas Prayer 137, Mar 2008*
 - May 2007 - Amongst many other human rights abuses perpetrated by the Government is disrupting and harassing the church and its leaders. Six more church leaders were arrested recently. *Barnabas Prayer May/Jun 2007*
 - March 2007 - Police arrested Morgan Tsvangirai and Arthur Mutambara, the Opposition leaders, together with churchmen and civil rights activists. *The Times, 12/3/2007*
 - January 2007 - Police abused their power by arresting eight church leaders. *Faith News, 5/2/2007*
 - July 2003 - Rev. Sony Chimbuya of Church of Christ in Masvingo, a former member of Zimbabwe Council of Churches, forced to have his prayers scrutinised for political content. *Zimbabwe Daily News, 20/7/2003*
 - February 2003 – 20 clergymen were arrested for protesting about Christian persecution and violence against the church. *BBC News, 28/2/2003*
 - February 2002 - 11 church leaders were arrested after a series of prayer meetings in the Hillside suburb of Bulawayo. *CSW, 21/2/2002*
 - November 2001 - Canon Tim Neill, Harare's former Vicar General and Rector of St. Luke's, Greendale, forced to leave church due to death threats. *Compass, 16/11/2001*
 - October 2001 - Christians in Zimbabwe who speak out against violence and injustice are being targeted by Government-backed groups such as the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) party. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
 - October 2001 - Outspoken church leaders risk being harassed, threatened and publicly humiliated. Some have fled the country. Several with foreign passports have been expelled. Many members of church congregations have suffered violent attacks on their families. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
 - October 2001 - "They [the authorities and ZANU officials] know that the church has to speak the truth and they are frightened that when the truth comes out, it will challenge their hold on power. The truth would show how they are terrorising the people," said one resident of Harare. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
 - September 2001 - A Church in Rusape, where the leader had spoken against the Government-backed violence, was burned. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
 - September 2001 - In Mount Darwin, 2,000 women gathered for the Methodist Women's Conference, had their church meeting place attacked and the Conference broken up. *Compass, 19/10/2001*
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Conclusion

1. Irrefutable evidence

Those who value the dignity and rights of the individual cannot remain silent in the face of the irrefutable evidence of degrading, inhumane treatment and gross injustice contained in this document.

We all have a moral responsibility to speak out against an intolerable situation.

2. Abuse

Christians in many lands now face horrific punishment and even torture for their faith. They are being subjected to the worst human rights abuses, which include character assassination, slavery, enforced prostitution and the selling of children.

We must all stand against everything which violates the integrity of the individual.

3. Martyrdom

Christians and others are being harassed and victimised in many and various ways. In some countries they have to make a simple decision - are they literally prepared to die for their faith? Martyrdom is a reality for many Christian communities today and most of these Christians face death with dignity and love. In the Middle East and some parts of Africa, vast numbers of Christians have had to flee from their homes and their communities have been annihilated.

There can never, ever, be any justification for people being killed for their faith.

4. A Call to Action

It is a matter of the utmost and immediate urgency that men and women of goodwill and of every religious and political persuasion throughout the world seek an end, universally, to all religious persecution and discrimination. It is imperative that all political and religious leaders firmly commit themselves now to end all religious discrimination and persecution wherever it occurs, and without any further delay.

The strongest international pressure must now be brought to bear on those who deliberately continue to violate the dignity of innocent people.

There is mounting international pressure for this issue to be driven to the top of the world's political agenda. It must not be ignored. The evidence is beyond dispute. This is a call to action.

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A consideration of the emergence of Islam
in our society today and its implications.

A Christian commentary for use
in churches of all denominations.

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A response to the letter and call entitled
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A Submission prepared at the request of the
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The Maranatha Community

The Maranatha Community is a Christian movement with many members from all Christian traditions throughout the United Kingdom and abroad. It is dedicated to praying and working for unity, healing and renewal in and between churches, communities and nations, and pursues a lifestyle characterized by simplicity, poverty and urgency. The Maranatha Community is a servant ministry to the Church of Christ claiming only to be little brothers and sisters of Jesus, holding fast to the non-negotiable core truths of the Christian faith. It has a strong social witness and responds to those in need. It was formed in 1981 and its life and work continue to develop and expand.

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